The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order at 7:10 p.m. Monday, June 13, 2005 in the Village Hall Council Chambers with all members present: Comms. Hibler, Rankovich, Hileman, Marketti and Mayor Wise. (*Also attending: Barb Bexson, Clerk; Scott Belt, Attorney; Guy Christensen, Engineer).* All then stood for reciting of The Pledge of Allegiance.

Previously tabled minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 25 were read and accepted; motion by Comm. Rankovich, second by Comm. Hileman; upon roll, Comm. Marketti passed, all others voted in favor. Minutes of the May 9 Regular Board Meeting were also read; motion to accept by Comm. Hileman, second by Comm. Marketti and upon roll, Comm. Rankovich passed, all others agreed.

After review, it was agreed to accept and place on file the Financial Report for April, the final month of Fiscal Year 2005; motion was made by Comm. Marketti, seconded by Comm. Hibler; roll vote was unanimous.

Comm. Hileman first motioned to ratify payment of bills made on May 23; second by Comm. Rankovich with all agreeing upon roll. It was then moved by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Rankovich and all in agreement that current bills, as listed, be accepted for payment. Lastly, Comm. Hileman requested an additional payment be included to the Grundy County Sheriff's Department in the amount of $14,971.00 for annual contractual police service; after second by Comm. Rankovich, upon roll vote, Comm. Marketti passed, all others were in agreement.

Correspondence was read from the Zoning Board of Appeals making recommendation that the updated and corrected Village zoning map be approved. Attorney Belt made note that this is not an amendment but simply to correct previous annexations, zoning changes and street names. Discussion followed on the parcel located on the southwest corner of Main Street and Route 53 owned by Eric Conger. Attorney Belt told that he has spoken with Mr. Conger to explain that the property was annexed into the Village in 1986 and, although not done so at the time, the annexation was recorded in 2004 and remains zoned as residential. This map was accepted with motion by Comm. Hileman, second by Comm. Hibler and all agreeing upon roll.

Again on the agenda, Chris & Carla Irvin reminded that in April they first came before the Council to voice their concerns about the untitled junk vehicles at the property north of their residence and that they feel there should have been action taken by this time. Mayor Wise told that J&R is awaiting titles and he would speak with them tomorrow; Comm. Marketti added that J&R should be told that the Sheriff's Dept. can secure junk titles for them. Attorney Belt told that, because of an instance in the past, villages do not go onto properties to tow vehicles, however, citations can be issued. Both Comm. Marketti and Attorney Belt feel it needs to be learned if J&R is actually leasing the property from owner Ray Serena and that the ordinance should be looked at regarding junk vehicles on a property that runs a repair shop. Lastly, Mayor Wise agreed to keep the Irvins' up-to-date on progress with this problem.

Tawna Mack, next on the agenda spoke about the scheduled Kids Day being put on by the fire department and to request that Gardner Days be re-established as a community event. She presented an outline listing possible events and an estimated budget for the August 6 and 7 festival to be held mainly on Depot and Division Streets. The ongoing safety problem with glass bottles was discussed. Because the Sheriff's Department can only enforce Village code, Comm. Marketti suggested that Attorney Belt first review the current liquor ordinance and amend, if needed, so that glass containers are not allowed during any festival in the Village. It was then agreed to support the re-establishment of Gardner Days; motion by Comm. Hibler, seconded by Comm. Hileman, upon roll, all voted in favor.

VG05-393, An Ordinance Regarding Illinois Prevailing Wage Act was passed an approved by the Council; motion by Comm. Hileman, second by Comm. Rankovich; roll vote was unanimous.

According to Attorney Belt, because of the lien on file, the Village is named as a defendant in the foreclosure action against William Lamping, 305 W. Jefferson St. Attorney Belt has filed a general appearance on behalf of the Village. He was also asked to research and report whether the Village's water lien takes precedence over the first mortgage.

He next briefed the Council on the current ordinance violation court cases. Comm. Hibler informed that Mr. Diaz, 412 W. Main St. had contacted him to ask for an extension to remove the wood piles; Mr. Diaz was told that since the court date was set, a decision would come directly from the judge.

Comm. Hileman reported that he has received the grant application and met with Nora Fesco-Ballerine of North Central IL Council of Governments who is to complete all of the paperwork.

Because of a number of watermain breaks in the area, he also asked the Council to okay two additional replacement sections as extension to the current project being done by Nibco. The first is a two-block section on Dwight St. from Jackson to East at an estimated cost of $30,000 and the second is from Gardner Street south to the stop sign on Jackson at approximately $15,000. These additions were agreed upon by all board members.

Comm. Hileman reported that Ray Serena has requested a catch basin be installed near his property at the corner of Washington St. and Rt. 53. It was agreed that this work will be done by Village employees after property cleanup is completed.

Concerning the abandoned grain elevator on Depot Street and growing worries about safety, prior to the Council taking any action, Comm. Hibler will once again speak with Mr. Gibs Nielsen, the owner of the structure, to learn if any plans are being made for its demolition.

Comm. Hibler then noted that Mr. Gary Hebding, owner of the Quonset hut property at South Street has built a berm around this building and asked is this is acceptable; Attorney Belt advised that this would be similar to the restrictions set for a fence. Although the owner agreed to inside storage and deliveries made off Main Street, it was noted that some vehicles are sitting outside the building and a driveway installed on South Street.

Comm. Rankovich told that he and Guy Christensen met to discuss and review street maintenance project areas for this year. The cost to repair those areas listed is estimated to be $62,500 and none of these areas is believed to be in the vicinity of the watermain replacement. Specifications. are to be prepared and the project put out to bid. Also briefly discussed were street striping and parking lot seal coating.

When asked about the status of the new Village street signs, Comm. Rankovich stated that he recently learned that the paperwork on this cannot be found and it is now necessary to resubmit the information.

The annual Motor Fuel Tax Audit Report, which found all Village records in order and in agreement with State records was accepted and placed on file with motion by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Rankovich with all in agreement.

Guy Christensen updated on the progress of the railroad ditch cleaning and told that from Carbon Hill Road to Washington Street, the project consists only of cleaning the ditch bottom and reshaping. There was also conversation again on the problems with the brick at the water treatment plant building.

As there was no further business brought before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made at 9:10 p.m. by Comm. Hileman seconded by Comm. Rankovich all present in agreement.

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Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk
Village of Gardner