The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Monday, September 10, 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 27, 2007 meeting were tabled.

Accepted were:

Financial Report (months of July & August 2007) — motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0

Listing of Bills (payment of all except Newman Signs) — motion Gerrish/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0

AGENDA

As properly noticed at 7:09 p.m. Council Members entered into executive session related to probable or imminent litigation, allowed pursuant to Section 2(c)(11) of The Open Meetings Act (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0). At 8:15 p.m. regular session was reconvened (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Comm. Gerrish told that office help is needed and both he and the Clerk interviewed Denice Muzzarelli. He then recommended she be hired at an hourly wage of $12.00, a probationary period of three (3) months, work hours to be determined by the Clerk's needs (minimum of 24 and maximum of 36 hours per week) and that she begin work tomorrow. Responding to Comm. Cox, he told no one else was interviewed and because no other Council Member had looked over the resumes, he felt a decision needed to be made. Responding to a question on part-time vs. full-time employment, Atty. Bates felt this is based on a cumulative number of hours and there would be no problems if a part-time employee were to work a full forty (40) hour week on some occasions. Council agreed to this hiring (motion Gerrish/second Hileman; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Comm. Hileman

At the previous meeting there was discussion on the current ordinance on dogs and that Atty. Belt is checking into State Statutes for possible changes and need to amend our ordinance. Comm. Serena noted a section in Village code relating to dangerous animals; Comm. Hileman said that Grundy County Animal Control has been picking up dogs allowed to run at large and issuing citations. Atty. Bates added that with dangerous animal issues, it can be difficult to enforce if no one has witnessed and is willing to testify or sign a complaint. Resident Allison Hansen was present for this discussion and reported all her animals have been removed except the pigeons (50 to 60) and would like to keep these; Atty. Bates will look into this.

Comm. Cox

Brought up discussion again on drop-off parking on Pine St. in front of the senior housing and his feeling something should be done. Comm. Hileman said the Village had waited building permit fees and it was reported that the Housing Authority has $8,000 for this work, thus, he feels something can be done, but not at the expense of the Village.

Comm. Serena

Announced that the Motor Fuel Tax street maintenance project would not begin for about two (2) weeks. Said too that residents in those areas need to be notified so that there is no parking between the street and sidewalks.

Comm. Gerrish

Updated on problems that occurred with the watermain replacement project on North St. He told that the line broke when putting in the new line and there were difficulties with valve

closings. The other replacement areas appear to be doing well.

On the water tower project, reported the tower is down and work is ready to start. Told he has looked as various painting and lettering options and suggestions with some not being feasible because of the size and shape of the tower. Displayed one design he feels would work, showing the word Gardner on two (2) sides with the established date and lines in between; colors would be orange and black.

Mayor Wise

Informed that State Rep. Careen Gordon will be at the Village Hall on Wednesday, September 26 to meet and speak with residents.

Permission was granted to the GSW High School SADA organization to solicit donations during the Village's clean-up weekend from 8:00 a.m. until noon (motion Serena/second Hileman; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

As there was no further business brought before the Council, a motion to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. was made by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Gerrish, with unanimous roll vote of those present

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Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk
Village of Gardner