The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Monday, November 8, 2004 in the Village Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Comms. Hibler, Rankovich (arrived at 7:05 p.m. prior to reading of minutes), Marketti and Mayor Wise. (Comm. Hileman 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 Regular Board Meeting of October 25 were read and accepted; motion by Comm. Hibler, second by Comm. Rankovich, upon roll, all present were in agreement.

After reading, with the exception of payment to P.T. Ferro Co., the Council agreed to accept the current listing of bills for payment with motion by Comm. Rankovich, second by Comm. Hibler; roll call vote was unanimous. Later in this meeting, after the arrival of Mike Perry of Chamlin, it was agreed that payment to P.T. Ferro Co. be also accepted.

Correspondence was read from the Village Improvement Fund Committee, making recommendation that funding of $3,150 be accepted to assist with the installation of a swing set and playground equipment at the Grade School. After discussion on this recommendation of 50% of the request versus complete funding, it was decided that a representative from the grade school be asked to the next meeting in order to obtain more information.

Comm. Marketti told that in his conversation with Mike Perry regarding completion work on the radium removal facility, Mike is satisfied with all work; he then motioned to add the final payment to Vissering Construction in the amount of $15,201.00 to bills being paid tonight. Second by Comm. Rankovich and all agreed upon roll vote.

Mike next reported that upon Guy's return, work on the watermain project bid will proceed, although a little later than expected.

Dean - should have costs for the new street signs at the next meeting & short talk on installation

Mr. William Murfree, representing Utility Service Co., was present to speak about maintenance of the Village's water tower and explained their procedure for annual upkeep. Mayor Wise responded that the Village currently has a maintenance contract and that an inspection was made last week. Comm. Marketti agreed to look over this information.
Attorney Belt told that a revised draft of the cable franchise agreement between the Village and Kraus Electronics will be presented at the next meeting. Mayor Wise voiced concern with the agreement term of 20 years, feeling 5 or 10 years would be more acceptable; he would also like to see the addition of more channels.

Regarding pending litigation with Unitech, Attorney Belt reported the trial is scheduled for November 30 and the Village's motion to dismiss is pending.

Mayor Wise alerted the Council to potential problems with low water pressure and watermain breaks when the Fire Department opens hydrants on weekends for their flow testing. All agreed that a letter be sent to the Fire Chief stating that in the future, this type work is to be done during normal Village business hours and prior notification needs to be requested so that Village personnel can be on hand.

Comm. Rankovich brought up identification for Village-owned vehicles. All felt that the sesquicentennial logo as an image would be appropriate.

Guy Christensen of Chamlin began with results from the October 8 bids for the railroad ditch improvements project; of the two contractors submitting bids, 'D' Construction was low. Mike Garcia of IDOT explained that the bid amount was much higher than what the State will fund. After renegotiating some items from the project, 'D's proposal was reduced; it was also learned there would

be increased funding from the State. After Comm. Marketti's comment that this proposal and the State's additional funding would be a good deal for the Village, he first motioned to reject all bids from October 8; this was seconded by Comm. Rankovich with all agreeing. He then motioned to award the contract on the project to 'D' Construction at a cost of $187,791; Comm. Hibler seconded with all in favor upon roll vote.

On the radium removal facility project, Guy reported that Fatlan Trucking has been contacted and will complete the remaining work; Vissering Construction, the contractor for the project, will pay them directly.

Regarding the watermain replacement project on Jackson Street, Guy is working on details to include a portion of Division Street; this will be out to the contractors by the next meeting.

On the new streets signs throughout the Village, Comm. Rankovich has not yet spoken with Sandy Sowers of the Lions Club but will do so this week and report at the next meeting.

Mayor Wise relayed that he received a request for funds from the Gardner Grade School for the installation of swings; Council Members suggested that this be turned over to the Village Improvement Fund Committee for their review and recommendation.

The new garbage contract with Heartland Disposal is effective November 1; commencing with water bills sent for November usage, the monthly charge to all residents for this service will be $11.70 as motioned by Comm. Hibler, seconded by Comm. Rankovich; roll vote was unanimous.

As there was no further business brought before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made at 7:55 p.m. by Comm. Rankovich seconded by Comm. Hibler with all present in agreement.

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**Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk**
**Village of Gardner**