**GARDNER VILLAGE BOARD**
**March 23, 2015**

Monday, March 23, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., Mayor Mike Serena 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, James Riley, and Mayor Serena. Also present was Atty. Scott Belt and Village Engineer Guy Christensen. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of March 9, 2015 were presented. Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Jensen. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Wolf, Hileman, Riley. Pass: Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The current bills for March 23, 2015 were presented. Comm. Hileman moved to approve the payment of the bills, second by Wolf. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Wolf, Hileman, Riley and Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**Public Comments** – Resident Tom Perkins presented a printout showing the logos of each town's wooden nickels, which will be the promotional item for this year's Red Carpet weekend. Each town will receive approximately 500 to distribute to visitors, and Gardner's logo will feature the jail. In a related matter, he is working to clean up around the Riviera with the help of the Boy Scouts. Dick Joyce will work with the county highway commissioner to keep the area mowed. The EPA is trying to close the well which was damaged during the fire. Tom is working to seal it or else put a pump on it so that there will be a fresh-water well there. Route 66 Preservation is considering the possibility of installing a Point of Interest sign at the site of the former Riviera since many visitors inquire about it.

Mrs. Ida Schopp reported that the Rock-a-thon has been approved by the Board and the council of the Church of Hope. They are looking for participants and sponsors, and proceeds will go to benefit the youth of the church. Ida is also taking orders for pink petunias for spring planting.

**Agenda** – Resident Richard Gentry stated that he had problems with his neighbors regarding access to the alleyway. Mayor Serena commented that since his complaint to the Village, the neighbor has had gravel installed and hopefully that would solve the problem.

**Unfinished Business** – Mayor Serena reported that the advertising on the Grundy County Transit is finalized and presented the bills to be paid, one for the sign and one for the vinyl to be made and installed. There are eight advertisers at $50 each to be remitted to the Village for advertising, which will offset some of the costs. The decals will be mounted on the right side of one bus and the left side of another bus to give double exposure.

**Reports** –

**Atty. Belt** – had no report.

**Comm. Hileman** – The scoreboard for the Gardner Area Youth Baseball had been discussed at a previous meeting with no decision. A quotation was presented for the scoreboard itself, and others have offered to donate electric and installation. Comm. Hileman made motion that the Village spend up to $3,500 for the sign alone with the understanding that the sponsor panel will feature The Village of Gardner and the late Mayor Tom Wise. Motion was seconded by Comm. Jensen. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Wolf, Hileman, Riley and Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Hileman reported that as of the last treasurer's report, there was $13,089.22 in the entertainment fund with another $1,401 expected. With the board's approval, he would like the Village to make the following donations, to be made from the entertainment fund:
GSW Prom Lock-In - $500
GSW Baseball (Summer League) - $300
GSW High School for their sports program- $500
Gardner Grade School for their sports program- $500
Church of Hope - $500
United Lutheran Church - $500
Gardner Lions Club - $250
Gardner Senior Citizens - $250
Church of Hope Food Pantry - $300
Boy Scouts - $100
Girl Scouts - $100

Motion was seconded by Comm. Riley. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Wolf, Hileman, Riley and Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

A thank you was received from the Gardner Fire District for advancing the TIF money. A letter was received from Village Treasurer Sheryl McDaniels requesting a salary increase, to be on the next meeting's agenda.

Comm. Hileman responded to a question from the March 9 meeting. He was unable to determine who was organizing the forum scheduled at the high school on March 25. Due to prior commitments, he is unable to participate but submitted a letter to be read at that time. Comm. Hileman addressed hearsay and stressed that, while on vacation, he has never accepted offers of lodging from any vendor, contractor or attorney.

**Comm. Jensen –** There was a water leak on Parker Street in front of the apartments, and he thanked Brad and Drew for getting it repaired quickly.

**Comm. Riley** – had no report.

**Comm. Wolf –** had no report.

**Engineer Christensen** – Presented 100% drawings for the storm sewer project and is prepared to advertise for bids this week; have a mandatory pre-bid meeting on Wednesday, April 8, at 10:00 a.m.; accept bids on Friday, April 10; and have the results for the board meeting on April 13. He requested to meet with the board for a few minutes after the meeting to go over some details of the project.

**Clerk Malinowski** – Read an email received from the Ellie Alexander, the Red Carpet Coordinator, regarding a donation they received from the Village of Coal City in memory of Tom Wise. Tom Perkins added that he was at the meeting when the donation was announced and a big round of applause went up from all the other towns.

**Mayor Serena –** A group from Will and Grundy Counties have generated support letters concerning Grundy County properties regarding Governor Rauner's proposed some tax cuts. If these cuts go through, and it is just the first cut, it could cost the village up to $80,000. The support letter is not in support of the cut; it is in cooperation with other mayors to show that we are not in agreement with the cuts. Realistically, the governor has a long way to go but to take this amount away in one shot is tough to accept. The letter will be signed and go out to Dan Duffy, the administrator for Minooka, who has come up with a formula to figure out the cost to the village.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Wolf, seconded by Comm. Jensen, all signified by saying aye. No one opposed. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk
Village of Gardner