

8/25/2025

5:00 pm Public hearing by Board of Trustees

To discuss an increase to the water and sewer rates and changing the billing schedule for water and sewer bills from bi-annually to quarterly

Present: Mayor Dawn White, Trustees: Steve Elwood, Gary Warn, Melissa Baker, Dominic Cuomo, Auditor John Lull, Village Clerk Derinda Greif, Frank Erno

Public: Nino Polidori, Janice Zoller, Chris Weaver, Janice Machauchlin, Clark Machauchlin, Karen Crouse, Donna Springer, Constance Terricola, Barbara Stgiano, Carol Pedro, Dennis Clark, Kim Snell, Amanda Ormond, Margaret DiGiacomo, Eleanor Weesa, Dawn Kane, Andrew Webler

Mayor White called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm and the salute to the flag was given.

Public Comment: Dennis Clark inquired about ARPA funds, but no reply was given as it was not an agenda item.

Andrew Webler expressed concern over increasing cost of living when living on Social Security. He also expressed frustration when due dates for bills fall on the weekend, making it difficult to make payments.

Kim Snell expressed concern over the increase in rates for the elderly in village and expressed it would result in many leaving the village.

Mayor White gave the floor to John Lull who explained his recommendations to the Board. He suggests a half year bill of \$340.00 for the minimum fee, raising the bill by \$40.00, in order to work towards paying off the interfund loan. You can calculate a projected increase of approximately 15% in total if you typically go over the minimum useage of 2500 cubic feet. If the Board votes to go with a quarterly bill, these numbers would all simply be cut in half.

It is being recommended that the industrial accounts be increased by 15% as well.

The question was raised as to the expense of going to quarterly billing. John replied that it would be at the expense of clerk hours, but that we would have better cash flow. He also expressed the hope that it would be less of a "hit" to people having a smaller bill to pay more frequently.

John says that after this fiscal year we would have to recalculate what the rates would be for next year, to support that budgeted expense to see what is needed at that time. He notes that if at some point in the future there is a surplus in the account, rates could even go down.

Dennis Clark brought up financial questions to which John Lull responded.

Waste Water Treatment Plant Supervisor Frank Erno addressed issues with the waste water treatment plant and the need for funds in order for repairs to be made. Dennis Clark raised questions that Mr. Erno responded to.

Karen Crouse asked how much it would cost to send water bills out quarterly. Mayor White replied that we are looking into different billing options, including postcard billing, to reduce cost, so the actual cost at this time is not known.

Meeting adjourned at 5:37 pm