Monday, November 26, 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: Mike Serena, Jim Hibler, Dick Hileman, Gary Riley and Mayor Wise. Also in attendance were Attorney Scott Belt and Guy Christensen with Chamlin & Associates.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of October 22, 2012 were presented. Serena moved to approve the minutes as written, second by Riley. Roll call-Ayes: Serena, Hibler, Riley and Wise. Nays: none Pass: Hileman. Motion carried.

The financial report for the month of October was presented. Hileman moved to approve the financial report as presented second by Serena. Roll call-Ayes: Riley, Serena, Hileman, Hibler and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The ratified and current bills for November 26, 2012 were presented. Hileman moved to approve the payment of the bills second by Riley. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Public Comments – Mr. Brad Kingma thanked everyone for all the help during the last water main break. Mrs. Ida Schopp questioned where the flower pots had been put, explaining that there were enough wreaths to decorate all the pots. Comm. Serena told her that the pots had been picked up for the winter to make it easier to shovel the sidewalks. Mrs. Schopp then asked Comm. Riley why the Merry-go-Round was not put up yet. He stated that it would be in by spring. Discussion then followed regarding the $4,000 allotted to new park equipment with Comm. Riley explaining that he felt the money could be better spent elsewhere at this time. Mrs. Schopp then questioned the board on the tree lighting and house decorating contest, with Mayor Wise asking both Mrs. Schopp and Mr. Phillips for help with the tree lighting program, and Mrs. Schopp with the house decorating contest. Mrs. Schopp expressed her displeasure with the board regarding the lack of a beautification committee or city advisory council saying they don't seem to be keeping up with these items, and she feels they should have a report at every meeting indicating that they are doing something. Mr. Tom Perkins then questioned why the power was off at the street car and jail, the board asked Brad and Jim to go check it out, and they reported that the breaker had tripped as well as one loose bulb and one burned out at the jail, they would repair the breaker which was loose in the panel on Tuesday.

Agenda – Mr. Tom Perkins requested that the board pay $300 for Red Carpet Corridor and $200 for advertising in the Rt. 66 Visitors Guide. Comm. Serena made motion to pay the Rt. 66 advertising and $300 to Red Carpet Corridor second by Hileman. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried. Mr. Perkins thanked the board and explained that Gardner is the first stop where people traveling Rt. 66 can pick up brochures.
Discussion followed regarding a donation to Gardner Grade School for families in need. Comm. Serena made motion to donate $75 to Gardner Grade School for families in need second by Hileman. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.
Comm. Hileman requested the 2013 meeting schedule be tabled so he could review it to avoid meeting errors next year, Comm. Serena stated that he has reviewed the schedule and believes all the dates are correct therefore made motion to approve the 2013 meeting schedule as presented second by Riley. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.
Atty. Belt explained the changes and recommendations from the planning and zoning board amending chapter 15.15.070 regulating cargo containers within the Village. Atty. Belt recommended that only conditional be removed under zoning board recommendations and item (A). The other changes to the ordinance include increasing the number of containers allowed to (5) for each five acres, a maximum container length of 53 feet, an annual fee of $50 per container, and an annual inspection of each container. Comm. Serena made motion to approve the ordinance regulating cargo containers second by Hileman. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business – Clerk Pasternak read the bids for cleaning the Village Hall carpets. Comm. Hileman made motion to accept the lowest bid from Brown's Carpet Cleaning to clean Village Hall carpets second by Hibler. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Discussion began with Mr. Mike Vigna stating again that he would be willing to pay an additional $120 per acre by March 1st, if he could plant soy beans for the next 2 years then go back to alfalfa. Comm. Serena questioned how long his contract was for; Mr. Vigna stated he really didn't have an end year on

the contract. Discussion followed with the board explaining that they informed the school what could be planted, but the school put it out for bid. Following discussion Mr. Vigna stated he felt he was upfront and trying to be fair but was getting a slap in the face; the board apologized but felt putting the acreage out for rebid would be the fairest for everyone. Comm. Serena made motion to put the land out for bid with a five (5) year lease, 2 years beans and then 3 years alfalfa second by Hibler. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Atty. Belt had no report.

Comm. Hileman began by reminding the board that a water bill in the amount of $1047 had been sent to the Volunteer fire department as well as the Fire Protection District. Comm. Hileman explained that after the District had paid a past due bill for the Department, 167,000 gallons was used, someone owes the Village for that water. Discussion followed with Comm. Hileman stating that he will speak with District Trustee Morris regarding this bill. Comm. Hileman then reminded the board that he had asked them to take a look at the tax levy and abatement ordinance, if they would like to make any changes they need to let him know as these need to be filed with Grundy County by the last Tuesday in December.
Comm. Hileman made motion to give each employee a $125 Christmas bonus second by Serena. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.
Comm. Hileman made motion to close Village Hall at noon on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve giving the full time employees 4 hours off paid for each holiday, if they need to come in due to snow they are to take the time off a different day second by Serena. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.
Comm. Hileman then discussed trailers that are being stored in alleys, stating that a nice letter should be sent out and if they are not removed the Village should tow them.
Comm. Hileman informed the board that as of November 2, 2012 the balance in the GO Bond fund is $35,278, as the loan this covered is paid off the Village was told the bond was no longer needed so Comm. Hileman would like to cash in the GO Bond transfer these funds to the general fund and use this money to provide the residents with a free water bill. Comm. Hileman made motion to provide a free water bill to the residents of Gardner, stating that this covers the bill which is due December 20th, residents would need to pay their past due balances and the garbage fee second by Serena. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.
Comm. Hileman talked about the recent leak in the 10" line which feeds the water tower, asking Guy Christensen to please provide a price for running a second line from the plant to the tower stressing that when that line has a leak it creates a lot of problems for everyone, the tower drains quickly and takes a while to fill so during that time residents are without water and businesses have to close which affects their sales and sales tax revenue for the Village. Discussion followed regarding the type of pipe that broke, the length of the break, and the best place to run a second line.

Comm. Hibler reported that he had Clerk Pasternak get prices on mailing reverse 911 notification information out to the residents. Clerk Pasternak reported that the best way to do the mailing was Door-to-Door Direct which costs about 14.5 cents per letter. Discussion followed which included who can send messages, additions to the notification letter, setting people up who don't have email, ways we currently notify the residents. Mr. Don Phillips told the board about the system being used by Naperville explaining how they notify residents using a similar notification system, radio, TV, web site, facebook and twitter. Comm. Hileman recommended sending a survey letter to find out if people are interested, it was recommended and decided that the Clerk ask Chris Kindelspire to come to the next meeting to answer any questions. Comm. Hibler thanked everyone for all the help during the last water leak.

Comm. Serena reported that the snow ban ordinance is in effect and that the maintenance personnel are going over the plows to make sure everything is up and ready. He requested that the snow ban ordinance be put on the cable channel to remind residents. Comm. Serena thanked everyone and commented on the help from the Fire District in lighting up the area.

Comm. Riley requested that Comm. Hileman get with him regarding the cars and trailers issue.

Engineer Christensen had no report

Clerk Pasternak had no report.

Mayor Wise reported on the home Christmas light decorating contest stating prizes are $50 for 3rd, $75 for 2nd, and $100 for 1st place. Comm. Hibler made motion to approve prizes for contest second by Riley. Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried. Mayor Wise also announced the tree lighting ceremony was to take place on December 2 and asked Don Phillips and Ida Schopp if they would be willing to help with the tree lighting ceremony and decorating contest. Mr. Phillips said he would be willing to help with the tree lighting ceremony, and Ida Schopp said she would help with both.
Mr. Mike Pokernicki questioned if the board was afraid of Mr. Wilkey stating that he should be sent the bill not the Fire District.

At 8:28 p.m. Comm. Serena made motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion on the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body authorized pursuant to Section (2)(c)(1)and pending litigation authorized pursuant to Section (2)(c)(11) of The Open Meetings Act second by Riley Roll call-Ayes: Hibler, Hileman, Serena, Riley and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried

At 10:20 p.m. Comm. Serena made motion to reconvene, second by Hileman. Roll call-ayes: Riley, Serena, Hibler, and Wise. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Comm. Serena made motion to close the parking lot and Gazebo for the tree lighting ceremony on December 2, 2012 second by Hibler. Roll call-ayes: Riley, Serena, Hibler, and Wise. Nays: None. Motion carried.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Serena, seconded by Comm. Hibler, all signified by saying aye. No one opposed. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 10:23 pm.

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Becky L. Pasternak, Clerk
Village of Gardner