

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

Thursday, February 13, 2025

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

ROLL CALL

Chairman Soyering, Supervisor Jon TePoel, Supervisor Thad Lintula, Clerk Rachel Lintula, Treasurer Tanya Colby, Foreman Roger Colby, Planning Commission member Gaye Erkel, Fire Chief Mike Lundeen, County Supervisor Scott Loustari and a 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 January 9, 2025.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kent Makela expressed his appreciation to the Maple Fire Department for their steadfast commitment to our community. Gaye Erkel observed that she had virtually attended a WI DoT presentation on the US HWY 2 Culvert project slated for 2027 or 2028 depending on funding. She noted that the DOT is soliciting feedback from community members, particularly as it relates to community events that might increase traffic flow.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *Review and discuss the process of onboarding new clerk candidate Shereen Johnston.*

Clerk Lintula noted the importance of providing hands-on training to the incoming clerk candidate, also observing that her last day in office will be July 1, 2025. To the board, Lintula recommended that she train Shereen Johnston, who has expressed interest in training for the position, several times a month so that Johnston will be versed in the basics come July. The board had no objections. Outgoing Clerk Lintula also commented that she would be willing to serve as Johnston's deputy clerk.

2. *Review and discuss members of the Town Board and Planning Commission attending the Fundamentals of Zoning Conference in Shell Lake, WI on March 4, 2025.*

MOTION by Chairman Soyering and seconded by TePoel to approve mileage reimbursement for one vehicle, in the event that any town board or Planning Commission members can attend the conference.

3. *Update on and discussion of town building projects including the Community Center, Fire Department and Highway building.*

Supervisor Lintula reported that the plans for air handling systems for both the Fire Department and Highway Department are at the state for review. He also presented a proposal from IArchitect, LLC, a proposal that encompasses the much-needed garage addition and includes securing state approval, given that the building is a commercial space. Once the addition plans are prepared and approved, the town can move forward with the bidding process.

MOTION by Supervisor TePoel and seconded by Soyering to accept the proposal from IArchitect, LLC.

4. *Appoint Thad Lintula and Lauren Wiita as election inspectors for the February 18, 2025 Primary.*

MOTION by Chairman Soyering and seconded by TePoel to appoint Thad Lintula and Lauren Wiita as election inspectors for the primary; motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. *County Supervisor*

County Supervisor Loustari gave an overview of happenings at the county level, noting that the state is requesting public input on the HWY 2 project slated to begin in 2027 depending on available funding; otherwise, the project is slated to begin in 2028. He also observed that the Fish Creek Bridge on the corridor will be repaired, but the project will need to be re-bid.

2. *Town Foreman*

Foreman Colby commented that he's been plowing roads and driveways, as well as sanding. He also observed that some culverts have been icing up and may require steaming, etc. The brusher is being repaired – and ideally the repairs will be under warranty. Colby also noted that the boiler at the Community Center is now fixed and working properly. Colby plans to take vacation from February 26 to March 3.

3. *Fire Department*

The Department responded to 12 calls this past month: 6 EMS calls in Maple; 2 EMS calls in Amnicon; auto-aid for a structure fire in Poplar; 1 Mutual Aid call to Poplar; 1 Mutual Aid call to Highland; and one Mutual Aid call to Lake Nebagamon. The trucks and equipment appear to be in good working order and Engine 2 – the 2001 International 4800 4x4 Type 3 Fire engine – is winterized and in service.

The Department continues to host an EMR class at the Fire Hall, and two department members are taking the class; three department members are taking an entry-level Firefighter class hosted by the Hawthorne department.

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. *Clerk Lintula and Supervisor Lintula will not be in attendance at the March 14, 2025 meeting.*

CLOSED SESSION, Pursuant to WI Statute 19.85 (1) g

1. *Review Circuit Court Case No. 2023-CV-309 with town legal counsel who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the town.*

MOTION by Chairman Soyring, and seconded by Lintula to move to CLOSED SESSION, Pursuant to WI Statute 19.85 (1) g to Review Circuit Court Case No. 2023-CV-309 with town legal counsel who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the town. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Supervisor TePoel to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm; motion seconded by Lintula and motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Lintula, Clerk