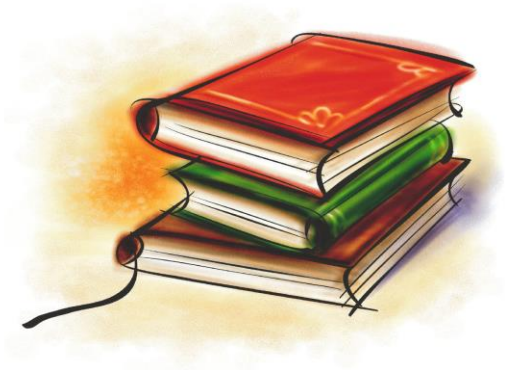


Village of Maine Minutes

Monday, June 24, 2024
Special Board of Trustee Meeting

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 Public Informational Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 24, 2024, to obtain public comment(s) on the proposed non-metallic mine at 11385 N. 4th Avenue, Merrill, WI 54452. The meeting will be held at the Maine Municipal Center, 6111 N. 44th Avenue, Wausau, WI 54401.

AGENDA

1. Call the Informational Meeting to order – President Betty Hoenisch

2. Comments and discussion on the proposed non-metallic mine at 11385 N. 4th Avenue, Merrill, WI 54452.

3. Adjournment

I certify that this notice and agenda was posted at the Brokaw Post Office, Red Granite Bar & Grill, Richard's Restaurant & Bar and the Village of Maine Municipal Center, 6111 N. 44th Avenue, Wausau, WI on June 21, 2024.

Betty Hoenisch, Village President

Monday, June 24, 2024, Public Informational Meeting Minutes

Call the Informational Meeting to Order

President Betty Hoenisch called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting: President Betty Hoenisch, Zoning Administrator Rich Grefe, Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Bailey, Deputy Clerk Leodith Freyholtz, Trustee Tom Marquardt, Trustee Chad Channel, Trustee Judith Hase, Trustee Jim Kraemer, Attorney Shane VanderWaal and Attorney Randy Frojker.

Comments and discussion on the proposed non-metallic mine at 11385 N. 4th Avenue, Merrill, WI. 54452

Zoning Administrator Rich Grefe and Attorney Randy Frojker commented on the Eckardt/Haas proposed Non-Metallic mine at 11385 North 4th Avenue. Zoning Administrator gave a brief overview of the rezone process and the request from the Eckardt family to obtain a mining overlay on their property.

Attorney Frokjer mentioned that there have been several prior meetings with Haas and the Eckhardt family and the main concern for the Board is the proposed truck route through residential areas and the lack of a road agreement. Attorney Frokjer stated that the reason that this informational meeting was scheduled was to check with the residents to see how they feel about the mine before the Village spends money on core samples and a road condition assessment.

The Eckardt family shared the information on their family history with the farm and why they are requesting to have the property rezoned and would like approval for a sand/gravel mine for 200 years.

Jacob Haas gave a presentation including a description of the mining project. The project includes mining for sand and gravel and would potentially include allowing other sand and gravel companies to purchase sand and gravel from the mine. There is potential to have other companies' trucks hauling from the Eckardt farm. Haas, Inc. would also like the ability to set up a temporary concrete plant on the property each year.

President Betty Hoenisch stated that anyone that wished to comment should raise their hand. She stated that she will call on each person and they must state their name and address before speaking. President Hoenisch explained that she would give precedence to persons that live on or near the proposed trucking route since it will directly affect them. 24 residents spoke against the mine approval. This number includes 3 residents that were unable to attend the meeting but sent letters of opposition of the mine.

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Below is a summary of the comments made by residents:

- They are concerned with the condition of Naugart Drive to North 4th Avenue.
- They are concerned about possible well water contamination.
- They are concerned about road dust.
- There is concern for child safety with the large trucks on residential roads.
- They feel that Naugart Drive is too narrow for dump trucks.
- There is concern that Naugart Drive will immediately deteriorate from added truck traffic since it needs repair now.
- Residents feel that additional companies hauling from the land will make it difficult to control speeds and will decrease safety.
- Residents feel that they moved to the country for a rural way of life and the addition of this traffic will directly affect that way of life in a detrimental way.
- There is concern with noise from the trucks due to the nature of the hills on the route.
- There is concern for the safety of families that travel the proposed truck route. There are families that use the route on their way to the Wisconsin River for recreation.
- There were several residents that expressed concern for their property value due to the length of the mine agreement.
- Residents are concerned with the possible risk of runoff from the mining that will go into the Wisconsin River.
- Residents feel that the trucks will disrupt the tranquil atmosphere of the residential area.
- A resident on North 6th Avenue asked if there was any benefit to the Village with this mine.

In summary the Village Attorney, Randy Frokjer stated that there is no benefit to the Village with the rezoning of the Eckardt property and the mining overlay. There would be low volume tax revenue. The structures for the concrete and washing plants are temporary and will not be taxed. Maine Drive and Naugart Drive are not made for that type of truck traffic and the Village does not have the money to update those roads. He stated that the safety issues and way of life concerns brought forward by the residents directly affected by the truck route are also important and the Board will have a very difficult decision to make.

Resident Matt Nelson at 2080 Naugart Drive submitted a petition with names of 47 residents' signatures opposed to the Haas Quarry.

Adjournment

Trustee Kraemer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m. Trustee Channel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted and approved July 8, 2024.

Cindy Bailey

Village of Maine Clerk/Treasurer