

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

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

7:00 p.m.

*Meeting to be recorded*

**PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES!**

**1) Call to Order at 7:00 pm by Mayor, Liz Rench**

**2) Roll Call by Clerk**

In attendance: Mayor, Liz Rench; trustees: Bill Hodges, Diana Merritt, Patti Monks, Rodney Smith, Harvey Stidham and Andrew Wallen. Also attending: Clerk, Patricia Briggs; Treasurer, Rhonda Hodges and attorney, Lane Alster

**3) Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag**

**4) Approval of Minutes**

A. Minutes from Regular Board Meeting May 12, 2021

B. Minutes from Budget Committee Meeting May 25, 2021

Motion by Patti Monks and seconded by Bill Hodges to accept minutes. All Ayes, No nays. Minutes for May 12 and May 25 were approved.

**5) Approval of Bills and Correspondence**

A. Bills & Correspondence (April 14 through May 10, 2021)

Bill Hodges made a motion to accept bills & correspondence and was seconded by Diana Merritt. All ayes, no nays. Bills & Correspondence approved.

**6) Approval of Treasurer's Report**

A. Treasurer's Report

Patti Monks made a motion and was seconded by Andrew Wallen to accept the treasurer's report. All Ayes, No nays. Treasurer's Report was approved.

**7) Public Comments**

***Residents who wish to speak should raise their hands to be recognized. All comments should be pertinent to the current discussion and shall be limited to three (3) minutes.***

Debbie Herold expressed concern about Old Business A. Golf Carts/Go Karts and asked why we would want to break the law with karts. She also expressed concern about former trustee, Mark Foust's continued violations and running a business from his home. Attorney Alster said there was no evidence the cars weren't his. She was concerned about him working on cars in the street. She stated her fear that the drivers of the 4-wheelers are not licensed, no helmets, no lights and are on the streets illegally. Liz said this would be discussed during the meeting.

Alice Dailey expressed her concern that the village was going to try to make owners of rental property pay water bills and collect money from their tenants. She stated that she has one rental house and is not going to pay the bill and collect it from the renter.

**8) Addressing the Board**

A.

**9) Old Business**

A. Golf Carts/Go Karts

Liz shared an ordinance from another village to look at. She said it is a very strict ordinance. She believes we should legalize 4-wheelers, UTVs and ATVs and Golf-Karts, but not go-karts or mini bikes. Operators would have to be at least 16 years of age, have a license, insurance, and sign a release of liability for the village. Patti asked how the village could enforce this. By the time the county is notified, the person is already gone. Liz said she had ten (10) people come to her and ask her why they can't drive in the Village. Patti said that with no code enforcement we have to rely on the county who is very slow to respond.

Andrew stated that Canton allows them on their roads and asked if we could look at other towns. View it as a revenue stream because they're going to do it no matter what.

Liz said the park district employees come down on their lawn mowers. She said she has no problem one way or the other. (Tremont, Glasford have an ordinance.) Some of them allow them, such as Tremont, who has a police department to enforce the ordinance. Chillicothe allows golf carts, but again, they have a police department. There would be a problem getting people to pay for licensing because we can't stop them. And, is it enforceable? And, will you get more people doing it and not paying the license fee. There are multiple issues with an ordinance being able to be enforced without a police department. Bill stated that it didn't hurt

anything before, so why are we going to make it okay now. If they're going to do it without an ordinance, can we enforce it? No, we cannot. He doesn't think it's an issue. Liz said it might be a way to make a buck. Harvey asked how we would know who was driving and suggested tabling it. Harvey asked about liability for the Village. Lane explained that it is regulated by the laws of the road. Bill suggested just leaving things as they are.

B. Intergovernmental Agreement with Kingston Mines

Lane said the Kingston Mines attorney didn't contact him about this so will call their attorney. Put on agenda for July.

C. Furnace Bids

Rodney said he only had one bid. One bid from Roth for an 80% efficient furnace for \$6,000 and for a 90% it was \$6,500. He said most companies stick to residential. Liz asked if Roth can do it? Harvey stated that we need additional bids since this is over \$5,000. Rodney explained that Roth is from the area and he would like to keep business in the area whenever possible. He also thinks that since they are a little bit larger company, they might be able to respond faster than a two-man business. Rhonda asked about an annual maintenance contract. Rodney will ask Roth about that as well. Rodney also was wondering why the back furnace doesn't have an A/C unit and maybe we should look at getting that set up back there. He thought there were three vents in the ceiling, but maybe they are shut off. He will check on it.

**10) Committee Reports (No motions can be made during reports)**

A. **Finance Committee – Patti Monks**

Patti said she and Diana Merritt will be signing off on Check register and Bank Accounts. Employee wages will be discussed in executive session

B. **Health and Water – Bill Hodges**

Bill stated that there was a leak in the vault at the tower and he and Fritz were able to slow it down so it is just a drip now. The copper is cracked. He said he has the parts to fix it permanently at no cost to the village as he has the parts in his garage. He was asked if that wasn't an OSHA pit and is it ok to be in the pit. He said yes, but he is not over his head so it is safe. He will take care of fixing it on Thursday.

**C. Liquor – Liz Rench**

Liz said that the clerk had sent out renewal paperwork, but no one has brought paperwork in for licensing renewal. There was a discussion about whether there was an additional license needed for video gaming. Clerk explained that it is covered under the liquor license and that we charge a registration fee each year, per video gaming machine. It was also brought up that since the station is selling pizza from the Video Gaming room that there is the possibility of people under 18 in the room, which is not allowed. Attorney Alster explained that this falls under the State of Illinois.

**D. Streets and Alleys – Rodney Smith**

Rodney wants to do something with the Village sign to improve it. He would like to move it a bit, center it more and get it on level ground. He has talked with BP and the manager has no problem with moving it a little bit to get it on level ground. Center it should be all right.

There was only one bid for the MFT sealcoating project for \$63,636.15 from UCM. This is under the expected bid of \$69,961 from engineer. Since it came in under the bid price, we're good to approve it. There will be a special meeting to approve the bid since it wasn't on the agenda tonight.

Rodney would like to do some more spray patching and UCM want it done a month before sealcoating. He will have more projects once the budget is in. Liz explained that there is a water vault problem too, and asked Bill to take a look at it. Bill said he will talk to the Rec Center. He will get with Rodney and they'll take a look at it.

Patti said prep work on the patching isn't being tamped down and she's worried that when we do all the sealcoating that it's not going to take. Diana said she has seen the same thing. Patti said that we have a tamper and it is not being used and is concerned about the quality of the work.

**E. Zoning and Code Enforcement – Harvey Stidham**

Attorney Alster explained that Mark Foust was fined \$2000 for state of the property. The judge reserved execution until he could keep it maintained for a month and continued it for two weeks. Mark took evidence that the property

had been cleaned up and the judge said he should pay \$500 immediately at \$50/month. The additional \$1500 was stayed until a date in December. He stated that we can go in and execute the order but Mark can't pay the \$2,000. Harvey says he is breaking all the rules. Patti wants to take a picture every month. Lane explained that all the vehicles that were on the property are in Mark's name and have up-to-date registration. The question was asked about how much the village can afford to spend on these types of violations. Clerk explained that we have tickets we can issue from the village that have no notice to appear. We can start passing those out to violators.

Astle Lane - There is a hearing set for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of this month. Lane said we could do a weed lien. Lane will check village code to see if we have such a lien.

Peterson – We can do a weed lien here as well. This property is dangerous and unsafe. We can post a notice and wait 7 days. The cost to the village to clean up the property would be high.

First Street – Nash – Dangerous and Unsafe. This has been published also and a hearing will be set. The village is spending too much money on everything. We can't do anything more unless we start ticketing.

Liz is tired of spending money on just a few people. Lane said this is a problem for every small village everywhere. He will pull the code and see if we have a weed ordinance.

### **11) Mayor's Report – Liz Rensch**

Liz stated that she wants committees meeting once a month to solve these problems and bring solutions to the board to cut down on the time we're taking to discuss in the board meetings. She said the committees can have separate meetings or meet as a group before the board meeting. Since most committee members are on more than one committee, they agreed on meeting with all committee present would work better.

Liz said she had talked with Rhonda about having Peggy Stidham come in to be trained on the Clerk's job and Rhonda's job to fill in. She has agreed to do so. This isn't

replacing anyone, just giving them a way for them to take vacation or help when someone can't be there.

## 12) New Business

A. Change trustee and mayor compensation to monthly instead of bi-annually.

Rhonda asked if anyone had a problem with changing pay to monthly instead, which makes bookkeeping much easier for her with new state requirements. Bill Hodges made a motion to change from bi-annual pay to monthly pay and was seconded by Patti. All ayes, no nays. Motion passed and pay will be done monthly.

B. Waiving Pay (Trustees/Mayor) (Must be done yearly)

Rhonda explained that anyone wanting to waive their trustee pay had to do so yearly. Rodney Smith and Bill Hodges waived trustee pay.

C. Employee Wages

Will discuss in Executive

D. Update Credit Card authorizations

Liz should be removed since she is no longer a committee chair. Rodney asked if Fritz (Fred Rench) could be put on the credit card since there are lots of times they need something and have to wait till he gets off work. There was discussion about separate credit cards with names on them, which clerk doesn't think is possible, but she will ask the bank if they Fritz can be put on the list as a user of the card.

Diana Merritt made a motion to remove Liz and add Fritz to the credit card and was seconded by Bill Hodges. 5 Ayes, 1 Abstain by Patti Monks. Motion carried.

E. Ordinance # 2021-06-09-01 Change meeting time to 6:00 pm instead of 7:00 pm every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday.

Everyone indicated they were ok with changing. Diana Merritt made a motion and was seconded by Harvey Stidham to change the meeting from 7 PM to 6 PM every second Wednesday of the month. All ayes, no nays. Meeting approved and clerk will post.

F. Purchase of 8514 W. Main next to village hall

Rodney stated he had been following up on this property and the taxes are still

open. He would like the village to put up a building on the property. There is concern about the state liens on the property and whether they could be wiped out. Rodney didn't think we would have to call in a demo crew. Liz stated that her Sister-in-law's mother owned it and the family have all received letters that they were relieved of any responsibility on the house. Liz asked if we should pursue getting the title work done. Clerk stated that it would be approximately \$1500 for the attorney to do the title work. Rodney will check into what it would cost to demolish the building on the property. This will be tabled to July so Rodney can get some figures together.

G. Can landlords be made responsible for water and billing it back to their tenants instead of the Village billing the tenants individually? After discussion it was confirmed that the village already has the right to have the owner of a property pay water bills if a tenant does not pay so nothing else needs to be done.

H. Illinois Rural Water Association Membership - \$305.30

Liz recommended we continue with the membership, as Fritz gets his continuing education credits for certification through the association. Rhonda pointed out that this was already approved as it was on the Bills & Correspondence that was approved earlier in the meeting.

I. Training for Clerk Wednesday, June 16, 2021 \$90

Clerk explained that she hadn't been to any training classes and this one includes some topics that should be valuable to the board. The board agreed she should take the training, which is \$30 for the zoom meeting and four hours of pay for the clerk to attend.

Patti made a motion to adjourn to executive session Andrews seconded. All ayes to adjourn at 8:07 pm.

**13) Executive Session (If needed)** 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.

**Meeting reopened at 8:27 pm**

All trustees, Mayor and attorney, clerk & Treasurer in attendance:

**Clerk, Treasurer, Streets & Water Assistant. Water billing \$12.50 Water Payment**

Rhonda explained that the Water payment clerk was \$10.00/hour and water billing clerk was at \$12.50 an hour. She suggested moving both up to \$15.00. Liz agreed but wanted a four-year freeze on raises. Bill wasn't happy with a four-year freeze but Attorney Alster said that anyone would be able to renegotiate a raise.

## 14) Announcements

Patti reminded everyone that Kingston Mines have market in the park June 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> and encourage everyone to come out. She said they are trying to get some communication going with residents of both villages. 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration will be held on July 3<sup>rd</sup> in Kingston Mines with food and games on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July. Special needs children will have an hour from 10-11 and others after that time. Kids who wear ball uniforms get free lunch. Hours are from 10-4.

Discussion about doing a potluck with Kingston Mines. The question was asked if we should buy meat, or do we have a cook off? The board thought a potluck & cookoff was a good idea. It was also stated that if Kingston Mines is hosting to make sure they have insurance in place. This will probably take place in August. We don't want to have it too close to the fall hotdog roast and potluck in Mapleton. It was suggested that it be posted and see what happens.

Clerk informed the board that former Mayor, Carl Bishop's wife had passed away on Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> and there would be graveside services only on Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. It was decided to give Carl a gift card for \$75 to a grocery store instead of buying flowers. Clerk will take care of this.

## 15) Additional Business if any



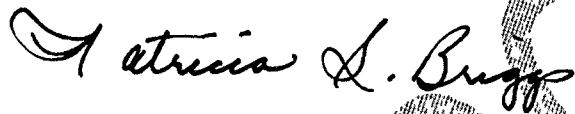
Harvey said the village had issued some big permits for Lonza for buildings. He said he would like to talk to Evonik about coming into the village, but the question is what is the advantage? Water, Enterprise zone? Harvey will talk with Sally Hanley and the Plant Manager.

A special meeting was set for Monday, June 14th @ 6 pm to award the bid for MFT.

16) Adjourn Open Session at 9:01 pm

Patti motioned to adjourn and was seconded by Rodney Smith. All ayes, no nays for adjournment.

Minutes recorded and transcribed by clerk, Patricia S. Briggs



*Patricia S. Briggs*

Approved by the Trustees of the Board of Mapleton on 14 July 2021

APPROVED

# VILLAGE OF MAPLETON BOARD MEETING

**June 9, 2021**

ATTENDANCE		Present		Absent		Ayes		Nays	
Quorum Present?	YES	Motion: Patti Monks made a motion to approve Minutes from Board Meeting 12 May 2021 and Budget Meeting 25 May 2021 and was seconded by Bill Hodges.				Motion: Bill Hodges made a motion to accept Bills and Correspondence and was seconded by Diana Merritt.			
<b>MAYOR</b>				<b>MAYOR</b>				<b>MAYOR</b>	
Liz Rench	X			Liz Rench		Liz Rench			
<b>TRUSTEES</b>		<b>TRUSTEES</b>		<b>TRUSTEES</b>		<b>TRUSTEES</b>		<b>TRUSTEES</b>	
Bill Hodges	X	Bill Hodges	X	Bill Hodges		Bill Hodges	X		
Diana Merritt	X	Diana Merritt	X	Diana Merritt		Diana Merritt	X		
Patti Monks	X	Patti Monks	X	Patti Monks		Patti Monks	X		
Rodney Smith	X	Rodney Smith	X	Rodney Smith		Rodney Smith	X		
Harvey Stidham	X	Harvey Stidham	X	Harvey Stidham		Harvey Stidham	X		
Andrew Wallen	X	Andrew Wallen	X	Andrew Wallen		Andrew Wallen	X		
Pat Briggs – Village Clerk	X	MINUTES APPROVED							
Rhonda Hodges - Treasurer	X								
Attorney, Lane Alster	X								
		BILLS & CORRESPONDENCE APPROVED							

APPROVED

# VILLAGE OF MAPLETON SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

June 9, 2021

MAYOR		MAYOR		MAYOR	
Ayes	Nays	Ayes	Nays	Ayes	Nays
<p>Motion: Patti Monks made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and was seconded by Andrew Wallen.</p>					
<p>Motion: Bill Hodges made a motion to accept changing Trustee and Mayor pay to monthly instead of bi-annually and Patti Monks seconded.</p>					
<p>Motion: Diana Merritt made a motion to remove Liz from the village credit card and to add Fred Rensch and was seconded by Bill Hodges.</p>					
MAYOR		MAYOR		MAYOR	
Liz Rensch		Liz Rensch		Liz Rensch	
TRUSTEES		TRUSTEES		TRUSTEES	
Bill Hodges	X	Bill Hodges	X	Bill Hodges	X
Diana Merritt	X	Diana Merritt	X	Diana Merritt	X
Patti Monks	X	Patti Monks	X	Patti Monks	X
Rodney Smith	X	Rodney Smith	X	Rodney Smith	X
Harvey Stidham	X	Harvey Stidham	X	Harvey Stidham	X
Andrew Wallen	X	Andrew Wallen	X	Andrew Wallen	X

TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED

TRUSTEE & MAYOR PAY CHANGED TO MONTHLY – APPROVED

CREDIT CARD CHANGES APPROVED

**VILLAGE OF MAPLETON SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

**June 9, 2021**

Motion: Diana Merritt made a motion to accept Ordinance 2021-06-09-01 changing the meeting time from 7:00 pm to 6:00 pm and was seconded by Harvey Stidham.

Motion: Patti Monks made a motion to adjourn the open meeting and go into Executive Session; and was seconded by Andrew Wallen.

Motion: Meeting opened again at 8:27 pm

		Ayes	Nays			Ayes	Nays
<b>MAYOR</b>				<b>MAYOR</b>			
Liz Rench				Liz Rench			
<b>TRUSTEES</b>				<b>TRUSTEES</b>			
Bill Hodges	X			Bill Hodges	X		
Diana Merritt	X			Diana Merritt	X		
Patti Monks	X			Patti Monks	X		
Rodney Smith	X			Rodney Smith	X		
Harvey Stidham	X			Harvey Stidham	X		
Andrew Wallen	X			Andrew Wallen	X		

ORDINANCE 2021-06-09-01 approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm

## VILLAGE OF MAPLETON SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

**June 9, 2021**

<p>Motion: Patti Monks made a motion to increase hourly wage to \$15.00/hour for all employees with a freeze on wages until 2024. Seconded by Harvey Stidham.</p>	<p>Motion: Patti Monks made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Rodney Smith</p>	<p>Motion:</p>																																																																																	
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June 9, 2021

MINUTES – BOARD MEETING

Andrew Wallen	X		Andrew Wallen		X	Andrew Wallen	
SALARY INCREASE TO \$15.00/HOUR WAS APPROVED.			MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:01 PM				

NOTED

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