Monday, April 14, 2014 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: Terry Jensen, Dick Hileman, Rob Wolf and Mike Serena. Also in attendance were Atty. Scott Belt and Guy Christensen with Chamlin and Assoc. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of March 24, 2014 were presented. Comm. Serena made motion to approve the minutes as written second by Wolf. Roll call-Ayes: Serena, Wolf, Jensen, Hileman and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The financial report for the month of March was presented Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the financial report second by Jensen. Roll call-Ayes: Jensen, Serena, Wolf, Hileman and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The current bills for April 14, 2014 were presented. Comm. Hileman moved to approve the payment of the bills second by Serena. Roll call-Ayes: Jensen, Serena, Wolf, Hileman and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Public Comments – Ida Schopp asked for two additional cabinets for the archives committee. Discussion followed on price, placement, which fund to get money from and the occasional need for space during board meetings. Comm. Hileman stressed that he doesn't want to use tax dollars for donations and purchases such as the cabinets. Erin Smith and Jeremy Erwin came to the board requesting that the days or hours to burn be changed. The board thanked them for coming but reminded them that due to the price the village does not have yard waste curb service. Additional ways to handle yard waste burning were also talked about. Grundy County police officer Josh Slattery explained some of the calls handled in March and asked if the village had any additional issues that needed to be addressed. Comm. Jensen informed him that there are a lot of late night visits to the gazebo that should probably be checked out.

Agenda – Comm. Jensen made motion to retain the current water and sewer rates for fiscal year 2015 second by Serena. Roll call-Ayes: Jensen, Serena, Wolf, Hileman and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business – None.

Atty. Belt – Informed the board that they can approve an ordinance prohibiting village personnel from carrying a concealed weapon while on the job. Comm. Hileman questioned if this could be added to the employee handbook. Discussion followed on whether this would include appointed personnel as well as hired employees, how other municipalities are handling the issue and concealed carry during special events. Atty. Belt then explained that medical marijuana is picking up steam and the possible need for a separate employee policy just for this issue. Atty. Belt reported on the obligations to provide a place for employees to take medicine if approved for medical marijuana use, impairment of employees and that having marijuana is still a federal offense. The current cars and campers ordinance was discussed with Clerk Pasternak reminding the board that the zoning board is currently looking into this ordinance and will review some changes at their May meeting. Atty. Belt reminded Comm. Hileman that he appropriations ordinance is due by July.

Comm. Hileman – brought the foreclosed and abandoned homes problem to the board's attention and requested that some changes be made to the ordinance so that these properties are cleaned up and made habitable before selling. Dean Rankovich let the board know that there are quite a few homes that are uninhabitable and really need to be brought up to code. Atty. Belt commented on the foreclosure process and suggested that if the owner can be established that a letter be sent notifying them that the property must be brought up to code. The general mess at O'Hare towing was discussed with the board requesting that a letter be sent informing them that it needed to be cleaned up. Dean Rankovich brought to the board's attention that when Cooper towing originally opened they were supposed to use Rt. 53 and not Main Street for access. The lack of bathrooms at the flea market was discussed with Comm. Hileman making a motion to send a letter informing them that the 6 months was up and they must have the bathroom operational within seven business days or the business will be closed. Comm. Serena seconded the motion but requested that the six month time frame be confirmed. Roll call-Ayes: Jensen, Serena, Wolf, Hileman and Wise. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Jensen – had no additional report.

Comm. Serena – reported that with the warmer weather maintenance personnel are getting things taken care of as well as putting cold patch where necessary.

Comm. Wolf – had no report.

Engineer Christensen – reported that he has given the paper work to Clerk Pasternak for Pine Street and should be able to have the bid letting in May. Comm. Serena confirmed that the resurfacing would include widening the street by two feet on the west side. Seems at the cross streets and driveways were also discussed and confirmed.

Clerk Pasternak – reported that a thank you letter had been received from the Grade School for the parent's night out donation.

Mayor Wise – had no report.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Jensen seconded by Comm. Wolf, all signified by saying aye. No one opposed. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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Becky L. Pasternak, Clerk
Village of Gardner