GARDNER VILLAGE BOARD
June 8, 2015

Monday, June 8, 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. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of May 11 were presented. Comm. Wolf made motion to approve the minutes as printed with one correction, second by Jensen. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The financial report for May 2015 was presented. Comm. Jensen made motion to approve the financial report, second by Wolf. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

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

Public Comments – Sgt. Slattery from the Grundy County Sheriff's Department made his monthly report.

Agenda –

Comm. Hileman made motion to approve a Resolution regarding an IDOT permit related to storm sewer improvements beneath IL 53, second by Jensen. Roll call – Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Riley introduced a proposal from Gibs Nielsen of $25,000 for the purchase of the Nielsen Grain Elevator. He is willing to accept payment in two installments of $12,500 each, this year and next. A discussion was held regarding costs associated with demolishing the building along with possible environmental issues. Attorney Belt commented that the Village could explore other means of acquiring ownership, such as eminent domain, but would be required to prove public need for the property, and the issues related to purchase would still apply. Comm. Hileman made motion to table this matter pending further research, second by Riley. Roll call – Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Mayor Serena informed the board of a special project by the TV Show "Garage Squad" for the Mahoney family requiring the temporary closure of the alleyway. Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the closure for the period 6/5 thru 6/15, second by Jensen. Roll call – Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Only one bid was received from Future Tree Service for tree removal in the amount of $2,800. Comm. Hileman made motion to accept the bid with the stipulation that the work be completed within 14 days, second by Jensen. Roll call – Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Hileman made motion to pay the final payment estimate on the 2014 water main project, second by Riley. Roll call – Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Riley reported that six bushes were donated to replace trees on Depot Street and proposed buying four more, plus mulch, from Gardner Days Funds. Since the tree stumps have not yet been removed, Comm. Hileman made motion to table a decision until those areas have been cleared, second by Wolf. Roll call – Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Riley has sent letters to several residents regarding moving of inoperable or abandoned vehicles and is exploring options to have those vehicles towed, based on an opinion from the Grundy County State's Attorney from several years ago which led the Village to change its ordinance. Attorney Belt advised that the Sheriff's Department is not likely to tow vehicles from private property without a warrant issued by judge ordering the removal. Belt has offered pursue the issue with the current State's Attorney's office on behalf of all municipalities he represents.

Unfinished Business - None

Reports –

Atty. Belt – Nothing to report

Comm. Hileman – Asked that board members study the current financial statement regarding state income tax and state municipal sales tax. If the governor's proposed cuts take place, the Village's tax revenues could be reduced by half. Also TIF funds will be reduced because of the 2014 water main payment until the tax payment is received.

Comm. Jensen – Nothing

Comm. Riley – Reported that out of eight letters sent regarding inoperable cars, only three have complied.

Comm. Wolf – Several residents have expressed an interest in raising chickens and he expects the issue to come up in the near future.

Clerk Malinowski – No correspondence.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Jensen, second by Riley. Roll call – Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk
Village of Gardner