The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Monday, May 10, 2004 in the Village Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Comms. Hibler, Hileman, Marketti and Mayor Wise. Comm. Rankovich arrived at approximately 7:10 p.m. (*Also attending: Clerk Barb Bexson, Engineer Guy Christensen & Attorney Scott Belt).* All then stood for reciting of The Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the April 26 regular Board Meeting were read and accepted with motion by Comm. Hileman second by Comm. Hibler. Upon roll, all present voted in favor.

It was next moved by Comm. Hileman and seconded by Comm. Marketti, that the listing of bills be accepted for payment; motion passed upon roll vote.

Comm. Rankovich arrived and took his seat with the Council.

Correspondence dated May 4 from the Zoning Board of Appeals was read, making recommendation that the Village Council place a hold on all permits for billboard construction. As there are current issues and concerns, the ZBA feels further review is needed. Council Members agreed with this recommendation.

Concerning the contract for garbage and recycle material collection, the Council agreed this should be tabled until next meeting; Comm. Rankovich will prepare and provide a spreadsheet showing data received on each of the bids submitted. Attorney Belt has also received a letter from WasteManagement requesting the Village waive the requirement that bidders attend the pre-bid conference; decision on this was also tabled.

Attorney Belt began with discussion on billboards and introduced Attorney John Rooks, who represents Rick and Barb Phillips. Attorney Rooks was invited to attend to speak on the possible annexation of 50+ acres of the Phillips family property and their desire to have three (3) signs placed on this property. Representatives of Target Media and WC Advertising, as well as David Zazworsky, Village building/zoning officer, were also in the audience . Conversation focused on State, County and Village zoning and building regulations for billboards, concern with a billboard already erected and those that are planned to be put up. The Council first commented favorably on the property annexation; it was also stated that issues and concerns with the construction of billboards need to be resolved. Attorney Belt further added that he has been in contact with IDOT and has been told that the State is also conducting an investigation into billboard permits that have been issued in this area. After lengthy conversation, it was agreed that David Zazworsky should write to the appropriate people, placing a stop-order on any future work on billboards and for removal of advertising and illumination on the one already erected.

Ordinance VG04-383, to implement the State official and employees ethics act was adopted with motion by Comm. Marketti, second by Comm. Hileman; all agreed upon roll.

Comm. Hibler brought up the bid received for poles and lights for the basketball court in the east park. After estimates for both wood and metal poles were looked over, Comm. Hibler was asked to obtain more prices.

Comm. Marketti told that the price for the replacement pumps at the water treatment plant would be $12,651.00 and motioned for purchase; second was made by Comm. Hileman, with unanimous roll vote.

Village Engineer Guy Christensen reported he has again talked with the ICC and the Village should soon be receiving the specs. for the ditch cleaning project. A June 30 extension of the deadline is being talked over; the scope of the project is Washington Street, SW to Rt. 53, then NE to Coster Road.

Regarding the radium removal project, according to Guy, we are not yet in a position to final out this job.

Mayor Wise made the following proclamations for the Village of Gardner:

May 28 - American Legion & American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Day
May 29 - World War II Veterans Recognition Day
Month of May 2004 - Motorcycle Awareness Month

Lastly, Mayor Wise reminded of the Annual TIF Joint Review Board Meeting to be held on Friday May 21 at 10:00 a.m. at the Village Hall.

As there was no further business before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made at 8:25 p.m. by Comm. Hileman seconded by Comm. Rankovich with all in agreement.

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Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk
Village of Gardner