

# Village of Mapleton

## MINUTES – COMBINED COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, January 6, 2022

6:00 p.m.

*Meeting to be recorded*

**PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES!**

### **1) Call to Order at 6:00 pm by Mayor, Liz Rench**

### **2) Roll Call**

In attendance: Liz Rench, Mayor; Trustees: Bill Hodges; Diana Merritt (6:10 pm); Rodney Smith, and Andrew Wallen. Absent: Harvey Stidham and Sarah Wambold. Also in attendance: Pat Briggs, Clerk and Rhonda Hodges, Treasurer

### **3) General discussion**

#### a. Chairs for trustees

Sam's Club has a nice executive task type chair for under \$100 on casters. It was recommended we purchase 10 chairs. Rhonda has expressed concerned about them rolling and causing injuries.

#### b. Food Distribution monthly (More info mid-January)

The refrigerator sounds as if the compressor is going out and the stove is inadequate for as much usage as they are getting. Clerk is checking into what is required for doing a monthly food distribution at village hall. This would require volunteers to oversee the program, not the clerk or the mayor. If we are doing food distribution, including refrigerated products (not frozen) the American Rescue Plan will reimburse us for the appliances.

#### c. Should the office phone roll over to the cell phone after hours?

Liz posed this question and there were pros and cons to having the phone call forwarded after hours. Clerk explained that she would not be answering it at all hours of the day or night if this was done but had no issue when she was available. She explained that she calls and retrieves voice mail on the days she doesn't work and either responds to the calls or directs them to the correct trustee. Several trustees voiced concern about how clerk would be paid if this were to be done. Add to agenda for next meeting.

#### d. Website Renewal: 1, 2 or 5 years

After a brief discussion it was decided that it would be beneficial to pay for a 5-year term and save 25% on the cost. We had previously renewed for 2 years. Clerk will process this payment.

#### **4) Health and Water Committee – Bill Hodges**

a. Water audit update – He hasn't heard anything on it and neither had the clerk or the treasurer.

The lead/copper sampling needs to be done on 10 households and copper. We have until June 30 to collect the samples.

The meter reader was asked to step down and he suggested he be kept on as a backup. He wouldn't accept the letter the clerk had prepared. The board thought it would be a good idea to keep him on as backup only. Clerk is to call our rep from Sensus to see if he could come on the 20<sup>th</sup> to train Fritz so he will be able to train the new reader.

b. American Rescue Plan credit for water customers –

It was discussed giving a month's credit to every water customer, but clerk thought that would not only be discriminatory for those with lower bills, but very difficult to figure out credits for everyone when monthly charges are so variable. Liz suggested giving \$100 per water customer (residential only). This will be put on the agenda for next week.

Rodney stated that we still need to buy some culverts, which will be reimbursed by the American Rescue Plan if they are used to direct water to prevent flooding. Liz suggested buying a ranger for reading meters, doing water and street repairs. This would be a municipality vehicle, not a four-wheeler. She believes this would also be reimbursable under the American Rescue Plan as other villages have purchased vehicles for these purposes also. Clerk will try to get validation on these reimbursements.

#### **5) Zoning Committee – Harvey Stidham**

a. W. First St., next steps - A fence and a no trespassing/danger sign needs to be put up.

b. Astle Ln., next steps – Owner is apparently still working on getting the property in compliance. This will be checked by the Zoning Committee to see what still needs to be done. Progress has been made.

c. Spring Street – The property owner and the tenant are now being fined \$100/day each until the situation is remedied. We are prepared to go to court to get a judgement for the fines.

d. Main Street – The mortgage company has been doing some work on the roof and was referred to our attorney to find out what they need to have done to stop ordinance violations/fines.

#### **6) Streets & Alleys – Rodney Smith**

a. New Refrigerator for kitchen (ARP if doing food distribution)

This was discussed and will be investigated as to feasibility.

b. Security camera system is not working (no longer supported)

Clerk explained that the security cameras went down in the last bad wind storm and she was unable to troubleshoot a resolution. Tel-Star came out and ran some tests and determined it was either the power cable or the DVR itself. Clerk has ordered a new power cable to see if that fixes the issue. If not, it was suggested looking at a Blink camera system and maybe not having as many cameras.

Rodney stated he hadn't heard any more information about when the front double doors would be replaced. They are waiting on parts. He suggested we go ahead and paint the inside of the hall while we're waiting. Colors need to be determined so sample will be picked up and put on the walls.

Rodney said the street patch is bad and has to be replaced. He wants to pick up a small amount to take care of the patches that need to be done. Specifically, the large hole at Monk's and Mapleton Road.

**7) Finance – Andrew Wallen**

a. \$19,146.07 overpaid to Village for 1% Sales Tax Distribution

Andrew questioned how they knew we had been overpaid and what we could do about it.

Rhonda explained that there isn't much we can do. They will be taking around \$800 a monthly from what we receive for the next 24 months. She went back in the records and figures this started two years ago. She will have to amend the budget accordingly.

b. Comp time for clerk

Clerk asked the board to consider letting her have comp time instead of paying her for work outside her regular hours which would allow her to take some time off occasionally. Diana Merritt thought that was a bad idea considering that she is only in the office 20 hours a week as it is. She agreed that she needs to be paid for her time. Clerk explained that since she doesn't accrue vacation or sick time this would be a help for her without any expense to the village. It was suggested the clerk needed a contract instead of just an hourly agreement. This will be added to the agenda for the board meeting.

**8) Liquor – Liz Rench**

a. Video Game licensing fees raise to \$50 or \$100

The State has raised the amount that can be charged per video game from \$25 a year up to \$250 a year. There was a discussion about how many games there are, income from them and whether a large increase would hurt the bar owners and really give the village that much

more income. It was agreed that raising the license to \$50 per game per year would be a reasonable raise.

b. New restaurant/ bar /

This is regarding the request to annex into the village by a property owner wishing to building a bar/gaming/restaurant. This property is not contiguous to the village and research needs to be done to see how this would be accomplished. It will be added to the next meeting.

**c. Fireworks licenses**

There was a brief discussion about how much money was sent to the county for the sale of fireworks in the village that the village doesn't get any compensation for since owners businesses are not in the Village. It was decided that we should raise the amount of the application for the sale of fireworks. This will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

9) **Other Business or Announcements**

Andrew asked about having electrical changes inspected and what the process was. It was explained that it is up to the home owner to have any changes inspected at their expense and provide the village with a copy of the inspection certificate.

10) **Adjourn**

Bill Hodges made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Andrew Wallen. Viva Voce Vote was unanimous and meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.



*Recorded and transcribed by clerk, Patricia Briggs*

*Approved by the Board of Trustees, Village of Mapleton 12 January 2022*