

VILLAGE OF PALMYRA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FEBRUARY 24, 2025 6:00 PM
REGULAR MEETING

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Perry, Leo, Luke and Parkison. Trustee Denniston and Attorney St. Martin was absent.

OTHER ATTENDEES: Glenn and Kay Bullock, Kammy Catchman, Lucas Shulla (Fire Chief), Mary Ann Smith-Williams, Linda Valley, Valorie Young

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Perry called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REGULAR MEETING

PUBLIC COMMENT- Linda Valley, as a member of the Fire Auxiliary, had questions summarized below: Are there plans to renovate the Fire Hall banquet room so it can be used for future events as the room earns revenue for the Auxiliary? If so, will the Village be applying for grants to help fund it? If so, can Auxiliary members help find grants and write them? If the Village is not planning to renovate the banquet room, does the Village have another plan to house the Fire Department in a different location? *Response from the Village Board will be sent to L. Valley directly and added as an appendix on the minutes.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Motion was made by Trustee Luke, seconded by Trustee Leo to approve the minutes from January 23, 2025 (Village portion). Vote, 3 ayes, 1 abstain Parkison. CARRIED.

Motion was made by Trustee Parkison, seconded by Trustee Leo to approve the minutes from February 3, 2025. Vote, 3 ayes. CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF ABSTRACT Motion was made by Trustee Luke seconded by Trustee Parkison to approve payment of 9B vouchers 25-00622 through 25-00652 for \$85,333.30. Vote, 3 ayes, CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION

On February 21, the Board was given: January- Capital Project and Reserve reports
Revenue and Expense report through 2/21
Bank and CD balances through 2/21

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Luke- was informed that the newly formed Merchant's Association might be disbanding. There are some merchants trying to keep things going. Mayor Perry asked if they needed any help from the Village. Trustee Luke will reach out to them.

Trustee Leo-

MOTION TO APPROVE MAYOR PERRY TO SIGN RENEWAL OF FIRE CONTRACT WITH TOWN OF MANCHESTER was made by Trustee Leo, seconded by Trustee Luke.

Vote, 3 ayes, CARRIED. The portion we are being paid to cover is:

Beginning at the northwest corner of the town of Manchester at the point where the town line between the Towns of Manchester and Palmyra meet, running due east along said town line and the townline road to the intersection of said Town Line Road and Faas Road; thence southerly adjacent to the boundary line of the Port Gibson Fire Protection District to Armington School Road; thence westerly adjacent to the boundary line of the village of Manchester Fire Protection District, to the town line between the Towns of Manchester and Farmington; thence northerly along set town line to the point of beginning. According to Chief Shulla, service calls in this area have been minimal.

MOTION TO APPROVE APPLICATION FOR ADAM WEAVER AS AN EXTERIOR FIREFIGHTER, pending usual physicals and background checks, was made by Mayor Perry, seconded by Trustee Parkison. Vote, 3 ayes. CARRIED. Adam is currently part of the Explorer program.

Trustee Denniston- Excused

Trustee Parkison- has been working with Fairport on how to set up a Farmer's Market in the Village as they currently have a successful one. He is working on logistics but is hoping that he can get it organized by May. He encouraged that if anyone has any ideas to please feel free to make those suggestions. He is meeting directors in Fairport in a couple weeks to get more information on how to establish a 501(c)3 for these events.

Mayor Perry- There should be enough salt as long as it doesn't get bad again. (There is currently a salt shortage.) Highway Department is fixing equipment while Building and Grounds have been painting, waxing floors, and salting corners as needed.

Regarding the first floor apartments, we can't simply tell people they are out. There is a process that has to followed that can be potentially lengthy. He has been meeting with our Attorney Matthew St. Martin over the last 2 weeks to go over logistics on how this can be handled an putting a plan in place. There is a code stating that there is no first-floor apartments in a large section of the business district and it is enforceable. We will have to go to court if the property owners don't comply. We are taking steps on this matter and will know more as time goes on. There is a map of the overlay district that clearly defines what buildings fall under code 200-21. He will be continuing to work on this.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

CEMETERY PRICING Cemetery Superintendent Hopkins and others reached out to other areas cemetery to see where our prices were in comparison. Due to that he is proposing the following price increases for anyone that hasn't signed a contract and paid by April 1. The Board will vote on this at the next Board meeting.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS TO FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENT was made by Trustee Parkison, seconded by Trustee Luke. Vote, 3 ayes. CARRIED. Police: 8/12/24 \$20.00 by a resident, 9/18/24 \$10.00 by a resident, 12/18 two at \$10.00 by a resident, 6/12/24 from Constellation Nuclear for \$500 training
Fire Department: 6/12/24 from NYSEG for \$1000 for training and Constellation Nuclear for \$1000

These were not solicited and sent on their own volition.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS was made by Trustee Parkison, seconded by Trustee Luke. Vote, 3 ayes. CARRIED (For encumbrance purposes only, budget is based on actuals.)

A1110.4 to A1110.1	\$2000	A3120.11 to A9060.8	\$2661
A3120.11 to A9089.8	\$5139	A9010.8 to A9060.8	\$5760
A9015.8 to A9060.8	\$13,908	A9010.8 to A1680.4	\$5493
A201 to A1680.4	\$32,453.31		
Increase revenue A2665 and increase expense A3410.4 (cancels out)			\$9000

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Chief Shulla- It's been about a year since we started the 24/7 contract with East Palmyra and are working well together. They had rescue water training yesterday with them and try to do joint training once or twice a month. Thursday they have interior training in Lyons. Both companies have been able to get trucks out during the day. NYSEG training next month that they will get \$1000 for. Last year those funds were used towards a gas meter to go into homes. The Fire Department has had 370 calls for Palmyra since March 1, 2024. Voting for new officers will be at after March 1. The old banquet room is currently being used for interior training and some storage for Pancake Breakfasts.

MOTION TO SURPLUS Hopkins Rescue (#1136886) tool, hydraulic pump and hydraulic hose reels and hose and list them for sale starting at \$3500 but not to go below \$2000 was made by Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Leo. Vote, 3 ayes. CARRIED.

MOTION TO ACCEPT DONATION OF HERST PUMP, HOSE AND REELS was made by Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Leo. Vote, 3 ayes. CARRIED.

Mayor Perry and Chief Shulla encouraged anyone that wants to go see a training you are welcome to come Sundays at 10:00am and Thursdays at 7:00. Mayor Perry asked how much training is required. Exterior training is 80 hours at Wayne County Training Facility and at least 20 trainings per year to stay certified. Many of the firefighters come to all trainings. Interior training is over 100 hours of training.

Chief DiNardo- Power DMS went live today so all policies will be transferred. Website will be updated once all updates are done.

MOTION TO APPROVE SURPLUS OF 72 TASER CARTRIDGES in exchange for a \$1000 training credit for Finger Lakes Academy was made by Trustee Parkison, seconded by Trustee Luke. Vote, 3 ayes. CARRIED. They would be using them for their Peace officer school as they are near their expiration dates.

Tompkins County Corrections expressed interest in them as Tasers have to be sold to an out of state dealer or other law enforcement for liability purposes.

BUDGET WORKSHOP Clerk-Treasurer Wetherby went through the budget with the Board. The tax rate is currently at \$9.99999. The tax cap is \$10.24.

Highlights include a decrease in court revenue as NYS has made it difficult to collect any fees, an increase in Court salary as the Court Clerk is retiring and training time for the new clerk needs to

be budgeted. As WCWSA is taking over operations with the new WWTP items can no longer be split evenly between general, water and sewer funds. We will be able to stay at \$325 for collection of funds towards WWTP.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: As there were no further regular items to be discussed, a motion was made by Trustee Luke, seconded by Trustee Leo to go into executive session for discussion of personnel at 7:25pm. Vote, 3 ayes. CARRIED. There will be no action taken after Executive Session.

Mayor Perry declared the return to public session at 8:21pm

ADJOURNMENT Next meeting will be March 3, 2025 at 6:00pm at the Village Hall. Motion was made by Trustee Luke, seconded by Trustee Parkison to adjourn at 8:22pm. Vote, 3 ayes. CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Wetherby
Clerk Treasurer

Response sent to Linda Valley via email on 3/3/25 and was also posted on Facebook 3/4/25

First and foremost, we would like to express our sincere appreciation for your involvement with the Auxiliary. The support from dedicated community members like you is invaluable to both the Fire Department and the Auxiliary, as it helps us ensure the safety and well-being of all residents in our village.

Regarding the issue with the Fire Department's banquet hall, we want to update you on the progress. As you are aware, the hall was affected by mold, which was professionally removed by Servpro. However, upon further inspection, it was discovered that the mold damage had been caused by leaks in the flat roof, which were not visible until the area was demolished. Following this, we received quotes for restoring the banquet hall and replacing the roof, with estimates ranging from \$120,000 to \$155,000.

Given the ongoing concerns among residents about rising taxes, we determined that this project could not be funded through taxpayer dollars. We also applied for a grant this year that could have covered the project, but unfortunately, we were not successful in securing it. However, we remain hopeful and plan to apply again this year. We are committed to securing the necessary funding and will continue to explore all potential sources of financial support.

Additionally, we recognize that the funds required for these renovations could be put to better use toward purchasing life-saving equipment for the Fire Department. With this in mind, we are dedicated to ensuring that we pursue all avenues for funding, including applying for grants and seeking assistance from Albany. We are also open to any help from individuals who may have insights or can identify additional grants that could aid in the banquet hall renovation project. However we would most likely continue to utilize MRB Group to write the grants. As info, this falls under Priority Area 4 (Infrastructure & Community Connectivity) on page #53 of the comprehensive plan.

Our shared goal is to restore the banquet hall without burdening the taxpayers, and we are confident that, with persistence, we will find a solution that benefits everyone.

Regarding the possibility of constructing a new fire department building, we once again want to emphasize that while we would certainly consider this option if we were able to secure a grant, the potential cost to the village taxpayers would be too significant to move forward with at this time. If you have any further questions or if there are any aspects we did not address, please feel free to reach out. We appreciate your understanding and continued support.