

**APPROVED MINUTES FOR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MAPLE, WI**

Thursday, August 8, 2024

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

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Soyring, Supervisor Jon TePoel, Supervisor Thad Lintula, Treasurer Tanya Colby, Clerk Rachel Lintula, Foreman Roger Colby and Fire Chief Mike Lundeen and handful of community members were in attendance. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Supervisor Lintula, seconded by TePoel, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of July 11, 2024.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT

Chief Inspector (CI) Gaye Erkel commented on a recent election training she attended at the county level, noting that there are some concerns about safety during elections and thus the importance of adopting a "See Something, Say Something" approach. She also noted that the MCC is hosting their annual fundraising event at the community center on September 21.

Kent Makela observed work being done on the pipeline near his home, noting that potential leaks are flagged as a flag, with an anomaly.

OLD BUSINESS

1. *Update on and discussion of the town garage loan.*

National Bank of Commerce pre-approved the Town of Maple for a \$500,000 loan – the loan would allow for an addition to the Town Garage, updates to the Fire Hall, and repairs and updates to the Community Center. The need for an ADA compliant bathroom was again noted. Discussion centered on the need for the various updates and the loans options presented to the town. 1) Pay off the loan in one lump sum 2) Refinance the loan and pay it off via regularly scheduled payments 3) Refinance and secure (up to) a \$500,000 loan. Discussion included the importance of getting a better sense of costs, etc by securing bids from construction firms.

MOTION by Chairperson Soyring, seconded by TePoel to allow the loan to reach maturity, provided the loan extension ends before the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

2. *Update on and review of plans for an addition to the town garage.*

At the June town board meeting, Supervisor Lintula noted that he'd enlisted an architect to draft a plan for an addition to the town garage – one that would repair the buckling, rotting wall. Lintula presented a draft of the plan to the board and to meeting attendees. Lintula noted that he'd contacted Nelson Engineering to draft an exhaust plan that reflects plans for both the Fire Department and the Town Garage, but had not yet received the proposal. No action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *Review and discuss purchasing a cell phone for town business.*

Clerk Lintula noted the need for a separate mobile phone for town business, given that almost all secure platforms require a cell number as well as two-factor authentication. She also commented on the importance of having a phone / number that belongs to the town, so as to keep personal and public records separate. Lintula indicated that she'd get pricing and present it to the board at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. *County Supervisor*

County Supervisor Loustari was unable to attend the meeting.

2. *Town Foreman*

Foreman Colby noted that he has continued to grade and mow roadsides.

Colby also noted the importance of preparing for future LRIP projects and presented a preliminary estimate from Northwoods Paving for the Haukkala Road LRIP project. Colby indicated that Scott Construction will chip seal the paved section of Dump Road, the section in front of the community center building, and a section in front of the Fire Department in the near future.

The town garage had a leaking roof - there was a 4 inch hole - likely caused by snow melt last year. According to the insurance adjuster, the trusses will need to be braced, wet insulation removed, etc.

3. *Fire Department*

The Department responded to 5 calls this past month: 1 EMS in Maple, 1 LZ for Iron River EMS, 1 Structure Fire in Poplar and 1 EMS in Amnicon. Mutual aid EMS to Lake Nebagamon. Trucks and equipment seem to be in good working order, and the Rescue Truck was taken in to Northland Chevrolet for a recall on the passenger side air bag. Work on the office is nearly complete.

The department finished supplying the Poplar Fire Department with 30 days of Auto Aid; the Poplar Department is back up and running with John Pooler acting as interim Fire Chief.

As always, folks interested in joining the department are encouraged to attend any VFD 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. *Finalize the town garage loan.*

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Supervisor Lintula to adjourn the meeting at 7:53pm; motion seconded by TePoel and motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Lintula, Clerk

