The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Monday, December 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, Guy Christensen/Engineer)* All then stood for reciting of The Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the November 26, 2007 meeting were tabled.

Accepted were:

Listing(s) of bills (Current)	motion Hileman/second Gerrish roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0
2008 meeting schedules (Village Council and Planning & Zoning Board)	motion Hileman/second Serena roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0

AGENDA

1. Ordinance No. VG07-476 for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2007 and Ending April 30, 2008 for the Village of Gardner. Comm. Hileman explained first that the copy as provided to all members reflects no change from the previous year; this ordinance was then accepted (motion Hileman/second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

2. Ordinance Directing the Execution of a Local Agency Agreement for Jurisdictional Transfer (Gorman Road). Council members reviewed this ordinance and the attached map area. Comm. Hileman explained the purpose of and need for this agreement with Grundy County for a transfer of a portion of Gorman Road, noting that this removes the maintenance burden from the Village but does not represent any loss of funds for the Village. Engineer Guy Christensen added that Motor Fuel Tax monies for the Village are determined by population, not miles. This ordinance (VG07-477) was then accepted (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

3. Pay Estimate #3 to Stott Contracting in the amount of $17,222.65 for the 2007 Watermain Improvement Project. Guy reviewed the completion of this project and the guarantee in place. PE#3 was then accepted for payment (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

4. Pay Estimate #2/Final to Jetco Ltd. in the amount of $4,468.40 for the 2006 WaterTower Exterior Cleaning Project. Guy told that the Clerk had verified the three (3) vehicles with paint damage were restored satisfactorily and reviewed the one-year guarantee letter from the contractor. PE#2/Final was then accepted for payment (motion Hileman/ second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Comm. Hileman

Reported the following CD's have been opened at a 5.01% APY:

General Fund	$ 100,000
W&S Bond Reserve Account	30,000
Water Fund	25,000
Sewer Fund	100,000
CDAP Fund	60,000

Told he has spoken with Brownie Products because of serious grease build-up problems at the Sewer Plant which appear to be coming from that company. He detailed some of the problems occurring which are worse now than when cleaning was previously done in 2006 (by A&E Excavating, approx. $16,000, with assistance of former Public Works Director Joe Bexson). Guy Christensen will also investigate as he feels the Village should have some type regulations on this.

Comm. Serena

Informed that resident Tom Perkins (511 N Elm St.) has asked for improvement of the alley behind his home. Comm. Serena has looked into this and feels there is concern that if this is done, the Village will have to continue to do this for other residents; additionally, he feels that this holds no benefit for the Village and at this time, this will not be considered.

Comm. Gerrish

Asked how decisions are made as to when maintenance personnel go out in bad weather. Comm. Hileman explained that the Grundy County Sheriff's Department calls our people when these conditions occur; he also told that he has advised personnel to use street salt only when needed due to the increased cost.

Comm. Cox

Has received quotes for removal of trees at four (4) locations. Future Tree Svs. submitted the low bid at $1,325.00. This bid was accepted (motion Cox/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Extended thanks to Chamlin & Assoc. for donating elevation work for the gazebo project and to an anonymous donor who is providing the concrete and forming the piers.

Told the spring festival is moving forward and that anyone wishing to be involved would be welcome. Council okayed his request to pull temporary power from the Village Hall for the festival (band, etc.). Brief explanation was given on the memorial brick project.

Discussion regarding the Beautification Committee's ability to purchase and have items paid from donations received. It was explained by Comm. Hileman that expenditure requests need to come before the Council. Comm. Cox mentioned the previous Gardner Days chairperson, who had made purchases without prior approval. To this, Comm. Hileman responded that under the festival, minor items would need to be purchased but contracts and larger expenditures would need Board approval. Comm. Hileman suggested that if direction on this is needed, Comm. Cox should speak directly with Attorney Belt.

Questioned why the Village Clerk does not attend executive sessions as she is the keeper of the records and is to keep record of all minutes according to State Statute. Mayor Wise told him that was why we have a tape recorder and that she has not attended since he has been in office. Comm. Cox then motioned that she attend those sessions; this motion died for lack of second.

Mayor Wise

Reminded of the January 2008 statewide smoking ban; new regulation is that receptacles must be 15' from doors and these are now moved.

Reported a street light outage at Odell & Jackson Streets; Clerk will report to ComEd.

Directed the Clerk to prepare a letter to the owner of the 401 S. Jackson St. property for removal of the semi-trailer. Comm. Hileman added that the Village has an ordinance which also bans cargo containers and has noticed them at the Quonset hut on South St.;he feels a letter should be sent to that property owner also to make him aware of Village ordinance and for removal of the violation.

As properly noticed, at 7:40 p.m., Council Members entered into executive session for the purpose to discuss employment, compensation and performance of specific employees, allowed pursuant to Section 2(c)(a) of The Open Meetings Act (motion Hileman/second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 4, nays 1 [Cox]). At 8:05 p.m. regular session was reconvened (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

It was then approved for annual bonuses of $200 to be given to full-time employees Steve

Baker, Jim Paquette and Barb Bexson; part-time employee Denice Muzzarelli will receive $100 motion Hileman/second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

The Village Hall will be closed on December 24 and all employees are given that day off with pay (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote; ayes 5, nays 0).

Lastly with motion by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Gerrish, Denice Muzzarelli is given a $1.00/hr. salary increase, effective January 1, 2008 (roll rote: ayes 5, nays 0).

As there was no further business brought before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made at 8:10 p.m. by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Gerrish, all in agreement.

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Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk
Village of Gardner