VILLAGE BOARD
March 28, 2016

Monday, March 28, 2016, 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 Mike Serena. Also present was Attorney Chris Dearth. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of March 14 were presented. Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Riley. Roll call - Ayes: Hileman, Wolf, Riley. Pass: Jensen, Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

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

Public Comments –
None

Agenda –

Mayor Serena addressed the Board regarding DAD's Day, scheduled for the Saturday of Father's Day weekend (June 18). Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the solicitation of funds on that day, second by Riley. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Hileman. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Hileman made motion to renew Grundy County Transit advertising for one more year in the amount of $1,500, second by Wolf. Eight businesses agreed to renew their previous ads and will contribute $50 each for their ad to help offset the cost, and the Village will pay the remaining $1,100 from the Video Gaming fund. Roll call – Ayes: Hileman, Wolf, Serena. Nays: Jensen, Riley. Motion carried. In addition, Mr. Bob Hernandez from Gardner Recycling donated $1,000 to Village of Gardner Parks.

Comm. Hileman made motion to advance TIF funds to the Gardner Fire District in the amounts of $50,000 by the end of March and $30,000 by the end of April, a total of $80,000, second by Serena Comm. Hileman expressed his concerns regarding the request. Until tax payments are received this year, our TIF fund will be limited due to anticipated payments on the storm sewer project and he feels that it is not proper to cash in CDs to accommodate GFD's request. He gave some background on how the ambulance district came to be, with taxpayers funding it, with the understanding that they would not be charged for the service. Hileman commented to GFD President/Trustee Pasternak, who was present, about ambulance response to other districts such as South Wilmington and Braceville. When Gardner has a need in town while the ambulance is out on a call, another out-of-district response team is called in and then residents are charged. We also have to consider wear and tear on our equipment.

GFD needs to cut expenditures because they were advanced $75,000 two years ago and $90,000 last year, and are requesting $80,000 this year, averaging out to about $82,000 per year. The Village loses interest on that money in addition to paying attorney's fees to draw up the paperwork, which in the end affects taxpayers. GFD included estimated expenses with their request and Hileman suggested that maybe the different districts need to merge. . Roll call – Ayes: Hileman, Wolf, Serena. Nays: Jensen. Pass: Riley. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business: None

Reports –

Atty. Dearth – Nothing to report

Comm. Hileman – Questioned Atty. Dearth regarding fines charged by the courts. Dearth responded that the Village would receive something and a portion would go toward court costs, but he did not have a breakdown.

Comm. Jensen – Received a call from Neal Brooks in reference to a cargo container. He feels that he is in compliance with the container and Jensen referred him to Comm. Riley.

Comm. Riley – With weather improving, he will be cracking down on residents cleaning up their yards and businesses cleaning up their properties, starting with O'Hare. The situation with Paul Ferrari is still unresolved.

Comm. Wolf – Liquid Engineering contacted him regarding water tower maintenance. Hileman mentioned that the last time it was done was 2013 and, at that time, were told that we were good for five to seven years. Christensen told him that there were no state mandates. It was decided to delay any decision to next year.

Engineer Christensen – Absent

Clerk Malinowski – Nothing to report

Mayor Serena – Commented on Easter Egg hunts at Casey's and the Legion. The Red Carpet event is coming up in May and would like residents to have their yards cleaned up by then. There will be a car show downtown.

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, Riley, Wolf, Hileman, Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried

Meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk
Village of Gardner