The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order by Mayor Tom Wise at 7:00 p.m. Monday, June 22, 2009 in the Village Hall Council Chambers. Commissioners present: Gary Cox, Mike Serena, Dick Hileman (Bill Gerrish was absent). (Also present: John Bates, Atty ., Guy Christensen, Engineer). All then stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Accepted were:

Minutes June 09, 2009	motion Hileman/second Serena roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0
Financial Report Month of May 2009	motion Hileman/second Cox roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0
Payment of bills Current	motion Serena/second Hileman roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0
Ratify (06.19)	motion Serena/second Hileman roll vote: ayes 3, nays 1 (Cox)

Prior to the roll vote to ratify payments made on June 19, Comm. Cox questioned why the check to the Beautification Committee was cut. Comm. Hileman explained this was the amount he said would be released and, after the audit, the final amount will be issued.

Agenda

Pat Malinowski of the Beautification Committee asked to speak to set the record straight on some issues from the June 8 meeting. First, it was reported that the Dj was paid in cash last year but in reality a check had been cut directly to the Dj. This year the Dj was paid in cash as they were told at a board meeting they simply needed a receipt for any monies spent; they did present a bill from the Dj showing it was paid by someone else and to reimburse that person. The committee felt this should suffice. She told the committee has voted and the Lions Club has agreed to accept their membership; they will continue projects and fund-raising under the Lions Club Service Committee. Lastly Pat returned the check issued to the committee and asked that, once funds are verified, a check be re-issued to the Gardner Lions Club.

Attorney Bates

Brought up previous meeting discussion on executive session approval of minutes and reported his opinion to review those a minimum of two (2) times per year. Comm. Cox clarified his question was not about review and release to the public but about reviewing to okay the accuracy of the minutes. Atty. Bates explained regular meeting minutes are reviewed at the next meeting and within seven (7) days after approval are to be released to the public. On executive session minutes, there is no direction in the State Statutes other than the bi-annual review and with Comm. Cox's concern as to the difficultly determining accuracy after such a lengthy time, he told this could be done more frequently. After learning that these minutes are given to the Clerk, Comm. Cox. remarked he felt these are privileged for only those in the executive session.

Comm. Hileman

Reminded at the previous meeting he had talked about contractor licensing but wishes to hear what other members feel. He again stated he is against this for reasons such as: (1) a tenant painting a room for a free month's rent or, (2) young people mowing lawns for senior citizens or, (3) an emergency replacement of a furnace. Comm. Cox declared this would not happen under this ordinance nor would anyone be stopped in an emergency situation, adding this is to protect not hurt residents. Comm. Serena's opinion was that the Village needs some manner of control, there is a need for accountability and it should be set-up for a small town like Gardner. It was agreed this should be placed on the next agenda to discuss/decide whether to keep, amend or repeal this ordinance.

Comm. Serena

Told he has received a quote of $4,500 for sidewalk repair work on Jefferson Street from a local contractor. Although he feels this is a good price for this project, he looks to save money and will

speak with the maintenance employees as he believes they can do this work. There is no decision at this time but will be discussed further at the next meeting after Comm. Serena meets with employees.

Comm. Serena (continued)

Showed pictures of a building referred to as a hoop building for storage of salt; explained the one displayed is 30'x48', about four(4) years old and priced approximately $15,000. After short conversation on details of this type building, Comm. Cox suggested quotes be obtained as there will be an expense for repair of the current building if the salt remains inside it. Comm. Serena will get additional details, informing too that this price is for the building only and there would be some additional expense.

Comm. Cox

Questioned if Planning & Zoning Board vacancies have been addressed and terms set; Mayor Wise responded he has spoken with a few people about vacancies but nothing has yet been done on member terms.

Brought up the need for name tags (photo Ids) for Village employees and inspectors; Mayor Wise will look into this and report back.

To clarify the record on a statement made at last meeting that the Council was unaware of the Rt. 66 passport stop at the gazebo, pointed to minutes of two (2) prior meetings at which he had, in fact, mentioned this event.

As the Beautification Committee no longer functions under the Village, requested permission for the committee to continue using the gazebo area for various events; he mentioned some possible events scheduled for this summer, the Red Carpet Corridor event held each May (which may be moved to June), the annual Christmas tree lighting and a ceremony for newly installed memory bricks. Also requested that the committee remain in charge of the gazebo area as far as maintenance, cutting grass/shrubs, etc. He will also be checking into products and sources for a protective sealer to be applied to the bricks/stones.

Reminded he asked last meeting for help with grass and abandoned vehicle offenses. Comm. Hileman again said he will help and asked Comm. Cox to get with him to let him know what he would like done. Comm. Cox responded that basically these need enforcement, mentioning much time is needed to drive around to get VIN numbers. Comm. Hileman asked if he should get a list and place in Comm. Cox's mailbox at the Village for his review and for him to get back if it is a go; Comm. Cox agreed this should begin.

Next Comm. Cox brought up complaints received about numerous ground hogs at the abandoned house on S. Railroad St. Comments followed that wild animals do not fall under the services provided by Animal Control, that the Village needs to follow the appropriate notice procedure, whether handling this type problem is Village responsibility and the problems the Village has had in the past attempting to locate this property owner.

Asked if employee review should have been done in May? Comm. Hileman said typically reviews are done in February but at times have been put off as late as September with the increases then made to be effective with the first payroll in the fiscal year (May 1); he then requested that executive session be placed on the next agenda for this purpose.

Engineer Guy Christensen

Discussed and updated both the Wilmington St. Watermain Improvement project and the So. Jackson Street Improvement projects.

Was informed by Mayor Wise that Mug-a-Bug had been in the Village this date spraying the railroad ditch. After Comm. Cox again inquired about the cattail problem in the ditches, Guy responded that a letter had been sent to the Village on this; Comm. Cox will be provided with a copy of this letter.

Representing the Gardner Lions Club, Sandy Sowers asked that the community needs assessment survey be filled out by each Council Member and returned to the Club.

Mayor Wise

Told he was approached by Tom Perkins on Rt. 66 signs that are being damaged. Tom

Perkins informed that some have been damaged or removed including one at the old jail. He estimates replacement signs to be between $24 and $30 per sign. Comm. Hileman will check with another vendor for his pricing. Council agreed for these signs to be replaced.

Tom Perkins also reported that he along with some members of newly created committee of the Gardner Lions Club will be working this week to install the jail recorder.

Listed on the agenda but not present at that portion of the meeting, resident Randy Wilkey now relayed his opinions on several building code and permit issues talked over at the last meeting and on his opposition to the Village's consideration to abate taxes.

As there was no further business brought before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made at 7:58 p.m. by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Serena, all in agreement.

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Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk
Village of Gardner