The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Monday, June 9, 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, John Bates/Attorney)* All then stood for reciting of The Pledge of Allegiance.

Accepted were:

Minutes of May 12, 2008	motion Hileman/second Gerrish roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0
Financial Report Month of May 2008	motion Hileman/second Serena roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0
Current Listing of Bills	motion Hileman/second Serena roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0
Ratify prior payment of bills	motion Hileman/second Cox roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0
Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (VG08-004)	motion Hileman/second Gerrish roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0

Agenda

Joe Spiezio, representing the United Lutheran Church related that a building permit has been submitted for a church addition and requested the council consider waiving all building permit fees. Council agreed with the stipulation that all appropriate inspections be made (motion Serena/second Hileman; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Resident Tom Perkins (511 N Elm St.) asked if any decision had been made on his request for alley improvements behind his home. Comm. Serena informed him that at the next meeting he will request formation of a committee to look at needs for repairs/improvements to alleys and streets and assured him that his request is on that list for review.

Concerning ordinance codification, Comm. Hileman verified that all members had received their copy of the first draft. As the zoning code section has not yet been picked-up for review by the Planning & Zoning Board, he asked the Clerk to verify the members with Mayor Wise and to call each individually. It was learned that the building code draft is expected within two (2) weeks. Atty. Bates added that Atty. Belt is reviewing this draft and feels there may be a need to request an extension for submittal due to inconsistencies that have been found.

Because of the absence of Attorney Belt, executive session was cancelled.

Attorney Bates

As previously discussed and requested, presented a draft of the mileage reimbursement policy, asking if this meets council wishes. With council agreement to this policy, Ordinance Approving and Adopting the Village of Gardner Mileage Reimbursement Policy (VG08-005) was approved (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 4, nays 1 (Cox).

Updated that the policy pertaining to the use of Village equipment was not yet complete and would be presented at the next meeting.

Comm. Hileman

Told he has received information from the Grundy County Clerk that 2007 payable in 2008 TIF revenues are expected to be received as follows:

Gardner Grade School	$ 437,366.48
Gardner So Wilmington High School	$ 413,076.93
Gardner Fire District	$ 99,213.25
Village of Gardner	$ 116,858.71

Told there have been repeated problems with the fax machine; the Clerk requested information and quotes from the current vendor (McGrath Office Supply) and provided information on the purchase of a new fax or an alternative choice of an add-on to the existing leased copy machine to allow for

faxing, printing and scanning directly from that machine. He asked for discussion/decision on this at the next meeting.

Reminded that there was discussion on a new telephone system for the Village and that information had been provided to all members. As there are increasing problems with the current phones, asked for discussion/decision on this also at the next meeting.

After Comm. Cox's question on a letter recently received from the Fire District's attorney, Comm. Hileman explained monies had been withheld and this would be discussed further at a later date.

Comm. Gerrish

Told that the sewer line problem at FJ Metals has been repaired; Responding to Comm. Serena's question, told that a cap was found in this line and that the Village would be paying for these repairs.

On the concrete pad for the So. Jackson St. generator, told that he has talked with Blake Marketti and that he and Blake will work together to get this completed; council agreed.

Comm. Serena

Told he has been in contact with 'D' Construction concerning the street maintenance project but does not yet have a start date for the job.

Concerning the sidewalk problem on Jefferson St., updated that there is a sidewalk on one side of the street in this area and asked if the council wanted the one in question to be replaced or removed and seeded. He told that it is his opinion that at the very least, it should be removed due to it's poor and unsafe condition. After more conversation on these options, Comm. Serena agreed to speak further with the resident.

Comm. Cox

Referencing letter received from IML Risk Management (May 19) reporting on their April inspection of Village parks, asked what the council feels should be done. Council went over the various items listed needing either repair or removal. It was decided that maintenance personnel can do much of this work. Concerning the surface material, it was suggested that Comm. Cox obtain amounts and pricing for this and for any equipment to be replaced.

On the Village's weed ordinance (gave copies to all members), pointed to the section on abatement of the nuisance stating the use of a private contractor or Village personnel for this. Comm. Hileman reminded of changes to laws that now prohibit this abatement on private properties. Atty. Bates inserted that in the past, after proper notification, violation citations have been issued and the Village has gotten a court order to remove/abate and feels this remains the best way to proceed.

Told of a tree in front of 114 N. Center St., and recalled that last year a large branch had broken and the Village acted to have trimming done. He told that now another branch came down and asked what procedure should be followed when this occurs during a storm, pointing out another large branch that had fallen on a vehicle at Main and Jackson Sts. Comm. Hileman answered that during emergency situations he should react and if he feels this tree should be removed, he should make arrangements. Atty. Bates stated that for the Village to do work on these trees, they must be on Village , not private property. Conversation followed on many tree branches that are hanging over onto Village right-of-ways that need trimming and it was agreed that trimming of these overhanging branches can be done. Comm. Hileman stressed that this could be a very costly project and suggested work should be prioritized.

Mayor Wise

Told that local union representatives will be soliciting donations for D.A.D.S. (Dollars Against Diabetes) on Saturday, June 14; council agreed (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Read a letter from the GSW Prom Lock-In Committee thanking the Village for its generous donation.

Told that the Village of Braceville has requested to borrow picnic tables and barricades for its upcoming event (June 13, 14 and 15). Council agreed to this request, stipulating that these should be picked-up and returned by the Village of Braceville (motion Serena/second Hileman; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Street light outages were reported at Washington & Cedar Sts. and on Division St. in front of the Fire Station.

Resident Linda Tyler voiced concern that the sirens were not activated over this past weekend with the bad storms and tornado warnings. Council and public conversation followed; Comm. Serena said that because we do not know when and under what conditions these sirens are activated and why they were not sounded over this weekend, this needs to be investigated and clarified.

As there was no further business brought before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made at 7:55 p.m. by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Serena, all in agreement.

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Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk
Village of Gardner