



Village of Maine Minutes

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Special Village Board Meeting/Closed Session

Maine Municipal Center

6111 N. 44th Avenue

Wausau, WI 54401

OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Maine will hold a Special Board Meeting and Closed Session on Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at the Maine Municipal Center, 6111 N. 44th Avenue, Wausau, WI 54401.

AGENDA

1. Call meeting to order – Betty Hoenisch, Village President
2. Presentation by Dale Diamond from Marathon County Zoning Department regarding On-site Waste Disposal systems
3. Discussion and possible action regarding On-site Waste Disposal systems Ordinance
4. President will entertain a motion to convene into Closed Session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session in connection with possible fire department and emergency medical service contract(s).
5. Adjourn Closed Session and reconvene the Special Board Meeting
6. Discussion and possible action regarding matters discussed in item two of this agenda
7. Adjournment

I certify that this agenda was posted at Red Granite Bar & Grill, Richard's Restaurant and Bar, Schmidt's Bar and the Maine Municipal Center, 6111 N. 44th Avenue, Wausau, WI on July 19, 2017.

Cindy Bailey, Village of Maine Clerk

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The Board of Trustees of the Village of Maine held Special Board Meeting and Closed Session on Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at the Maine Municipal Center, 6111 N. 44th Avenue, Wausau, WI 54401.

President Hoenisch called the Special Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Presentation by Dale Diamond from Marathon County Zoning Department regarding On-site Waste Disposal systems.

President Hoenisch explained that since Maine became a village they have been working with Marathon County Conservation, Planning and Zoning on services that Marathon County provides to a town and now Maine needs to determine how to handle these tasks.

Paul Daigle, Director of the County CPZ contacted Maine shortly after we became a village with a list of services that we needed to discuss how they were going to be handled.

Attorney Frokjer, Zoning Administrator Grefe and I have had several meetings with Marathon County's staff to review how to proceed. One of the items the County will continue to handle is Private On-site Waste System permitting.

Discussion and possible action regarding On-site Waste Disposal systems Ordinance

Mr. Diamond explained options for the Village of Maine regarding holding tanks enforcement and possible ordinance. Mr. Diamond has spoken to the County's Attorney and he suggested that Maine's attorney research if the village POWT's ordinance could be more restrictive than the County or Wisconsin.

The Village Board asked Attorney Frokjer to research that issue with the State of Wisconsin.

No action was taken.

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Trustee Mullaley made a motion to go into Closed Session for the reasons stated by President Hoenisch and invite Chief Joe Bozinski and Administrator Keith Rusch into the Closed Session. Motion was seconded by Trustee Schoepke. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by President Hoenisch, Trustee Schult, Trustee Schoepke, Trustee Mullaley and Trustee Graveen.

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Adjourn Closed Session and reconvene the Special Board Meeting

Trustee Mullaley made a motion to adjourn the Closed Session and reconvene the Special Board Meeting. Motion was seconded by Trustee Schult. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by President Hoenisch, Trustee Schult, Trustee Schoepke, Trustee Mullaley and Trustee Graveen.

Discussion and possible action regarding matters discussed in item two of this agenda

No action was taken.

Adjournment

President Hoenisch called for a motion to adjourn.

Trustee Mullaley made a motion to adjourn at 6:43 p.m., seconded by Trustee Graveen. Motion carried.

Present were President Betty Hoenisch, Trustee Tad Schult, Trustee Wes Schoepke, Trustee Tom Mullaley, Trustee Jon Graveen, Clerk Cindy Bailey, Attorney Randy Frokjer and Administrator Keith Rusch. Maine Chief Joe Bozinski, SAFER Chief Matt Savage and SAFER Deputy Chief Josh Finke were present along with the SAFER Board members, Rib Mountain and Weston administrators and employees.

SAFER Chief Savage gave the SAFER Board a brief update on prior meetings that had been held with the Village of Maine officials.

President Hoenisch explained the purpose of the meeting was to meet the SAFER Board

and discuss as a group how becoming a partner with SAFER would work. Attorney Frokjer stated that Maine is researching all it's options. President Hoenisch asked the SAFER Board if they were ready for a new partner? SAFER Board member Allen Opall stated that they would gladly welcome a new partner.

A brief discussion followed regarding the updated SAFER Charter, the cost for a municipality to become a SAFER partner and the possibility of contracting for ambulance service only.

President Hoenisch and Attorney Frokjer explained the recent letter from the City of Wausau terminating the current Wausau/Maine ambulance agreement. The City of Wausau also sent a five year ambulance contract that Maine can enter into if they choose to continue ambulance service with Wausau Fire Department.

SAFER Chief Savage asked where Maine's Board was in the decision process. He stated that he truly understood that the timing must be right for the Village of Maine. I am not here to push too hard. It has to work for Maine, otherwise we can revisit it at a later date, he stated.

President Hoenisch explained that Maine's Board reviewed the SAFER costs submitted at the July 2017 Closed Session and the partner entry amount would work for Maine's fire department budget. She further explained that a lot of the decision depends on Interim Chief Bozinski and where he is at in regards to his commitment to continued leadership with the fire department. Another huge component is how the fire department membership feels about joining SAFER. In the past couple of months there have been very positive changes, which have made it a much stronger department. The positive changes within the fire department now makes Maine official's decision more difficult.

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The other important item is that we need time to have informational meetings to discuss this important issue with Maine's residents.

Interim Chief Bozinski said that approximately three to four years ago the City of Wausau had courted Maine to join with them. At the time SAFER Chief Paul Wirth also spoke to Maine about joining SAFER, however at that time the SAFER Charter did not allow for new partners. The talks I had several years ago with the membership regarding SAFER resulted in some of the members being receptive and some were not. Then things progressed and the matter died for a while. We now have more open minds on the department, he stated. When you look at the numbers and the response time we would have by staging a ambulance at Maine Fire, it is really a no brainer. The hard part is that there is a bond and the bond has gained strength in the past several years. Our members may be afraid of losing that bond. When they face the fact that we need to provide quicker response time to our residents and at fees that can save taxpayers money, they will realize that we need to think of those things first and foremost. Interim Chief Bozinski also stated, it is just a matter of timing. With the advantages of shared costs it only makes sense to join SAFER.

SAFER Chief Savage and SAFER Deputy Chief Finke moved the Village of Maine officials to a conference room to go into Closed Session.

President will entertain a motion to convene into Closed Session

President Hoenisch called for a motion to go into Closed Session

Motion by Trustee Schult to go into Closed Session and invite Administrator Rusch, Maine Chief Bozinski, SAFER Chief Savage and SAFER Deputy Chief Josh Finke into the Closed Session, seconded by Trustee Mullaley. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote by President Hoenisch, Trustee Schult, Trustee Schoepke, Trustee Mullaley and Trustee Graveen.

SAFER Chief Savage and SAFER Deputy Chief Finke provided information regarding SAFER Services while in Closed Session. They exited the conference room to allow Maine's Board of Trustees, Administrator Rusch, Chief Bozinski and Attorney Frokjer to discuss the SAFER program.

Adjourn the Closed Session and Reconvene the Special Meeting

President Hoenisch called for a motion to adjourn the Closed Session and reconvene the Special Board of Trustees meeting.

Trustee Mullaley made the motion to adjourn Closed Session and reconvene the Special Board Meeting at 8:08 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Schoepke. Motion carried.

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Discussion and possible action regarding matters discussed in item two of this agenda

No action was taken was taken on this item

Discussion and possible action regarding 2018 Emergency Services contract with the City of Wausau

No action was taken

Discussion and possible action on amendment to the Maine Fire Department By Laws

President Hoenisch explained that when the Maine Fire Chief position was posted two plus years ago, only one application was submitted. That applicant was not approved by the interview committee and/or the Village Board. Maine officials also researched the possibility of hiring an outside Interim Chief, however the only available candidates lived a substantial distance from Maine making that not a feasible option. She further explained that Interim Chief Bozinski has been doing the Fire Chief's job for several years. Interim Chief Bozinski is doing a wonderful job and has worked very hard to get the fire

department and it's members to the point they are at today. Under his leadership Maine Fire Department has become a very viable department again, she stated.

Discussion followed regarding appointing a Chief and amending the By Laws in regards to the Fire Chief position.

Attorney Frokjer distributed a copy of a possible amendment that he had drafted. He read the proposed amendment to Maine Fire Department By Laws Section 3 (E). *The Village Board may appoint the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief directly. The Village Board shall have the option to post the positions or seek recommendations from members or officers, but are not required to do so.* Attorney Frokjer went on to explain that he had researched this item and that because Maine is now a Village, home rule applies and that is under state statute 61.34(1).

Trustee Schoepke made a motion to amend Maine Fire Department By Laws to read that "The Village Board may appoint the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief directly. The Village Board shall have the option to post the positions or seek recommendations from members or officers, but are not required to do so." Trustee Mullaley seconded that motion. Motion carried.

Discussion and possible action regarding the Maine Fire Chief position

President Hoenisch explained that Chief Bozinski has been doing the Interim Chief's job for several years and it is time to appoint him to the Chief's position. She further explained that when attending interviews for fire department candidates, the fire department members have stated they would like Interim Chief Bozinski appointed to a

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permanent position. I have also received this same comment or encountered this similar discussion at fire department functions that I have attended, she stated.

President Hoenisch called for a motion to appoint Maine Fire Department Fire Chief.

Trustee Schoepke made a motion to approve Interim Chief Bozinski as the Maine Fire Department Chief. Trustee Jon Graveen seconded that motion. Motion carried.

Adjourn the Special Meeting.

Trustee Schoepke made a motion to adjourn at 8:17 p.m., seconded by Trustee Mullaley. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted and approved October 9, 2017.

Betty J. Hoenisch

Village of Maine President