VILLAGE BOARD
May 23, 2016

Monday, May 23, 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 rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of May 9, 2016 were presented. Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Riley. 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 Jensen. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Public Comments –

Resident Mike Pokornicki provided the Board with newspaper articles regarding public comments and former Speaker Dennis Hastert.

Agenda –

The Mayor reported that Union Pacific Railroad has agreed to our counter offer to revise their planned fencing line to 25 feet off the center line of the rail in the downtown area from Jackson Street to Washington Street. A Land Lease Application has been submitted and our attorney will now become involved in finalizing the land lease. The Village will be responsible for legal fees through UPRR, which are projected to be approximately $1,000. Comm. Hileman made motion to approve legal fees up to $1,500 in advance so that the bill can be paid upon receipt, second by Wolf. Roll call - Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Mr. Craig Parks addressed the Board regarding closing of his business on Depot Street. The Mayor responded that the business is not closed at this point. He then complained about garbage being dumped on his private property by Comm. Riley without notice. Mr. Parks admitted that he had placed stones and debris from his yard on the Village right-of-way but had intentions of moving them to the flea market in the future. The Mayor stated that in the future advance notice would be given to whomever. He then voiced his dissatisfaction with Comm. Hileman attempting to shut down his Depot Street business and stated that his actions were inappropriate for a commissioner and that he should resign his position.

Unfinished Business:

A letter was received from IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation) in regard to the sidewalks at the pedestrian crossings, stating that the Village must be a co-petitioner with IDOT in the ICC (Illinois Commerce Commission) Petition. Main Street is under the jurisdiction of the County and that will need to be a separate petition, but that needs to be clarified. The Mayor received an email from the contractor who is doing the work, with a question about bonding the crossings. It was determined that UPRR is required to post a $100,000 bond for each of the four crossings to cover any damage to Village property during construction. Serena also pointed out that the railroad has been cooperative by closing crossings one at a time while performing work.

Reports –

Atty. Belt – Notice went out on the Ferrari building with 30 days notice.

Comm. Hileman – A check for around $2,800 was received from the insurance company for the damaged guardrail

Comm. Jensen – Reported that O'Hare Towing property is zoned B2 (no agriculture) but beans have been planted. They had been notified in the past about this, and he requested that Belt at least send them a letter.

Comm. Riley – A letter was sent out today to Ferrari and we are moving forward with a resident on Jackson and also with Nielsen.

Comm. Wolf – Nothing to report

Engineer Christensen – Nothing to report

Clerk Malinowski – Nothing to report

Mayor Serena – Hydrant flushing will take place from 10:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. May 25 and 26. Thank you to all the veterans and wished everyone a safe Memorial Day.

At 7:32 p.m. Comm. Hileman made motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion of pending litigation, authorized pursuant to 5LCS Section (2)(c)(1) of The Open Meetings Act, second by Jensen. Roll call – Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

At 7:54 p.m. Comm. Jensen made motion to reconvene, second by Riley. Roll call – Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comm. Hileman made motion to extend Denise Muzzarelli's leave of absence to September 1, 2016, second by Jensen. Roll call – Ayes: Jensen, Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

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, Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk
Village of Gardner