

Barton Village, Inc.
Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Informational Meeting
Tuesday, February 10, 2026
6:00pm
Downstairs Hall of Barton Memorial Building
Attendance:

Gina Lyon (Chair, Business Manager); Marilyn Prue (Trustee); Ellis Merchant (Trustee); Jacqueline Laurion (Clerk) Cindy Epinette (Glover), Jack Sumberg(Glover), Fay Valley,(Barton)Natalie Pion (Barton); Nate Sicard (Barton); Susan Tubiello (Barton) Sarah Bailey(Barton) Marsha Cloutier (Barton) Tricia and Noah Armstrong (Glover), Kathy White (Barton) Ed Barber (*Newport Daily Express*), Mike Mainer (Aldrich & Elliott), Audrey Grant (NEKO)

Agenda

- A. Call to Order:** Gina Lyon called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
- B. Changes to the Agenda/Additions or Deletions – None.**
- C. Privilege of the Floor – Under Discussion item E for Q&A.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

D. Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade:

Michael Mainer of Aldrich & Elliott provided an overview of the proposed Wastewater Treatment Facility improvement project to those in attendance. Additional information regarding the project is available at the Barton Village Office and has also been shared on the Village's social media page (Facebook).

This goes up for Bond Vote on 02/12/2026 for Barton Village Residents at the Memorial Building Hall from 10am to 7PM.

E. Q&A -Privilege of the Floor

Questions Posed to the Village Trustees and Mike Maynard of Aldrich & Elliott:

- What permits are required for the project, and are those costs included in the bond? Will there be any issues obtaining State permits?**
It was confirmed that all required permits are included in the bond. No issues are anticipated with the State, as the State has been involved throughout the planning process.
- Is it possible to purchase additional property from neighboring landowners to allow for a third lagoon?**
This question was raised due to concerns about space at the current WW Treatment Plant location. It was explained that a third lagoon is necessary because one lagoon must be taken offline during construction, but there was ample space to install the third lagoon.
- How will the wastewater treatment plant continue to operate while one lagoon is offline?**
It was confirmed that the plant will continue to operate without any usage interruptions during the construction period, which is the reason for the third lagoon.
- Will costs be the same for properties that do not have access to the Village Sewer lines?**
This question was raised for clarification regarding cost distribution, and yes under the guidelines of a general bond vote, all Barton Village residents will be part of the fees associated with the passing of this bond, should the Board of Trustees decide to appropriate a percentage as a general bond and a percentage to users of the system.
- How will this project affect property taxes and user fees, given that the Village already has existing bonds?**

It was explained that the estimated user fee of \$29.00 represents the highest possible cost and is a worst-case scenario. The actual cost will depend on USDA grants and funding received. It was

understood that the way it was described in the notices led to some confusion on what WOULD be the increased cost per household.

- **Why is this project necessary now, and system issues not addressed earlier?**

Nate Sicard, speaking as a Village resident and former Village Trustee for nine + years, explained that while smaller repairs have been made over time, the Village has reached a point where major infrastructure improvements are required. Many components have already been addressed over the years and what remains are the significant, high-cost items.

- **How is the Village planning for future infrastructure expenses?**

There are funds that are put into a reserve fund each year, while it was noted it certainly is not enough, the other piece of that is for the Village to add more to the reserve fund, it would require an increase in Village Taxes.

- **Is Glover a part-owner of the Wastewater Treatment Facility?**

A question from Jack Sumberg of Glover stated that he believes that Glover is a small shareholder in the treatment plant because they had to take a bond out to pay for a portion of the original build. There is an agreement from 1980 that states it is owned by Barton Village.

- **What happens if the bond does not pass?**

It was explained that additional meetings would be required to determine how to minimally operate the facility. The costs would not go away and would increase over time due to rising costs of goods and services. Issuing a bond is also a mechanism for obtaining subsidies.

- **Will the bond be added to the grand list, and should it be a general obligation bond?**

Under a general obligation bond, all property owners, including those not connected to the wastewater system, would still be required to contribute. This is the requirement of a general obligation bond.

- **When would bond repayment begin?**

Bond repayment would not begin until 2029.

- **Why are properties not connected to the system still required to pay under a general obligation bond?**

From a legal perspective, all property owners are part of the community and benefit from the wastewater system. Even if not directly connected, they rely on businesses, grocery stores, banks, and other services that are tied to the system and therefore are part of the overall infrastructure.

F. Adjourn: Gina Lyon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm. Seconded by Marilyn Prue. Motion carried.

Upcoming Meetings:

Regular Barton Trustee Board Meeting: February 10, 2026, directly following informational meeting.

Regular Barton Trustee Board Meeting: February 24, 2026