The regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board was called to order by Mayor Tom Wise at 7:00 p.m. Monday, December 14, 2009, in the Village Hall Council Chambers. Commissioners present were: Mike Serena, Dick Hileman, Bill Gerrish (Gary Cox was absent). (Also present: Atty. Scott Belt, Eng. Guy Christensen). All then stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Accepted were:

Minutes November 9, 2009 (tabled)	motion Hileman/second Serena roll vote: ayes 3, nays 0, pass 1 (Gerrish)
Minutes November 23, 2009	motion Hileman/second Gerrish roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0
Financial Report Month of November 2009	motion Hileman/second Serena roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0
Payment of bills	motion Gerrish/second Serena roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0
2010 Village Board and Planning & Zoning Board Meeting Schedules (agenda item)	motion Hileman/second Serena roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0
Ord. VG09-010 (Tax Abatement) (agenda item)	motion Hileman/second Gerrish roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0

Agenda

Eric Conger, to discuss property zoning at SW corner of Main St. & Rt. 129, was not present.

Discussion began again on the Nielsen Grain property. The September 13, 2008 letter set one (1) year to make improvements; these have not been done other than removal of an antenna. Responding to the question of what can be done, he first reminded of past discussions on their possibly dedicating this property to the Village, then explained the process of demolition action (possibly costly to the Village), condemnation proceedings (with the Village getting title) and serving them with a nuisance complaint (the easiest for the Village and the property would be cleaned up under court order). When asked if it would be better for the Village to wait on this action until the new code is in place, Atty. Belt said he would speak with Rich Piccolo (BF Technical Code) on this.

Comm. Hileman opened discussion on the Industrial TIF intergovernmental agreements and told there were discussions with all three (3) of the taxing bodies (Gardner Grade School, GSW High School and Gardner Fire Protection District). There is no agreement as yet with GSW High School or Gardner Fire Protection District, however, tonight he has an agreement with Gardner Grade School who are also meeting tonight on this. He first explained the terms and percentages for the first three (3) reimbursement periods, noting that the fourth (4th) period is for the remaining life of the Industrial TIF, during which the Village will pay the School 18% of the TIF's gross annual increment. Council Members first approved and authorized execution of the intergovernmental agreement (VG09-013) (motion Hileman/second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0). Council Members next accepted Gardner Industrial TIF District Intergovernmental Agreement By and Between the Village of Gardner and Gardner Community Consolidated School District 72C (VG09-014) (motion Hileman/second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0).

In regard to the intergovernmental agreement with Rub Ford, Comm. Hileman summarized the original agreement which Ray Rub has requested the Council consider changing. He then detailed changes that would be made under the amendment as presented, pointing to one change that would modify the base year and that beginning in 2010, Rub Ford would receive 50% of the incremental increase in sales tax, exceeding those of 2004. In closing, he reminded that Rub Ford is the largest taxpayer in the Village. Council Members agreed and accepted Gardner TIF District I Second Amendment to Redevelopment Agreement By and Between the Village of Gardner and Rub Ford, Inc. (VG09-016) (motion Hileman/ second Serena; roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0).

Unfinished Business

None

Atty. Belt

On the Coleman property on Railroad St, updated that he understands a complaint has been served.

Pertaining to codification, told he has provided all Members with a memo containing his thoughts and suggestions. Council Members agreed that a special meeting be held to review this information. This meeting is set for Monday, January 4, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. He reminded also that a public hearing will be need prior to passing this new code.

Atty. Belt (continued)

Told there are numerous changes to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) which become effective January 1, 2010 and that it will first be necessary to appoint a FOIA officer who will undergo training and ongoing education. Short discussion followed on this newly amended act and Council agreed the appointment of a FOIA Officer should be added to the January 4 special meeting agenda.

Comm. Hileman

Suggested and Council agreed to the cancellation of the December 28, 2009 regular meeting (motion Hileman/second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 3, nays 1 [Serena]).

After reviewing cable and scrap iron sale revenues, proposed bonuses of $100 to each full-time employee and $50 to the part-time employee. Council agreed (motion Hileman/second Serena; roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0).

Although Christmas Eve is not a Village-paid holiday, proposed that Village employees be paid for eight (8) hours this date but be allowed to only work four (4) hours, with the stipulation that they be available to work should an emergency arise and that those four (4) hours would then be taken on another day. Council agreed (motion Hileman/second Gerrish; roll vote: ayes 4, nays 0).

Reported that a transfer from the General Fund of $13,614.08 was made to the Water Fund and $10,148.62 to the Sewer Fund as agreed, to reimburse those Funds for the abatement of those charges to all customers for the usage period October 21, 2009 through November 20, 2009.

Comm. Gerrish

Informed he will be looking into costs for rebuilding the pump at the Sewer Plant.

Comm. Serena

Again said he still feels that flashing lights should be installed atop the stop signs on So. Jackson Street; Comm. Hileman agreed to look into getting this project done.

Reported that the salt storage building at the Sewer Plant is completed. Extended his thanks to all the volunteers who helped with this work and to Fatlan Trucking, 'D' Construction, Coal City Redi-Mix and Grant Bros. Construction.

Comm. Cox

Absent

Eng. Christensen

No report

Mayor Wise

Told a note was received from the Senior Citizens, thanking the Village for its donation for their Christmas dinner.

Public Comment

Randy Wilkey thanked the Council for the free water/sewer bill, then stated that both he and the Gardner Fire Department would like to fully pay their bill. Conversation followed to deny this request based on the Village's decision to waive these fees for all customers.

As there was no further business brought before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made a7:45 p.m. by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Serena, all present in agreement.

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Barbara S. Bexson, Clerk
Village of Gardner