VILLAGE OF PALMYRA

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MAY 29, 2025 6:00 PM

REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Perry, Trustees Denniston, Leo, Luke and Parkison.
Absent: Trustees Parkison and Attorney St. Martin

OTHER ATTENDEES: Steve Austin, David Augustine, Kathleen Catchman, Georgeanna Graham, Dan Gibson, Tracy Vanderwall
Guests: Mary Aman, Executive Director of Wayne County Water and Sewer (There from start until his portion was completed:
Bill Gauthier, Jacomb, LLC President/CEO (There from the start until his portion was completed)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REGULAR MEETING

PUBLIC COMMENT

T. VANDERWALL: Okay, Tracy Vanderwall, 427 Vienna Street. So I have some questions on the new sewer plant. Under what legal authority did the village begin collecting EDU charges in 2020 when the sewer plant was not yet operational? Do I wait for answers or? And I would like this in the minutes.

C-T WETHERBY: It all goes in the minutes.

T. VANDERWALL: Okay. Was this approved by the public referendum, local law, or other legislation action? Were these payments structured as a user fee, capital assessment, or prepayments towards a bonded obligation? Why are the six years of our payments that we've made as residents, landlords, business owners not being counted towards the 26-years repayment period? It was 26 years for $53,500,000 that we were told in a meeting at Marty Aman's in 2020. Has the Village Board ever officially voted on a published documentation stating that the total payment period would be 36 years because that's what they're telling us now because the first six years don't? I'm very frustrated with the new sewer plant. I'm a landlord. I have spent, coming June, with the new one on the tax bill, over $27,000. And you guys have my money. I could have been getting interest on it. It's not going to start until he starts it up in 2026 of spring, I believe he told me. And now, and none of that counts. I don't know what you're using the money for. I know the meeting's supposed to be about that, I think, tonight. But you can't just, don't you have a sewer budget? Why are you putting it in a reserve fund or an account or what? Why can't the residents keep their money until it starts up or reimburse them the money that we've already used? It doesn't matter if it's $325 a year or what. It's going to be $800 a year once it's all up, whatever. It says $200 on top of that $586 a year. So you're just taking all our money. So for the first six years, if that money's not being used, us residents, business owners, I mean, the businesses are striving now, and you are taking their money and not using it for the capital project of the wastewater sewer plant. I don't see how you think that's fair. Landlords, business owners, and residents, why are you taking their money when it's a hard economy right now and you've taken all this money for six years and not using it for the capital project? And what's the answer for all the minutes?

C-T WETHERBY: Yep, it goes all the minutes.

T. VANDERWALL: Well, they haven't been in the minutes lately when Gidget's been on.

C-T WETHERBY: Um, if you look it's word for..

T. VANDERWALL: Not in the newspaper because the lady's not here; I wonder why

C-T WETHERBY: I'm recording the meeting for her.

T. VANDERWALL: Oh,

C-T WETHERBY: and I'll send it to her so…

T. VANDERWALL: she can't drive here I guess.

MAYOR PERRY: Miss Graham, the floor is yours for three minutes.

G. GRAHAM: Georgianna Graham, 117 Liberty Street. This is about the wastewater. Tracy and I, and Jeff Nucitelli met with Marty back in '22 about this. And this has been ridiculous the way things have been going. I feel that as officials, I know that you weren't the mayor at the time, but you were on the board. You guys have done nothing to see that this thing has gone through the way that it should have been. It's like, how much money does the Wastewater Authority have of the village residents that's supposed to be given back to us? I heard it was a million dollars. Is that true?

M. AMAN: I'll answer after you're through.

G. GRAHAM: How much money is in the village sewer reserve account? I've asked that several times. How much money do you guys have in the reserve account? Is any of the sewer reserve in an interest-bearing account? And if so, where is that interest money that's been earned going? When the Wayne County Water Authority takes over in June, will they be assessing a higher fee than what we normally pay for the sewer? How is it that this project has gone from 26 years to 36 years? Like I said, any of the village officials, nobody's been on top of this. I've asked for updates. You said that it's been updated. It wasn't updated. I feel like nobody's been on top of this, and it's just a free fall. What about the driveway at the fire department? Will the wastewater be using that permanently? Who is going to be maintaining that parking lot? Right now, all those trucks went back and forth, back and forth. It looks like crap. And lastly, why is it any of these comments in the newspaper, Media Minutes? The last time I got on the agenda about the playground, it made it the paper, but not the sewer plant. Is this being censored?

C-T WETHERBY: In the newspaper?

G. GRAHAM: Yeah.

C-T WETHERBY: I don't have control over what goes in the newspaper.

T. VANDERWALL: You have control over her.

C-T WETHERBY: I do not.

MAYOR PERRY: Rebecca.

C-T WETHERBY: Sorry.

MAYOR PERRY: It's fine. I'm used to it. Marty, would you like to address anything?

Marty Aman: Sure. By all means. I don't know where to start. We're throwing all these things out. I've invited Tracy to come to the office to, I mean, if she's really interested in getting answers instead of just doing this.

T. VANDERWALL: I've been there several times.

Marty Aman: No, you haven't been there in a year and a half.

T. VANDERWALL: Because I just found out this.

M. AMAN: Okay. So I am more than prepared to tell you: answers to all of these things, except the legalities of how the village moved forward. That's up to the town's attorney to address that, and I'm not going to touch it. You did it legally, just like all the other towns did. Thank you, and I'd like to commend the board. You've made some very courageous decisions to move this project along. It's been tough at every step of the way, but you guys have done a good thing, and you've managed your dollars well. Right now, the charge to the village residents is less than it's going on to the other towns, because the towns waltzed into this a little more slowly than what the village did. So, you guys took a courageous step. You retained some of your reserves, and you're at $321 now,

C-T WETHERBY: $325.

M. AMAN: From a Walworth resident, I'm paying almost $475 on my tax bill this year because Walworth waltzed into it more slowly. So I'm mystified where 26 years comes up. EFC standard finance term is 30 years. Always has been. Always will be, probably. 26 years. Tracy, when you come in to visit me, bring that somewhere in writing where 26 years comes from, okay?

T. VANDERWALL: There was about 10 landlords that came to your meeting when we first got it.

Marty Aman: Please bring me a documentation on a 26-year finance term because, you know, that's never been the way. It's 30 years, and we have the obligation to work with the communities to make this as attainable as possible. And I will tell you, the towns and the village have worked hard. To take what was a $53 million project, it doubled, more than doubled in cost, and we took several steps to make this more attainable, including likely extending out the finance term from the equivalent of 30 years to about 35, if it goes that way. We're well within bounds to do that. It's going to be a 30-year term whenever we close on permanent financing, presumably spring of next year. Okay? So, the impact to you as a landlord, and I've told you this many times, why don't you tell me what I've told you the cost per unit is going to be when this is all done. How much per month, Tracy, please?

T. VANDERWALL: $550?

M. AMAN: How much per month are you going to charge a unit to pay for these costs? It's been the same ever since 2022 when we took the rebate.

T. VANDERWALL: Whatever usage of water I use.

M. AMAN:$60 a month is what I told you. $60. $720 a year divided by 12. Do the math. $60 per unit, okay?

T. VANDERWALL: So it's $60 a month per unit?

M. AMAN: If you want to know what your total cost is between debt service, and I'm going to stick pretty close to that number right now with everything we're seeing, $60 a month is what you're going to charge your tenants.

T. VANDERWALL: I don’t pay $60 right now for sewer. Sorry.

M. AMAN: No, you didn't do a new treatment plant project. You would have. You would have been going there if the village did this on their own. Because right now with the cost of materials and everything else, that's a $20 million upgrade easily on its own. And it would have been paid for just by the village residents. So I've told you consistently, $60 a month, that's not changing. The makeup of it is going to be, and we're going to be a little under on the debt service, I think. The number after we took the bids, we told you 720 or thereabouts. Without a crystal ball, that's the number we gave you. Right now it's looking like of that 520 was debt service and we were talking roughly 200 for O&M. What's likely to happen at least at the start, we're going to be under on the 520 right now the 475 was our best projection and where we think this is going to end up. We've been lucky to get some additional grants; we've had reasonable success with the construction, and things are progressing along fairly well. We do have to, in all likelihood, put a sludge dryer back into the project. Landfills are closing. They're not taking sludge just within the last six months. Our cost of sludge disposal is gone up tremendously. It would have happened to the village if you ran it on your own. The good news is, I just did a letter for Rebecca. We showed the impacts of what people are paying now for sewer for O&M. A low user is going to pay a little bit more. Somebody that uses just 1,000 or 2,000 gallons. I talk in 1,000 gallons, not 100 cubic feet. An average user is going to save a little, probably paying $65 to $70 a quarter. Now we're going to set it at $60 to start, and the reason for that is twofold. This whole sludge issue is a very big thing right now. There's a lot of unknown in terms of what our long-term disposal options are going to be. And secondly, And I think as importantly, we have to run for the first couple months without any revenue coming in. We're going to start a little bit higher than what we had projected. And as we add units, we hope it can come down a little bit. Bottom line is, I'm still telling you, $60 a month. Looking through our records, Tracy, it looks like you've recently bought some more properties here. It must be that's not an oppressive cost.

T. VANDERWALL: No, I haven't.

M. AMAN: Okay, well,

T. VANDERWALL: Nope

M. AMAN:I think you're still hanging in there.

T. VANDERWALL: 2016 was the last time. *

M. AMAN: Okay.

T. VANDERWALL: Okay.

M. AMAN: So, you know, I'm just saying, we haven't heard from the others.

T. VANDERWALL: and that shouldn’t matter. You told me to raise my rent $35 per person.

M. AMAN:I told you $60 a month when you came in. We had meetings after the bids were redone. It was a major, major change. We knew that. The bids were double what we were expecting or a little more. So I've been telling you, and I'll tell you again tonight, put it in the record, please. Village record $60

T. VANDERWALL: $53 and a half million. What is it now?

M. AMAN:$720.

G. GRAHAM: What's the total now?

T. VANDERWALL: What's the total? That you're at right now.

M. AMAN: What's it going to be?

T. VANDERWALL: Yes.

M. AMAN: What's it going to be? It's a $110 million project.

G. GRAHAM: And how much is grants?

M. AMAN: There's $41 million and some change in grants now. Okay? So that's the key is how much we have to borrow.

G. GRAHAM: I understand that.

M. AMAN: But I'm saying based upon that and the way we're going. We expect the project to be on budget. We expect to borrow, hopefully at a good rate. Right now the bond rates are looking very favorable. We got a 50% subsidy on the bond rates. So

T. VANDERWALL: So why did the six years already count?

M. AMAN: Well, it could. It is in a way. You're getting back. The village is going to get back some money. They're trying to hold your 321 ($325). What number did I tell you that that's going to go to? 475, that or about? Rebecca and the village is telling me they're going to hold the 300 number for a period of time by using these dollars that are coming back. So you're getting back.

T. VANDERWALL: But I'd rather keep my money and put it in a CD than keep it in a savings account with that.

M. AMAN: Sure and had we known how this was going to unfold, Tracy, I think everybody would have done that. We get it. But these folks on all the communities. When they committed to the project, they had to start paying money. We had engineering.

T. VANDERWALL: Not all of them.

M. AMAN: Yes, they all paid.

T. VANDERWALL: They didn't pay in 2020. I called several.

M. AMAN: Walworth made a makeup payment. Walworth came in late. Remember the chronology here.

T. VANDERWALL: And what's Marion paying?

M. AMAN: Marion's paying too.

T. VANDERWALL: They didn't pay in 2020

At the end of the day, everybody will have paid the same amount. We made sure of that. Come in and check the books, Tracy. There's nothing to hide here. I mean, I don't like the skepticism that you continue to show.

T. VANDERWALL: I'm not saying that. I just wonder why our money has to be tied up in something that's not even running.

M. AMAN: It's tied up because the project took several different twists and turns. It was Walworth coming in, which added another element, a whole new refinance package, and then we had to go to an unfortunate bidding process through COVID where the numbers were unreal. We had to go back to the drawing board. Throughout our funding package, we're fortunate to get a $30 million grant at that time. Then we got another $10 million. We've been persistent. And we brought this back closer to where we had started. We were at $550 a year, I think, when we started with a $53 million. So with double bids, we could have been $1,000 a year if we didn't go back and take the actions we have. And I'd say the village all along. Remain courageous in this, as did the other towns. It wasn't easy. They knew they were going to take backlash. But the numbers and all this stuff that you're bringing up hasn't really changed in the last two years. We're a little behind on the schedule. The expectation is that we'll start up the Palmyra plant by June, the middle of this next month.

T. VANDERWALL: It was supposed to start in 2023, the pamphlet says.

Marty Aman: Yeah, yeah, back before all of this other stuff came down. We didn't even start the project until 2023, after the rebid.

T. VANDERWALL: Then it's then it's way off.

M. AMAN: It is. Yes, it is.

T. VANDERWALL: You just said it hadn't changed much.

M. AMAN: That's why the dollars were collected in anticipation of a project that morphed about three times.

G. GRAHAM: So did you earn any interest on that money that you have that you're giving back?

M. AMAN: No, you all did. It's in a reserve account and any of the interest that is earned on it is going to be applied towards principal and interest payments. It's not going anywhere.

G. GRAHAM: Well, how much money was it if it's all those towns, it's a million dollars.

M. AMAN: I don't know tonight, but I can.

G. GRAHAM: It's a million dollars, the village of Palmyra.

M. AMAN: Yeah, we had, before giving back, we have about $9 million that we've collected. But all of the interest goes in, and that's going to go back towards paying those.

G. GRAHAM: And how much is that?

M. AMAN: How much is what?

T. VANDERWALL: How much is the interest on the 9 million dollars?

M. AMAN: I don't know. I didn't bring the facts with me, and I can show you.

G. GRAHAM: Okay, I will be making a meeting with you when I, like, see all the books.

M. AMAN: That's fine. It's fine, but I'm saying what is legally wrong with applying the interest towards that service payment?

T. VANDERWALL: You've been taking it for six years.

M. AMAN: Yeah, and we've kept it in a reserve account specifically for this project. It can't be used for anything else so theres

T. VANDERWALL: They said they were going to use it in a reserve fund for fixing pipes and stuff.

M. AMAN: You're talking about two different things. We have our reserve fund project. It's a capital reserve fund. We are going to give back some. The village has a choice. There's a couple of uses that would be legal. One would be to use it to pay down debt service, help pay down and keep some of the costs lower. A second would be to put back into the reserves. Walworth exhausted a lot of their reserves by trying to keep the costs low in the first two or three years. I think my first bill was $180 on the tax bill, something like that.

C-T WETHERBY: Yeah, which is now why you're paying more.

M. AMAN: Yeah, now they've got no reserves. So when they get the dollars back, they've got a big force main project going that they have to pay for, they're going to put some dollars back in the reserves.

MAYOR PERRY: Marty, can you hold that thought right there? Rebecca, will you explain the difference between the two reserves we're talking about?

C-T WETHERBY: There's a sewer reserve that is for the maintenance of the sewer. The money for the wastewater treatment plant is in a savings account, like I said in the email. It's only for the wastewater treatment plant. When I get the money in the taxes, it goes in there, earns interest. All of that goes to help keep the payments down for the three to keep it at 325. The more interest I earn in there, the longer we can keep it at 325. That money is for the payment that I make every year to Wayne County Water and Sewer. Whatever's left over again is earning interest. Any penalties from wastewater treatment plant 325s that I get. Everything I can, I'm putting in that wastewater treatment savings fund to help extend. It's the money that the residents have paid in. It's just that money.

MAYOR PERRY: Okay, what's the other one?

C-T WETHERBY: The other one is the sewer reserve, and that's money that is from the regular sewer budget if we're over any time during the year.

MAYOR PERRY: Which is used for what?

C-T WETHERBY: For fixing pipes and stuff like that. Infrastructure.

MAYOR PERRY: Marty, if a pump stations goes down

M. AMAN: So we should talk about that because it's a question that I think was asked at one point in the emails I received was who was responsible for the upkeep of the mains and the pump stations and that. And the answer is we're going to do the operation and maintenance on it. Regular O&M, and paying the electric and doing all the paying the insurance on the pump stations. I'm talking about the village's pump stations on Main Street and Throop Street, whatever. Those are still owned by the village. We're going to maintain them under our agreement. And there's a cap of $10,000 per year if there's a major upgrade. If the pump station has to have a $500,000 upgrade, we pay the first $10,000. The village has to finance the rest. That's the reason for their reserve. And each of the towns that are getting back dollars, or many of them, are going to put dollars back into the reserve. So once we get the final debt payments on this project, the last thing anybody wants to do is add to that with some big project within a village or town that was

C-T WETHERBY: But just so you're aware, and as we've discussed, it was never our intention in discussion to ever put it in the reserve. It was always going back into the wastewater treatment savings.

MAYOR PERRY: To the infrastructure reserve to fix it was never going there.It was always goin back to the debt.

C-T WETHERBY: Never. It was always going back to the same fund that was paid into for to try to help keep the $325 that the people are paying down.

M. AMAN: So that's the village's intent, and that's perfectly fine. That was one of the options that was discussed at the meeting we had with all the players. Some of the towns are going to put it back into their reserves, which essentially is good planning so that they forestall additional impacts on the tax bills right out of the box after we get this new plant up and running. So, the village, fortunately, has retained a fair amount of reserves as they should. They've got an old system. There are going to be a lot of expenses that go beyond our cap. You've got to plan for that, right?

MAYOR PERRY: Again, infrastructure is our money.

Trustee Luke: I feel like the other savings is strictly for the wastewater treatment plant.

MAYOR PERRY: Correct.

Trustee Luke: So, that we can keep their 325 annual at 325.

C-T WETHERBY: And that's the hard part, too, is: There is the wastewater treatment plant money that I have in a village account, and you have your Wayne County Water and Sewer money that we pay you, and then you have your own bank account that you're using to pay the builders, the electricians, the construction projects.

M. AMAN: We actually have two funds that you're paying into. One is for that. The bulk of what you pay goes to that. There's a small amount that goes into our startup reserve fund, which is there to replace this as the plant ages to put pumps in to fix the pumping stations that are necessary to get the wastewater here. Everybody's paying $20. It's $20 a year. Is that where we're at?

C-T WETHERBY: I'm sorry.

M. AMAN: Just for what I call our repair reserve that's in there. It's a small component of what we charge.

C-T WETHERBY: I don't remember how much of that is.

Trustee Luke: How long does a pump typically last?

M. AMAN: Depends if it's a high volume pump pumping grit and you know things that are abrasive, they might last 10-15 years

Trustee Luke: right, and then how much do those cost typically?

M. AMAN: It depends; the big, the high horsepower pumps might be $200,000 dollars They're big deals

MAYOR PERRY: We'd have to be bonded if we didn't have the reserve

Trustee Luke: Right. exactly

MAYOR PERRY: and then we'd be an interest on top of that.

T. VANDERWALL: How many pump stations are in the village of Palmyra?

M. AMAN: There's three main ones, I don't know if there are any small ones.

T. VANDERWALL: So we're going to pay for ours, and it's in the village, but then how many are in the other towns?

M. AMAN: Six in Mac… they all have their own responsibilities. So

T. VANDERWALL: So are we all paying the same amount? I mean, we only have three here.

M. AMAN: Not for that. You're not paying for that at all. That's why we have it. The only thing that we're collecting reserve for, the pump stations we're building, as part of this project. The individual pump stations in Walworth, in Macedon, in Marion remain the responsibilities of the town beyond that cap at $10,000. So it's a distinction between operation and maintenance and a capital repair. A full pump station replacement might be $500,000. That ultimate responsibility remains with each community. That's not changing. So you had that responsibility before this project. You have it now, minus the $10,000 cap. So it's prudent for the village to have their reserve for that purpose. It's prudent for us to start to develop a reserve account that's going to enable us to replace key components at the plant as it ages and as the pump stations need attention. The big ones that we built have to be planned for.

T. VANDERWALL: But it sounds like the key thing is to try to keep the $325 down. Okay, so if you keep the $325 down and add six more years to it to landlords and residents.

M. AMAN: So maybe you're about even. Then 30 years at $520 a year. Now you're going to have, I don't know how many years. I haven't done the math for your particular case. You're going to have an extended number of years at three something. So, there's a pretty good trade-off here. Yes, it's an extended period, but you're also getting a chunk of years at way less debt service than what you were told. So, there's a pretty good trade-off working here. What else am I missing?

T. VANDERWALL: If it can't be used until the pump station opens, which is spring of 2026, my question is, why did you collect the money? That's my bottom line. Why did you keep collecting it? Don't collect it for six years now.

M. AMAN: I'll tell you again, if we started this, this project probably would have started in 2021. If we had stayed with the original two or three communities when Walworth came in, we pushed it back at that time. We were already collecting and we were still working on the assumption bids were going to be favorable; we were going to beat a construction in 2022. There was no reason to stop collecting, so the dollars are all there; they're all in an account or they're going to be given back partially or they've been paid down for legitimate uses. We've paid $500,000. We made a voluntary principal payment last year just to get on the schedule. We didn't technically have any due until this coming year. We've had interest payments on the project.

C-T WETHERBY: But see, if you hadn't started collecting, how would you have been able to pay your construction workers? That's what I want to know.

M. AMAN: We wouldn't. If I had a crystal ball and I knew it was going to be 2026 before everything was into permanent financing, we wouldn't have started. But the whole progression, the necessary engineering and legal and Canal Corp approvals and everything else that took a long progression was proven.

Trustee Luke: Well, so did COVID, right? I mean, COVID really did.

M. AMAN: COVID took a whack out of everything. It probably set us back at least 50% of the equipment cost.

Trustee Luke: Right.

M. AMAN: And it put a big dent in the delivery time, so it had a huge impact.

T. VANDERWALL: During COVID, we were still paying our bills, so I'm not sure.

M. AMAN: You did.

T. VANDERWALL: We still paid our taxes. We still paid. We didn't get a break. We didn't take six years off during COVID or whatever.

M. AMAN: So the town could have legitimately had in the village if they wanted to. They could have been collecting that $300 a year and putting it into reserve, knowing that the pump stations in the village are going to need replacement. It was legal to do what they did. The dollars were put into an account. They're there. They're accounted for. We're audited every year. You know, and the village doesn't deserve any blame for what we've done with the money. That's this for us. That's why I told you to come and see me. They don't have the answers to that. That's our management.

T. VANDERWALL: But they're representing us. They should have the answers.

M. AMAN: They have the answers to what (interrupted)

T. VANDERWALL: They have a liaison for the wastewater treatment or the sewer plant, I don't know who it is. It's Gina.

M. AMAN: The village accounts for what they need to, which is what we charge them.

T. VANDERWALL: We come to meetings to find out about the sewer plant and no one knows, and they don't answer questions.
G. GRAHAM: They don't want to talk about it.
T. VANDERWALL: They want to just put it under the carpet. I don't get it.
M. AMAN:I stand with the offer. Most of these questions are better answered by me. Most of the communities are not well-equipped to answer some of the questions you're asking tonight. It's a difficult project. It's taken many twists and turns.
G. GRAHAM: That's what we pay them for, to ask these questions.
M. AMAN: No.
T. VANDERWALL: Yes.
M. AMAN: None of the Boards are involved to that level.
T. VANDERWALL: Kim Leonard is. Kim Leonard is involved. What do you mean she's not?
M. AMAN: Kim doesn't ask or get involved to the level of how we're making all of the decisions on the timing of the project, the startup, what project, what components we're putting in, all of the things that have resulted in where we are today. That's our job. It's our treatment plan in the end. Every community is paying their share towards it.
T. VANDERWALL: Well, the bottom line, like you said, they didn't want to let anybody know about this new sewer plant. Because they didn't want it to be a vote. It should have been a vote. And to all the residents
M. AMAN: None of the Towns put it up to a vote.
T. VANDERWALL: instead of stuck on our tax bills where we found it, when you got Salzburg Village paying an extra $37,000 and he gets it on his tax bill, no one knew about this new sewer plant. It should have been a vote, everybody says. To the residents. Be fair to the residents.
M. AMAN: It's not required for a vote. if it came up. Do you want to pay more for sewer or not? What are people going to vote? You trust, you hire and elect people to do the job.
T. VANDERWALL: They didn't know. We elected them and they didn't know anything about it.
M. AMAN: The village made a very informed decision. There were public informational meetings, which, by the way, nobody attends. Nobody came to that. We did one at the Pal-Mac School right here in the village.
T. VANDERWALL: There was no letter in our water bill like there is now. We have letters in our water bill all the time now.
M. AMAN: It was in the official papers. It was advertised in a number of fashions.
G. GRAHAM: Not everybody buys the Times.
M. AMAN: I'm sorry.
T. VANDERWALL: It should've been there
MAYOR PERRY: All right, I just want to say thank you for coming. I appreciate you.
M. AMAN: Is there anything the board would like to say?
T. VANDERWALL: Send a letter in the mail.
MAYOR PERRY: They can set a meeting up with you to come to your office, and you can explain the money end if that's okay with you.
M. AMAN: Share the letter. If you get a chance, share the letter that we've prepared.
C-T Wetherby It's going in the taxes.
M. AMAN: It's addressing what your bill is going to be.
G. GRAHAM: Yeah, now.
T. VANDERWALL: The first time.
M. AMAN: It's not going to address the capital charge. Well, we haven't billed you yet.
T. VANDERWALL: Are you going to put in the letter saying the first six years didn't count?
M. AMAN: No.
T. VANDERWALL: They should know that.
M. AMAN: This isn't addressing that at all. We're not going backwards on that.
T. VANDERWALL: Because we don't want to tell anybody that. The first six years should have counted towards the sewer plant. Not sitting in a reserve fund for you guys to play with it.
M. AMAN: In hindsight, maybe we would have done things differently. And it's not changing. It's not going back. You can keep at it any way you want. You can ask these same questions that you've been asking me all along. And every way you can think of, Tracy, the answer is not

changing. $60 per unit per month. That's what you need to know. And it's always been that way.

G. GRAHAM: All we want is transparency.

M. AMAN: Come and see me. I invited you.

G. GRAHAM: I'm going to come and see you.

T. VANDERWALL: Go ahead and ask

D. GIBSON: You say $60 per month. Is that just the bond payment or your sewer charge?

M. AMAN: No, I'm saying right now, I should clarify. $720 is what we developed as our target after we took the enhanced bids, and that was with the expectation of a $30 million grant and some others. We said the debt service was going to be about $520 a year, and it looks like we're trending a little below that. If all goes well, if we finish up strong and the bond rates don't change, I'm hoping we're closer to $475. In the O&M piece, we had said $50 a quarter, $200 a year. We're starting at $60 because of the factors I said with the sludge and that. But in total, you're going to be at or below that $720 number based upon what I know. That's total. So you're going to get a tax bill the first of the year, eventually $475 in that range. I don't know exactly. I don't know exactly, so it's the best I can tell you right now. And you're going to get a bill from us quarterly for $60. The good news is, if you're a high user, it's a benefits-based charge. So right now, if you fill pools, if you irrigate your lawn, you get charged for sewer based upon that. This is a flat charge for all residential units, $60 a quarter.

G. GRAHAM: So, all these elderly people.

M. AMAN: Not all of them. Some of the elderly people use a lot of water, do a lot of irrigating.

G. GRAHAM: I'm a postal employee. I see the water bills, and some of these people are going to be shocked.

D. GIBSON: So, I'm trying to understand. So $60 per quarter is going to be what each of That's your charge.

M. AMAN: That's for the equivalent to your sewer bill now. And your debt service, your payment towards the plan, comes on a tax bill once a year, currently at $325.

D. GIBSON: And that's in addition to a village charge? Right? Just still got the meter rental up to the line?

C-T WETHERBY: No. No. So you're not going to get a sewer bill from us anymore. You're going to be getting the $60 sewer bill from them.

D. GIBSON: Flat rate?

C-T WETHERBY: Mm-hmm. Yeah.

D. GIBSON: And then there's going to be a separate payment once a year for the debt service?

M. AMAN: It's already on your tax bill.

C-T WETHERBY: That's the one that's on your bill.

D. GIBSON: Okay, and included in that number, is there an operations cost for the county? Operations and maintenance?

M. AMAN: No, the O&M is.

D. GIBSON: So the 720, that was the number I heard, that goes all to debt?

M. AMAN: No.

Trustee Luke: No.

M. AMAN: 720 is total, hey, for $60 a quarter, that's $240 a year. And your debt's going to be about $475. So I'm saying it's $715.

D. GIBSON: Oh, so that is the operation.

M. AMAN: I'm saying that's total cost. And that's where I'm coming up with $60 a month per unit is what I'm saying.

Trustee Luke: $60 per month includes the debt service

M. AMAN: That's everything.

That's everything.

T**. Vanderwall.** Not per month, quarterly.

Trustee Luke: No. If you take the $60 per quarter plus the debt service amount, which is at $475, right? Not for us. It's at $325 for us. That's where the $720 is coming from. If you split the $720 by 12 months, that's where you get the $60.

M. AMAN: Exactly.

Trustee Luke: It includes the debt service and the $60 quarterly.

G. GRAHAM: I just want to know what our sewer bill is going to be quarterly. He's saying $60.

Trustee Luke: It is. That's exactly what he's saying.

M. AMAN: That's what I'm saying. For a residential.

G. GRAHAM: So when we get our bill instead with our water, we'll get one from him for $60. That's what I'm asking.

Trustee Luke: Yes. And that's on your tax bill.

G. GRAHAM: For everybody, not on usage. So the elderly people who don't use that much are going to be paying more.

M. AMAN: And the elderly folks that use a lot are paying less. The average customer, based upon the records Rebecca gave me, is going to save a little. Looks like the average bills may be about $65 to $70 if you take your base charge and you take your usage. Pull your bills out.

T. VANDERWALL: They're only $48, $40.

D. GIBSON: Could you finish what you were about to say, Gina?

Trustee Luke: What I was saying was, what Marty said of the $60 per quarter plus the debt service split by 12 is about $60 a month. That's what he's saying. That's why he's trying to say it's running you about $60 a month per unit. With the debt service and your sewer service.

D. GIBSON: Okay, so I'm just there was a pamphlet that came out and it showed a debt service number, but which also included There was a portion of that that was going to be the operating expenses

M. Aman a portion of it is for the reserves.' That's the small part that's going towards our reserves for the plant,

D. GIBSON: Your saying $60 a month times 12 is

M. Aman is the effective amount you're going to pay for a year. You're going to pay the taxes up front, and you get billed $60 a quarter, so it's $20 a month you're going to pay for O&M.

D. GIBSON: And is that subject to change?

M. Aman Which part of it?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: There we go.

The $60 per quarter obviously is. Sure. As your rates go up and never down

M. Aman The debt service, once we fix, once we get to permanent financing, the only way that the impact changes is if we lose units, equivalent units. Let's say we lose Richardson Foods in Macedon, which is 180 units or so. We lost a big industry that might have a small impact. We've got over 7,000 units. As we add units, Macedon's, adding more housing there's talk of Garlock coming into sewers You know another those big units will help bring the cost down but the debt once we close on it once we close which is Best I can tell spring of 2026 and it's not just because of our construction timeframe That's because the EFC is not talking about having a funding pool in December of this year So

D. GIBSON: : and will the debt service number show us a different line item on the bill?

M. AMAN: Yes.

D. GIBSON: It won't be just

M. AMAN: It's been on there.

C-T WETHERBY: It's that bill, the WWTP that's on your taxes

D. GIBSON: I'm just saying so that when the bill comes there's no question what portion

Trustee Luke: No, because that's going to be on your tax bill anyway like it has been So that's not going to change

D. GIBSON: Okay.

M. AMAN: So if you escrow, if you pay monthly, you're going to pay equivalent, you know, our charge and that on a monthly basis

T. VANDERWALL: So are you saying that a triple unit is paying $60, $60, $60?

M. AMAN: Yes If it's based on the definition of what constitutes an apartment unit, it's a bathroom and a kitchen, functional unit

T. VANDERWALL: With only one meter? Or do you have to have three meters?

M. AMAN: It doesn't have anything to do with meters at this point. It's based on the number of units, defined units, and that's a code enforcement decision. If he says he has three units on a building, that's what's being charged. And both your debt?

T. VANDERWALL: $180 for a triple. And that's more than what I pay.
M. AMAN: Well, it may be.
T. VANDERWALL: And I have one person in each place.
M. AMAN: I'm just saying, Tracy, that part hasn't changed since the last time you were in. $60 is what I've been telling you.
T. VANDERWALL: Yeah, but you also said, whatever, 26 years?
M. AMAN: I don't ever recall saying 26
T. VANDERWALL: in the 325.
M. AMAN: Maybe I said that we've paid a couple down. At the time, we hadn't even talked about when we'd get to permanent financing. So, you know, I don't recall saying that, but it's a 30-year term.
T. VANDERWALL: It was $53 and a half million.
M. AMAN: Yeah, that's for sure. That's documented.
G. GRAHAM: So now it's like 69 million with the grants.
M. AMAN: It's in that range. Minus 40. Minus 41.
G. GRAHAM: It seems like an awful lot more.
M. AMAN: It is
CT Wetherby: But it was $53 million with grants, too.
G. GRAHAM: At that time, they did not have those grants.
M. AMAN: Well, not those big ones.
CT Wetherby: But he had some of them.
G. GRAHAM: You had a $250,000 one.
MAYOR PERRY: Marty, I think you are all set. Thank you very much for coming.
M. AMAN: I didn't know what to prepare for.
There were quite a few points of the above conversations where multiple voices were talking at once. Even listening multiple times, what was being said individually couldn't be distinguished.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Postponed until next meeting as did not meet quorum that had attended that meeting.

APPROVAL OF ABSTRACT Motion was made by Trustee Luke, seconded by Trustee Denniston to approve payment of 12C vouchers 25-00891 to 25-00938 for $454,747.13 Vote, 3 ayes, CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION-None

EV CHARGERS: Mayor Perry introduced Bill Gauthier, Jacomb, LLC President/CEO to speak about the EV charger funding the Village has been awarded.
B. Gauthier discussed plans for installing DC fast chargers in the village, addressing the need for convenient charging locations for EV drivers. Currently, the nearest DC fast charger is seven miles away, and the local infrastructure for Level Three charging is lacking. The project will involve two 180 kW dual-port chargers in an adjacent parking lot, which can charge vehicles at a much faster rate than Level 2 chargers. The initiative is supported by significant funding from NYSEG and the DEC ZEV grant program, totaling $376,165, allowing the project to be fully funded without any out-of-pocket costs for the village. A NYSEG planner will assess the site to ensure sufficient power and handle the installation logistics, including submitting necessary paperwork for grants and incentives. The charger locations will show on apps when people are looking for chargers. Overall, the goal is to enhance EV charging accessibility and sustainability in the community.
C-T Wetherby apologized to Bill for those in the audience who talked during his entire presentation.

TRUSTEE REPORTS
Trustee Denniston attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for Salmon Creek Cabinetry and

Timber Roost, next door, and encourages everyone to visit. He thanked the Police and Fire Departments for participating in the Memorial Day parade last Monday, which was well attended. He reminded everyone that next Wednesday, June 4th, is the first Farmers' Market.
Trustee Leo apologized for missing recent meetings due to his Senior son's games, as he had already missed many, emphasizing their understanding and appreciation for the community's support. He mentioned that the Fire Department members are currently undergoing training for CPR and AED, highlighting a recent achievement of four members graduating from IFO to serve the community. The speaker encourages community engagement in seeking new members for the Fire Department and concludes with gratitude.
Trustee Luke: spoke regarding the wastewater treatment plant, mentioning that Marty confirmed they are awaiting a start date. A meeting is scheduled for tomorrow for further updates, expected in a week or two. The speaker expressed gratitude for Marty's presence to provide more details on the treatment plant. There will be a Movie in the Park on June 20th at around 8:30 PM featuring the original Snow White. Reliant Federal Credit Union is sponsoring the event and providing free popcorn, ensuring no cost to the village. Thank you to Reliant Federal Credit Union.
Trustee Parkison-Excused as he currently working, Mayor Perry thanked him for attending and speaking at the Memorial Day
MAYOR PERRY: The buildings and grounds team effectively prepared the cemetery, which looked beautiful. They are also tending to the flowers on Main Street and focusing on grass maintenance given the recent rain. The highway department has been working on catch basins and storm drains, as well as patching for upcoming paving.
Chief DiNardo: The LPR project has received NYSEG approval for the license plate readers and is progressing towards anticipated DOT approval within 30 days. Funding was secured by the grant, Additionally, the trailer has been striped and is now operational. The project's main purpose is to support car seats and juvenile programs, with services funded by the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. Two officers are certified for car seat checks and bike helmet safety, with their work also funded by the committee.

PARKING FOR FINGER LAKES COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL will be NO PARKING signs posted Friday 6/13 through Sunday 6/15. However, the no parking will only be enforced from 12:01am Saturday to 11:59pm Saturday. The following roads will have no parking signs:
Birdsall Parkway Claremont Park Gates Street Hyde Parkway West Foster Street
Stafford Street/Road from Main Street to 1157 Stafford Road
West Jackson on the North side from Canandaigua Street to Stafford Street, and both sides from Stafford Street to Hyde Parkway.
Motion to approve no parking on the streets listed above for June 14, 2025 was made by Trustee Luke, seconded by Trustee Denniston. Vote, 3 ayes. CARRIED.

CHIEF DINARDO: Within the first day, using a license plate reader in one police car helped recover 82 pills of LSD and $10,000 in cash from a suspect with a felony warrant. The system notifies officers of suspended, revoked registrations, or missing or wanted individuals, while also activating vehicle cameras upon the alert to start recording. Funding was received through a grant, and further funding may be sought to continue the program, which benefits the village financially.
C-T Wetherby let everyone know that the website and everyone's emails have been changed to .gov before the December deadline required by NYS.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS
HOME RULE REQUEST – This was done previously, but needed to be approved when the NYS Assembly and NYS Senate are in session. This is not impacting the Village at all. Officer Wadhams works full-time for Wayne County but they are unable to request this home rule which is why the Village is doing so.

WHEREAS, New York State has the authority to enact special laws in support of a municipal governing bodies desire to employ an officer full-time who otherwise is over the age requirements established by civil service, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Palmyra Board of Trustees would like to see Officer Heath Wadhams continue his career as a full-time Competitive Police Officer; NOW,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that submits this resolution and the supporting Home Rule request to both the Senate and Assembly for consideration and approval, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Palmyra Mayor, Richard T. Perry is hereby authorized and directed to execute all documents pertaining to the request.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that the Village of Palmyra fully approves and endorses Home Rule Legislation for Officer Heath Wadhams;

Motion was made by Trustee Leo, seconded by Trustee Luke to the above resolution. Vote, 3 ayes, CARRIED.

Chief DiNardo wanted to go on the record that we're not adding a full-time officer, Officer Wadhams has been employed here in a per diem capacity and that is not changing.

SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT APPLICATION No vote needed for Vino Valet to attend the Farmers' Market.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: Motion was made by Trustee Denniston and seconded by Trustee Leo to accept the following budget amendments: $4,210 from A8810.4 to A8810.2 (Cemetery) $4,891.35 from A3410. 2 to A3410. 4 (Fire Department) Vote, 3 ayes. CARRIED. Reminder that these amendments are done for encumbrance purposes only, and budgets are prepared using actuals.

ADJOURNMENT: Next meeting will be June 16, 2025 at 6:00pm at the Village Hall. Motion was made by Trustee Denniston and seconded by Trustee Leo to adjourn at 7:20 pm. Vote, 3 ayes. CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Wetherby
Clerk Treasurer

*According to property sales records, Ms. Vanderwall has purchased two properties within the last 4 years in the Village of Palmyra.