

**CITY, VILLAGE, AND TOWNSHIP LIBRARIES (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 164 of 1877**

**397.205 Governing board; president; officers; powers and duties; library fund; expenditures; establishment and maintenance of public library and reading room.**

Sec. 5.

The governing board of a library shall, immediately after appointment, meet and organize, by the election of 1 member as president, and by the election of other officers as necessary. The governing board shall make and adopt bylaws, rules, and regulations for its own guidance and for the government of the library and reading room, consistent with this act. The governing board has exclusive control of the expenditure of all money collected to the credit of the library fund, the construction of any library building, and the supervision, care, and custody of the grounds, rooms, or buildings constructed, leased, or set apart for that purpose. All money received for the library shall be deposited in the treasury of the city to the credit of the library fund, shall be kept separate and apart from other money of the city, and drawn upon by the proper officers of the city upon the properly authenticated vouchers of the library board. The governing board may purchase or lease grounds and occupy, lease, or erect an appropriate building or buildings for the use of the library; has the power to appoint a suitable librarian and necessary assistants and fix their compensation; and remove appointees. The governing board shall carry out the spirit and intent of this act in establishing and maintaining a public library and reading room.

**History:** 1877, Act 164, Eff. Aug. 21, 1877 ;-- How. 5179 ;-- CL 1897, 3453 ;-- CL 1915, 3435 ;-- CL 1929, 8063 ;-- CL 1948, 397.205 ;-- Am. 2014, Act 131, Imd. Eff. May 27, 2014