The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order by Mayor Tom Wise at 7:00 p.m. Monday, August 25, 2008 in the Village Hall Council Chambers. Members present: Gary Cox, Mike Serena, Dick Hileman, Bill Gerrish. (*Also present: Scott Belt/Attorney, Guy Christensen/Engineer).* All then stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Accepted were:

After Comm. Gerrish noted that fee increases from $800 to $1600 each for both water and sewer connections for commercial and industrial users were not shown under his suggestions for changes to the public services (water/sewer) ordinance, August 11, 2008 minutes were accepted as amended (motion Hileman/second Cox; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Current listing of bills motion Hileman/second Gerrish
roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0

Attorney Belt

On the Main Street jurisdiction issue, called attention to his August 13 letter to all members pertaining to a different agreement signed by then Mayor Gerald VonQualen at the time repairs were being made to the Rt. 53 bridge. Told that more information on this is being researched. Comm. Hileman first reminded that it appears no action on this had been taken on this in 1972 and then asked if no action on this was taken by the board in 1998, does a Mayor have authority to do this. Atty. Belt told this is similar and will be discussed further after research is complete.

On mobile home regulations, reported that a draft was also provided to Guy Christensen who has now given input; a revision will be made and resubmitted to all members. He suggested going forward with this but doing so at the time a public hearing is held with the codification.

Regarding the Reeves Funeral Home damage claim, informed he has been contacted by the adjustor, all information is in and the claim is being processed for resolution. After Comm. Serena brought up the pictures taken of this incident and recalled that the box of the Village truck was not up, short discussion followed on this and on the occupancy permit for this business. Atty. Belt will follow-up with the insurance company regarding this truck box information.

Told there has been a series of requests over the last few weeks involving Brownie Products and much work has been and is being done to get all questions answered. Larry Goode of Chamlin's Peru office) is still exploring the question of sewer permits. Larry recommends that the Village should look at its ordinance as to how sewer permits are actually issued and has suggestions on specific information needed as there are products which could cause problems with the system with then the need for mandatory pretreatment. Comm. Hileman reminded of water discharge concerns with a film recycling business once operating in the former Indicator Lites building; as it appears Brownie Products is for sale, he suggested a letter should be sent to them. Atty. Belt told nothing has been stated to him that anything will change at this business.

Also on the Brownie Products property, Atty. Belt reported that there are inconsistencies on the roadway, differences with the Village zoning map versus the Sidwell Map and a PIN number signed out for certain parts of the roadway. Further research is needed on this. Told that he, Larry Goode and Brownie's attorney have held a conference call and that Larry will be requesting additional information.

Comm. Hileman

Reported that Steve Baker will begin school on Wednesday to obtain his water license. When Steve mentioned that in the past the Village truck had been used, he told he would bring this before the board but that the new policy ordinance is for reimbursement for mileage for use of personal vehicles. After discussion on this schooling being Village business, it was decided that the ordinance should be reviewed and that Steve should drive his personal vehicle for mileage reimbursement until the council meets to speak further on this matter.

Told that a bill had been received and paid for the column stone at the gazebo; for records to be accurate, he feels the invoice received should have been for the actual cost of the stone with the $3,000 donation shown as a deduction of the amount due.

Comm. Gerrish

On watermain replacement on Washington Street, not done under the prior project, told he has spoken with Guy. Reported the price has increased with some of the costs being very high. Guy is to

speak with Stott, the contractor on this. Comm. Gerrish feels this project portion should be abandoned; Guy added that the scope of the original project can be changed 25%, up or down and that doing so would be acceptable under the contract. Comm. Cox questioned material already on hand and was told there is approximately 60' of 10" pipe which can be stored and used in other areas.

Told he will complete the changes to the public services (water/sewer) ordinance and provide these to everyone before the next meeting for further discussion and possible action. Talked over making these changes now rather than holding for the codification of the complete Municipal Code to be approved.

Comm. Serena

Reported he is looking at prices for a box scraper for the Village tractor for the maintenance of alleys rather than an outside contractor being hired to do this work; provided basic information for review. Explained that the width of this scraper is limited to the maximum width of our tractor which is 5 ′. After stating he feels this would be a cost savings to the Village in the long run, this purchase, not to exceed $1500.00 was approved (motion Hileman/second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

Comm. Cox

Asked if any information was received concerning the possible pool hall opening at the Track Liquor location (134 Depot St.); was told by Mayor Wise that he has asked the zoning officer/building inspector (Dean Rankovich) to look into this.

Began discussion on the possible creation of a business license in the Village. Atty. Belt relayed information on regulations in some other municipalities and told the intended purpose basically is to find out who is here and what they are doing. He mentioned that these are generally annual licenses, fees are relatively inexpensive and that background checks are done on the owner/resident manager. After Comm. Serena's comment that this may be good, Comm. Cox added that this is also a life safety issue. Comm. Hileman voiced that he has no problem with the license but has issues with getting into life safety with the need for exit signs, etc. which can be costly for businesses. Comm. Cox noted concerns, and there was conversation, on old buildings which have not been brought up to code after many changes in operation over the years. There was again discussion on changes in the use of buildings and the lack of final inspections prior to occupancy. Recommendations from the code committee was brought up; Comm. Hileman told he feels the committee should meet to bring these changes to the board and these can be done at codification.

Guy Christensen

Told he has spoken with 'D' Construction and they will be adjusting the catch basin previously reported.

Told he spoke with Mug-A-Bug on their railroad ditch maintenance contract. They reported that their contract was for brush removal and that spraying for such as cattails would take a different type spraying and could not be done until the end of the year.

Mayor Wise

Extended thanks to Village maintenance employees for the mosquito fogging; feels they have done a good job.

Discussed the area at Jackson and Main Streets and the need for mowing, along with the possible need for reseeding next spring.

Public comments were made relating to the need for building permits, inspections, licensing of businesses and contractors and safety issues.

As there was no further business brought before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made at 8:22 p.m. by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Gerrish, all in agreement.

_____

Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk
Village of Gardner