The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Monday, May 12, 2008 in the Village Hall Council Chambers with all members present: Comms. Cox, Serena, Hileman, Gerrish, and Mayor Wise. (*Also in attendance: Barb Bexson/Clerk, Scott Belt/Attorney, Guy Christensen, Engineer.)* All then stood for reciting of The Pledge of Allegiance.

Accepted were:

Minutes of April 28, 2008	motion Hileman/second Serena roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0
Financial Report Month of April 2008	motion Hileman/second Gerrish roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0
Current Listing of Bills (after removal of bill for 'D' Const. for review by Comm. Hileman)	motion Hileman/second Serena roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0
Ratify payment of bills made on April 30 and May 1 (festival)	motion Cox/second Hileman roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0

Concerning the April 28 minutes, it is noted that Comm. Cox told he mis-spoke at the previous meeting and had responded affirmatively that he put fuel into his personal vehicle from the Village tank, whereas the fuel was actually put into his company vehicle.

Agenda

Comm. Serena told that he learned a letter from GSW High School requesting a donation for the 2008 prom lock-in was in fact sent to the Village but apparently was not received. The council then agreed to make a $500.00 donation (motion Hileman/second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0, pass 1 (Serena).

Matt Pasternak relayed his intent for his Eagle Scout project; a 15' concrete pad at the side of the Gardner grade school concession stand, along with a picnic table and possibly a bench so that there is an area for people to eat and relax during sports events. He asked the Village to consider a donation toward materials for this project. Answering council questions, he told he is also looking into other donations and has received offers of assistance. A donation of up to $1,000.00 for the concrete and picnic table materials was agreed to (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Resident Mike Pokornicki provided the council with a copy of his recent FOIA request asking for a copy of the fuel usage log for April 18 showning gas used by Comm. Cox in his vehicle. The council agreed that this would be available to him. Because of continued comments being made, resident Don Phillips raised a point of order, asking the council to continue this discussion to the end of the meeting so that regular Village business could continue; council agreed (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 4, nays o, pass 1 (Cox).

Attorney Belt

Told he has looked into mobile home regulations, gave members a preliminary report and asked if there is interest to proceed. Explained that to prohibit mobile homes is taken to be exclusionary zoning; there could be problems with prohibiting a specific use and there may be an issue with enforcement of existing ordinances. Reviewed current ordinance pertaining to existing mobile homes located in typically single family home areas (R1) which stipulates that these cannot be replaced upon removal. Atty. Belt suggested, as has been done in other municipalities, the council consider creating a zoning category that would allow for mobile homes but only in a mobile home park. Other conversation followed concerning changing code on structural formation, mobile homes versus modular and manufactured homes and the issuance of building permits. Council agreed that he should go forward with ordinance preparation (motion Hileman/second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Comm. Hileman

Asked Comm. Cox for the name of the person he spoke with at the Village of Dwight regarding the shelf life of the phosphorous purchased by the Village; he also told he has received a letter from the chemical company stating that this chemical is good for life as long as it remains sealed.

On confined space training, told he has found a firm to do this training and understands no follow-up

training will be needed; the cost for training both Village employees is $200.00. Council recommended this be done (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Comm. Gerrish

Reported a sink hole recently occurred on N Jackson Street, possibly caused after a watermain leak was repaired. The hole has been fixed; he suggested Comm. Serena may want to look at this area for patching.

Comm. Gerrish (continued)

Told that it is his intent to do watermain replacement at a section of Wilmington St. and in the area at Rt. 53 and Washington Street, which was listed but not done with the 2007 work.

Told he also intends to repair the sewer line problem at FJ Metals and has spoken with Fatlan Trucking who estimates this job to be completed in one (1) day at a cost of approximately $2,000.00. Council agreed to this project (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Comm. Serena

Brought up discussion on unauthorized use of Village fuel. Comm. Cox first explained he had put fifteen (15) gallons of Village fuel into his company truck for the Village clean up, had signed the log book and that Steve Baker was present at the time. Council members agreed there was no intent to steal this fuel and felt this should be considered approved, however, Comm. Cox said he would reimburse the Village for this cost so as to not start any precedent. After more conversation on this subject, it was agreed Atty. Belt should prepare for the next meeting, a policy for Village fuel to be used only in Village owned vehicles/equipment and for mileage reimbursement for use of personal vehicles (motion Serena/second Hileman; roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0, pass 1 (Cox).

Brought up discussion on unauthorized use of Village equipment. Comm. Cox reported he had spoken with the Village's insurance carrier for clarification and was told all council members are covered when equipment is used for Village business; he stated all times he has used equipment, it was for Village business. He voiced concern that recently keys have been removed from vehicles and equipment; Comm. Hileman explained that a number of years ago he was given authority for the day-to-day operations of the maintenance department and, although he is in charge, all other council members can request work to be done. It had been brought to his attention that equipment was missing and that the maintenance personnel did not know where the equipment was; additional concerns were for emergency need for the equipment (i.e., watermain breaks) and because of this, he authorized the removal of keys. Comm. Serena feels, and the council agreed, that there needs to be a policy in place for this also and for Atty. Belt to prepare. There was discussion on pre-approval permission for use of equipment through Mayor Wise and Steve Baker, a sign-out log sheet, keeping the maintenance garage locked and that equipment should not be used on private properties.

2008 street maintenance project: Guy Christensen told the contract is ready to be executed by the Mayor and Clerk.

Requested that the Clerk fax to the Gardner Fire Department, the area map showing the closing of Grundy St. between Odell and Dwight Sts. on May 16 to 18 for a GGS graduation block party.

Updated on a salt storage building by providing council members with information; other members shared their feelings on possible options for this building. Guy offered to check into information he may have for all to look over.

Told of a call he received from a Jefferson St. resident on a sidewalk problem; Comm. Serena found it to be in very poor condition, then asked about any sidewalk replacement program. Comm. Hileman responded that the intent was to have good sidewalk on one side of every street and suggested the concrete be removed. Comm. Serena will measure out the area in question and speak further with Guy.

Comm. Cox

Told that Huston Hardware has made a donation of the cost of supplies purchased for the festival; told that committee members have logged over 1,000 hours and community service help has been provided from our State's Attorney's office.

Told the report from the Village insurance carrier on the condition of and recommendation for park equipment has not yet been received; Comm. Gerrish remarked that if any equipment is determined to

be unsafe, it should either be roped off or removed.

Referencing the generator for the S. Jackson St. lift station, said the previous council approved the generator purchase but as there are other bills needing to be paid on this, requested pricing for the total project. Comm. Hileman explained the gas company has not yet given approval and all costs are not known at this time but the job is projected to be around $30,000, to be paid from the Sewer Fund. Guy told he spoke with Nicor to request notification when they will do their work and went over size, location and cost of the concrete pad. Guy told he will get with Comm. Gerrish to go over the exact location as this needs to be marked out this week, adding that it must be close to the right of way.

Presented his personal check to the Clerk in the amount of $3,694.00, representing his net annual salary as commissioner; these monies are to be deposited to offset the cost of the gazebo construction.

Mayor Wise

Read letter and proclamation received from Danner-Madsen American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 663; then proclaimed Friday, May 23, 2008 as Poppy Day in the Village of Gardner and urged residents, if possible, to support this fundraiser to assist disabled veterans.

Read letter from GSW High School requesting approval for the GSW cheerleaders to hold a supervised fund raising tag day on May 17. Council approval was granted (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Under public comment, the council was asked for the number of Village employees, the reason a retired Village employee (Joe Bexson) was operating Village equipment and concern for insurance coverage. Comm. Hileman replied that Joe has been helpful to the Village and its employees at no cost, with locates, watermain repairs, etc. since his retirement about ten (10) years ago; it was added that Joe is a very good equipment operator and that Village employees are learning under him

It was agreed that Village maintenance employees will take old tires collected during clean up to the Grundy County Highway Department for disposal. It was also agreed that bricks taken from the scout cabin and stored at the sewer plant should be disposed of.

Pictures were given to Comm. Serena by resident Randy Wilkey with his request that the two (2) properties be added to the list for alley work.

As there was no further business brought before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made at 9:05 p.m. by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Serena, all in agreement.

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Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk
Village of Gardner