Prior to commencing this Council Meeting, a public hearing was held at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of the close-out of the Village's $53,000 CDAP Grant (No. 00-24286), awarded for design engineering for the water system improvement, radium removal project. The public hearing was conducted by the Village Clerk, who explained details of grant expenditures and procedures. There were no public comments or questions and the public hearing was closed at 7:07 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order at 7:08 p.m. Monday, January 26, 2004 in the Village Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Comms. Hibler, Hileman, Marketti and Mayor Wise; Comm. Rankovich was absent. (*Also attending: Clerk Barb Bexson, Engineer Mike Perry & Attorney Scott Belt)* All then stood for reciting of The Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the January 12 regular Board Meeting were read and accepted with motion by Comm. Marketti second by Comm. Hibler; upon roll, Comm. Hileman passed while all others present voted in favor.

The Financial Report for the month of December 2003 was next reviewed. Motion to accept and place on file was made by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Marketti; upon roll, all agreed.

The listing of bills was also accepted for payment with motion by Comm. Hileman, second by Comm. Hibler; upon roll, motion passed.

Mayor Wise began by making recommendation that the accounting firm of Echols, Mack & Associates be appointed as auditor for the Village of Gardner. Comm. Marketti motioned to accept the Mayor's recommendation with second by Comm. Hibler; upon roll, Comm. Hileman passed, all others voted in favor.

Comm. Marketti reported that the two check valves for the water plant, discussed at the previous meeting, were ordered and have been delivered.

Chamlin & Assoc. Engineer Mike Perry gave a brief update on the status of the radium removal project.

Mayor Wise asked that a street light outage on Dwight Street be reported to ComEd.

Lastly, the Mayor told of a letter received from GSW High School requesting a donation for this year's prom lock-in event. Comm. Marketti first suggested a $500 donation, with conversation then on whether a donation should be made and in what amount. Comm. Marketti remarked that there have been fewer problems since towns in Grundy County have been holding prom lock-ins, then motioned for a donation of $500; second was made by Comm. Hibler. Upon roll, Comms. Marketti and Hibler voted in favor, Comm. Hileman voted against and Mayor Wise passed. Mayor Wise then added that he felt a $250 donation would have been acceptable and Comm. Hileman voiced concern with like requests from other taxing bodies.

As there was no further business before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made at 7:22 p.m. by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Hibler with all in agreement.

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Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk
Village of Gardner