VILLAGE BOARD
May 9, 2016

Monday, May 9, 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, James Riley, Rob Wolf and Mayor Mike Serena. Also present were Village Attorney Scott Belt and Village Engineer Guy Christensen. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of April 25 were presented. Comm. Wolf made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Hileman. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

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

The Treasurer's Report for April was presented. Comm. Hileman moved to approve the report, second by Jensen. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Public Comments –

Resident Tom Perkins addressed the Board regarding Route 66 and the Red Carpet Corridor. He wished to thank all who participated in the preparation for the Red Carpet event over the weekend, in particular the Village employees and the Village's contribution of the paint for the 39 road signs. He is giving up his involvement in RCC but staying with Preservation and wished to express his appreciation for the cooperation in the past.

Resident Dan Alexander gave a report on the Scapegoats Car Show. There was a turnout of 30+ cars and he reported that the Rockathon, Vino's, the Serpentarium and Don Phillips's music helped to bring in visitors. A pickup truck was filled with donations for the Church of Hope food pantry. He asked permission at this time to hold another show next year, to give more lead time to print flyers, get trophies and advertise. Comm. Hileman stated that he had no problem with that.

Resident Sharon Pickles brought up several issues. There are problems with the Cedar Street alley and asked about the possibility of the Village vacating the east end of that alley. There would be no problem with emergency vehicles since it would only affect her property and that of Gary Kociss, and they would still have access through the south and west. Next, she went to the flea market and made a purchase and was charged sales tax. However, there was no registration from the state of Illinois anywhere and it is to be displayed in plain view for people to see. She questioned whether they have a sales tax number. Comm. Hileman referred to several documents presented to him by Mrs. Parks, but none of them were a sales tax certificate. Mayor Serena stated that we are researching their payment of sales taxes to the state, however, the Village does not police whether or not taxes were paid. Mrs. Pickles then voiced complaints regarding the flea market and containers at Cooper's.

Mrs. Ida Schopp echoed her thanks for assistance for the Red Carpet event and permission to use the gazebo.

Agenda –

Mayor Serena explained that the high-speed railroad is erecting protective fencing from Springfield to past Joliet. He has reviewed the plans for how the fence will be laid out and asked for a deviation from the proposed plan because it would remove overflow parking spaces. We have been maintaining the area and the railroad agreed to make an adjustment. We have made a counter-offer, asking for a bit more of that property to 25 feet off the center line of the rail to make a continuous line from Jackson Street down to Washington Street. The Village has offered to continue to mow the area if the railroad provides an access and a flagman. He distributed maps of the proposed changes. It will involve a type of land lease agreement in which the Village agrees to pay legal fees, and will not build on it except to improve it as a parking lot or something like that, but if they needed it back whatever we had invested in it would probably be gone. Comm. Hileman made motion to act on the counter-proposal at the present time, second by Riley. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the Prevailing Wage Ordinance, second by Jensen. Roll call – Ayes: Hileman, Jensen, Wolf, Riley, 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. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley Wolf and Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

A representative from Grundy County Sheriff's Department made a report.

Unfinished Business: None

Reports –

Atty. Belt – Updated the Board on Roots Street, that the Village acquired ownership through a judgment order entered on March 3, 1978, and an order in April of 1978, vesting title. There is no deed to the property, because conveyance of ownership occurred through a court order.

Comm. Hileman – Addressed Scott Belt regarding the business license ordinance. Diamond's ordinance was the starting point for ours, and Belt adjusted the numbers to align with ours. He maintained that there is nothing in the ordinance that would give the Village the right to shut down a business or issue a citation. Serena explained that the reason we adopted this ordinance was to control the types of business that were opening as well as conduct inspections to determine any building code violations in the interest of public safety.

Next, he requested an update from Belt regarding Curley's fine.

Comm. Jensen – Nothing to report

Comm. Riley – Received a complaint regarding Gunderson's (the boat place) and will take a ride past it tomorrow to look at it. Cathy Tidyman (the Chronicle) has finished having the brick work repaired and will fix the roof and paint the building in the near future. He has contacted State Police Districts 5 and 6 about O'Hare Towing. Work is proceeding on Chase's property and it remains in question whether or not they have the proper permit.

Comm. Wolf – Nothing to report

Engineer Christensen – Black dirt and seeding to be done, weather permitting, as well as other punch list items.

Clerk Malinowski – Heartland has been contacted regarding the Clean-up Day on June 6 and they have forwarded a copy of the ad for the paper as well as a list of acceptable/unacceptable items. A copy of the list will be available for residents and it will be posted on the door. Notices will be on the cable channel and the water bills.

Mayor Serena – Thanks to the Village maintenance workers for their work in preparation for the Red Carpet event, and also Tom Perkins for his participation. Tom and Karen Perkins painted the signs on the road, and the Mayor spent about an hour at the car show and thanked Don Phillips for providing the music. John Weiss spent some time in Gardner.

Agreed that the flea market property is a mess and he has asked Ferrari to put up some barricades around his property. He has talked to Katy Cooper and she has moved some vehicles, but they have not received payment on some of them so they are on hold. Gunderson's is commercial property so we need some nudging there.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Hileman, second by Jensen. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk
Village of Gardner