**MAPLE GROVE TOWNSHIP**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**November 14, 2022 - 6:00 PM**

1. **Call to Order.** The Maple Grove Township Board was called to order. Roll call was taken with the following members present Supervisor H. Wayne Beldo, Clerk Fran Beldo, Treasurer Karen Roy, Trustees Joe Barnett, and Gary Bowling,
2. **Changes or Corrections to Agenda.**
3. **Call to the Public.** – None
4. **Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda consisting of minutes for October 10th to be completed. approval of bills for September 13, through October 10, 2022 - General Fund $16,971.75; Fire Department $51,558.31; Transfer Station $9,892.48; Cemetery $0.00; MGT Community Center $7,919.82. September Payroll $8,864.54. Treasurer’s Financial Statement was included. Motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Motioned by Gary, Supported Joe, any discussion? AIF AYE. Motion carried.
5. **Fire Department Report –**Aaron Schaefer has resigned. The brush truck is done. The lights and decals are on it. We did fill the tanker with water, and it held the water. They did get a call and it functioned well.
6. **Zoning Administrator** – The new Mayor for the Village of Kaleva is Dan Holtz. Dan and I have had long discussions about zoning and where we are going and so I will be talking to the Village Council on Monday night. We will have a direction for which way to go with our zoning and Master Plan. I will be letting Denise know that the Township will not pay her the rest of the winter. Dan will take care of the Village and I will take care of Township blight issues The land use permits will come from our office as in the past. Once the Master Plan and Ordinances are done, we will then be able to have the County be our enforcement group.
7. **Community Center –** Things are moving right along. Still waiting to hear on the grant. The kitchen the floor is done, but the epoxy will not be done until the first week in December, due to having the cement cure. There is a group that volunteered to wipe down all the walls, clean the whole kitchen out and then paint. The kitchen is pretty close to completion, except for the fire suppression. An inspection will take place after we get the grant and get the fire suppression. Right now, the freezer is filled with 40 turkeys that were donated to the food pantry and is working fine. Something else that is great for the community.

The State Police lease is in the hands of the attorney general. We are waiting for her signature and then we can get them to move in. Keys are made for them. They will have their own keys.

Charlie has been working on the camera system, one camera was bad so a new one was purchased at the cost of $20. It has been added to the system. Since this system is from 1999, there is only 10 days of backup information. After those 10 days, the system cannot store anymore. Charlie is quite sure that if we had a new brain, it would have more storage plus, we would have the ability expand to 16 cameras instead of nine. The cost for the new brain would be around $400. The infrastructure and everything we need but we need to get that brain. Karen made motion to purchase the new brain, Support Gary, any discussion, AIF, Aye, Motion Carried.

Money Stolen – A claim was made that one of the rooms was opened and money taken. I was able to go through the whole weekend and try to figure out who could have gone into that room. From the tapes, there was nobody inappropriate. The Community Center has a few more things happening shortly. A painting class individuals can come in and for $25 they receive a canvas and taught how to create a painting and when completed, they take the painting home.

We are hoping at some point people will be able to come in and work on a loom to create their own rug and take home the rug. Some of the things were working on kids’ craft night, has gone really well. There have been two craft nights and attendance has been good. Pickleball has started and open gym will start in December.

1. **Old Business.**
2. **Siren** – nothing to be done at this time.
3. **Old Township Hall (Wuoksi)** – Northern Restoration has completed the work. The building looks rough, but it sounds. The tree that was there grew into the building. They had to remove bricks around the corner and replaced them. Bill is for $2500; the corner was fixed. Mike Plamondon will be called to check out the furnace and turn on the heat. Northern Restoration said that if we have heat on inside it will help cure seal. In the spring the white will be placed on the building. We looked at the lentil that was over the door, it was cracked. When they took it out, everything sags because the cement had cracked. They replaced all those bricks, placed a new reinforced lentil. The original lentil had no reinforcement when it was built. Northern Restoration will be back in the spring making the building prettier.

Wayne will be talking to the Village about their CMP plan It is an improvement plan to replace a certain amount of sidewalk to be done every year. I think that they have targeted the downtown area for new sidewalks. If that occurs our share would be half the cost of the sidewalk. Volunteers can complete the inside work.

A water meter was placed in the Aura building, and it was placed in the basement. The Wuoksi building meter will be placed on the outside the building. Then we will get the water turned on. Have not heard anything from the community mental health board regarding daycare. I did hear from the state, and they did some surveys for the daycare so, I do not know how that is going to go.

1. **Barn** – Not Happening.
2. **New Business**
3. **Cemetery Fees** -Fran stated that there is someone looking for a cemetery lot in the Maple Grove Township cemetery. Her place of residence is Marilla, but all her friends and family are in Kaleva. Right now, it will cost her $1000. Present rule is if you do not pay taxes in Maple Grove Township the cost is $1,000.

Question was asked regarding how much space is available in the cemetery? Wayne stated we have a lot of room we have grave sites available, but I do not know about the new section. There are plenty in the back section that is open. It is exceedingly rare that we have this happen.

If a person is in Manistee County, must be a tax paying resident / and a permanent resident, not just someone owning 20 acres. The permanent resident of Manistee County that the buying cost would be $300. If the person is outside Manistee County or their permanent resident is not part of the County, there cost would be $1,000. Also, the rate does not change from $50 if you are a resident of Maple Grove Township. Wayne made motion, Second by Karen AIF, AYE, motion carried.

1. **Correspondence**
2. **2022 Household Hazardous Waste Data Manistee County** - household hazardous waste in the data you have there it is in that picture whatever board member should know Marissa saying
3. **MTA – What Every Board Member Should Know About Assessing** – Information only.
4. **Resolution to Allow Residents Protest in Writing to BOR** - Several resolutions:

**Resolution 1 - 2022 Establishing Poverty Guidelines for Exemption from Property Tax Contributions**. The State is producing new guidelines, we want to follow along with those numbers and that is what this wording says but we do not have the numbers, yet. but it will mean that we can approved people up to a certain percentage over the poverty limit for poverty and resolute property exemption. Wayne moves that we pass a resolution that says that we are accepting guidelines from the State of Michigan effective with whatever percentages they produce. Wayne moved Support Karen. Roll call:

Wayne – AYE Gary – AYE

Joe – AYE Karen – AYE Fran – AYE

Resolution Passed.

**Resolution 2** - **Authorization to allow local residents to protest in writing to the Board of Review**. Right now, you have to protest in person but if we pass a resolution then they can protest in writing. We would like that to happen. Wayne moves that we allow residents to protest in writing, Support Gary. Is there any discussion, if not please call the roll.

Wayne – AYE Gary – AYE

Joe – AYE Karen – AYE Fran – AYE

Resolution Passed.

**Resolution 3** - **Township to approve a published policy concerning the access to the Township Assessor** this says that the Assessor has certain things she 7 business days ordinarily in 24 to 48 hours has phone numbers and has a policy on how to reach the Assessor. We would agree with that.

They leave a card or if they want to meet with you personally. Wayne moved that we passed a resolution allowing access to property. Support Gary is there any discussion, if not please call the roll:

Wayne – AYE Gary – AYE

Joe – AYE Karen – AYE Fran – AYE

Resolution Passed.

**Resolution 4 - Personal Property Policy** this says that the Assessor is going to canvas exempt properties in the Township. They will see if there are any properties that do not have a tax exemption. They do not necessarily have to have a visit to every personal property per year. However, they will look and see if any new personal properties have come on board so Wayne would that we approve the Property Policy, Support Joe Barnett, any discussion, please call the roll.

Wayne – AYE Gary – AYE

Joe – AYE Karen – AYE Fran – AYE

Resolution Passed.

**Resolution 5 – Exempt Poverty Tax Exemption -** The

The current Poverty Exemption form is outdated, there are some changes. The assessor will be sending us new ones. So, for the time being just get their names and address and follow up with them when we receive the new form.

This policy says that applications for tax exempt status are sent out to be filled out and returned to the assessor’s office. When the assessor deems the information is needed. Application not attached. Wayne moved that we accept that policy, Support Gar, any discussion. Call Roll:

Wayne – AYE Gary – AYE

Joe – AYE Karen – AYE Fran – AYE

Resolution Passed.

1. **Adjournment**. Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frances J. Beldo

Maple Grove Township Clerk