June 27, 2011

Monday, June 27, 2011 at 7:00 p.m., Mayor Tom Wise called to order the regular meeting of the Gardner Village Board in the Village Hall Council Chambers. Roll call-Commissioners Mike Serena, Dick Hileman, Jim Hibler, Gary Riley and Mayor Wise. Also in attendance were Guy Christensen and Bob Schmude with Chamlin & Associates.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of June 13, 2011 were presented. Hibler moved to approve the minutes as written, second by Riley. Roll call-Ayes: Serena, Riley, Hibler, Hileman and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The current bills for June 27 were presented. Serena moved to approve the payment of the bills, second by Hibler. Roll call-Ayes: Serena, Hileman, Hibler, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Agenda – Tawnya Mack presented and detailed the annual Village audit which was conducted by Mack & Assoc. Tawnya presented the council members with a copy of the annual financial report and summarized the activity in individual funds comparing them to the previous year. She presented a letter listing opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency which included the need to move funds to both IMRF and the Garbage Fund, this is due to the tax abatement. Comm. Hileman explained that this has already been done. In closing Tawnya reported that the Village is in good financial condition.

Attorney Belt was absent.

Comm. Hileman had Clerk Pasternak read a letter from Vino's Bar & Grill requesting the Depot St. parking lot and Depot Street be closed on Sat. August 27, from Noon to 6pm. They will be having their 2nd annual We Care Cruise Car Show, which will benefit We Care of Grundy County and the two local food pantries in Gardner. Hileman made motion that the parking lot be closed on Sat. August 27, 2011, second by Hibler. Roll call-ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Hileman reported that the Village needed to watch the amount of money spent especially in Industrial TIF, he also reported that it appears that things are not going to be as easy as everyone hoped regarding Subway. There are quite a few issues that Attorney Belt is looking into. Subway has questioned the price of the water/ sewer extension, it was explained to them that it will go out for bid and the contractor with the lowest bid will be used. Comm. Hileman also reported that in regard to Dollar General, Guy Christensen has spoken with Craig Cassem and a letter will be coming regarding boring the street. However, the tree trim service yard needs to be cleaned up, a lot of places need to be cleaned up, Comm. Hileman listed some properties as examples.

Comm. Hibler reported that he had received a call from the grade school and they are looking at installing a water faucet near the garage. The school was wondering if there would be any tap on fees, it was explained that if tapping on directly on their property no, but if tapping on directly to the Village then yes. The school also asked for a reduction in the water bill for this location as it would only be used for watering the garden and no sewer would be used. Discussion followed regarding billing for all residents.

Comm. Serena made motion that as there was no damage to either Lutz or Howland roads after ComEd completed the tower work we release the bond except for $5,317 in professional fees second by Hileman. Roll call-ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Serena also reported that Grundy County will now be included in the February snow storm relief. He had a meeting with FEMA and of our $3,124.50 expenses FEMA will reimburse the Village 75% and the County will reimburse 15%.

Comm. Riley reported that he met with the Beautification Committee and they discussed several ways to fix up the park behind the bank, they are also looking for volunteers to help put up flags on Sunday July 3, 2011. Comm. Riley also reported that an easier solution to abandoned vehicles was explained to Clerk Pasternak by Sheriff Marketti, and that we would be following that from now on. He also explained that letters for grass and abandoned vehicles had been going out and more were going out this week.

Guy Christensen had no report.

Clerk Pasternak had no report.

Mayor Wise asked if there were any lights out in town, Don Phillips reported some, said that he would call Village Hall with actual locations.

Don Phillips informed the board that he was asked to play music for the car show on August 27, he will be donating his time and asked if it was ok with the board if he set up at the gazebo. The board said this was fine.

Mayor Wise said he would speak with the owners of the property on Main St. next to the prospective Dollar General location.

Jim Hooley a representative of Subway asked the board if they had any questions or concerns he could help with. Comm. Hileman explained that unfortunately the rezoning process was going to take a while as there are some problems. Discussion followed regarding the exact acreage of the property, amount needed by Subway and the status of the water/sewer extensions. The board asked Guy Christensen to begin working on bids for the water/sewer extensions. The board thanked Jim for coming and let him know that they would do everything possible to get Subway to Gardner.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Hileman, seconded by Comm. Serena, all signified by saying aye. No one opposed. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

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Becky L. Pasternak, Clerk
Village of Gardner