

## APPROVED MINUTES TOWN OF MAPLE

TOWN BOARD MEETING

February 10, 2022

The February Town Board meeting was brought to order by Town Chairman Jon TePoel at 7pm. Also present were Supervisors Marty Laakso and Dustin Soyring, Treasurer Tanya Colby and Clerk David Grapentine as well as County Supervisor Scott Luostari, Town Foreman Roger Colby, Fire Chief Mike Lundeen and Plan Commission members Kent Makela and Gaye Erkel and 4 other residents.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES/FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Dustin made a motion to approve the January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes, Jon seconded. MC.

Tanya reported on bank balances as of 1/31/22. The financial reports were emailed to the Board prior to the meeting. Marty made a motion to accept the financial report as presented, Dustin seconded. MC  
**DOG OWNERS-PLEASE LICENSE YOUR PETS! FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE BULLETIN BOARD AT THE POST OFFICE, ON THE TOWN WEBSITE OR BY CALLING TREASURER TANYA COLBY AT 715-292-4647 OR CLERK DAVID GRAPENTINE AT 715-363-2678**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Larry Brown was present to speak about conditions at the town park. Vandalism has been an ongoing problem at the park. Law enforcement has suggested that the best way to control it is to light up the area as much as possible. Larry brought information on solar lights that he thought would do a good job. Also of concern are the doors on the bathrooms that need to be replaced. He said that he would be willing to do the repairs at no cost as he has done previously-Thanks Larry! Dustin made a motion that the town allocate up to \$1,500 for the installation of security lights, replacement of the bathroom doors and other miscellaneous repairs. Jon seconded. MC

David received a letter from the school district thanking the town for agreeing to donate \$600 towards the purchase and installation of warning lights on US 2 by the Middle and Elementary schools. Board members made it clear that the \$600 will be paid once the lights are installed.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Approval of a lease agreement with Western Lake Superior Amateur First Responders for the land holding the Dahlberg L&P tower on Dump road:

The Plan Commission met on Jan. 26 to discuss a lease. The agreement will include only the ground site as Dahlberg L&P currently owns the tower. Items thought important included: granting vehicle access from Dump road; WLSAR maintains the site; delineating the lease area and not to be more than 2 acres. The Commission was able to find a lease template that would work for the agreement. The Commission recommended not to approve any lease until ownership of the tower has been transferred to WLSAR. Dustin so moved, Jon seconded. MC

2. Formal approval and signing of the 2021 addendum to the Town of Maple Comprehensive Plan: As the addendum was not signed when it was approved by motion and second at the July town board meeting, Board members signed at this time.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Suggestion to use ARPA funds, equipment replacement fund money and borrowing to replace the VFD rescue vehicle and the town pick-up. This proposal (by Marty Laakso) is meant to be a starting point in developing a plan going forward:

Marty contacted BCPL (the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands) about borrowing funds. Figures were preliminary only. The Town Board's understanding is that ARPA funds can be used with

few restrictions and Marty thought that what better way than to use the money to replace aging equipment. The fire department was directed to form a committee to study what would be needed in replacing the Rescue. The Town Board needs to discuss further how much they are willing to spend. Tabled for further discussion at the Annual Meeting Tuesday April 20 at 7pm.

**COUNTY SUPERVISOR:**

Scott Luostari reported on news at the county level. County Board committees don't meet in February. Finance director Candy Anderson is retiring. The bonds are paid off for the Government Center. Bids will be let in June or July for asphalt for the repaving of Hwy 13 from Lakeside to Hwy H. The transportation committee will have a presentation on extending Hwy 27 northwards to Hwy 13. Scott related a controversy in Wascott concerning a zoning change for a hobby farm which was approved twice by the Wascott town board and the DC Zoning Committee but in the end was not approved by the County Board.

**FOREMAN'S REPORT:**

Roger has been plowing snow and sanding the roads the past month. There has been a lot of drifting with strong winds recently. Olson's in Poplar looked at the pick-up. They estimated at least \$1,000 to fix the exhaust manifold. The transmission line is leaking-Roger did a temporary repair-the line needs to be replaced. There are also problems with the gas tank which needs to be replaced or repaired. A replacement pump was purchased for the steamer at a cost of \$60. There are some frozen culverts but Roger is not steaming yet. A welder for the town garage and a new mower were purchased in the past month.

**VFD:**

Mike reported that the Fire Department responded to 7 emergency calls the past month which consisted of 1 alarm, 3 EMS and 1 vehicle accident in Maple and 1 EMS and 1 vehicle accident in Poplar.

The trucks and equipment seem to be in good working order. Batteries were replaced on Engine 1 and the Rescue. Jason Moniot started the repair work that is needed. Mike will also have him change oil on the trucks that need it. New members are encouraged. If interested please call Mike Lundeen at 715-815-0826.

**TOWN PLAN COMMISSION:** No report

**ADJOURNMENT:** On motion by Jon and second by Dustin the meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Wed. Feb. 16-VFD training, 6:30pm, Fire hall

Wed. Feb. 23-Fire Dept. training and monthly meeting. 6:30pm, Fire hall

Thurs. Mar. 10-Town Board meeting 7pm, Community Center

Respectfully submitted,  
David Grapentine, Town Clerk