

**Village of Mapleton**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES (Approved )**

Mapleton Village Hall, 8524 Main St.

12 September 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

*Meeting to be recorded (Z0000002)*

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Roll Call**

A. Present: Mayor, Carl Bishop; Trustees: Liz Rench, Alice Dailey, Mark Brining, Brad Rusterholz. Absent: Mike Beecham. There is no attorney present. There is no clerk present.

**IV. Approval of Agenda**

A. Back page Streets and Alleys is incorrect, it should read Mark Brining instead of Mike Beecham.

B. Mayor Bishop stated that some of the Agenda items would be set aside for the next board meeting or the executive session.

**V. Addressing the Board**

A. Kristine Johnson

1. Requested to be considered for a position on the board if a position becomes available. Mayor Bishop asked if she knew anyone on the board and she stated only Mark Brining. Mark stated she knew him through his duties on the water committee. Mayor Bishop said he would keep her in mind.

B. Hodges

1. Crystal Hodges was unable to be present and asked Sherry Boswell to present in her stead:  
She read a statement regarding the issues that are ongoing with the village and dissatisfaction with the mayor including the loss of many valued village employees and trustees. It also stated that since checks were signed by an unauthorized person at the mayor's request, the checks were returned by the bank and none of the

employees had been paid. It ended by asking for the mayor to resign. It was signed by Chris Hodges, Sherry Boswell, Harry Hodges and Larry Dailey. A copy will be attached to the minutes of the meeting and can be viewed in the village office.

Mayor stated he had copies of resignation letters explaining why people resigned if anyone wanted to see them.

Sherry stated she was turning in checks because they were not legal. Mayor stated he had called the bank and was told that as long as Brad brought in his driver's license he could sign the checks. The Clerk did not turn the minutes into the bank. It has been taken care of so let's move on.

Harry Hodges stated that since his signature was not legal, his wife's payroll check was not honored. Reason given was "unauthorized". Others stated checks were also returned. Mr. Hodges said this put his family in serious straits and he had to borrow money for a prescription for his wife.

Mayor again stated that the clerk did not give the bank a copy of the minutes. Brad Rusterholz said he was not told.

Alice Dailey presented a copy of the letter from the bank stating that Carl Bishop, Caroline Kelley and Michael Beecham are the names able to conduct business for the village. We have a copy of the minutes that were given to the bank.

The Mayor said again that the bank told him to have him sign them.

Mark Brining stated that at the last meeting you were told that Brad was not authorized to sign the checks. He said he said it in the meeting and it is on the recording. Mayor said he would have to look into that.

Alice said the checks had been reissued and would like to have them signed so people could get their paychecks. Mike had already signed them and a second signature was needed.

C. Stan Bersin – Water Report

1. Monitoring of water usage. Amount of water purchased was less than the amount of water sold and that hasn't happened for a long time. He will give a quarterly report at the next meeting to show how close we are to being balanced. This pretty much wiped out the discrepancy we have had. Mark Brining stated that the two repairs that were done are going to make a big difference.

2. Communications with EPA regarding the violations we had and where we are standing. Mayor said right now we should be neutral. Summary: Two letters were written on the same day by the same person and seem to be contradictory. The first letter had to do with optimum ? treatment program we were recommending. They told us in writing they were accepting that recommendations so we could now go forward with that treatment. The other letter that sounded contradictory stated no further treatment needed. What they were meaning there was the quality of and copper content of the water coming to us did not need treatment. Mark stated that was a cloudy answer and Stan agreed. That if they are finding houses in our distribution system it may change. But, based on the concentration we are getting and our samples at the booster station it is not resolving any problem of leeching there. Mark: When our house sites fail, are they contradicting themselves? Stan: They are saying T-L doesn't need to treat water based on our samples at the booster station. Mark: So they are going to require further samples from us. Stan: The field office just wanted to let us know that we have been given the go-ahead to add the orthophosphate but we had to go through the process of getting a construction permit, which is something we knew, and to get an operating permit after it is installed.

3. We've gotten the compliance commitment letter from the EPA and has been signed by our Mayor and the state and outlines the violations and what we have done about them. It is treated as a legal document, so if we do anything in violation of that agreement, then they can impose up to a \$2000 fine and other penalties. So, we're getting on the side of it where they will impose monetary penalties if we fail to follow through.

We have 2 years to install the equipment. We have been sampling water at EPA approved locations every 6 months. The last set collected by Fred and tested by PDC showed that we have no copper levels above the legal limits. If that happens another time in 6 months then we could petition the IEPA to be released from having to add the orthophosphate. They said they would grant it but if it shows up in the future we would have to start the process all over again. We are ahead of the game as we have had the treatment process approved. Mayor stated that there should be no further violations since Stan is aware of it. Stan stated he has no control over what is in the water, but we would have been able to respond more quickly with the correct information. The good news is that this time we have had no further incidents of copper so in 6 months if it holds true we can ask the agency to release us from having to add the orthophosphate. Brad Rusterholz questioned if we were all drinking this phosphate and Stan said, no, as it hasn't been added. And, I wouldn't recommend it unless there was a documented need for it. And the need for it is by the sample testing. We can only test in the 8 houses the EPA approved. We are up to date and recommended that we not get the equipment installed and give us a chance to test again to see if it is needed.

Brad asked if that was what the bid was for that Mark/Mike had yesterday? That was for cleaning the tank. Mayor asked Stan to take it up with the water committee.

## VI. Consent Agenda

*All items listed under Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Village Board and will be enacted by one motion with no separate discussion of the items. If discussion of an item is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda to be considered separately.*

*Mark Brining asked that the Finance Committee Meetings be removed from Consent Agenda as he would like to make a change to it. Item C*

- A. Minutes from Board Meeting August 8, 2017 – recording to be kept
- B. Minutes from Special Board Meeting August 30, 2017
- C. Minutes from Finance Committee Meeting August 23, 2017
- D. Treasurer’s Report for August 2017
- E. Bills and Correspondence -August 2017

Alice Dailey motioned to accept the Consent Agenda with the exception of item C and Liz Rench seconded.

Role Call: Mark Brining, Alice Dailey, Liz Rench and Brad Rusterholz – YES. Mike Beecham – Absent      **Motion passed.**

### C. Minutes from Finance Committee Meeting August 23, 2017

Finance committee meeting showed Fred Rench present. Residents do not show on the role call as present so he should be removed. Liz stated she was there as a resident so her name should be removed as well, but as she is a trustee, her name was left on.

Role Call: Mark Brining, Alice Dailey, Liz Rench and Brad Rusterholz – YES. Mike Beecham – Absent      **Motion passed.**

## VII. Old Business

### A. Water Operator Contract

1. Mike said he approved the contract but Mayor said he hadn't read it closely and he needs an attorney to look it over before he signs it. Alice stated that the contract needed to be extended until the next meeting and Mayor agreed.

### B. Amend Meeting Ordinance Chapter 2, Article 2-4

1. Board member cannot attend for 3-1/2 years on Tuesday nights. This amendment would move the regular monthly board meetings to the second Wednesday of each month. Mayor stated he couldn't because of his agenda at work. Alice said they will lose a board member if they aren't changed. Mayor said it was Mike's decision to not be able to attend. Liz motioned that we put it on the agenda for October when we have an attorney present. Seconded by Alice.

Role Call: Mark Brining, Alice Dailey, Liz Rench and Brad Rusterholz – YES. Mike Beecham – Absent **Motion passed.**

### C. Employee Pay Period Change from Monthly to Semi-monthly

1. Alice said it was requested to pay twice a month instead of having people wait a month for checks. Mark explained it was only for the. Hourly people working throughout the month will be paid 2x a month. Fred has a monthly contract and Will does all his work the first pay period so he will continue to have one check per month. Only effects the office personnel. 1-15 and 16-31.

Mark Brining motioned that office personnel be paid semi-monthly and Alice Dailey seconded.

Role call: Mark Brining, Alice Dailey, Liz Rench and Brad Rusterholz – YES. Mike Beecham – Absent **Motion passed.**

## VIII. Committee Reports

### A. Streets and Alleys – Mark Brining (Corrected)

1. Water committee agreed to go with City Coal's estimate for street repairs. First, Astle, and First and Hickory. The other companies were higher and First and Hickory wasn't included so their bids will go higher. Money is in the budget.

Liz Rench motioned to accept City Coal and Asphalt to do the repairs. Brad Rusterholz seconded. Role call: Mark Brining, Alice Dailey, Liz Rench and Brad Rusterholz – YES. Mike Beecham – Absent

**Motion passed.**

2. Golf Carts – Asked for committee members for their input to see if we can come up with a decent ordinance. Mayor said he would assign a committee but Liz asked why the Streets and Alleys couldn't handle it. Mayor agreed.

### B. Health and Water – Mike Beecham

1. Mark reported for Mike. Bid from George Young & Sons for ground storage tank work. Stan Bersin was not involved in this. He said he had been sent a copy of it and has concerns because it does not show exactly what is going to be done. Mayor wanted to put it off but discussion about it would take too much time for approval to get the work done before January 2018. The company has worked for us before. Stan says they will do an inspection but we don't know what the final price is going to be. Mayor asked the Water Committee to have a meeting by next week. Mark stated they already have had the meeting and agreement. The tank is being cleaned and if there is a leak, they will fix it. If there is an additional cost. Alice explained that there is money in the budget for cleaning and repairs. Alice Dailey motioned that we accept the bid from George Young & Sons and motion was seconded by Mark Brining.

Stan stated that Mike asked that he put this out for bid to make sure

everything was correct. Liz asked if Stan had worked with this company before and Stan said it is a company that has purchased George Young & Sons. He has gotten quotes from them before but they have not actually worked on his projects. Mark stated they could have the tank cleaned and if they wanted to put the lid back on and get bids for needed repairs later on they could, unless it was a pressing issue. It is only cleaning and sanitizing.

Role Call: Alice Dailey, Brad Rusterholz, Liz Rensch, and Mark Brining voted- YES Mike Beecham – ABSENT **Motion Passed**

C. Zoning – Brad Rusterholz

1. Speaking with Mark Gauss about the problem at the motel. Signed the paper for him to get started. Brad said he needs to come get the demolition permit. Mayor said we didn't have a clerk to give him the demotion permit so there is no issue there. We need to give the permit to him. Mark said it should be on the internet.

2. Problem with resident on Astle Lane and not sure just what to do with him. He has already told us that he was going to clean up his yard and it is actually worse now. Brad stated that until we have an attorney, he isn't going to issue any more tickets.

D. Finance – Alice Dailey

1. Asked to have the reissued checks for bills/payroll be signed that were no good. Mike has already signed them so they just need a second signature. Checks were signed by the mayor as a second signature.

2. The only other issue was the contract for water operator and that was tabled.

More discussion occurred about a demolition permit for the village. Alice Dailey stated that at one time there was a permit and there is an ordinance regarding having a permit for demolition. A resident looked at the forms on the Village website and there wasn't a demolition permit there. Mark Brining suggested just modifying a building permit, but was told that wasn't a good idea. Resident read

the ordinance. Alice will look into getting a demolition report created.

**E. Liquor – Carl Bishop**

1. Mayor had nothing to report

2. Mark Brining asked the mayor if he had taken a permit fee from the gas station and the mayor said it had gone to the clerk. Mark asked if it was for the new liquor license. Mayor said he filled it out but the Clerk had not given it back. Mark stated we needed a new application. Alice will check in the file to see if there is one in the file. Mark stated he needs to fill it out and it needs to go to the state for approval and then back to us for a vote.

3. Alice pointed out that the mayor had assigned three trustees to each committee except the Liquor Committee and he needed to add two additional trustees to his committee. The Mayor asked why and it was pointed out that it is what our ordinance states. Mark said, we changed it from five to three per the mayor's request. The Mayor asked to see the ordinance, which wasn't available. He put Brad and Mark on the committee to solve the issue.

**IX. Mayor's Report –**

A. Letter from Lisa Madigan to review.

**X. New Business**

A. Road Repair (Already discussed)

B. Appointment of Village Trustee Open Seat

1. Not going to be addressed at this time. Mark read a statement regarding not being able to replace if not done in 60 days. The 60 days was up September 9, 2017. The position remains open until the next election. This is a State of Illinois statute. Mayor said he will have to read it over. Brad Rusterholz asked if we had not appointed Ron Harms to the vacancy. It was explained that he was appointed incorrectly as it was not on the agenda so he had to be unseated. He

was never appointed. Mayor said he was going to review it.

2. Mark asked if item C was going to be discussed and Mayor said when he approved the agenda he tabled it. He stated he had told the Finance Committee and the Clerk to get a hold of the Unemployment Office. Alice stated she had called and there were supposedly 10 applicants on the way. Mayor said to get it arranged as a clerk was needed.

3. Alice said it was put on to hire an attorney, but there are two more firms to be interviewed on Monday. Brad asked if the meeting would be held when Mike Beecham could be there. Mayor questioned why we were interviewing more attorneys and Alice explained that one of the attorneys could not attend and the committee would be interviewing on Monday. Mayor requested that a decision be made immediately. Liz Rench stated she thought we should give all those contacted a fair opportunity to whomever expressed interested. Mayor said it was up to the board. Brad was happy with the three already interviewed and so was the mayor.

4. Liz motioned to have a Special Meeting on Monday night and give the other two attorneys an opportunity to be interviewed in Executive Session and go out of executive session back to open meeting and hire the attorney on the spot.

5. Mark asked if Item C could be addressed in the same meeting but Alice explained she had to wait until she heard from the applicants in order to get things arranged. They discussed that they should have heard from the other applicants by that time and to go ahead and put that on the agenda as well.

6. Alice also said she would like to talk about changing the meeting time. She asked the mayor if we change the regular monthly meeting from Tuesday to Wednesday, would he be able to come. Mayor said he could come to the special meeting on Monday for the attorneys. Mark reiterated that we were going to lose a good trustee if the meetings weren't moved and that he is a good asset to

the water department. Mayor said there are other good people stepping up. There is no issue. Liz asked if it was the mayor's decision or the board's decision about moving the meeting. Liz and Alice believe it is the board's decision, not the mayor's. Brad said the mayor could always veto it. Liz made a motion to move the regular monthly board meetings from the second Tuesday of the month to the second Wednesday of the month for the next three years. Mayor said he doesn't approve it. Alice seconded the motion. This was Item B on the agenda. Role call: Alice, Liz, Mark, Brad, -Yes. Mike Beecham – Absent. Motion approved. Meeting change effective November 2017 because it has to be published and shared with the media before it can go into effect.

**XI. Adjourn Open Session**

1. Alice Dailey motioned to adjourn the meeting and Liz Rensch seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Transcribed by Patricia Briggs 22 September 2017

Approved by the Mayor and Board of Trustees 11 October 2017