

Village of Mapleton
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, August 10, 2022
6:00 p.m.

This meeting to be recorded.

1) Call to Order by Mayor Liz Rench at 6:03 pm

2) Roll Call

In attendance: Mayor, Liz Rench; Trustees – Diana Merritt, Rodney Smith, Andrew Wallen and Sarah Wambold. Absent – Harvey Stidham and Bill Hodges. Also in attendance: 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 July 13, 2022

Rodney Smith made a motion to accept the minutes of July 13, 2022, and was seconded by Diana Merritt. Viva voce vote was unanimous. Minutes approved.

5) Approval of Bills and Correspondence

a) July 14 – August 10, 2022

Rodney Smith made a motion to accept the Bills & Correspondence from July 14 – August 10, 2022 and was seconded by Diana Merritt. Viva voce vote aye votes were unanimous, no nays. Bills & Correspondence approved.

6) Approval of Treasurer's Report

Rodney Smith made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and was seconded by Andrew Wallen. Viva voce vote aye votes were unanimous, 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 items on the agenda and shall be limited to three (3) minutes.

8) Old Business

a. Raise for board

A brief discussion was held with board members stating they didn't need a raise, that this was basically a volunteer position to help the village. No need for further action.

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

a) Finance Committee – Andrew Wallen

Rhonda Hodges explained to Andrew that she was still working on getting the government accounts set up on ACH.

Rodney asked a question regarding the \$156 line item on the Bills & Correspondence for PAWS and Rhonda explained it was a quarterly charge, not monthly, and was for animal control picking up animals in the village.

b) Health & Water – Bill Hodges

Orthophosphate Treatment

Water rates

Since Bill Hodges was unable to attend the meeting, Sarah Wambold read through notes he had provided her (on file).

- I. We had two copper tests that failed and will be re-tested.
- II. IEPA Compliance agreement approved.
- III. Two actuators have been replaced and there is one more to do.
- IV. One valve was also replaced.
- V. Water was shut off on a residence on W First St due to evidence of a leak inside the house and no one has been in the residence for several months.
- VI. Sarah will be taking over the free rate study with Rural Water Association and Pat and Rhonda will run any reports needed.
- VII. Tony Alwood who is Water Operator for T-L Water has told Bill Illinois American Water (where T-L purchases water from) will be raising their rates. We do not know how much, or if T-L will pass that raise on to the village, as they didn't the last time Illinois American raised rates. Andrew stated that he was sure it won't be a small raise.

c) Liquor – Liz Rensch

Nothing at this time.

d) Streets & Alleys – Rodney Smith

Rodney reported that spray patching on Monk's Lane had been done.

He also explained that the ditch mower is off the table as our tractor isn't big enough (even if we put wheel weights on it). He checked into the next size tractor up, but it won't fit in our building. He will see if Denny (Hollis Township) can mow ditches for us.

He also said the tree guy will be here in 2 weeks to take down the Elm Trees at the First St property (owned by the village).

He said the ditch by Astle Lane has been cleaned out, but the state didn't do the main ditch on the other side of town. He called the state and they said they would try to get back in a couple of weeks to work on it. Liz asked if they were going to put white rock in where they dug out the ditch, and Rodney said they probably wouldn't.

Liz asked if the tubes in the village hall yard were going to be moved up to the tower and Rodney explained that they will be moved over to the adjacent property once the trees are taken down. His reasoning is they will be used down here so he didn't want them taken to the tower.

Liz asked if there was any movement on taking the house down and Rodney explained that he hasn't done anything with it. He is waiting until the trees are out of the way. He also shared that he had a line on some fill for the holes left by trees being removed. A question was asked if cement could be used, or the old blacktop and it was thought probably not. Especially not the blacktop, since it is oil based.

A brief discussion about how and where to put in the new bench that will be in front of village hall. Rodney suggested putting down a concrete pad and fastening it to the pad so it wouldn't be easy to steal.

Alice Dailey asked if the tree by her old shed is going to be taken out, as the property is sold, and the limbs keep falling on the property. Rodney stated that tree was on the list to be removed.

Deb Herold asked if the bench couldn't be put on the concrete on the memorial side but since the village didn't put that in and we don't maintain it, it was agreed that wouldn't be a good place for it.

e) **Zoning and Code Enforcement – Diana Merritt**

Diana referred to attorney Lane Alster who said he is waiting on a decision from the judge on the Spring Street property. All documentation on additional fines is set up for next month. Liz stated that the property owner said there was a lot of 'stuff' that needs to go into the next garbage pickup. Lane explained that court will now be the 3rd Tuesday of the month instead of the 3rd Thursday.

Lane stated that the property owner on Astle Lane sent pictures and it looked like a lot had been done. Liz said the property needs to be mowed again, Lane explained that mowing is a separate deal from the junk that was on the property, and it looks like a lot has been removed.

The Main Street property has been sold and a foreclosure entered. Currently the purchasers are determining whether to do the rehab, flip it to somebody else, or sell it as contract for deed. Lane is expecting a proposal of the work they will do to clear the lawsuit by the village.

Rodney said he was going to have the vacant lot on Fawn Ridge mowed tomorrow. Liz said they have been mowing once a month, but it hadn't been done yet this month.

Lane responded to Alice Dailey's question about liens on the Main Street property and he explained that there were no lien holders at all other than the bank. Federal tax liens can get held but others are released.

Liz asked if mowing the water tower area was being charged to water or streets. Rhonda said when she catches it, it is being charged to streets. Liz said they had trouble getting in to mow because the key wasn't in the outside box.

11) Mayor's Report – Liz Rench

Liz stated that starting with the next meeting, the Bills & Correspondence will be read so everyone knows what is being voted on. She also stated she wanted Rhonda to give a Treasurer's report giving the balances in the accounts. She also said there are things she needs to talk to Bill Hodges about. Clerk pointed out that a copy of the Bills was presented to everyone at the meetings, but mayor wants them read out loud.

12) New Business

a) Ordinance 2022-08-10-1 Remote attendance for meetings

The Ordinance was explained that it allows both board or residents to attend meetings remotely in case of another pandemic or if someone is traveling.

Diana Merritt made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-08-10-01 and was seconded by Rodney Smith. Viva Voce vote was unanimous ayes. No nays. Ordinance passed.

b) Chili Cookoff/Weiner Roast dates and activities

Dates were discussed, and clerk recommended October 15 with a rain date of October 22nd starting at 6 pm. Liz said the mayor of Kingston Mines expressed interest in joining with the village for this, but no further discussion was taken in that regard. Diana and Sarah volunteered to help with the event.

Rodney stated he had forgotten during his report to let the board know he would like UCM to get Monk's Lane and Deer Trail seal coated next year in the spring instead of fall, so it gets worked in before it gets cold.

c) Effective date for Raises for Clerk and Treasurer – Andrew

(Water Billing Clerk, Water Payment Clerk, Village Clerk & Village Treasurer)

Andrew stated that when this was on the agenda for June, there was not a quorum to vote on it and in July, it was put in as an effective date of August 1. He thought that since it should have been voted on in June with a July effective date that the employees shouldn't have to wait until August 1 for their raises. He proposed that the effective date be retroactive to July 1, when it would have gone into effective had there been a quorum in June. Andrew Wallen made a motion to have the raises for

Clerk and Water Billing Clerk (Patricia Briggs) and for Treasurer and Water Payment Clerk (Rhonda Hodges) be retroactive to July 1, 2022 and was seconded by Diana Merritt. Viva Voce vote was unanimous ayes. No nays. Motion Passed.

d) Delete digital recordings of meetings (except Executive Meeting sessions) 30 days after approval of minutes per state disposal recommendations.

There was a brief discussion about deleting voice recordings 30 days after the approval of the minutes, per State of Illinois recommendation. Diana Merritt made a motion to delete minutes 30 days after the minutes are approved and was seconded by Rodney Smith. Viva Voce vote was unanimous ayes. No nays. Motion Passed.

Sarah Wambold made a motion to adjourn open meeting and go into an Executive Session and was seconded by Andrew Wallen. Viva Voce vote was unanimous ayes. No nays. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 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.
To review and discuss closed session minutes to redact and publish, or not publish.

Open Meeting was called to order at 6:58 PM and roll call was taken:

In attendance: Mayor, Liz Rench; Trustees – Diana Merritt, Rodney Smith, Andrew Wallen and Sarah Wambold. Absent – Harvey Stidham and Bill Hodges. Also in attendance: Clerk, Patricia Briggs; Treasurer, Rhonda Hodges and Attorney, Lane Alster.

14) Announcements

Rhonda wanted to express her thanks for Fritz for his 20+ years of service to water which was affirmed by other board members, employees, and visitors.

15) Additional Business if any

Cell phone and email while clerk is on vacation

Sarah and Diana volunteered to answer the cell phone (which will have the office phone call forwarded to it) and Rhonda will respond to emails until clerk returns. She will be leaving after work on September 1st and return to work September 12.

16) Adjourn Open Session

Diana Merritt made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Rodney Smith. Viva voce vote was unanimous ayes, no nays. Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

Meeting was recorded and transcribed by Clerk, Patricia S. Briggs

Patricia S. Briggs

Minutes approved by the Trustees of the Board of Mapleton 14 September 2022





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VILLAGE OF MAPLETON BOARD MEETING

August 10, 2022

ATTENDANCE			Motion by Rodney Smith, seconded by Diana Merritt to accept the July 13, 2022, Minutes as presented.	Motion by Rodney Smith and seconded by Andrew Wallen to approve the Bills & Correspondence from July 14 through August 10, 2022.				
Quorum Present? YES								
	Present	Absent		Ayes	Nays		Ayes	Nays
Liz Rench, Mayor			Liz Rench, Mayor			Liz Rench, Mayor		
TRUSTEES			TRUSTEES			TRUSTEES		
Bill Hodges		X	Bill Hodges			Bill Hodges		
Diana Merritt	X		Diana Merritt	X		Diana Merritt	X	
Rodney Smith	X		Rodney Smith	X		Rodney Smith	X	
Harvey Stidham		X	Harvey Stidham			Harvey Stidham		
Andrew Wallen	X		Andrew Wallen	X		Andrew Wallen	X	
Sarah Wambold	X		Sarah Wambold	X		Sarah Wambold	X	
Pat Briggs – Village Clerk	X		MINUTES APPROVED			BILLS & CORRESPONDENCE APPROVED		
Rhonda Hodges, Treasurer	X							
Lane Alster, Attorney	X							

VILLAGE OF MAPLETON BOARD MEETING

August 10, 2022

Motion by Rodney Smith and seconded by Diana Merritt to accept the Treasurer's report as presented.			Motion by Diana Merritt and seconded by Rodney Smith to approve Ordinance 2022-08-10-1 for Remote Meetings.			Motion by Andrew Merritt and seconded by Diana Merritt to make raises for Water Billing Clerk & Village Clerk (Pat Briggs) and Water Payment Clerk and Treasurer (Rhonda Hodges) retroactive to July 1, 2022.		
	Ayes	Nays		Ayes	Nays		Ayes	Nays
Liz Rench, Mayor			Liz Rench, Mayor			Liz Rench, Mayor		
TRUSTEES			TRUSTEES			TRUSTEES		
Bill Hodges			Bill Hodges			Bill Hodges		
Diana Merritt	X		Diana Merritt	X		Diana Merritt	X	
Rodney Smith	X		Rodney Smith	X		Rodney Smith	X	
Harvey Stidham			Harvey Stidham			Harvey Stidham		
Andrew Wallen	X		Andrew Wallen	X		Andrew Wallen	X	
Sarah Wambold	X		Sarah Wambold	X		Sarah Wambold	X	
TREASURER'S REPORT WAS APPROVED.			ORDINACE 2022-08-10-1 WAS APPROVED			MOTION WAS APPROVED		

VILLAGE OF MAPLETON BOARD MEETING

August 10, 2022

Motion was made by Diana Merritt and seconded by Rodney Smith to delete voice recordings of meetings (except executive sessions) 30 days after approval of the Minutes.			Motion by Sarah Wambold and seconded by Andrew Wallen to close Open meeting and go into Executive Session.			Meeting was called to order by Mayor Rench at 6:58 pm		
	Ayes	Nays		Ayes	Nays	ROLL CALL		
Liz Rench, Mayor			Liz Rench, Mayor			Liz Rench, Mayor	X	
TRUSTEES			TRUSTEES			TRUSTEES		
Bill Hodges			Bill Hodges			Bill Hodges		X
Diana Merritt	X		Diana Merritt	X		Diana Merritt	X	
Rodney Smith	X		Rodney Smith	X		Rodney Smith	X	
Harvey Stidham			Harvey Stidham			Harvey Stidham		X
Andrew Wallen	X		Andrew Wallen	X		Andrew Wallen	X	
Sarah Wambold	X		Sarah Wambold	X		Sarah Wambold	X	
MOTION PASSED			MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:45 PM			Also in attendance: Clerk, Pat Briggs; Treasurer, Rhonda Hodges, and Attorney, Lane Alster		

VILLAGE OF MAPLETON BOARD MEETING

August 10, 2022

Motion by Diana Merritt seconded by Rodney Smith to adjourn.								
	Ayes	Nays						
Liz Rench, Mayor								
TRUSTEES								
Bill Hodges								
Diana Merritt	X							
Rodney Smith	X							
Harvey Stidham								
Andrew Wallen	X							
Sarah Wambold	X							
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:04 PM								