

**JOINT MEETING  
VILLAGE OF PALMYRA  
TOWN OF PALMYRA**  
Palmyra Fire Hall  
February 10, 2000                      6:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Wilson, Trustees DeVogelaere, Celentano, and Gunkler. Absent: Trustee Salomon- out of town on business. Town representatives: Supervisor Lyon, council members, Lambrix, Green, Welch, and Nussbaumer.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Supervisor Lyon called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. to conduct a public hearing which ended at 7:35 pm.  
Mayor Wilson opened the Village Board meeting at 7:36 to conduct a small amount of Village business.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE**

**CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The following has been received and is on file at Village Hall for public inspection:

1. Notification from Village Justice, Terry Rodman that the Court is prepared to submit their records, bank statements, checkbook and reconciliations, and any other information required to complete an audit for 1999.

**MEMBER INITIATIVE \$20,000 SEWER EXPANSION GRANT:** The following resolution was offered by Mayor Wilson, second by Trustee Celentano:

WHEREAS, the Village of Palmyra herein called the "Municipality" after thorough consideration of the various aspects of the problem and study of available data, has hereby determined that certain work, as described in the State Contract, herein called the "Project" is desirable, in the public interest, and is required in order to study and/or implement the local project or program; and

WHEREAS, under Chapter 55, Section 1 and 2, of the Laws of 1999 relating to the Local Assistance Budget, the Legislature has authorized financial assistance to localities for services and expenses related to local projects, programs and studies by means of a written agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality has examined and duly considered Chapter 55, Section 1 and 2, of the Laws of 1999 relating to the Local Assistance Budget and deems it to be in the public interest and benefit under this law to enter into a contract therewith:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the Board of Trustees of the Village of Palmyra

1. That Peter K. Wilson is directed and authorized as the official representative to act in connection with any contracts between the municipality and the State, and to provide such additional information as may be required.
2. The on (1) certified copy of this Resolution be prepared and sent to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Albany, New York together with the State Contract.
3. That this Resolution take effect immediately.

Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED.

**VILLAGE HALL-JOINT VILLAGE/TOWN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES:**

Mayor Wilson began by thanking Fred Alderman and his committee for their work in completing the study of Village Hall. He reported that the majority of the committee generally feels that the Village Hall would be the best site to locate the joint office facility. Mayor Wilson asked that anyone wishing to make any comments to identify themselves and then opened the floor for comments.

Jack Allen: It would be a big mistake to put any money into the Village Hall to make it into an office building. It would be better to use the LDS Church for this use and possibly turn the Village Hall over to Historic Palmyra to be restored as an Opera House.

Margaret Lotyczewski: Would any project be put before the voters?

Mayor Wilson: Yes, hopefully by November.

Marvin Garland: How will the project be paid for? It's unwise to leave another building vacant in the Village. Look at all the vacant ones already, like the Abbott Building.

Supervisor Lyon: No one is ready to make a final decision as to the location right now until more information has been obtained. There were 11 separate opinions but all of the committee felt it was important and prudent to combine the offices.

Nicole Marchbanks: The Town and Village have a huge asset in our historical buildings and our history. It would be a shame to abandon Village Hall.

Kelly Hill: Village Hall is the only standing Opera Hall in Wayne County. It should be restored to its original use.

Irene Unterborn: There are many groups that would love a place like Village Hall to use as a community playhouse. After many phone calls and a lot of legwork, she was unable to find anyone or any group that had the funds available to undertake such a project. Most felt it would actually cost more than what has been estimated to restore it to an Opera House.

Jack Allen: It would be better to tear it down versus make into offices.

Councilman David Nussbaumer: It has been estimated at \$1.4 million to refurbish, \$1.7 million to build new. The tax base for the town grows every year but it doesn't in the Village. It's important to keep a sharp pencil when it comes to the budget in the Village. He would not support the refurbishing the Village Hall - too expensive for a building with no parking. Probably the best option would be to build new or use another existing structure that would meet our needs.

Jack Allen: Someone should look into historical grants.

Fred Alderman: In order to make final decisions, much more definitive costs are needed. Next step would be to get an architectural study done.

Mayor Wilson: The report done by SEA was ballpark estimates. It should be noted that report was also done for free.

Irene Unterborn: It would be a good idea for the Boards to explain why this is being looked into.

Supervisor Lyon: According to DOL, Town Hall needs to be made handicapped accessible. They have been sited for no fire escape in the rear as well.

Mayor Wilson: Something needs to be done to Village Hall. It has deteriorated vastly in the last decade. It would save taxpayers money to operate a joint facility.

Chief Dalton: He can attest to the poor condition of the Village Hall.

David Trombino: We should do what is most cost effective. Historic restoration of the Opera Hall would be nice but is it needed?

Nicole Marchbanks: Has the income potential of a restored building been explored?

Mayor Wilson: It's not a new idea, however, no investors have stepped forward with an offer. Any investor would have to put in the same amount of money.

Halina Lotyczewski: Historic Palmyra would probably be willing to put the effort into restoring it for an Opera Hall.

Fred Alderman: There were members of Historic Palmyra on the committee and no one volunteered.

Tim Kurek: The committee is willing to research further but the Boards must give them direction.

Mayor Wilson reiterated that in order to make any further decisions firmer cost estimates are needed. A rough design would be helpful as well. He suggested getting an architectural or structural study completed. Supervisor Lyon asked Fred Alderman what the study of the WPC cost. It was \$3,700 and took about 5 weeks to complete. After a short discussion, it was the general consensus of both boards to solicit quotes for a study similar to the one completed for the WPC.

Mayor Wilson suggested putting together a sub-committee to look into the option of a multi-level parking garage as a joint venture with HSBC. Dan Wooden has a contact person's name with HSBC.

Supervisor Lyon thanked the students from Pal-Mac for attending and especially for offering their opinions. He wondered if any of them were interested in volunteering on the committee. David Trombino and Nicole Marchbanks both volunteered.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion by Mayor Wilson to close the public session at 8:30 p.m. and enter into executive session for discussion of a personnel matter. Second by Trustee Gunkler Celentano. Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED.

The Town Board concluded their meeting at 8:30 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to re-enter public session and adjourn at 8:50 p.m. by Trustee Celentano, second by Trustee DeVogelaere. Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia M. Lynch  
Village Clerk