

APPROVED MINUTES FOR TOWN BOARD MEETING

MAPLE, WI

Thursday, May 9, 2024

The monthly meeting for the Town of Maple was called to order by Chairman Dustin Soyring at 7:00 pm at the Maple Community Center.

ROLL CALL

Chairman Dustin Soyring, Supervisor Jon TePoel, Supervisor Thad Lintula, Treasurer Tanya Colby, Clerk Rachel Lintula, Foreman Roger Colby, Fire Chief Mike Lundeen, and Planning Commission Secretary Gaye Erkel were in attendance. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Chairman Soyring to amend minutes to reflect the change in community center policy, seconded by Lintula. MOTION by Chairman Soyring, seconded by Lintula and carried unanimously to approve the amended minutes of 11 April 2024.

TREASURER'S REPORT

MOTION by Chairman Soyring, seconded by Lintula and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's report.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT

Gaye Erkel asked about the website notification process, noting that while she's signed up for updates, she doesn't always receive them. She also requested a Road Tour update.

OLD BUSINESS

1. *Adopt the Town's Funeral Luncheon Policy, to reflect the need for a returnable \$50 security deposit.*

MOTION by Supervisor Lintula to adopt the updated funeral luncheon policy; motion seconded by TePoel, and motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *Discuss setting a date for a Community Clean-up Day to get the Town Park spiffy and ready for summer use.*

No action was taken, though discussion included reaching out to a local Girl Scout troop and the Clover Country 4-H club to set a potential date.

2. *Review and discuss options to repair the water damage in the current women's bathroom.*

Discussion included the need to determine the source of the leak; several contractors have assessed the roof, but there's no obvious leak. Mold may be an issue and the drywall shows significant water damage. The contractor who completed work on the bathroom appears to no longer be in business. For safety reasons, the bathroom will be closed until the damage can be better assessed and repairs made.

3. *Review and discuss the Town's current debt load – the Town Garage loan will be paid off in July 2024 – and the need to update the Community Center, the Town Garage, and the Fire Department. Discussion to include potential listening sessions and pursuing a Community Development Block Grant - Public Facilities (CDBG- PF) to offset costs.*

Discussion included the need to draft a long-term plan for the town buildings and assessing each building's needs and uses. Supervisor Lintula suggested bringing in an architect to review each building; he noted that he would reach out to an architect connection. Clerk Lintula also noted the importance of maintaining the current debt load. She also observed that pursuing a Community Development Block Grant – Public Facilities (CDBG- PF), a grant the town might be eligible for, requires early preparation to put together a competitive grant. Clerk Lintula also noted that this CDBG- PF grant calls for community listening sessions as well; Gaye Erkel suggested Survey Planet as an easy, free way to conduct a community survey, pointing out that the platform also allows for user comments.

4. *Review and discuss summer dump operations and hours for 2024.*

Discussion included the need for additional dump attendants and a review of current dump hours and schedules. No action was taken.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. *County Supervisor*

County Supervisor Loustari gave an overview of the work being done at the local, county, and state level. He noted that the 5 Year Highway Plan is posted to the county website, and that the county work list includes replacing culverts as well as pulverize and pave projects.

Supervisor Loustari also reported on potential future development and the building of a convention center in the North End of Superior. Development might also include several hotels along the waterfront; at this juncture, investors are needed.

2. *Town Foreman*

Foreman Colby noted he has continued to grade – though rainfall has made it difficult - and to brush along roadsides. All snowplow equipment is off town vehicles. Colby met with a Fabick representative to discuss grader trade-in values, options, etc. Colby also gave an overview of the April Road Tour.

3. *Fire Department*

The Department responded to 5 Emergency Calls this past month: 1 EMS to Maple, 1 EMS to Lake Nebagamon, 1 EMS to Poplar, 1 gas leak in Poplar and 1 EMS Alarm. Trucks and equipment seem to be in good working order. Six FD members attended a 1.5 hour long Pipeline Safety training in Iron River, and the Girl Scout Daisy Troop 4419 toured the station and viewed the emergency response vehicles.

Fire Chief Lundeen also noted that at the next WTA district meeting, presenters would highlight the importance of prioritizing firefighters' mental health, as well as discuss developing a mental health awareness program for WI firefighters, similar to the program for MN firefighters.

As always, folks interested in joining the department are encouraged to attend any of our Training or Meeting nights - the 3rd Wednesdays of the month and last Monday or Wednesday of the month. New members are always welcome!

4. *Planning Commission*

The Planning Commission had nothing to report.

FUTURE BUSINESS

1. *Discuss obligating all remaining ARPA funds by December 31, 2024.*
2. *Review Gravel Bid Proposals.*

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Supervisor TePoel to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 pm; motion seconded by Lintula and motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Lintula, Clerk