

**PARIS PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**2026-2027**  
**APPROPRIATION REQUEST**  
**\$259,396**

The Paris Public Library is requesting an appropriation of \$259,396 from the town of Paris for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Trying to predict the cost of items in 16 months is obviously difficult. In preparing our budget and appropriation request, we can just give our best guess. We know the cost of insurance, of all types, will go up. For the price of utilities, we can just use present prices and hope for the best. In anticipating what things will need repair or replacement, we can just cross our fingers nothing major will breakdown, crack, or leak. The library has embarked on a fundraising drive to celebrate the original building's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Funds raised will help prepare the building for its next 100 years, decreasing future maintenance needs.

This coming fiscal year has additional challenges. With the departure of the present director, there is a measure of uncertainty of what tasks that are presently done will need to be assumed by others. The library's Board is budgeting more for some lines, especially maintenance (cleaning) and repairs, that may need to be hired out.

There is a large increase for electricity proposed. The library had heat pumps installed under a grant last summer. The rise in the price of electricity, coupled with the cold winter, has resulted in some alarming electric bills. Hopefully electric prices fall and the 2026-2027 winter is milder.

Bookkeeping used to be part of the library's payroll as it was done by an employee. The library now and next year has had to hire bookkeeping services, at a higher cost, with the departure of that employee.

The library has for several years paid for the library director's health insurance as part of the position's compensation. With the end of the health insurance marketplace subsidies, the price of the basic bronze-level health insurance has risen markedly. Exploring options, the library Board is using the cost of Maine Municipal Association's basic coverage as an estimate for continuing this benefit.

Asking for money from the town's taxpayers should not be easy. We understand, and have always understood, many people struggle to pay their property taxes. The library's board and staff try to make sure, every day and with every transaction, the community receives a full return for the faith and trust they have invested in the library. The Paris Public Library seeks not to be a burden but a benefit to all the citizens of Paris.

## Paris Public Library, FY 2026-2027 Budget Worksheet

	Actual 2018-2019	Actual 2019-2020	Actual 2020-2021	Actual 2021-2022	Actual 2022-2023	Actual 2023-2024	Actual 2024-2025	Budget 2025-2026	Actual 2025-2026	Budget 2026-2027	% change
<b>Income</b>											
<b>Town Appropriation</b>	<b>\$174,000</b>	<b>\$179,000</b>	<b>\$187,500</b>	<b>\$193,500</b>	<b>\$202,000</b>	<b>\$215,500</b>	\$229,664	<b>\$240,872</b>	\$180,654	<b>\$259,396</b>	7.7%
Donations	\$1,458	\$2,450	\$15,435	\$45,633	\$12,321	\$10,642	\$21,169	\$6,000	\$12,587	\$7,000	
Donation Jar	\$1,384	\$1,342	\$2,084	\$2,393	\$2,026	\$2,236	\$2,181	\$2,000	\$1,143	\$2,000	
Book Sale	\$2,951	\$2,824	\$2,864	\$5,391	\$3,345	\$6,836	\$3,957	\$2,500	\$1,228	\$2,500	
Copier/Printer Fees	\$1,769	\$1,469	\$1,567	\$729	\$1,412	\$1,887	\$1,451	\$1,250	\$510	\$1,250	
Misc.	<u>\$2,092</u>	<u>\$1,987</u>	<u>\$3,166</u>	<u>\$6,973</u>	<u>\$7,966</u>	<u>\$4,783</u>	<u>\$16,057</u>	<u>\$4,000</u>	<u>\$8,351</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>	
	<b>\$183,654</b>	<b>\$189,072</b>	<b>\$212,616</b>	<b>\$254,619</b>	<b>\$229,070</b>	<b>\$241,884</b>	<b>\$274,479</b>	<b>\$256,622</b>	<b>\$204,473</b>	<b>\$277,146</b>	8.0%
<b>Expenses</b>											
<b>Staffing</b>											
Payroll	\$99,618	\$100,779	\$101,257	\$114,234	\$118,253	\$133,563	\$150,676	\$135,600	\$77,327	\$137,050	1.1%
Payroll Taxes	\$8,140	\$8,195	\$8,295					\$16,272		\$16,446	1.1%
Health Insurance	\$9,500	\$9,714	\$9,112	\$7,800	\$8,300	\$9,000	\$10,300	\$12,000	\$10,450	\$18,000	50.0%
<b>Utilities &amp; Fixed Costs</b>											
Heat	\$3,395	\$3,118	\$2,172	\$4,539	\$3,147	\$3,540	\$4,174	\$5,000	\$307	\$3,000	-40.0%
Electricity	\$3,509	\$2,968	\$2,873	\$3,107	\$4,602	\$4,222	\$3,816	\$6,000	\$5,675	\$12,000	100.0%
Phone Service	\$1,019	\$1,092	\$1,250	\$1,452	\$1,418	\$1,620	\$1,322	\$1,200	\$680	\$1,400	16.7%
Water & Sewer	\$775	\$783	\$783	\$783	\$863	\$869	\$989	\$1,200	\$498	\$1,000	-16.7%
Alarm System	\$929	\$941	\$1,102	\$1,324	\$953	\$1,043	\$3,226	\$1,500	\$1,837	\$2,000	33.3%
Insurance	\$7,659	\$6,565	\$7,160	\$6,782	\$7,927	\$9,513	\$10,113	\$10,000	\$10,644	\$12,000	20.0%
Lift	\$519	\$1,500	\$1,564	\$359	\$2,790	\$210	\$2,600	\$2,500	\$741	\$2,500	
Bookkeeping	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$9,000	80.0%
Repairs	\$2,395	\$282	\$755	\$707	\$7,693	\$1,487	\$9,996	\$2,000	\$98	\$2,000	
Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$806	\$3,981	\$25,220	\$45,366	\$1,000	\$2,794	\$4,000	300.0%
<b>Program Expenses</b>											
Collection Materials	\$34,931	\$35,378	\$38,918	\$38,986	\$39,553	\$46,162	\$39,805	\$42,000	\$26,669	\$42,000	
Supplies	\$6,436	\$4,998	\$3,405	\$3,789	\$3,860	\$4,438	\$3,389	\$4,000	\$1,821	\$4,000	
Childrens' Programming	\$1,363	\$2,071	\$243	\$1,373	\$6,728	\$3,714	\$4,204	\$3,000	\$2,100	\$3,000	
Computers	\$592	\$383	\$0	\$2,304	\$0	\$1,479	\$4,274	\$1,000	\$137	\$1,000	
Service Contracts	\$3,449	\$1,641	\$3,133	\$1,980	\$3,555	\$3,387	\$2,551	\$3,500	\$1,384	\$3,500	
Delivery Service	\$811	\$884	\$1,126	\$995	\$1,280	\$1,330	\$1,870	\$2,500	\$2,376	\$2,500	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<u>\$413</u>	<u>\$840</u>	<u>\$5,128</u>	<u>\$1,471</u>	<u>\$4,218</u>	<u>\$1,623</u>	<u>\$4,025</u>	<u>\$750</u>	\$3,855	<u>\$750</u>	
	<b>\$186,653</b>	<b>\$183,332</b>	<b>\$189,476</b>	<b>\$193,991</b>	<b>\$219,121</b>	<b>\$252,420</b>	<b>\$302,696</b>	<b>\$256,022</b>	<b>\$149,393</b>	<b>\$277,146</b>	8.3%
<b>Net:</b>	<b>-\$2,999</b>	<b>\$5,740</b>	<b>\$23,140</b>	<b>\$60,628</b>	<b>\$9,949</b>	<b>-\$10,536</b>	<b>-\$28,217</b>				