

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
PALMYRA, MISSOURI

September 4, 2025

The Palmyra Board of Public Works met on the above date in the Palmyra Council Chambers at 5:00 p.m. with President Ernie Boulware presiding. The following board members answered roll call: Ernie Boulware, Gary Stuhlman, Gerry Maas, and Tim Browning. Also in attendance were Council Liaison Steve Bland and Superintendent Brent Abell.

A motion was made by Boulware and seconded by Browning to approve the agenda as presented. On a call of ayes and nays the motion carried.

A motion was made by Browning and seconded by Stuhlman to approve the minutes from the August 21st meeting with the correction of Superintendent Brent Abell being listed as being admitted into the closed session. On a call of ayes and nays the motion carried.

A motion was made by Browning and seconded by Maas to approve the bills for the electric, water and sewer departments. On a call of ayes and nays the motion carried.

The payroll report was discussed.

The board reviewed the status of the water/sewer maintenance department. The department is a three-man crew with Dustin Smith assisting when needed and being in the on-call rotation monthly. The board voted to make the following changes which were placed into effect on the September 4th pay period:

A motion was made by Stuhlman and seconded by Browning to reduce Dustin Smith's hourly rate of pay by \$2.50 and remove his status of department supervisor. On a call of ayes and nays the motion carried. Smith's pay went from \$35.46 to \$32.96 per hour.

A motion was made by Browning and seconded by Maas to promote Blake Klein to supervisor of the water/sewer maintenance crew with a pay increase to \$27.00 per hour. On a call of ayes and nays the motion carried.

The board will begin the annual department visits at the water plant on September 17th at 4:15 p.m.

Abell provided an update of each departments work progress. Abell has met with an engineer from Klingner & Associates on the electrical needs at the sewer plant for the improvements being implemented through the DNR loan.

Abell presented a proposed Letter to Editor the council asked him to prepare concerning the high utility bills. The board members are not in favor of the letter and if the council moves forward, they request to only place it in the local newspaper and send out with the bills and not be placed on social media.

The topic of water usage for outdoor watering needs (flowers/grass, pools, etc.) was discussed. Residents are asking for a solution for the sewer charge on this type of water usage. The board will continue to review options.

The board held a general discussion on the employees' request for changes in benefits.

With no further business before the board a motion to adjourn was made at 6:44 p.m.

Ernest W. Boulware, President

Deena L. Parsons, Assistant Secretary