**GARDNER VILLAGE BOARD**
**April 27, 2015**

Monday, April 27, 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, James Riley, Rob Wolf, and Mayor Serena. Also present was Atty. Scott Belt and Village Engineer Guy Christensen. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of April 13, 2015, were presented. Comm. Riley made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Jensen. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Mayor Serena. Pass: Comm. Wolf. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The current bills for April 27, 2015, were presented. Comm. Hileman moved to approve the payment of the bills, second by Riley. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley Wolf and Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**Public Comments** – Resident Tom Perkins congratulated the board on retention/re-election. He also requested permission for the Boy Scouts to sell Route 66 Pop during the Red Carpet weekend and invited anyone interested to take the tour from Joliet to Towanda. Resident Ida Schopp announced that the Gardner Archives will be open during Red Carpet weekend, on Saturday from 10 to 2 and Sunday from 1 to 3. The Rockathon will be on Sunday from 12 to 3, with proceeds going to the youth group and the welfare of the Church of Hope. She also has sold 750 petunia plants.

**Agenda** –

Resolution fixing salary of Village Treasurer (002R-2015) at $4,000 per year was presented. Comm. Hileman made motion to approve, second by Riley. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf and Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Hileman made motion to waive the automatic water service rate increase for FY 2016 (Ordinance VG00-324 Chapter 13.28.030), second by Jensen. As of the last treasurer's report, we have $293,278.83 in the sewer fund and $166,920.95 in the water fund. In response to Mayor Serena's question, Hileman reported that the last time we raised water rates was 5 or 6 years ago, and they were raised twice in the last 16 years. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley Wolf and Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**Unfinished Business** - None

**Reports –**

**Atty. Belt** – Nothing to report

**Comm. Hileman** – Comm. Hileman identified several properties that need to be cleaned up, as well as cars that have not been moved in some time. Also, an issue has developed with Standard Bank in which Village funds might be at risk.

**Comm. Jensen –** Topsoil replacement and grass seeding has been completed on the Pine Street water main project. Also mentioned concerns with the Nielsen elevator, including foxes and other animals inhabiting the place. A discussion followed regarding previous attempts to have the property fixed up and the condition of the building. Belt pointed out that the last time we dealt with Mr. Nielsen was before the Village adopted the property maintenance code and this has been an ongoing problem.

**Comm. Riley** – He has sent a letter to Mr. Nielsen about the elevator building. Still researching alternate payment options for water bills. There is no guarantee that interest rates will not increase, which would have to be passed on to the residents. Suggested putting a question on water bill to get residents' opinions and interest. Looking into online payments.

**Comm. Wolf –** Working on getting O'Hare Towing area cleaned up.

**Engineer Christensen** – Waiting for contracts and bonds to come back from S. A. Issert regarding the storm sewer project to schedule a pre-construction meeting.

**Clerk Malinowski** – Letter of resignation as village plumbing inspector received from Jeff Bexson. Thank you letter received from GSW Prom Lock In, in appreciation of donation.

**Mayor Serena –** Received a thank you letter from the High School in appreciation of donation. The Sheriff's office contract has increased from $35,916 to $39,981 annually.

The Mayor will greet visitors for the Red Carpet tour and distribute the wooden nickels that are this year's promotional item.

Mayor Serena also suggested that a scholarship be set up for a Gardner-area resident student of GSW, funded from the video gaming funds. Something to be looked into for next year and the future.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Jensen, seconded by Riley. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf and Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

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*Pat Malinowski, Clerk*
*Village of Gardner*