Monday, February 27, 2012 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: Dick Hileman, Mike Serena, Jim Hibler, Gary Riley and Mayor Wise. Also in attendance were Attorneys Brad Nolden and Scott Belt, as well as Bob Schmude with Chamlin & Associates.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Village board meeting opened with a hearing between the Gardner Fire Department and the Village regarding the water bill, lack of payment, and an agreement so the water can be turned back on at the Fire Department. Randy Wilkey began by explaining the calls made to receive a hearing and the summons he received. He explained that he wasn't asking to have the water bill waived, just have the water turned on so they could return to normal operations, and for the board to work with them. He reminded various board members of the times the Fire Department has helped out. Mr. Wilkey then asked that the water be turned back on until the issues with the Fire District are resolved. Discussion followed with the Commissioners asking what the agreement procedure involves and the Clerk explaining that it only requires a phone call to work out a payment plan if either a resident or a business is unable to pay the bill before the water is shut off. Discussion followed which included Terry Marketti requesting that the original bill and future bills be sent to the District to be paid. Comm. Hileman explained that this may not be possible due to the ordinance stating that bills must be sent to the owner of the property, but he would look into whether or not it could be done. Mr. Wilkey agreed to send someone over to Village Hall on Tuesday to set up a payment plan. Comm. Hileman informed him that it needed to be someone in charge. Mr. Wilkey stated that he would send one of the Lieutenants over.

The minutes of February 13, 2012 were presented. Serena moved to approve the minutes as written, second by Hileman. Roll call-Ayes: Serena, Hibler, Hileman, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The current bills for February 27, 2012 were presented. Hileman moved to approve the payment of the bills second by Serena. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Serena, Hileman, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Public Comments – Sue Rezin spoke regarding the issue of the water being turned off at the Fire Department, stating that while she is trying to stay out of local issues, since this is an Emergency operating center, utilities need to remain on in case of disaster. She suggested that if the Fire Department is going to be closed as a center that the local emergency management agency is made aware of this; however she was more than happy to discuss the issue with anyone. Barb Baker explained to Ms. Rezin that this would not have been an issue and will not be an issue in the future if bills are presented to the District correctly.

Agenda –Mayor Wise reported that he has been in contact with Heritage Tractor Adventure and when more details are known it will be placed back on the agenda so streets can be closed if needed for the event.

Unfinished Business – None

Atty. Belt Brought the board up to date regarding the retroreflectivity requirements, letting them know about the useful life plan, and the inventory process. During discussion Atty. Belt and Comm. Serena explained the warranty on the signs. Additional discussion included future requirements for sign posts, as well as where funding could possibly come from. Comm. Hileman made motion for Atty. Belt and Comm. Serena to continue working together on the retroreflectivity plan second by Serena. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Serena, Hileman, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Hileman Explained the garbage contract, and how four (4) residents receive garbage only bills from the Village. Discussion followed regarding the lack of a way to stop service, not being able to collect payments as well as garbage fees including tax levy. Comm. Hileman asked Atty. Belt to look into whether or not garbage only accounts could be required to pay 3 months in advance and report back to the board. Comm. Hileman then reported on the DCEO grant loan 96-92105 explaining the purpose and start date of the loan and the interest. Discussion followed with Clerk Pasternak providing the final payout amount of $107,010.81 and explaining how the monthly payment is not being withdrawn regularly by the lender; due to this the lender is willing to waive the interest from June of 2011 till now if the loan is paid off. Comm. Hileman made motion that provided he doesn't have to cash in any CD's he would pay off DCEO grant loan 96-92105 with TIF funds second by Serena. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.
Comm. Hileman then stated that he hopes there are good minutes and good reporting of the meeting tonight because as he has told the radio station the Village doesn't want to shut anybody off. But having watched the water bills, watched the payments and watched the money some members of this group haven't been late in 3 or 4 years and when they were suddenly late he got a very uneasy feeling and

hopes that 6 to 7 months down the road Randy Wilkey doesn't come back and try to burn the Village or others. The Village doesn't need or want to be involved with the mess across the street, it should just stay across the street.

Comm. Hibler Asked Bob Schmude to explain the Pine Street repairs. Bob explained that final connections should be made this week and hopefully Stott will be able to begin the storm sewer replacement on Wednesday which should take about 4 days.

Comm. Serena Reported on the signs, costs and the decals monitoring the signs which would include Village of Gardner, our address and phone number. He then explained that the maintenance workers would note when the signs were put in place and the locations. Comm. Serena reminded the board that all of this will need to be documented and followed up on due to some signs fading faster than others due to location. Comm. Serena made motion not to exceed $4,000 for purchasing the first go around of signs second by Hileman. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Serena, Hileman, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried. Additional explanations followed regarding wording of the retroreflectivity plan.

Comm. Riley had no report.

Engineer Schmude had no additional report.

Clerk Pasternak read a thank you note received by the Village from Matthew Jerbi.

Mayor Wise asked Tom Perkins if he had any comments. Tom Perkins asked if anyone had any or knew of any community service hours, as he had some honor students from the high school who needed to complete some hours within the next couple of weeks. Mr. Perkins also requested that the roads be repainted prior to Red Carpet corridor weekend. He is hoping that traffic paint can be used this year, so it will last longer than one year. Comm. Hileman suggested that if work done at a church can be used, the Catholic Church is looking for work to be done at the prayer garden.

At 7:55 pm Comm. Hibler made motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion on employment, compensation, performance of specific employees, authorized pursuant to Section (2)(c)(1) of The Open Meetings Act second by Riley. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

At 8:20 p.m. Comm. Hileman made motion to reconvene, second by Riley. Roll call-ayes: Riley, Serena, Hileman, Hibler and Wise. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Comm. Hileman made motion that effective March 5, 2012 all hourly employees receive a $.50 per hour raise second by Comm. Hibler. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

As there was no further business brought before the council Comm. Hileman made motion to adjourn second by Serena all signified by saying aye. No one opposed. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

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Becky L. Pasternak, Clerk
Village of Gardner