

**CITY OF MAPLETON**  
**COUNCIL MINUTES**  
Monday March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Members present:** Braaten, Vait, Warner and Annis Absent: Malone

**Staff members present:** Clerk Duncanson, Deputy Clerk Moore, Public Works Supervisor Chaffee, Fire Chief Froehlich, Fire Training Officer Moore, Annie Froehlich-Firefighter

**Others present:** Hannah Hassler-Maple River Messenger

Mayor Annis called the council meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Mapleton Fire Station.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

All those present stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**Agenda**

Councilor Vait moved, and Braaten seconded to adopt the agenda. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda**

Councilor Vait moved, and Councilor Braaten seconded to adopt the consent agenda as follows. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

- A. Minutes 3-7-23
- B. Bills \$79,386.57
- C. Zoning Permits- H. Hummer, K. Schultz
- D. Liquor Statement
- E. Mayor Clerk Meeting

**Community Comment:**

- None.

**Guest: Mapleton Fire Department:** Fire Chief Froehlich was present to give the council an update on the fire department. He stated that the Mapleton Fire Department is the busiest department in the county outside of Mankato and their call volume has increased 42% since 2019 with an average increase of 12% per year. He updated the council on some equipment that will need to be replaced in the next few years as well as the current truck replacement schedule. The current rescue truck needs to be replaced in 2025 and the department has already started the process to get it ordered and built. Froehlich said they have received quotes from the following companies: Pierce for \$315,000, Rosenbauer for \$300,000, CustomFire (custom cab) for \$312,500 and CustomFire (commercial chassis) for \$262,500. Each quote is just the city's portion of the expense. At the annual township board meeting, the township board motioned, seconded and passed a resolution to pursue the pierce apparatus based on previous experience with the builder and the recommendation of the committee. This means the committee will take the next steps with the builder and report back with a final price and design of the truck, this is not a resolution to purchase. Chief Froehlich is asking for the council to pass a similar resolution as the townships did. **Councilor Vait moved, and Councilor Braaten seconded to approve the Mapleton Fire Department truck committee to move forward and pursue the Peirce apparatus. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.**

**Unfinished Business:**

- A. **Council Meetings:** Clerk Duncanson asked the council if they would like to continue to have the meetings or if they would like to move them to a different time. After discussion, the council decided they will keep the council meeting time at 4:30 through quarter two and reevaluate in June. **Councilor Vait moved and Councilor Braaten seconded to keep the council meeting at 4:30 through quarter 2. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Braaten, Vait, Warner and Annis. Nay: none. Absent: Malone. Motion Carried.**

**New Business**

- A. **Resolution 13-03-23 Public Works Truck:** Public Works Supervisor Chaffee was present to share with the council that the 2012 F-350 public works truck needs to be replaced. The F-350 truck is used for snow removal, sanding & salting, transportation, brush removal and other miscellaneous tasks. Chaffee stated that this truck was originally supposed to be replaced after 7 years, but the council extended it to 13 years due to the low mileage. The truck has now started to nickel and dime the city with repairs and rust. The total cost of the truck will be \$78,178. This quote includes trade-in, stainless steel tipper body, beacon, sander, sander light, undercoating, spreader, stainless steel undercoating, spreader, Boss Poly plow, hitch and bumper from Crysteel, floor mats, seat covers and running boards. Chaffee stated that with the stainless-steel body this truck will last them 13 years. **Councilor Braaten moved and Councilor Vait seconded to adopt Resolution 13-03-23 approving the purchase of a 2023 F-350 Super Cab. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Braaten, Vait, Warner and Annis. Nay: none. Absent: Malone. Motion Carried.**
- B. **No Mow May:** Clerk Duncanson asked the council if the city would like to participate in No Mow May, a program where residents don't mow their lawn in the month of May to promote pollinators. Duncanson shared that current city ordinance states that any lawns with noxious weeds over 8 inches are in violation and subject to a fine. City staff recommends that conditions such as signing up at city hall, no previous ordinance violations and having neighbors sign off should potentially be added for those choosing to participate. After discussion, the council decided not to participate this year. **Councilor Vait moved, and Councilor Braaten seconded to not allow Mapleton residents to participate in No Mow May.**

Councilor Braaten moved, and Councilor Vait seconded to adjourn the meeting. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried. Mayor Annis adjourned the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

Recorded by Sarah Moore, Deputy Clerk

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Jeff Annis, Mayor

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Amber Duncanson, City Clerk