

Village of Spring Valley
Minutes for Public Works Committee

September 2, 2025

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Nate Pelz.

Members Present: Pelz, Huepfel

Members absent: O'Connell

Others present: PW Supervisor Kirby, Administrator Emerson, Greg Adams – Cedar Corporation

Approval of Minutes: August 13, 2025 minutes approved as presented

Approval of Agenda: Motion (Huepfel/Pelz) to approve agenda. Carried.

1. Greg Adams gave a presentation on the state of the lift stations and sanitary sewer system. "High level" alarms have increased in frequency steadily since the beginning of this year so capacity levels are being questioned. Huepfel expressed concerns that studies have been done in the past but we're still having problems. Several reminded the committee that the projects being done at the time were water utility projects and no other pieces of the system were brought up or suggested to be studied for impact. Huepfel also suggested that the problem with the lift stations may not be capacity but a need for stronger pumps, there may be broken parts internally in the system, there may be blockage somewhere else along the flow lines. All agreed the Village wouldn't know what the true problem was until a review of the system by a reputable company who knows sanitary systems reviews the west side of town. Kirby stated he has scheduled MN Pump to come in and review our system the week of September 8th, this is a two-day project. Until that time, we won't know what the problem is or what might need to be done to correct the situation.
2. Kirby presented various sewer and lift station impact fees for resident and non-resident customers in neighboring municipalities. Spring Valley has low hook-up fees compared to other municipalities on the fee schedule, a sign we should increase our hook-up fees. This will be discussed at the next PW committee meeting
3. General updates: Hager has five tests left to complete his DNR certification, he will be testing again in October. CDL is also being worked on, testing in October. PW needs nighttime plow drivers this winter.

Motion (Huepfel/Pelz) to adjourn. 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Luann Emerson, Administrator