

**AGENDA FOR TOWN MEETING
MAPLE, WISCONSIN**

Thursday, July 13, 2023

7:00 p.m. – Maple Community Center, 11037 E US Hwy 2, Maple

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 8 June 2023 & 15 June 2023

TREASURER'S REPORT

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT

OLD BUSINESS

1. Fill Town Supervisor Vacancy per WI statute 17.25.
 - a. See Document A for additional procedural information.
2. Review and discuss the adoption of a Town Board meeting Code of Conduct.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Notice of Community Work Day on Saturday, July 15 from 9AM - 3PM.
2. Review and discuss authorizing funds for paint and other supplies needed for the July Community workday; expenditures not to exceed \$500.
 - a. See Document B for additional information for paint donations, and other needed materials.
3. Review and discuss the approval of the Liquor License application for Aroma's Bistro.
4. Review and discuss signing a resolution that outlines the board's opposition to the Wisconsin Assembly and Senate proposal of AB292 and SB289, laws that stipulate an email requirement in assessment practices.
 - a. See Document C for the link to both proposed laws.
 - b. See Document D for a copy of the proposed resolution of opposition.
5. Review and discuss changing current dump hours, in light of needing additional dump attendants; interview any potential candidates.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. County Supervisor
2. Town Foreman
3. Fire Department
4. Town Plan Commission

FUTURE BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Rachel Lintula
Clerk, Town of Maple

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¹ ***In compliance with Wisconsin Open Meetings Law, this agenda was: Posted in three public locations on July 5, 2023.*** If you need accommodations to participate in public meetings, please contact the Town Clerk at (715)815-0848 before 4:30 p.m. on the day prior to the scheduled meeting. The Town will try to accommodate any request depending on the amount of notice we receive.

Document A | Procedures to Fill a Town Board Vacancy

The process for filling a town vacancy is laid out in s. 17.25, Wis. Stat. Basically, vacancies are filled by appointment of the town board at a properly noticed board meeting. Where there is a town board member vacancy, the remaining supervisors and the town clerk vote together to appoint a replacement to fill the remainder of the elected term.

Although the statutes do not require it, some towns choose to advertise open positions before filling them. Advertising vacancies in a local newspaper, on the town's website, or in postings around town can help to find individuals who are willing to serve. Alternatively, if the board has a suitable replacement in mind, it may appoint that person without advertising the position at all.

Document B | Community Work Day

The Town has been given multiple donations from several local businesses, including: NBC Bank - Poplar, Hardware Hank, and Acme Tools; in addition, Andren's Paint in Duluth works with local municipalities and partners with them to supply them with steeply discounted brushes and high quality paints. They will provide the needed primer and exterior paint at a 60% -70% discount.

Document | Read Proposed Laws, AB292 and SB289

Link to AB292 : <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2023/proposals/ab292>

Link to SB289 : <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2023/related/proposals/sb289>

Document | Proposed Resolution of Opposition to Laws

A Resolution in the Town of _____
_____ County, Wisconsin

Resolution Number _____-_____

Whereas the Wisconsin Assembly and Senate are currently considering passage of AB292 and SB289, respectively, and

Whereas, If passed AB292 and SB289 will result in the following effects on the Town, property owners within the Town, and the assessment process as a whole:

- The technology to comply with the email component does not exist.
- Adding time to the process will be financially detrimental to the Town due to disrupting the ability to provide accurate municipal assessment reporting to the Dept. of Revenue for their calculations of changes to equalized values.
- The timeline of the exchange of data through local and State entities with assessors does not permit an extension of the timeline for the annual assessment process.
- Rural assessors may provide services for multiple municipalities and these Bills will compound the following issues:

- The northern part of the State often has winter conditions that prohibit comprehensive field inspections of properties far into the 2nd Quarter.
- There is a March 1st deadline for Property Tax Exemption applications, which after received, must then be reviewed.
- Department of Natural Resources does not publish Managed Forest Land and Forest Crop Land Master Lists until March. Rural Towns have changes to properties involved with these programs each year. Those changes must be processed on the assessor's side and reconciled with these Master Lists.
- Some Counties do not provide assessors with each year's data for splits, new ownership, land description changes, acre changes, and parcel attachments until March or April. All that information must then be processed by the assessor.
- Some Counties provide ownership information to rural assessor's once a year and are often months behind processing property transfers. Maintaining additional required ownership information in the form of email addresses will slow that process down.
- Adding 2 weeks to the notice requirement would push the Board of Review process into the fall for many municipalities.
- Late Boards of Review produce additional DOR 70.57 adjustments that can be avoided by completing the process by the 2nd Monday in June, and inaccurate New Construction values.
- Few municipalities will be able to complete the process by the 2nd Monday in June by adding 2 weeks to the notice period.
- Towns will lose levy increase opportunities without accurate new construction values.
- The logistics and resources required to comply with the requirements of these Bills will exponentially outweigh any perceived benefit.
- These Bills will present a clear danger to property owners in the form of unprecedented exposure to fraud and identity theft.
- These Bills provide no benefit to the Towns, the effect will be to the contrary.
- Assessment services will dramatically increase in cost due to the volume of added processing with less time to accomplish it.
- Rural assessor's receive ownership information from the County Tax listers. Until Tax Listers can collect email information and transfer that data to the assessor, CAMA software is able to produce blast emails, and assessors are guaranteed that returned emails and responses are electronically safe; an emailed notice of assessment to each owner is impossible to process.
- The increased costs of creating the ability to comply with and maintain the email requirement will be a burden to property owners.
- No assessor has the resources to manually assemble this type of mass communication. It is not possible to comply.
- An email requirement would exclude the Amish community.
- Requiring 2 forms of the notice of assessment for each property is redundant, wasteful, and confusing for property owners.
- Tax bills that are based on assessments are sent by regular mail. Requiring notices of those assessments to be emailed in addition to regular mail is wasteful.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Board of Supervisors of the _____ County, Wisconsin Town of _____ does oppose the passage of AB292 and SB289 and demands that all State Officials representing the constituency of the Town of _____ also stand in opposition to said bills.

*Resolution approved / rejected on this _____ day of _____, _____ on a vote of _____ ayes, _____ nays and _____ abstentions.

_____, Town Chair _____, Clerk

* The vote of the Town Board shall be by roll call with the results of such vote being recorded in the minutes of the meeting during which the vote was taken.