The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order by Mayor Tom Wise at 7:00 p.m. Monday, February 23, 2009 in the Village Hall Council Chambers. Commissioners present: Gary Cox, Mike Serena (arrived at 7:07 p.m.), Dick Hileman, Bill Gerrish. (Also present: John Bates, Atty., Guy Christensen, Eng.). All then stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Accepted were:

Minutes — motion Hileman/second Gerrish
January 26, 2009 (tabled) — roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0, absent 1 (Serena)

February 9, 2009 — motion Hileman/second Cox
roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0, absent 1 (Serena)

Current listing of bills as amended — motion Hileman/second Gerrish
(at request of Comm. Cox, Chamlin Inv. #2009242 was removed from payments to be made for his review) — roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0, absent 1 (Serena)

Depot St. parking lot closing May 1, 2 & 3 for Rt.66 Red Carpet Corridor event & June 13 to close portion of this lot for Rt.66 passport tour stopping at gazebo — motion Hileman/second Serena
roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0

Agenda

Village Plumbing Inspector Jeff Bexson spoke on the backflow prevention program. Told he spoke with a company who does this type work (they would need a list of commercial buildings and would provide manpower who would determine those who need backflow preventers). * *Comm. Serena arrived at 7:06 p.m. and took his seat with the Council* * Discussion followed on information received, the need to do this and letters being sent from the Village. Comm. Hileman suggested this should begin within the next thirty (30) days with letters, including the requirements, sent out. Jeff offered his assistance with this project, qualifying he cannot do the installations.

Resident Tom Perkins first introduced John Weiss of the Rt. 66 Association, then spoke of the following:

1. Streetcar – told this currently belongs to Bob and Peg Craft, owners of The Riviera Restaurant. An auction sale is intended for this spring and, at that time, if the streetcar is not sold, it then belongs to the Rt. 66 Assoc. It would then need to be moved and suggested it be relocated near the old jail. Tom related the streetcar (9' x 30') is in bad shape and much care is needed to move it. There would be no cost for this move as Fatlan Trucking has agreed to assist. He asked that the Village pay for the concrete for the slab/foundation (he has arranged for the finishing at no cost) and noted at some time, there would be costs involved for a sidewalk and fencing.

2. Jail – John Weiss and Tom presented basic information for a message computer which would give visitors information on the jail and point them to other areas, such as restaurants, gas stations, etc. The recommended tape is three (3) minutes; and John would script. The cost is about $400 with Rt. 66 agreeing to fund one-half. Tom told, with Village approval, they would like to install the main box in the maintenance garage and the speaker in the jail window which would then not necessitate running electricity to the jail itself. Council agreed with this request (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll votes: ayes 5, nays 0).

3. Lastly Tom brought up his prior request for alley improvement behind his home on N. Elm St. and asked for current status. Comm. Serena told this is a unique alley, explained some of those problems and said he does not see this being done. Comm. Serena agreed to visit with Tom, walk thru this area and talk over.

Resident Randy Wilkey was listed on the agenda (zoning issues) but was not present.

Comm. Hileman

Updated that he has spoken with TIF Atty. Tom Jacob concerning a rebate to residents on their real estate tax bills; as Atty. Jacob is researching legislation, this is again tabled. On the property tax rebate, Comm. Serena said he understands concerns on this with differing amounts for those living in and out of TIF. After he brought up a possible water bill rebate, Comm. Hileman reported he is also

checking into this. Lastly, Comm. Serena suggested looking into a way to assist businesses also.

On the economic stimulus package that was recently passed in Washington D.C., told he has been working with Guy Christensen on project and cost estimates and has submitted on behalf of the Village, $2.5 million for water/sewer projects ($1.5 million for water service to be run across Interstate 55 and the remainder for other Village areas), $500,000 for storm sewers and $400,000 for streets. Although the Village may get none of these funds, the request is made. He reminded Gardner is the only municipality remaining in Grundy County with an undeveloped interstate exchange

Comm. Hileman (continued)

Informed a CD in the Sewer Fund had matured and was renewed for six (6) months at 2.25%.

Told the senior citizen historical scrapbook was delivered for display in the cabinet; requested that a copy of the Council minutes stating the Village would do this but that the book remains the property of the senior citizens group, be placed in the scrapbook (the Clerk told this has already been done).

Comm. Gerrish

2008 Washington Street Watermain Project is near completion. Informed that due to the easement agreement with Mr./Mrs. Tom Valone (owners of the former Indicator Lites factory property), it is necessary to connect the water line to this building, not part of the original bid. Fatlan Trucking has given the lowest price for this work (approximately $4,000) and requested acceptance of this project add-on. Council agreed (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0).

2009 Wilmington Street Watermain Improvement Project – plans and estimate are completed and the EPA permit application is submitted. Council agreed to bid this project (motion Hileman/second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 5, nays 0). Guy intends to set the bid opening for one (1) month from this date.

Comm. Cox

Told that spring clean-up is set for April 18

Reported that March 1 is the cut-off date for bricks to be ordered for this year and that in the future this will be done annually with this same cut-off date.

Initiated discussion on the codification process. Reported first that the Village is a member of the International Code Council. Gave Atty. Bates State Statute information, furnished to him by a resident, on abandoned and antique vehicles. (Comm. Hileman told that some of the Village's current ordinance is to be removed under codification.) Informed the Village in fact had a fire inspector in 1992 (Gene Jensen). Reviewed the definition of the word "shall" with the attorney. Noted the Village's liquor license ordinance states bartenders are to be at least 21 years of age and feels there are violations of this ordinance. Noted that the salaries for inspectors are not listed.

Guy Christensen

Gave Pay Estimate #1 for the 2008 Washington Street Watermain Extension North project (L.A. Sites) to the Clerk to include with payments at the next meeting.

As there was no further business brought before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made at 8:07 p.m. by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Serena, all present in agreement.

_____

Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk
Village of Gardner