

Maple Lake Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

The noon meeting was called to order by President Mike Rowe December 4th, 2024 at Madigan's. There were 10 voting members present. The current paid membership is 76.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made by Lorie Hegle and second by Nathan Karels to approve the secretary's report from the November 6th, 2024 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Balances were read as follows: Chamber checking account total was \$25,733.45 with \$5,385.64 for the general fund, \$4,002.13 for the Industrial Development Group, and \$16,345.68 for the Small Business Group. Gearhead checking is \$21,409.38 and Lord Abbett Investment \$27,022.52. The Lord Abbett Investment account is down due to the chamber using the funds to donate a Christmas Tree to the city. A motion was made by Nick Pawlenty and second by Julie Hudek to approve the treasurer's report.

Government Report: There was an economic development meeting at last night's city council meeting. The council will be exploring areas in the budget to lower the amount and will approve the budget at the December 17th meeting.

School Report: The Centennial playground is going to be taken down this summer. The Maple Lake Lions have generously donated \$36,000 to the school to help pay for the special needs portion of the new playground. The overall cost of the new playground will be around \$261,000. The Irish Mentors will be doing holiday baskets for families in need again this year. Currently there are 33 families that have signed up. Email Mike if your business would like to donate money/items to the baskets this holiday season.

Committee Reports:

Industrial Development Group: No update.

Small Business Group: 6 dates have officially been decided for this summer's Maker's and Grower's Market. The new hours for 2025 will be from 10am-2pm.

Fall Craft Sale: Kathy reported that there were 57 vendors at the sale, with 31 being new vendors. We are currently searching for a new person to chair the craft sale. Contact Kathy or Caleb if you are interested. Current total revenue is \$1,812.00

Christmas in Maple Lake: The event will be held at the normal time of 10am-12pm on Saturday, December 7th, Reindeer are currently scheduled to be part of the festivities. There will be activities at 57 Birch Ave (old Light Bulbs and More location), Santa & Mrs. Claus will be at Sunfish Dental. The library will also be giving away cookies and warm beverages.

New Business:

Board Director Position Nominations: There are 3 board positions open for election this year. Lorie Hegle agreed to come back for another term. Scott Chantland and Doug Lindenfelser also volunteered to be board members. A motion was made by Nick Pawlenty and second by Caleb Haag to approve Lorie Hegle, Scott Chantland, and Doug Lindenfelser as board members for 2025-2027.

The board thanks Dana Minder and Russ Orson for their service.

Chamber Dues Increase: Due to rising costs of items and the growing number of events, the chamber board found it best to increase our annual membership dues from \$125 to \$150. If a business pays by January 31st, the amount due will be discounted to \$140.

St Patrick's Day Parade: Nick let the chamber know that the registration for the parade will be opening soon.

Our next noon meeting will be held at the Maple Lake Legion on January 8th, 2025. A motion was made by Kathy Hennen and second by Lorie Hegle to adjourn the meeting.

Caleb Haag, Secretary