

**Village of Mapleton**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, March 14, 2019

6:30 p.m.

*Meeting to be recorded*

**PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES!**

**1) Roll Call**

Present: Carl A. Bishop, Mayor; Trustees, Mike Beecham, Mark Brining, Liz Rench and Rodney Smith. Absent: Mark Foust and Harvey Stidham. Harvey Stidham arrived at 6:09 pm.

**2) Pledge of Allegiance**

**3) Call to Order 6:30 pm by Carl A. Bishop, Mayor**

**4) Approval of Agenda**

Liz Rench made a motion to approve the agenda and was seconded by Rodney Smith. Votes: Yes, Mike Beecham, Mark Brining, Liz Rench, Rodney Smith. No – 0; Absent – Mark Foust and Harvey Stidham. **Motion Carried**

**5) Consent Agenda**

All items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Village Board and will be enacted by one motion with no separate discussion of the items. If discussion of an item is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda to be considered separately.

- a) Minutes from Regular Board Meeting – February 14, 2019
- b) Minutes from Zoning Committee Meeting – February 14, 2019
- c) Bills & Correspondence (Received February 14 – March 14)
- d) Treasurer's Report

Rodney Smith made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and was seconded by Mark Brining. Votes: Yes, Mike Beecham, Mark Brining, Liz Rench, Rodney Smith. No – 0; Absent – Mark Foust and Harvey Stidham. **Motion Carried**

**6) Public Comments**

***Please keep comments to three minutes. Review the agenda before you speak. This is the ONLY opportunity you will be given to speak during the meeting. There will be no discussion by audience members during the business meeting unless there is an emergency situation.***

## 7) Addressing the Board

- a) Patty Monks – Neighborhood Watch (What’s Happening In Glasford, Kingston Mines & Mapleton): Patti explained that she had attended a Neighborhood Watch Meeting that met in Glasford at the fire station last Monday. She attended and is represented Mapleton with the group. She stated that there have been burglaries, rapes, and other crimes going on in the area. Glasford is very adamant about pushing this Neighborhood Watch and would like to see it go in to Kingston Mines and Mapleton. There are metal signs available for \$18 each but she is hoping to get the price down. She hopes the Village Board will be behind this. Clerk stated she will put information in the monthly newsletter when it is available. She talked about a power washer being stolen from her yard and that her contractor had an expensive paint sprayer stole as well. She said she has seen cars driving through Mapleton between 10 PM and 6 AM canvassing the area. They contacted the county, but the county didn’t do anything about it. She advised the residents and the board that we need to watch and be aware and look out for each other. There will be a brainstorming meeting next Monday. She recommended that those on Facebook like the page: “What’s happening in Glasford, Kingston Mines and Mapleton to be informed. She also stated that thieves don’t like light so we should light up our houses outside. Her neighbor who just moved in said he had stuff stolen when he started building his house. Liz asked Patti what she wanted the board to do. Patti responded by asking the board to buy the signs and put them up and that she would know more after the next meeting. Harvey said there are cameras in his neighborhood pointing at the street and he writes down license plate numbers. Liz reminded everyone that last summer we had several cars canvassing the neighborhood during daylight hours taking pictures. Liz asked Patti to more information and get it back to the board. Mike asked if they were going to move the meetings around to different villages and Patti thought that would be a good idea but there were a lot of people and wasn’t sure everyone would fit in to village halls. She will check into it.

Alice Dailey stated that roads are worse than they’ve ever been in 50 years; that West First and Monk’s Lane are obstacle courses. There was discussion about hiring someone to repair potholes as soon as weather was good enough and that we will be looking into sealcoating soon as well.

## 8) Old Business

No old business.

## 9) Committee Reports (No motions can be made during reports)

### a) Finance Committee – Mike Beecham

Mike stated that it is very difficult to find employees to do some work. He explained that we will be using MFT funds to do seal coating in the town. Mark Brining said that many holes were fixed last year and that if you look, a lot of the problem is where the garbage trucks stop to load trash.

Mike asked the board to consider investing some money again. He stated that we used to have some bonds that got cashed in for a big project. He said with what is going on with projects and complaints it is probably a good idea to invest some money again so we have the

money to use when something comes up. The bonds were cashed in to pay off a previous IEPA loan, so it was used for a good purpose.

Liz stated that we need a breakdown for attorney fees so we know what was for each fund, that the General shouldn't keep paying for everything. Lane Alster, village attorney said that we can sort it out. Clerk and treasurer said they will make sure it is broken out. With using Purchase Orders, it should be easier to identify expenses by department.

**b) Health and Water – Harvey Stidham**

Harvey stated he wants to check and repair the meters because there was a big discrepancy in how much water we paid for and how much we billed. He also said he is working with Stan Bersin on bids for the water tower repairs. Harvey warned the board that the display panel at the water tower is starting to go bad, getting very difficult to see and if it stops working, we can't pump out water to anyone. He had a quote from Datalink from \$6K to 8K. Fritz also explained that the callout is linked with the panel as well so if it goes out, we're out of water. Harvey stated that it is backed up now. Mark asked if the hydrant had been removed from the inn that is being torn down and the Water Operation said it looks like it might have been torn out but it's too long for the trailer, has at least 4' of pipe. Board had a straw poll for fixing the panel and agreed that if it is under \$8000 it could be done. The attorney also pointed out that if it is a maintenance issue it can probably be done on an emergency basis if necessary, without calling a special meeting to approve it.

**c) Liquor – Carl Bishop**

The mayor had nothing to report but clerk stated she had sent a letter to the Corner Farms letting them know what the cost of the liquor license would be and has not heard back from them.

**d) Streets and Alleys – Mark Brining**

Mark said he would be looking at streets with Stan and getting quotes together for seal coating. There was a discussion about a W. First St. issue with water backing up. It was also discussed that at the bottom of Hickory & Main, water from the West has dug a ditch into the road and we need to get the county out to get that fixed. The county road meets with our road but the tax referendum didn't go through so there is no money in the county.

**e) Zoning and Code Enforcement – Mark Foust (Absent)**

The clerk said she had received a complaint about a resident doing illegal burning and the Journal Star carriers throwing papers out on the road on West First Street. Clerk will be following up and/or sending letters.

Mike Beecham recommended that we switch our agricultural zoning requirement from 25 acres to 10. That way the old motel could be zoned for agricultural if they decided to farm it. Liz stated that she would rather we do special use permits so we control the zoning and would like to leave it at 25 acres.

**f) Mayors Report – Carl Bishop**

Mayor Bishop reminded the board that the clerk had been hired in with six month raises and that she is coming up on her next raise on the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month. A resident voiced her

opinion that the village spends too much on salaries but mayor reminded everyone that this was the agreement when the clerk was hired and it would cap out at \$15.00 an hour and then yearly merit increases if approved.

## 10) **New Business**

### a) **Resignation of Treasurer**

The Clerk read a letter from Peggy Stidham resigning as treasurer and water payment clerk. (Available in the office)

### b) **Hiring of New Treasurer**

Mike Beecham said there was a discussion in the finance committee about Rhonda Hodges willing to take that back on. Clerk stated she had polled the trustees, who were all in agreement, so an executive session was not required. Mark Brining made a motion that Rhonda Hodges be brought back in as Treasurer and Water Payment Clerk and was seconded by Liz Rench. Votes: Yes, Mike Beecham, Mark Brining, Liz Rench, Rodney Smith and Harvey Stidham. No – 0; Absent – Mark Foust - **Motion Carried**

### c) **Appointment of Treasurer – Carl Bishop**

Carl Bishop appointed Rhonda as treasurer and welcomed her back.

### d) **Oath of Office for treasurer**

Clerk gave oath of office to Rhonda Hodges

### e) **Bank Signatures**

Remove Peggy Stidham

(Mark Brining made the suggestion that we change the pay for the water payment clerk to the same as treasurer pay but was told that wasn't a good idea since there is a separation of duties there. Liz Rench made a motion to remove Peggy Stidham from all bank accounts and to add Rhonda Hodges to all accounts and was seconded by Mike Beecham. Votes: Yes, Mike Beecham, Mark Brining, Liz Rench, Rodney Smith and Harvey Stidham. No – 0; Absent – Mark Foust

### f) **Switch bond from Peggy to Rhonda**

Mike Beecham made a motion to removed Peggy Stidham from bonding and add Rhonda Hodges and was seconded by Mark Brining. Votes: Yes, Mike Beecham, Mark Brining, Liz Rench, Rodney Smith and Harvey Stidham. No – 0; Absent – Mark Foust **Motion Carried**

### g) **Scissor Lift Rental for moving brackets for Christmas Decorations**

There was discussion about renting a 26' lift for \$130/day at National Rentals to move the brackets for the Christmas ornaments down. Harvey stated that he tried to do it on a ladder but it is pretty near impossible, you need a lift to do it. Mark Brining said we would have to hire an electrician to do the work. Mike Beecham said to get a bid from an electrical company. Fritz stated that Schwartz replaced most of the electric outlets on the poles a couple of years ago. It was also decided that the scissor lift wouldn't work because the roads aren't level, that you would need a bucket. Mark Brining said Dan Dunn said he'd match whatever National Rental price is. AT&T took the Christmas decoration down for Mark so it could be put away.

Mike – how many (7) and get a quote from moving the outlets and the brackets at the same time. Bucket. Mark – spent \$1200 to put them up a couple of years ago. Table until a later meeting.

h) **Ordinance 2019-03-14-01 Schedule of Meetings for 2019-2020**

Clerk explained that this has to be done every year and has to be published 30 days before the new fiscal year. Mark Brining made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Rodney Smith. Votes: Yes – Mike Beecham, Mark Brining, Rodney Smith and Harvey Stidham. No – 0 Abstain – 1  
Absent – Mark Foust. **Motion Carried**

i) **IEPA Loans – Make recurring bills so they can be paid on time**

Liz Rench made a motion to make the IEPA loans recurring bills that can be paid as they come in without board approval and was seconded by Mark Brining. Votes: Yes – Mike Beecham, Mark Brining, Liz Rench, Rodney Smith and Harvey Stidham. No – 0 **Motion Carried**

d) **EXECUTIVE SESSION** pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act for purposes of discussing the employment, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the Village.

e) **Announcements**

f) **Additional Business if any**

g) **Adjourn Open Session**

Mark Brining made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Mike Beecham. Voice Vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm

Transcribed by Clerk, Patricia Briggs



Approved by the Board of Trustees – 11 March 2019