

Village of Mapleton

MINUTES – COMBINED COMMITTEE MEETING (Amended)

Thursday, October 6, 2022

6:00 PM

Meeting to be recorded

Roll Call

1. Roll Call

Attending: Trustees – Bill Hodges, Diana Merritt, Harvey Stidham, Sarah Wambold (Andrew Wallen had a call in for a short period of time for one discussion). Also attending: Patricia Briggs, Village Clerk and Rhonda Hodges, Treasurer.

2. General discussion

a. American Rescue Plan \$18,303.38

(Pay back the funds for the water tower repairs?)

Clerk suggested that we use the funds to reimburse the water account for all the Britton Invoices required to fix the issues with the tower. There was a general discussion and approval of this plan. To be put on the agenda for the next board meeting.

Sarah Wambold stated that she thought Rodney had wanted to buy a bigger tractor. It was explained that a larger tractor will not fit into the space we have.

b. Bench

The bench that was purchased has never been put in because no one is sure where it is supposed to go. Alice Dailey told the board again where she would like it to be, and Bill said he would mark it, and have it done before it gets too cold. Will be put into concrete so it can be padlocked. Alice wants it angled so you can see the memorial.

c. Chili Cookoff Prizes

After a brief discussion it was agreed the prizes for the chili cookoff would be \$50 for first, \$25 for second and \$20 for third place.

d. Community Holiday Lunch

Date? Catered? Turkey ham, scalloped potato mashed Start at 2:00

December 11th was the date that worked best. Clerk could only find one place, Baracks's Cater Inn that could do it and it wasn't much for \$15.95 a person. Clerk also had investigated grocery stores and no one local was doing holiday. BBQ place (Mission Buffet). Rhonda asked if we had to do turkey. It was after Thanksgiving so maybe not turkey. There was a lot of discussion, and it was decided to create a menu, have people commit to bringing something from the menu (maybe several people for one side dish), have turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, scalloped potatoes, stuffing?, green beans, cottage cheese. Rhonda said she enjoyed being a part of it last year and clerk said she was sorry she missed it from being in quarantine and would like to be involved this year. Her daughter also would like to help again this year. We can always fill in with pies or other desserts from Costco or Sam's. We had 50 adults and 19 children. A lot of sick people did not show up. Hopefully we'll get more people out, new people have moved in and want it set up so we can get it put in the Water Bills for November and get RSVPs. There is no entertainment. We need to book by August or before.

We could ask if the madrigal singers could perform, but I don't know where we'd put them as the building was stuffed last year. Maybe the fire department could come back. Bill said he'd do Santa Claus. We started at 1 pm last year but the board thought 2 pm would be better for people to come after church.

e. Grill

Clerk explained that we're doing so much with the seniors that it would be good to have a folding grill on hand Rhonda explained that we got \$250 from Hollis to use towards the Senior Lunches. Harvey said he had a large grill, but we had nowhere to put it. Diana recommended a propane grill and clerk didn't want to mess with propane. Put it on the agenda for next month.

3. Health and Water Committee – Bill Hodges

a. Orthophosphate treatment

Dan Good, our water engineer, is going to check it out. We will pay for the chemical and we already have a tank. We must wait for the supplier to test. Clerk said she got an email from Dan that they called Fritz to set up a time for testing and I let them know he is no longer in water and gave them contact information for Bill and Tony. explained this is all because of the water problems in Flint, Michigan. Alice asked if orthophosphate was safe. and it was explained that it lines the pipes to keep copper from leaching into the water. We had poor test results previously, which is why we are having to do this as long as we provide water. Bill explained that it is a natural additive, according to the State of Illinois and there is no health effect to humans.

b. Water Violations (update)

We are currently up to date on testing and there have been no fines levied against us

c. Water Survey

Sarah submitted the questionnaire about our water service on September 30th. She received an email on the 6th stating that he has been very busy, but he is making it a priority next week and will get the results back to us as soon as possible.

d. Delinquent accounts:

This was discussed at the beginning of the meeting so Andrew Wallen could join via phone. We have \$3,079.07 in uncollectable debt from water bills. The dates are from 2015 through 2021. Debt collectors are not interested in these accounts as they are too small. We do not know how to find many of these people, so it is recommended that we write these off, so they don't keep showing up on our audit from year to year. We now have processes in place to prevent this from happening.

Water Clerk expressed concerns about a customer with an apartment building who is constantly late and must be called every month to avoid shutting off water to the residents. There is usage over \$250 each month. She is concerned that this account could become a problem and asked if people who own buildings with multiple units should pay a higher deposit? There was a brief discussion with general agreement to changing ordinance for multiple unit buildings to pay a higher deposit, probably commiserate with two full months of historical billing averages. These two items will be put on the October Board meeting Agenda (increased deposits and write offs).

4. Zoning Committee – Diana Merritt

a) Mapleton Mini Storage

It was determined that not much has been done to get rid of the wood but a vehicle or two has been moved. Clerk is to take pictures to provide to the attorney.

b) Properties in violation

Astle Lane – They are working on it and it is looking much better. We'll continue to monitor progress.

Main St property has also had a lot of work done. We'll continue to monitor progress.

Mapleton Rd and Monks. – Zoning chair reported that there are very large trees/weeds growing along the fence line and a lot of automobile parts laying around and asked clerk to send another letter.

Purple house on W First Street – there are weeds 6 to 7' tall and the cover on the carport is falling apart. Clerk to send a letter.

Rhonda asked whose responsibility it is to clean out the creek area on W. First Street. It is apparently the village's responsibility. Since all the large rocks were put in it is difficult to get in to clean it up. It is in the easement so we will need to have that done. Streets and Alleys Chair will be notified.

c) Permit Application update

Clerk is getting lots of requests for rooftop solar systems. We weren't getting anything previously, but we are now, at the advice of our attorney, requiring a letter from a certified structural engineer that the roof can support the weight of the system before we can issue a building permit.

d) Fee schedule for permits

Clerk suggested we look at our building permits, as they haven't been changed in many years. There was a general discussion, and it was thought that since we don't inspect, our permits should be less than larger communities. Zoning Committee will have a separate meeting to go over permits and make a recommendation as to whether the sliding scale by cost or a specific amount for each type of permit would be better.

e) Home Business Permit

Rhonda stated that there are several home businesses in the village that we are not getting any tax dollars from. We should have a registration process for home businesses in order to add them to the state's list so we are being paid applicable taxes. It's not them paying us, it's the state giving it to us. There was a lot a discussion, but no decisions were made.

5. Streets & Alleys – Rodney Smith

a. Clerk said she had spoken with Rodney earlier in the day stating that he thought he had found a trucking company that would haul away the house on W. First when it was torn down. It was suggested that we contact David Rudd about using some of the fill dirt he has from cleaning ditches to fill in and level the property after demolition.

6. Finance – Andrew Wallen

Nothing

7. Liquor – Liz Rensch

Nothing

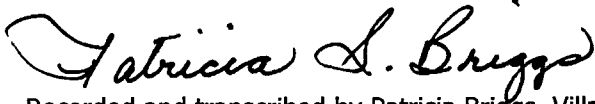
8. Executive Session (If needed) pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act for purposes of discussing the employment, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the Village.

9. Other Business or Announcements

Rhonda asked why Link is not working at the gas station in the village. No one really knew why, but it has been several months or longer. There may be an issue with the State of Illinois.

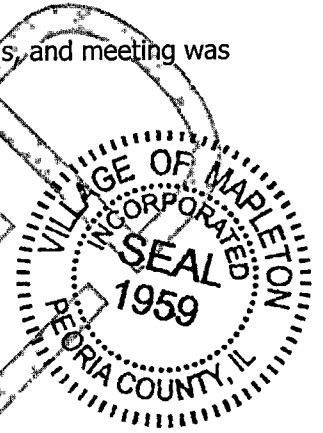
10. **Adjourn**

Sarah made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Bill. Viva voce vote was unanimous, and meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm.



Recorded and transcribed by Patricia Briggs, Village Clerk

Approved for publication by the Board of Trustees of Mapleton, Illinois 12 October 2022



APPROVED