The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Monday, July 9, 2007 in the Village Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Comms. Cox, Serena, Gerrish and Mayor Wise (Comm. Hileman was absent). (*Also in attendance: Barb Bexson/Clerk, Scott Belt/Attorney, Guy Christensen/Engineer)* All then stood for reciting of The Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the June 25, 2007 meeting were tabled.

Accepted were:

Listing of Bills (current) motion Gerrish/second Cox
roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0

AGENDA

Village auditor, Tawyna Mack, Echols, Mack & Associates provided the Council with the Annual Audit Report, showing results of their June audit performed of Village records. She gave a brief summary of specific sections of this report, with references to certain expenses, revenues and status of Village funds. She again reported that the records maintained by the Village Clerk are in good order, consistent with reporting standards and that the Village remains in good financial condition. She did recommend that the Village put more funds into higher interest-bearing accounts to take advantage of those additional monies. This Fiscal Year 2007 Annual Audit Report was then accepted to be placed on permanent file (motion Serena/second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0).

Resident Mike Pokornicky, told he feels that Comm. Cox has problems pertaining to the cleaning up of the Village and to attending seminars. He said Comm. Cox took a stand when running for this position to do good for the people and save money and reminded him that if too much is spent, Gardner could end up with financial problems like another area town. He suggested Comm. Cox should drive around to see what needs to be cleaned up.

2007 Watermain Replacement Project: Guy Christensen reported bids were opened at 11:00 a.m., Friday, July 6 (plans were taken by 9 contractors/5 were returned). The low bidder was Stott Contracting, Morris, IL, with bid of $170,141.00, under the engineer's estimated cost. All pertinent information has been checked and based on their previous work, Guy recommended that this project be awarded to Stott. Council was in agreement (motion Gerrish/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0). It was noted there is a completion date of October 1.

Attorney Belt

Reminded of the Special Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 12 at 6:00 p.m. which immediately follows the public hearing concerning the Industrial TIF District.

Comm. Gerrish

Watertower repair project: Told that test results were received and the paint does in fact contain lead. This means the tower will need to be sandblasted, primed and finished with two (2) coats of paint. The low-bid contractor from over a year ago (Jetco, Ltd.) has agreed to hold the price as bid and intends to begin this job at the end of July and do work in August. Comm. Gerrish told that the tower will be down but the system will be operational. The Council agreed to this project (motion Gerrish/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0).

Told that Mr. & Mrs. Tidyman, owners of Gardner Chronicle Antiques, would like to open soon but there is still no water service. He explained that when the fire department addition was built, the water line was cut and capped; the watermain is across the street from property. Discussion held on how this service can be reconnected to this property. Although it remains to be determined who will pay for this work, Comm. Gerrish wants to get bids to get this done. There was some conversation by Chief Wilkey on this; Comm. Gerrish then told him this conversation would continue later. The Council authorized a maximum of $20,000 for Comm. Gerrish to get this job completed (motion Cox/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 4, nays

0).

Told that the Maintenance Department is having difficulties with the old locator tool not working properly; one price received for a new one was $2700 and he has asked for more prices.

Comm. Serena

2007 Motor Fuel Tax street maintenance project: Reported all paperwork is completed and the project has been authorized by IDOT and notice is to be published. Bids will be received by the Clerk and opened at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, July 24.

Re. prior conversations about blacktopping a dropoff area at the Gardner Commons senior housing, told the cost of asphalt to be approximately $17,000. Spoke with Housing Authority Director Brent Newman who told they can only come up with about one-half of this amount. Comm. Gerrish said that this should be discussed with Comm. Hileman concerning the Village finances.

Comm. Cox

After asking direction on an abandoned house with high grass on N East St., was told my Mayor Wise that a letter should be sent to the owner with a copy of Village ordinance.

Told of trees needing to be cut down on Railroad and Jefferson Sts.; Council agreed bids should be gotten for removal.

Reminded the deadline is July 17 for the seminar previously brought up; Comm. Gerrish relayed his feeling that we get much information from IML and that their annual conference would be more worthwhile.

Held short discussion on the formation of and purposes for a building committee and a beautification committee. Atty. Belt reminded that committees are subject to the same open meeting requirements as Council meetings; that is, agendas must be posted a minimum of 48 hours prior to the meeting and minutes must be taken by the committee and kept/retained by the Village. This is tabled for further discussion and possible acceptance at the next meeting.

Mayor Wise

Announced the resignation of Electrical Inspector Bryan Hennessy effective July 13; the Village will now need to look for a replacement.

Told that last year at this time the Village allowed early packaged liquor sales during the local NASCAR race weekend and the same request is being made this year; this will be placed on the agenda for the July 12 special meeting.

Plumbing inspector Jeff Bexson asked the Council for clarification of the inspector positions. Because of concerns with possible injury during Village inspections and insurance coverage, it is to be researched to determine if they are independent contractors, employees, etc.

As there was no further business brought before the Council, a motion to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. was made by Comm. Serena, seconded by Comm. Cox, with unanimous roll vote.

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Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk
Village of Gardner