The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Monday, August 27, 2007 in the Village Hall Council Chambers with all members present: Comms. Cox, Serena, Hileman, Gerrish and Mayor Wise . (*Also in attendance: Barb Bexson/Clerk, John Bates/Attorney, Guy Christensen/Engineer)* All then stood for reciting of The Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the August 13, 2007 meeting were tabled.

Accepted were:

Financial Report (months of May & June 2007)	motion Hileman/second Gerrish roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0
Listing of Bills (current)	motion Gerrish/second Serena roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0
Annual Contract with TEST for contract operation of water and sewer plants (with 3% increase from previous year)	motion Hileman/second Serena roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0
Transfer of all monies (prox. $700) in the prior beautification committee account to the Gardner Days Fund	motion Hileman/second Gerrish roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0

AGENDA

Resident Tom Perkins (201 S Grundy St), along with a number of others from that neighborhood, told there is a serious problem with dogs at 202 W Wilmington St. He and others explained there are two (2) or three (3) large dogs which appear to be wild, have attacked and bitten people and there is concern for young children in this area. Some told of personal encounters with these dogs and that they had in fact signed complaints. Comm. Hileman told the Village contracts with Grundy County Animal Control and recapped some of their guidelines; he also told that this particular resident has been cited and fined in the past. As some residents reportedly were told that it was the Village's responsibility to have appropriate ordinances in place, the Council agreed that someone should immediately speak with Animal Control to get more details.

Building Committee: Comm. Cox told they met with a plan reviewer and will later have more information. Feels there is a need to check into the status of inspectors (contractors vs. employees, etc.).

Beautification Committee: Comm. Cox reported on some goals set at their last meeting, i.e., repainting fire hydrants, chairing Gardner Days event. Told plans are set for an all-town cleanup September 14 through 17. There will be curbside pickup of unlimited items for two (2) Monday collections by the Village waste hauler and there will be a dumpster and volunteers for collection of other items such as tires, large items, white goods, etc. Flyers are being prepared. Also requested monies for fall decorating in the business district, such as fall flowers, banners, cornstalks (concern was voiced about fire and vandalism with placing cornstalks). Council agreed to fund a maximum of $350 for decorating (motion Hileman/second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Comm. Hileman

Feels the Village should take action at an Odell Street property for removal of a semi-trailer at the side of the house and a mobile home trailer frame at the rear.

Received a request from GGS Supt. Dvorak for the closing of Center Street at North Street from 7:50 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and from 2:50 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. on days school is in session; would like signs posted to make people aware. It was told an ordinance would need passage; Comm. Serena suggested this should be looked into as far as the amount of traffic at these times; Comm. Hileman will speak again with Supt. Dvorak.

Regarding TIF discussions, told the grade school has retained a new attorney and reported he and the high school superintendent have now talked about TIF and fees and will meet again to talk further.

Reported on problems with Well #3 and the repairs that were made at a cost of approximately $28,000.

Reported on recent heavy rains and problems at the sewer plant; extended thanks to Joe Bexson for his help. As rentals were not available, a new pump was purchased, costing $4,200; current pumps will be rebuilt. Someone will be contacted to look into why these problems occurred and how to correct.

Comm. Cox

Told he has noticed some dead trees and asked if anything can be done; council agreed that letters should be sent to property owners.

Asked about sidewalk replacement; Comm. Hileman told there were many different programs over the years but, at this time, those that have been repaired have been done at Village cost.

Comm. Gerrish

Reported that the new water line is in to service 214 Division St., adding that a decision was made to put service to each building, increasing the cost about $1,000. Discussion on the Fire Dept. being responsible for the costs (less the second service line) as they were not given permission to cut that line during their building construction. All agreed billing would be sent to them (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Informed that a pipe locator was purchased at a cost of $2800 and the old one will be looked at to see if it is worth repairing.

Council members conversed on possible right-of-way improvements on Pine St. in front of the senior housing. Mayor Wise reported Brent Newman of the Housing Authority told they have only $8,000 to spend to do the blacktop work. Comm. Hileman feels it is the Housing Authority's right to do this, at their cost; Mayor Wise will again speak with Mr. Newman.

Engineer Guy Christensen

Reported both the water tower and watermain replacement projects started today.

The Motor Fuel Tax street maintenance project contracts are approved by the State; work should start within two (2) weeks.

Railroad ditch spraying was done last week. Told the Village should receive information from Mug-A-Bug soon concerning a new contract.

As there was no further business brought before the Council, a motion to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. was made by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Cox, with unanimous roll vote of those present

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Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk
Village of Gardner