**Village of Mapleton**

**PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES**

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

6:45 p.m.

***Meeting was not recorded due to a malfunction of the tape recorder.***

***PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES!***

1. **Call to Order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Carl Bishop**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance (pledge will done at Board Meeting)**

**3) Revocation of Fireworks Permit for James C. Slater of C-N-C   
 Fireworks**

Village attorney, Lane Alster explained that the application for Fireworks sales didn’t disclose a felony conviction. That is why the notice was sent out about revocation. There were several explanations given as to why.

Mr. Slater’s attorney, Peter Lynch explained that he is a Criminal Defense Attorney and doesn’t normally come to municipal meetings but wanted to vouch for Mr. Slater’s character, stating that he believes in him. He was charged and convicted of a federal crime of fencing stole goods. The equipment in question had been stole in Iowa and Wisconsin, crossing state lines, which made it a Federal crime. He pointed out that James had nothing to do with the theft of the items. He explained that James actually sought out and bought back 7 of the 12 items and returned money. Atty. Lynch also explained that the federal government doesn’t file charges until they feel they have an open and shut case. He was given four years which was reduced by 50% and served under a year. This is unusual, as the Federal government doesn’t usually make any kind of bargains. There was no illegal activity at the fireworks market.

He explained that he was rushed when he filled out the application and didn’t think they would find it since it was a federal charge. It was a poor course of action and he knows that. He didn’t want everyone to know what was going on. Lawns are Us owner was there to support James. He complied with every term of his probation.

James asked the board to let his wife run the stand, as she did last year if they revoked his permit. The wife was listed as an employee and she is not on the permit. She is actually one of the owner’s and has State Certificate.

Harvey asked the Slaters if this was their only tent and if it is their main source of income. James said yes, it was. With the rental of the tent, permit fee, rent for the space and fireworks he already has $70,000 spent if this doesn’t work out. He stated he is a boilermaker but hasn’t had work in 18 months. His wife said this is how they pay their bills. There is no unemployment….no income.

James stated if they revoke his permit he understands, but hopes they will let his wife run it. If so, he will promise to not be on the site at all.

Attorney Alster asked for a poll of the trustees and the results were:

Liz – Revoke his license but let his wife run it.

Rodney – Let her run it without him there

Mark – let them run it

Harvey – He doesn’t care who does it. He believes James paid his dues and is ok with him working.

Patti – Revoking James Slater’s permit but let wife apply and run it

Mike – Revoke his license but let the wife apply on her own.

The trustees felt they should stick by the laws of the village.

Liz stated that as long as she can guarantee he will not be on site she is fine with the wife running it.

Patti said she feels for them and knows how bad it is without income coming in, but on the other hand she has a problem with people not telling the truth.

Mayor Bishop stated that his permit should be revoked but let the wife apply and run the stand.

The License will be revoked for James.

James asked if the board would you allow him to set up the tent and tables, but not be around for the sale of the fireworks. The board agreed he could be on site to set up and tear down only.

1. **Adjourn Hearing**Harvey made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mark. Voice vote was unanimous. Adjourned at 7:13 pm.

Transcribed by Patricia S. Briggs, Clerk

Approved by the Board of Trustees on July 8, 2020