

VILLAGE OF PALMYRA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
December 19, 2022 6:35 and 6:40PM
PUBLIC HEARINGS

CALL TO ORDER

OTHER ATTENDEES: Chris and Joyce Bucknam; Georgeanna Graham; Dan Nichols; Don Scanlon; Margaret Tracy; Tracy Vanderwall; Linda Valley; Mary Anne Smith-Williams; Caroline Grasso, *The Times of Wayne County*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

READING OF PUBLIC NOTICE printed in *The Times of Wayne County* on December 4th, 2022

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

For a change in the Palmyra Village Codes § 144-8. and § 172-16.

Please take notice that the Village of Palmyra will hold a Public Hearing on December 19th at Village Hall, 144 East Main St. Palmyra NY, 14522.

At 6:35pm to adopt a change in the usage charge from \$40 to \$45 per unit per quarter for water service and to adopt a change in the usage charge from \$40 to \$45 per unit per quarter for sewer service effective the March 2023 invoice.

At 6:40pm for the adoption of a revised schedule of income eligibility levels for the Village real property tax exemption for persons 65 years of age or older.

A copy of the income schedule is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Village Clerk's office, 144 East Main St. Palmyra NY. At such public hearing, all persons will be given an opportunity to be heard. Written and oral statements will be taken at that time. Time limitations may be imposed for each oral statement, if necessary.

Dated: December 3, 2022

By Order of the Village Board of Trustees
Village of Palmyra

MEETING PROCEDURES were printed on the back of the agenda and read out loud by Mayor Husk.

What is a Public Hearing? Many statutes require the holding of a public hearing before a public body (Village Board) may take a specific action. Perhaps the most well-known public hearing requirement is for enacting or possibly changing local laws.

Why are public hearings required? When attempting to divine the requirements for conducting public hearings, it is necessary to consider the two most important reasons for requiring public hearings.

- To ensure that the Village Board charged with taking action on a particular issue is fully aware of the public's sentiment about the proposed action.
- To give the public an opportunity to voice their concerns, opposition, or support for the proposed action.

The difference between a Regular meeting and a public hearing meeting is a regular meeting, is the convening of a quorum of a board for the purpose of conducting business in public. A public Hearing is a meeting of the board, at which the public must be allowed to comment only on the matter of the public hearing.

May restrictions be placed on public comment? Anyone who wishes to speak at the public hearing must be given

the opportunity to speak. However, there are some restrictions that the board may place upon participation at the public hearing. The Board generally must limit comments to the topic of the public hearing. Also, the board may impose reasonable time limits on those requesting to speak on the topic of hearing.

Answering questions at the Public Hearing: Members of the village board do not have to answer questions or give analysis at a public hearing. It is to hear comments regarding the topic, in order to make a decision moving forward.

Guidelines for Public comments at a Public Hearing are as follows:

- *Speaker must be recognized by presiding officer to approach the podium.
- *Speaker must give their name and address.
- *Speaker must limit their remarks to 4 minutes privilege of the floor,
- * Speaker may not yield any remaining time they may have to another speaker.
- * Board members may, with the permission of the presiding officer, interrupt a speaker during their remarks for clarification purposes only.

PUBLIC HEARING AT 6:35PM- Palmyra Village Code § 144-8 Sewer Rental Charges

Mayor Husk asked if anyone from the public would like to address the Board. If so, they were to come up to the podium stating their name, address and you have a four-minute floor privilege.

MaryAnn Williams asked if there is sewer and water in the Town of Palmyra and if they also are getting an increase. The Board said for those in the Town with water and/or sewer will see an increase as well.

Tracy Vanderwall- Wondering if there is money available to offset a rate increase by using the fund balance referenced in the 2019 audit. Mayor Husk reminded everyone that the Public Hearing is to hear the public's views on the proposed rate increase and nothing has been decided. There is money in the Reserve but we have to be fiscally responsible as that money is for repair to the 20 miles of pipe from Canandaigua Lake, the 18 miles of pipe in the Village and the pump stations if there in an issue. If we drain the reserve to pay the bills and we take the chance if something happens. T. Vanderwall stated that she is not in favor of the increase.

Georgeann Graham- Not in favor of the increase. She feels everything in the Village is too expensive

Linda Valley- Not in favor of a raise for water and sewer or any other raise.

Chris Bucknam-Asked if the cost of supplying the water has gone up over the years? Mayor Husk responded that everything has gone up. Also, that the water tower is due soon for repainting inside and that it cost \$350,000 ten years ago. It would be a lot more now. C. Bucknam said that if the cost of supplies has gone then maybe it's ok but would be opposed if it doesn't justify the overhead.

Written Statements: R. Wetherby received an email from Gary Annable that he is opposed to the increase. She also received opposition emails from Leah Bamburger and Becky Knibbs between the start of the meeting and the following morning. As there were no further comments, a motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:44pm was made by Trustee Wartens, seconded by Trustee Luke. Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARING AT 6:40PM Palmyra Village Code § 172-16 Senior Citizen Exemptions was opened at 6:45pm. R Wetherby commented that these changes will keep the Village income levels in line with Wayne County and the Town of Palmyra. Changes to the income levels haven't been done in quite some time. As there were no public comments the motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:46pm was made by Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Luke. Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED

Mayor Husk said that at the January 9th meeting the results of the Public Hearings will be declined or approved. He thanked everyone for attending and reminded them he has an open-door policy. If you can't meet during the afternoon or day he can always make evening appointments.

ADJOURNMENT: Next full board meeting will be on January 9th at 6:30pm at the Village Hall. Motion was made by Trustee Luke, seconded by Trustee Leo to adjourn at 6:54 pm. Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED.

NEXT MEETING: December 20, 2022 for Abstract Approval Meeting
January 9, 2023 at 6:30pm for a regular meeting