GARDNER VILLAGE BOARD
June 22, 2015

Monday, June 22, 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 Rob Wolf, James Riley, Terry Jensen, and Mayor Serena. Absent: Comm. Hileman. Also present were Atty. Scott Belt and Village Engineer Guy Christiansen. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of June 8 were presented. Comm. Riley made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Wolf. Roll call - Ayes: Wolf, Riley, Jensen, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

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

Public Comments – None

Agenda –

Comm. Wolf made motion to schedule the spring all-town clean-up for July 20, second by Riley. The fall clean-up is tentatively set for November 9 and will be included in the October 26 agenda. Roll call – Ayes: Wolf, Riley, Jensen, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business - None

Reports –

Atty. Belt – Nothing to report

Comm. Hileman – Absent

Comm. Jensen – Several alleyways need to be scraped and/or gravel-filled because of potholes.

Comm. Riley – Provided an update regarding the Nielsen elevator. Gibs Nielsen has proposed that he would have the elevator demolished and the property cleaned and decontaminated, if the Village will purchase the empty lot. Attorney Belt pointed out that there would need to be a public purpose for a land purchase by the Village and it should be cited in the motion. If the purpose is deemed to be off-street parking, there is a specific act that deals with it and it requires review and recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Board. A discussion followed regarding possible contaminants on the site and how to go about certifying the clean up of the property. Riley made motion to direct Belt and Chamlin to move forward with the appropriate procedures for the purchase of the land, with approval of purchase contract to follow, second by Wolf. Roll call: Ayes – Wolf, Riley, Jensen, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Jensen made motion to remove tree stumps and substitute bushes or annuals in ten locations downtown on Depot Street, drawing from the Gardner Days Fund, second by Wolf. Comm. Riley is in the process of obtaining quotes to have the stumps pulled. Roll call: Ayes – Wolf, Riley, Jensen. Nays: Mayor Serena. Motion carried.

Comm. Riley made motion to form a Community Event Committee. Attorney Belt pointed out that committees affiliated with the village would become a public body, subject to Open Meetings Act as far as posting agendas, minutes, number of members, Open Meetings Act training, etc. However, if it is not something that is created by the council, it does not constitute a public body. A private group of citizens, or non-governmental committee, could determine a project or event and bring it to the board for review and consideration, and approval of the expenditure. Comm. Riley withdrew his motion to form the committee.

Comm. Wolf – Running low on red water shut off tags. Discussion was held regarding the necessity of the tags as stated in the ordinance and costs involved.

Comm. Wolf also asked when downtown striping is expected to be done.

Engineer Christensen – Reported that the storm sewer project is on track and utilities are cooperating.

Clerk Malinowski – Read a thank-you card from Carol Wise in regard to the scoreboard.

Mayor Serena – Several issues have come up in connection with the storm sewer construction, but all will be resolved when everything is completed.

At 7:50 p.m. Comm. Riley made motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion on employment, compensation, performance of specific employees, authorized pursuant to Section (2)(c)(1) of The Open Meetings Act, second by Wolf. Roll call: Ayes – Wolf, Riley, Jensen, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

At 8:20 p.m. Comm. Jensen made motion to reconvene, second by Riley. Roll call: Ayes – Wolf, Riley, Jensen, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

A discussion was held regarding abandoned and inoperable vehicles. Attorney Belt pointed out that when the ordinance was drafted in 2006, it was limited to motor vehicles. Any violations regarding trailers, such as boat trailers or utility trailers, could be cited under the nuisance ordinance.

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 – Wolf, Riley, Jensen, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk
Village of Gardner