

Village of Mapleton
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Meeting to be recorded

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES!

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

2) Roll Call by Clerk

Attending: (Mayor was absent); Trustees: Mark Foust, Patti Monks, Liz Rench, Rodney Smith and Harvey Stidham. Also in attendance: Clerk, Patricia Briggs, Treasurer, Rhonda Hodges and Attorney, Lane Alster. Liz Filled in for mayor.

3) Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag

4) Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes from Regular Board Meeting April 14, 2021

B. Minutes from Water Committee Meeting April 21, 2021

Patti Monks made a motion to accept the Minutes from April 14 and April 21 and was seconded by Harvey Stidham. All Ayes, No Nays. **Approved.**

5) Approval of Bills and Correspondence

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

Harvey Stidham made a motion to accept Bills & Correspondence and was seconded by Harvey Stidham. All Ayes, No Nays. **Approved**

6) Approval of Treasurer's Report

A. Treasurer's Report

Rodney Smith made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mark Foust. All Ayes, No Nays **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.

8) Addressing the Board

A. Steve Kerr (Sealcoating Issues)

Steve explained that due to incorrect numbers on the State of Illinois website he was directed to by the State, our paperwork has to be resubmitted. Last year we were able to fund the sealcoating completely with MFT funds with nothing coming out of the General Fund. This year, the money that was obligated and not obligated didn't add up to the total amount of the program, so to do the program this year, you have \$65,000 in MFT funds and the program itself is about \$70,000 estimated. Last year the board approved \$20,000 out of general to do the program that we hoped to do last year. With the additional MFT funds and the RBI funds that have come into the MFT the Village would have to commit \$10,112, assuming estimates and bids come in to pay the sealcoating. Nothing can be approved tonight. We can bid this (IDOT will approve as soon as they get them) in about three weeks from the time they approve them. Liz stated she had already planned a Special Meeting for Monday, May 17 to get these approved, as she had been informed by the clerk prior to the meeting. Steve stated he could come back. There will be different board members at the Special Meeting but they were in attendance so were informed.

Liz introduced Steve Hedge, Kingston Mines Mayor, who stated he hoped the two villages could work together.

9) Old Business

A. None

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

A. Finance Committee – Patti Monks

The Checking Statement book has been signed and finalized. Rodney will co-sign. Starting next month, we're going to go through it on a monthly basis.

B. Health and Water – Liz Rensch

We had a very useful water committee meeting. Will will be taking over more and more duties and learning more and more. He will start this next Saturday (May 15). Resident asked if he was going to go to school and become certified. Liz explained no classes are available locally and they are looking into something on-line. Fritz has all his hours in to retain his certification.

Water Loss usage. Water loss was 1.36 for the past year. Quarterly for this year is 3.53%. Harvey questioned the 3.53% for the quarter as being high. Liz explained that we had meters that were acting up that could account for the increased loss. Harvey thought the meters might be .5 to 1% off and that would cause some of the loss.

C. Liquor – Carl Bishop

Clerk sent out the reminder to the Bars and BP to renew Liquor and Video gaming licenses which expire the end of June.

D. Streets and Alleys – Rodney Smith

Rodney said he is just trying to get the patching and ditch cleanup done to be ready for sealcoating. Doing cleaning and patching. He said he found a bushhog for the back of the tractor that will work better than the mower for cleaning up the ditches instead of the deck mower. He said is like brand new and half the cost of a new one at \$700 and will keep shoulders cleaned up better. It will also work for bushhogging. Liz said Fritz couldn't go any further on Monk's lane without getting stuck.

E. Zoning and Code Enforcement – Harvey Stidham

Harvey asked about court dates and Lane said next Thursday, May 20th. Still doing publication so the dangerous and unsafe house will be coming up. The house on Main Street that the former resident said he was evicted from, but there is no record of it. It was in his wife's name so it should have transferred through after her death. Debbie Herold said it went back to the Mother but there is not a record of that. She said she could ask the Mother. Lane stated that we need office verification, not just work of mouth. Harvey said he just wants it cleaned up but it also needs to be made safe. Lane explained that it is going to be a costly endeavor if the village takes it on.

Patti stated that three building permits were signed; two from Lonza and one from a private resident. Clerk one of Lonza's permits is for a Storage Barn and the building fee is \$16,000 and a drumming hall is \$200 (or vice versa). The other was for the electrical on the barn on Regal Point. The fees from Lonza goes to the General Fund but a percentage goes to PEUZ.

11) Mayors Report – Carl Bishop

Nothing

Adjourn Meeting of old board at 7:19. Patti made a motion and Harvey seconded. All Ayes. No Nays.

Harvey also thanked Mark for his service. Mark stated that he'd be back (on the board) eventually.

approved

Village of Mapleton

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Part 2

Meeting called to order at 7:20 pm

1) Swearing in of New Mayor (Clerk)

- a. Oath of Office was given by the clerk and signed by Liz Rench.

Correction: New elected trustee, Diana Merritt, was sworn in by clerk and she was seated. Diana signed the Oath of Office.

b. Nominate trustees for two-year terms

Trustee 1 (Liz) Nominated Bill Hodges to be approved for a two-year term to replace Mark or Liz.

Board Vote – Patty made a motion to approve Bill Hodges for a two-year term as trustee. Seconded by Harvey. All Ayes, No Nays. Oath was signed by Bill Hodges.

Trustee 2 (Liz) Nominated Andrew Wallen to be approved for a two-year term to replace Mark or Liz.

Board Vote: Patti Made the motion and Harvey Seconded. All Ayes, No Nays. Oath was given by clerk and Andrew signed.

2) Role Call for new board by Clerk

Attending: Liz Hodges, Mayor; Trustees: Bill Hodges, Diana Merritt, Patti Monks, Rodney Smith, Harvey Stidham and Andrew Wallen. Also in attendance: Clerk, Patricia Briggs, Treasurer, Rhonda Hodges and Attorney, Lane Alster.

3) Call to Order by Mayor, Liz Rench (done previously to start the meeting)

4) New Business

A. Committee Assignments (Liz Rench)

Finance: Chair, Patti Monks; Diana Merritt and Andrew Wallen

Rodney Smith made a motion to approve the Finance Committee and was seconded by Harvey Stidham. All Ayes, No Nays. Approved.

Streets & Alleys: Chair, Rodney Smith; Harvey Stidham and Bill Hodges

Rodney made a motion and was seconded by Harvey Stidham to approve the committee. All Ayes, No Nays. Approved.

Health & Water: Chair; Bill Hodges; Diana Merritt and Andrew Wallen

Patti Monks made a motion and was seconded by Bill Hodges to approve the Health and Water Committee. All Ayes, No Nays. Approved.

Zoning Committee: Chair, Harvey Stidham; Rodney Smith and Patti Monks

Patti Monks made a motion and was seconded by Diana Merritt to approve the Zoning Committee. All Ayes, No Nays

Liquor Committee: Chair, Liz Rench (The Mayor is always the chair of Liquor);

Harvey Stidham and Patti Monks. Andrew Wallen made a motion and was seconded by Diana Merritt to approve the Liquor Committee. All Ayes, No Nays. Approved.

B. Reappointment of Village Clerk (Liz Rench)

Liz reappointed the Clerk and oath was signed by Pat Briggs.

C. Reappointment of Treasurer (Liz Rench)

Liz reappointed the Treasurer and oath was signed by Rhonda Hodges.

D. Dates of Meetings 2021-2022 (Clerk)

Dates were presented to the trustees. Patti Monks made a motion and was seconded by Bill Hodges to approve the meeting dates for 2021-2022. All Ayes, No Nays. Approved. Clerk will submit to the media.

E. Ordinance 2021-05-12-01 Water Turn On Fee for Delinquency Phased

Liz explained that due to the cost of doing shut offs and turn on service for repeat violators, she would like to submit a phased approach of \$50 for the \$100 for the second and \$150 for subsequent turn on. The Ordinance did not specify a length of time. It was suggested it would be for one twelve-month

period and then re-set. After discussion by the board, it was agreed to not vote on the Ordinance. Harvey asked how much it costs for water to be shut off. Fritz said he has half an hour each time and Clerk said she had approximately the same amount of time on the computer creating and closing work orders. Harvey expressed concern (as did a resident) that this was a lot of money for people who are unable to pay their bills in the first place and wondered what period it was for. If someone is on a very fixed income it could be devastating. Liz explained that one person is always paying just before it is shut off, bill goes off again and they don't pay so it is shut off. And yes, they are limited income. Harvey said he was struggling with it. Andrew said there was a mention of doing digital payments, and does that give us a way to make payments. Clerk explained that we set up a payment plan if they call Liz (or water chair) and work something out. Andrew asked if there was embarrassment if they did that? They would still have to go through the office to set it up. Resident said there were bills of \$700 – 900 that were stuck with the village. Harvey said that isn't being allowed. Maybe \$50 but if 3 offences in a year it would go up to \$100. If they are struggling, they should work with the village. Lane said we should do a rolling twelve month rolling period. Ordinance is now dead.

F. Ordinance 2021-05-12-02 Water Turn On Fee for Delinquency \$100

No vote. Dead

G. Ordinance 2021-05-12-03 Repealing Fire Code for the Village

Lane explained that they wanted us to waive some of the fire code that we have. He talked with the chief of Timber-Hollis he found they have a different code than the Village does. We effectively, have no one who can do what the code asks us to do. So, we have a code we can't enforce. They handle Mapleton and will respond to calls and enforce their code. I believe they are using the Life Safety Code. Nothing changes in the coverage for the residents and the commercial and industrial businesses in town. It just takes us out of the equation as we have no one who can enforce the fire code. We just took the section of the code that adopted the international fire code and modified the language no longer the fire code and repealed it. If Lonza comes again, we don't have a meeting because they have to talk to Timber Hollis as their code applies to them. Harvey made a motion to accept Ordinance 2021-05-12-03 and was seconded by Rodney Smith. All Ayes, No Nays. Ordinance is Approved.

H. **Advertising for resident services on front bulletin board (Liz Rench)**

Liz stated there were a lot of residents who do grass mowing, babysitting, etc. they could post on the bulletin board on the front of the business. Who would control what goes on there? Lane said there are 1st Amendment rights when you go allow anyone to use it. There are exceptions such as pornographic or offensive, certain things can be taken down. Harvey didn't think it was a good thing. Nothing will be done.

I. **Furnace/AC Cleaning (Rodney Smith / Liz Rench)**

Rodney said he will get someone to come in and do it. And Clerk said we already have someone that does it. Rodney thinks there is a guy in Glasford he can contact. Liz explained that we used the jackhammer to remove the big concrete slabs and the stuff is still floating around. Rodney said he would find someone and get it done.

J. **Replacement of furnace in hall**

Liz the furnace in the hall will probably include the air conditioner since they are old. We were informed last year that it might last a year or two and it has already been a year. It had been repaired three times and he said we didn't want to keep repairing it. Rhonda said this needs to be discussed at the budget meeting. Can we have the figures ready by then? Harvey, do we have to have 3 bids? It will have to go out for bids because it will be over \$5000. Rodney will get the bids.

K. **Postage Meter (Liz)**

Rhonda had brought up a postage meter. When she was looking at them there is a monthly cost. Clerk \$22.95 a month for and doesn't think we do enough mail to do it as well as no place to put it. We can buy 500 stamps a year for that cost. Alice suggested buying pre-stamped window envelopes. Clerk thinks that is more expensive. Alice said to check it out. Clerk said she will.

L. **Stamps**

There are two rolls left for General but none for water. I think there were 9 rolls for water and 5 for general. Prices are getting ready to go up. Clerk will check and it can be put on the budget meeting.

M. Working with Kingston Mines to benefit both villages

Liz has been talking with Steve, the mayor of Kingston Mines and they would like to get the villages working together to help each other. Steve wants a potluck. What does everyone think about working together? Liz asked Steve if he had any information about electronic recycling. He said he has a call in for someone in Canton to give him a name and phone number but he didn't call her until Monday and hasn't heard back from her. Liz they are doing something for the 4th of July. Steve it will run from 11-4 on the 3rd. 1st hour for handicapped children and then for all kids. Games and ribbons and trophies. No fireworks. Market in the park starts as a flea market and then it will be a Farmer's Market twice a week. We might want to do an opposite weekend. Liz, maybe garage sales and advertise with both of them to just bring us together. We need to keep these small towns alive.

Bill Hodges asked if the Intergovernmental agreement would include water repair. Steve said we could do an intergovernmental agreement as they have the operator and the equipment. Neither village will become rich over what we do, it's the community support that is needed. Patti said there will be 25+ tables set up for the flea market. Steve stated that with the agreement they aren't looking to make money, just help us out with lower costs. Liz asked Lane what he thought about it. He said we could do intergovernmental agreements on lots of things. Just needs to be lined out. Lane can draw something up. It is just a contract. Steve asked if we had a late fee for water. Clerk explained \$10 or 10%. He said they just do \$10. Clerk stated that when she came back to the village two years ago it was really bad, 5-7 people were shut off but now it is 1 or rarely, 2. Steve said they rarely shut anyone off. Clerk said there are 40 people every month that don't pay on time. At least 25 every month.

N. Traffic on W. First Street

Liz said she didn't have anything. Rodney said he could get a sign saying Local Traffic. We put speed limit signs up but people are speeding. It's State so there is nothing we can do about it. Alice asked for speed humps, but we can't do it. She asked for humps by her house. The township didn't like them because they tear up the roads and make it difficult to plow snow.

O. Sam's Club renewal \$45

Clerk says she's been checking and can't find paper anywhere any cheaper. It's \$9 to \$10 a box less. She explained that she buys other supplies as well. She just wanted approval before putting it on the credit card.

5) Announcements

Rhonda thanked Deb Herold for cleaning the yard and taking care of plants.

Liz pointed out our attorney sitting at the end of the table to the new trustees and to Steve and Jeff of Kingston Mines.

The clerk also thanked Rhonda for helping out while she was in the hospital.

6) Additional Business if any

Rhonda Taking electronic payments. Reached out to Quickbooks and they have a pay as go program that has no contract and no termination fees. They will set us up for card-swiping, keying in, ACH bank transfers and check transfers (on-line checks). The fees go to the residents and no fee to the village. Card swiping is 2.4% + .30 cents; Keying is 3.5% + .30 cents; Bank Transfer is \$3.00 and Check Transfers are \$3.00. It's on the program and all they have to do is set Pat up and get a password and she'll have access. For \$9 we can get the equipment to plug into the computer to swipe the cards. It will take credit cards and debit cards. Everything we looked at before it was 8% cost to the village and a certain number of people going to use it. Glasford said there is no problem with ACH as we're already set up with Lonza for that.

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7) Adjourn Open Session

Patti Monks made a motion and was seconded by Diane Merritt. All Ayes, no nays. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

Patricia S. Briggs

Meeting recorded and transcribed by Patricia Briggs

Approved by the Village of Mapleton Board of Trustees 09 June 2021

Approved