VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
February 25, 2019

Monday, February 25, 2019, 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 James Riley, Rob Wolf, Dick Hileman, and Mayor Mike Serena were present. Commissioner Terry Jensen was absent. Village Engineer Casey McCollom was present; Village Attorney Scott Belt was absent. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of February 11, 2019 were presented. Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Wolf. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Riley, Wolf, Hileman, and Mayor Serena. Motion carried.

A list of current bills was presented. Comm. Hileman moved to approve the payment of the bills, second by Riley. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Riley, Wolf, Hileman, and Mayor Serena. Motion carried.

Public Comments –

A group of young men representing a spring/summer basketball team addressed the Board, requesting a donation for participation fees and uniforms. Sarah Halpin answered several questions from the Board: They are not affiliated with the school, all of the boys are from Gardner, the total cost to participate is around $1,500 for the year and they have raised $800 so far, they have received permission to use the school gym and are required to have their own insurance, they will play within one hour of Gardner, and any funds left over would be donated to something that would benefit the community. Mayor Serena remarked that everyone was very well-behaved, but stated that the Board cannot approve or deny any monies unless it is an agenda item, but it will be placed on a future agenda.

Agenda –

Comm. Hileman made motion to provide the paint for the Route 66 signs for the Red Carpet Festival, second by Wolf. Hileman mentioned that we can get the paint through Sherwin Williams who will deliver instead of us having to pick it up and it will be about $30 less than Grainger for five gallons. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Riley, Wolf, Hileman, and Mayor Serena. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

Mayor Serena was contacted by the group who inquired about the possible liquor license for the wine tastings. It will be an LLC, and they expect to close on the business on March 12. Upon closing they will have to come to the Village Hall and present the ownership papers. Once that all clears then we will start the process to adopt a new class of liquor license to allow wine tastings and selling for consumption off the premises. The Mayor referred to another community's liquor license ordinance and suggested that the Village could start with this example and make adjustments for our own ordinance, keeping the same $500 fee and hours as for Class A and B licenses.

Reports –

Atty. Belt – Absent

Comm. Hileman – Two more CDs are coming due on February 28 but he is experiencing difficulties in getting a rate from the bank.

He reported that back in 2007 the Village helped Rub Ford with a loan of $260,000 at a 3% rate when he put an addition on his dealership. He asked for some more money recently, but our TIF Attorney and our Attorney advised that we could not loan him any more under the TIF Agreement for the reason for which he planned to use it. Within the last week or so, Ray decided to close the business. As of now, he owes $51,777.80 left on that $260,000 plus some interest. The Village has two liens, one on the corporation and another one Ray had signed himself that if

the corporation couldn't pay, then he would be liable for this debt. Payments were set up for twice a year and the next payment would be due May 15. Furthermore, when he built the addition, through the TIF Attorneys, the Village paid part of his real estate taxes based on sales. The Village requested that he rebate a portion of the sales tax but he was unable to meet a sales goal. The goal was re-negotiated so that the Village reimbursed him back 50% for every dollar he paid in sales tax. As a result, in 2016, 2017 and 2018, the Village paid him back $136,424.26 and the Village got $136,424.26. We wish we could have helped him, but, under the TIF Agreement and changes made, and we were unable to do it.

Notice was published in *The Paper* that the Village is accepting bids for the 5.2-acre property, to be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on March 7. There is another property owner involved because a developer needs more land than the 5.2 acres.

Comm. Jensen – Absent

Comm. Riley – Jessica Wilson from the high school contacted him asking for permission for Students Against Drunk Drivers (SADD) to solicit for tag day donations during the Red Carpet Corridor event on May 4. Comm. Hileman made motion to grant permission as long as the group obtains insurance, second by Riley. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Riley, Wolf, Hileman, and Mayor Serena. Motion carried.

Comm. Wolf – Nothing to report

Casey McCollom – The contracts for the Watermain project are ready and need to be signed. The goal is to start mid-March, depending on weather. He is in contact with Scott Belt regarding the easement agreements.

Clerk Malinowski – Nothing to report.

Mayor Serena – He has contacted Quinlan to get the easement agreement signed and returned.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Riley, second by Wolf. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Riley, Wolf, Hileman, and Mayor Serena. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk