



Village of Maine Minutes

Monday, January 13, 2025
Board of Trustees 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 monthly meeting at the Maine Municipal Center on Monday, January 13, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. **There will be a Plan Commission Meeting held at 6:00 p.m. The Board Meeting will reconvene immediately following the adjournment of the Plan Commission Meeting.**

AGENDA

1. Call the meeting to order – Betty Hoenisch, Village President
2. Review monthly invoices, statements and timeslips – Motion to approve payment of invoices, statements and timeslips
3. Adjourn the Board Meeting
4. Board of Trustees will attend the Plan Commission Meeting
5. Reconvene the Board Meeting
6. **General Business**
7. Silence Cell Phones
8. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
9. Board Meeting Minutes Approval - Motion to dispense of the reading and approval of minutes for December 9, 2024, Board Meeting and December 30, 2024, Special Board Meeting/Closed Session
10. President's Report
11. Treasurer's Report
12. Fire Department Report
13. County Board Supervisor's Report – Brandon Jensen
14. Other Business:
 - A. Discussion and possible action on Rib Mountain Bowmen's Conditional Use Permit
 - B. Discussion and possible action regarding Fire Department Officers:
 - Ben Clason, Fire Chief
 - Leo Gau, Deputy Chief

- Matt Hastreitter, Fire Captain
 - Nathan Zuelke, Lieutenant
 - Ryan Seubert, Lieutenant
 - Marc Babel, Lieutenant
 - Tim Hahn, EMR Captain
 - Mitch Johnson, EMR Lieutenant
- C. Discussion and possible action on Mallory Gau for employment as a Maine Fire Department Emergency Medical Responder
 - D. Discussion and possible action on Fire Department Brush Truck
 - E. Discussion and possible action on Fire Department Background Search
 - F. Discussion and possible action on email accounts for Village Trustees
 - G. Discussion on Maine Lions Park and Village of Maine Fence
 - H. Discussion regarding Personnel Policy and Benefits/Salary Research
 - I. Discussion regarding interaction with constituents
15. Schedule a Special Board Meeting and Closed Session for Monday, January 27, 2025
 16. The next Board of Trustees Meeting will be Monday, February 10, 2025
 17. Adjournment

I certify that this agenda was posted at the Brokaw Post Office, Red Granite Bar, Richard's Restaurant & Bar and the Maine Municipal Center located at 6111 N. 44th Avenue, Wausau, WI on January 10, 2025. The agenda was also posted on Maine's website.

Betty Hoenisch, Village President

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Call the meeting to order – Betty Hoenisch, Village President

President Hoenisch called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Present at the meeting: President Betty Hoenisch, Trustee Chad Channel, Trustee Judith Hase, Trustee Jim Kraemer, Trustee Tom Marquardt, Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Bailey, Deputy Clerk Leodith Freyholtz, and Attorney Vinny Bonino.

Review monthly invoices, statements and timeslips – Motion to approve payment of invoices, statements and timeslips

Trustee Channel made a motion to approve the payment of invoices, statements and timeslips as submitted by the Clerk/Treasurer. Trustee Marquardt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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Adjourn the Board Meeting for the Plan Commission Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Trustee Channel made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting for the Plan Commission Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Hase seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Board of Trustees attended the Plan Commission Meeting

Reconvene the Board Meeting at 6:36 p.m.

General Business

President Hoenisch explained that it is a new year and there will be changes to how the Board meetings are conducted. Attorney VanderWaal has been working with the Board to follow the Roberts Rules of Order for the Board Meetings. President Hoenisch further explained when Maine was a Town, Attorney Frokjer allowed the Board members to be a bit more relaxed and laid back, so this will be an effort on everyone's part.

Silence Cell Phones

President Hoenisch asked the audience and Trustees to silence their cell phones.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

President Hoenisch asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Meeting Minutes Approval - Motion to dispense of the reading and approval of minutes for December 9, 2024, Board Meeting and December 30, 2024, Special Board Meeting/Closed Session.

President Hoenisch asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes presented and if not a motion to approve would be in order.

Trustee Hase stated she would like to approve the two sets of minutes separately.

Trustee Hase made a motion to approve the December 9, 2025, Board Meeting minutes. Trustee Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Trustee Hase stated that she thought the decision had been made to keep the minutes more minimal and that she felt the December 30, 2025, minutes as typed were biased.

President Hoenisch explained that there will be discussion on minutes approval and content in the near future. She stated that she was trying to schedule a Special Board Meeting for January 27, 2025, and minutes will be on the agenda.

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Trustee Hase made a motion to table December 30, 2025, Special Board Meeting minutes. Trustee Channel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

President's Report

President Hoenisch reported that the public works tree shear had arrived. There is a mounting plate that needs to be installed locally and then the employees will be clearing the road right-of-way when it is not snowing.

Public Works employees have been busy making updates to the F550 truck. The updates will make the truck more user friendly, efficient and safer to use.

Treasurer's Report

Clerk/Treasurer Bailey presented the December 2024 Treasurer's Report

General Accounts:

Checking Account

Beginning Balance as of 12/1/2024 - \$42,393.12

Deposits and Interest - \$385,172.22

Disbursements - \$377,423.61

Balance as of 12/31/2024 - \$50,141.73

Municipal Savings Account

Beginning Balance as of 12/1/2024 - \$597,720.50

Deposits and Interest - \$1,096,784.73

Disbursements - \$385,167.42

Balance as of 12/31/2024 - \$1,309,337.81

Municipal Savings - Water Short Lived Assets – \$26,832.11

Municipal Savings - Sewer Short Lived Assets – \$18,242.84

Municipal Savings PW Fire Account - \$192,972.76

Village of Maine Fire Department Accounts:

Checking Account - \$789.78

Memorial & Donations Money Market Account - \$71,704.36

Equipment Outlay Account - \$9.10

Trustee Kraemer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Trustee Marquardt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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Fire Department Report

Captain Leo Gau stated that he did not have a December report. Captain Gau provided the Board with information on January 2, 2025, Fire Department officer's election.

County Board Supervisor's Report – Brandon Jensen

President Hoenisch asked County Board Supervisor Jensen to present his report.

Supervisor Jensen reported that the County Board had assigned the remaining ARAP fund in December 2024.

The Infrastructure Committee reported to the County Board that the Wheel Tax had generated three million dollars of revenue in 2024.

The County Board is working with broadband internet providers on maps for future projects.

Other Business:

Discussion and possible action on Rib Mountain Bowmen's Conditional Use Permit

President Hoenisch explained that the Plan Commission recommended that the Village Board approve the Rib Mountain Bowmen's Conditional Use Permit.

Trustee Channel made a motion to approve Rib Mountain Bowmen's Conditional Use Permit. Trustee Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of five in favor and zero opposed.

Discussion and possible action regarding Fire Department Officers:

President Hoenisch explained that the Trustee's meeting packet included the Officer's letters and Training Certifications that had been emailed or dropped off prior to the packet delivery. President Hoenisch explained that additional documents that arrived after the packets had been delivered are on the table in front of you. The documents provided are for the officers that were elected by the membership at the January 2, 2025, election.

Ben Clason, Fire Chief

Trustee Kraemer made a motion to approve Ben Clason as Maine Fire Chief. Trustee Hase seconded the motion. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of five in favor and zero opposed.

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Leo Gau, Deputy Chief

Trustee Channel made a motion to approve Leo Gau as Maine Deputy Chief. Trustee Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of five in favor and zero opposed.

Matt Hastreitter, Fire Captain

President Hoenisch explained that she had not received Mr. Hastreitter's letter and training certificates, however she learned that he was out of town on a family matter.

Deputy Chief Gau stated that he had just received a text from Mr. Hastreitter and the documents had been emailed. President Hoenisch checked her emails and located them in the junk folder. She quickly printed Mr. Hastreitter's training certificates for the Trustees to review. She explained that Mr. Hastreitter had not provided a letter.

Trustee Channel made a motion to approve Matt Hastreitter as Maine Fire Captain with his letter to be submitted later. Trustee Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion carried by a roll call vote of five in favor and zero opposed.

Nathan Zuelke, Lieutenant

Trustee Channel made a motion to approve Nathan Zuelke as Maine Fire First Lieutenant. Trustee Marquardt seconded the motion. Motion carried by a roll call vote of five in favor and zero opposed.

Ryan Seubert, Lieutenant

Trustee Channel made a motion to approve Ryan Seubert as Maine Fire Second Lieutenant. Trustee Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion carried by a roll call vote of five in favor and zero opposed.

Marc Babel, Lieutenant

Trustee Kraemer made a motion to approve Marc Babel as Maine Fire Third Lieutenant. Trustee Channel seconded the motion. Motion carried by a roll call vote of five in favor and zero opposed.

Tim Hahn, EMR Captain

Trustee Channel made a motion to approve Tim Hahn as Maine Fire EMR Captain. Trustee Marquardt seconded the motion. Motion carried by a roll call vote of five in favor and zero opposed.

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Mitch Johnson, EMR Lieutenant

Trustee Channel made a motion to approve Mitch Johnson as Maine Fire EMR Lieutenant. Trustee Hase seconded the motion. Motion carried by a roll call vote of five in favor and zero opposed.

Discussion and possible action on Mallory Gau for employment as a Maine FD Emergency Medical Responder

President Hoenisch explained that Clerk Bailey conducted the DOJ Background Search and referenced the report showing that Ms. Gau had a clean record.

President Hoenisch explained the written report she had provided for the Trustee's packets showing the responses she received from Ms. Gau's references.

Trustee Channel made a motion to approve Mallory Gau as a Maine Fire Emergency Medical Responder. Trustee Marquardt seconded the motion. Motion carried by a roll call vote of five in favor and zero opposed.

Discussion and possible action on Fire Department Brush Truck

President Hoenisch explained that at the last officer's meeting Lt. Marc Babel had provided a report on the brush truck that he had received from Victor at Emergency Apparatus.

Lt. Babel presented the Emergency Apparatus report and repair estimates for the brush truck to the Village Board.

Discussion followed with additional information and comments from the officers.

- Repair amounts were provided by officers
- Victor at Emergency Apparatus recommended taking the brush truck out of service
- Discussion on used brush trucks
- Researching a multi-purpose truck
- Pay off Engine One loan with donation funds

Trustee Marquardt made a motion to remove the Brush Truck from service until further notice. Trustee Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion carried by a roll call vote of five in favor and zero opposed.

The Board instructed Deputy Chief Gau to notify Marathon County dispatch that Maine Fire was pulling the brush truck out of service.

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Discussion and possible action on Fire Department Background Search

President Hoenisch explained that at previous meetings the Board members contended that the Fire Department Background Search process had been approved at a Board meeting. She stated that the Trustee's packets contained copies of every agenda since the start of the Trustee's term on April 16, 2024, to present.

The Background Search items are highlighted, and accompanying minutes are also included. The research shows that the Fire Department Background Search had been discussed, however the item was tabled.

President Hoenisch further explained that Trustee Channel had requested that this matter be placed on the agenda and gave him the floor to explain his request.

Trustee Channel stated that he felt the Fire Department Background Searches should be conducted by the Clerk along with searches on all Maine employees.

A lengthy discussion followed, and the Fire Department Officers were included in the discussion.

President Hoensich stated that if the Board plans to require the Background Searches to be completed by the clerk, that would require an amendment to the recently approved Fire Department By-Laws.

Trustee Marquardt stated that he thought the Fire Department was going to provide the Background Search document as part of their responsibility to have all the boxes checked when presenting an applicant to the Village Board for approval.

Several FD Officers spoke and explained that they preferred to do the Background Search as part of the application/interview process. They stated they would provide that information as part of the request for applicant approval.

Clerk/Treasurer Bailey explained that during the By-Law rewrite meetings, she had offered to assist the Fire Department officers with the Department of Justice Background Search process and the officers had been receptive to that.

Attorney VanderWaal stated that this had been a lengthy discussion during the By-Law review process and what is in place is what the officers felt was best.

President Hoenisch stated that the By-Law revisions were requested by Maine Fire Officers, so they had the ability to be more independently. This is about the Board assisting them while they work to make the department strong and viable.

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Trustee Hase asked the officers what they preferred, and they stated they would like the process laid out in the By-Laws to stand.

Trustee Channel made a motion to have the Clerk position do the background searches for the new Fire Department applicants. Trustee Kraemer seconded the motion. President Hoenisch called for a roll call vote. Trustee Channel voted Yes, Trustee Kraemer voted Yes, Trustee Hase voted No, Trustee Marquardt abstained, and President Hoenisch voted No. Motion failed.

Discussion and possible action on email accounts for Village Trustees

President Hoensich explained that Trustee Marquardt had brought forth concerns regarding Board members receiving Village of Maine emails on personal devices. Clerk/Treasurer Bailey offered to research the cost for Trustee email accounts.

Clerk/Treasurer Bailey explained that she contacted NetPros who handle the Village of Maine email accounts. The tentative quote of \$150.00 per year per Trustee account was provided. She further explained that Mike Preis from NetPros will need to meet with the Trustees to set up the email accounts.

Discussion followed on the Trustees selecting a mobile device or their home computer to receive village emails. The second option would be for the village to provide the Trustees with an I-Pad for receiving emails and meeting materials.

Trustee Marquardt made a motion to provide the Trustee's with village email accounts. Trustee Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of five in favor and zero opposed.

Discussion on Maine Lions Park and Village of Maine Fence

President Hoenisch explained that Trustee Hase had requested this item to be placed on the agenda.

President Hoenisch addressed Trustee Hase and explained that the Maine Lions Park and fence were part of the public works building/yard waste site project that had been discussed in closed session. Due to the ongoing search for land for the public works building that is being conducted by Building Inspector Grefe and myself, this cannot be discussed at this time. When new information is available there will be a closed session.

No action was taken on this item.

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Discussion regarding Personnel Policy and Benefits/Salary Research

President Hoenisch explained that at a Special Meeting on December 30, 2024, the Personnel Policy and employee benefits/salary had been discussed and tabled for additional research.

President Hoenisch asked Deputy Clerk Freyholtz to distribute a packet that included a salary chart produced by Trustee Hase.

President Hoenisch stated that she and Clerk Bailey have been conducting salary and benefits research and will provide that information at a Special Board Meeting. There is a lot of information to be reviewed, and the facts checked so the benefits and salaries are being compared accurately.

Discussion regarding interaction with constituents

President Hoenisch explained that the Trustees have made many comments regarding constituent's concerns. She explained that there was an excel chart in their packets so the Trustees could log constituent's comments and/or complaints. The forms could be turned in so the issues could be placed on a Board meeting agenda.

Trustee Marquardt and Trustee Hase stated that their constituents would not like their concerns brought forward on the chart. President Hoenisch replied that it is difficult to address the comments and concerns at a Special Meeting if the residents do not want their issue(s) documented and discussed. She stated the chart is just a tool and the trustees do not have to use it.

No action was taken on this item.

Schedule a Special Board Meeting and Closed Session for Monday, January 27, 2025

The next Board of Trustees Meeting will be Monday, February 10, 2025

Adjournment

President Hoenisch called for a motion to adjourn at 8:58 p.m.

Trustee Marquardt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. Trustee Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted and approved February 24, 2025.

Leodith Freyholtz, Deputy Clerk and *Betty Hoenisch*, Village President