VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
September 10, 2018

Monday, September 10, 2018, 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, and Mayor Mike Serena were present. Comm. Rob Wolf arrived after the minutes were passed. Village Engineer Casey McCollom was present. Village Attorney Scott Belt was absent. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed in memory of the 17th anniversary of the 9-11 attacks.

The minutes of August 27, 2018 were presented. Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Serena. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Hileman, Mayor Serena. Pass: Jensen, Riley. 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: Comm. Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Jensen, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report for August was presented. Comm. Hileman moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as printed, second by Riley. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Jensen, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Public Comments –

Resident Don Phillips signed for public comments but asked to defer his comments until the Grundy County Sheriff's representative arrives.

Agenda –

Resident Tom Perkins announced that the Rt. 66 Preservation group will be scraping and painting the Street Car on September 22. He requested that the maintenance garage be open on that Saturday to use the restroom. John Weiss has received a donation of the paint, Casey's is donating pizza and they will stop to have lunch at Curley's at noon.

Comm. Hileman reported that we are on the last leg of the donation of the property to the Village. Several papers have been signed for the IRS. We have sent a letter indicating that no cash, goods or services were provided by the Village for tax deduction purposes. Once the attorney receives the letter, we will be getting the quitclaim deed. The next step is to have the property surveyed. At that point we can request the title from Chicago Title and Trust. Mayor Serena gave credit to Hileman for doing all of the legwork on this process. Comm. Jensen made motion to approve moving forward with the donation process, second by Riley. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Jensen, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Michael Pokornicki addressed the Board to protest the cutting of "his" trees and expressed concern that they were cut incorrectly on the east side. He stated that if maintenance workers are told to do something that will cause someone personal harm or property damage, they will be in trouble and should get a lawyer. He has been taking care of the trees and has them sprayed every year. He has left dead limbs fall. He stated that if a dead limb falls on him, the Village will be paying his hospital bills. Mayor Serena said that every year he asks the maintenance workers to check trees that might be dangerous. We have had limbs fall, once on a car, these trees need to be taken care of, either trimmed up or taken down. The trees in question (on the Village right-of-way at Pokornicki's residence) can be trimmed any way that the Village wants. The tree limbs that were hanging over city property or onto the street were cut back all the way to the trunk. They were cut only on the street side, not to get them to fall, but to keep them out of the way of the snow plows. Pokornicki stated that he would be coming to every meeting with the same situation.

Unfinished Business: No unfinished business was presented.

Reports –

Atty. Belt – Absent

Comm. Hileman – Will get together with Wolf in the next couple of weeks regarding what he wants to do with water projects and storm sewers, and where we think we might come up with the money to get them done. Brad has someone coming tomorrow to camera the sewer lines down at the Grade School. We should be getting results back on core samples and, if they are not contaminated, we have an outfit out of Pontiac who gave us a bid of $9,100 (for salt brine tank for water plant).

Comm. Jensen – He has received a couple of complaints of vehicles at Rt. 53 and Washington, at J & R, obscuring the view of oncoming traffic at that intersection. The Mayor will stop and talk with him. He also asked about the status of what our attorney is doing in regard with Animal Control.

Comm. Riley – Thanked the maintenance workers for installing the park equipment. Letters will be going out tomorrow for properties needing cleaning up. Pictures from two properties will be sent to Belt. Vehicles on Village of right-of-way that have not been moved will get a 24-hour notice of towing. Jensen asked the status on Don Reed; he saw him early one morning "messing with a garden hose." He is not sure if he has a second line coming into that place from the backside.

Comm. Wolf – Nothing to report

Casey McCollom – Updated on the water project. Pine Street is for the most part complete and residents should be on the new main. There is a little bit to be done on Elm to do the final connections and take the old off line. They intend to do the alley next. Will discuss with Hileman about potentially crossing 53 at East. That will be the last thing.

Clerk Malinowski – Nothing to report

Mayor Serena – There will be a shredding event on September 21 and an e-waste event on September 22 in Morris, which we will put on the cable channel. The Fire Department has requested permission to use the grass lot for extraction training. A letter will be going out to political parties about election signs; they are allowed only on private property, not on Village rights-of-way.

Since the representative from Grundy County Sheriff's office did not arrive, the Mayor asked Don Phillips if he would like to speak. He was on vacation last week and put his house on the watch list. His in-laws were called twice because of windows he left open. He wanted to make the point that they don't just drive by, they get out of the car and walk around.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Hileman, second by Riley. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Hileman, Riley, Wolf, Jensen, Mayor Serena. Nays: none. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk