VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
September 23, 2019

Monday, September 23, 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 Rob Wolf, Tim Hill, Dick Hileman, Erik Smith and Mayor Mike Serena. Village Attorney Chris Dearth and Village Engineer Casey McCollom were also present. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of September 9, 2019 were presented. Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Wolf. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Smith, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

A list of current bills was presented. Comm. Hileman moved to approve the payment of the bills, second by Wolf. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Smith, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

The Treasurer's Report for the month of August was presented. Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as printed, second by Hill. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Smith, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Public Comments –

Resident Ida Schopp announced the Festival of Trees will be held the as in the past, in conjunction with the Tree Lighting the Sunday after Thanksgiving. This year the funds will donated toward the Girls' Baseball Diamond which needs some maintenance work. She asked that the clock be mentioned, and a plaque to be presented, with the date and how it came about, to be mounted on the clock.

Agenda –

Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the ordinance to amend the Village Code to impose a Municipal Retailers Occupational Tax on the gross sales of adult-use cannabis pursuant to the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, second by Smith. Adoption of this ordinance does not mean that the Village is or is not in favor of the recreational use of marijuana, it would put us in a position to collect taxes if we did elect to allow retail sales in the municipality. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Smith, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Brian Pusczan of First Midwest Bank/TSYS addressed the Board regarding credit payments to the Village. Various types of payments are available such as credit or debit cards and ACH (check), in person, over the phone or online, with several initial investments and different fees associated with them. The software application known as Transaction Express would cost $20 to $25 per month, plus fees for credit/debit of around 3% or 20¢ depending on the type of card and a percentage, 0.20% (.002) for ACH. The fees would be charged to the Village once a month, on the 10th of the month. A "convenience fee" would have to be added by the Village; it would not be done by the bank. Set up cost is $90 which includes one hour of training. So there would be three additional charges per month from the bank. With the virtual terminal detailed reports can be run and the card information can be saved. A generic terminal cannot run the reports. The cost would be $30 a month with a four year lease, or $600 with a one year warranty and we would own it outright. None of these applications will interface or work with our Locis software system, which is used to generate the water bills, along with accounts payable, payroll, and other functions.

Comm. Hileman made motion to approve Halloween Treat or Trick hours at 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., second by Wolf. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Smith, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Comm. Hileman moved to set the fall All-Town Clean Up on Monday, November 4, second by Wolf. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Smith, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Resident Mike Pokornicki addressed the Board regarding the trees at his home which he claims the Village trimmed to fall on his house, but the Village will not cut down Vicki Webster's tree. The county has done nothing and it was in the paper. The Mayor corrected him, saying that the trees were not cut in order to fall on his house. The Village also contacted the utilities and informed them of a dangerous situation. We also contacted the county and told them the tree is on their property, which we believe it is, and offered to help them if they would take the tree down. So his statement that we did nothing is incorrect. He then brought up the issue of animal control. An abandoned cat has moved into his garage. The Mayor suggested finding a farmer to take the cat. He then asked for an update on Pilot because there are rumors that they are going to Dwight. Mayor Serena informed him that Pilot has asked for an extension until the end of the year, which we granted.

Unfinished Business: No unfinished business was presented.

Reports –

Atty. Dearth – Will have something to discuss in Executive Session

Comm. Hileman – Nothing to report

Comm. Smith – Nothing to report

Comm. Hill – Nothing to report

Comm. Wolf – Following up with what he reported at the last meeting. J & A Landscaping has removed the concrete blocks and materials in the back.

Casey McCollom – Absent

Clerk Malinowski – Nothing to report

Mayor Serena – Following up on a question from the last meeting, two properties have been mowed by the Village. Farmers will soon be moving into the fields. The entrance signs were originally an Eagle Scout project and nothing has been done for a long time. Maintenance has done some clean up around them and painting can be done as a springtime project.

At 7:37 p.m. Comm. Hileman made motion to enter into executive session pursuant to 5ILCS120/2(c)(11) of The Open Meetings Act, second by Smith. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Smith, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

At 8:44 p.m. Comm. Hileman made motion to reconvene, second by Hill. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Smith, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Hill, second by Hileman. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Smith, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk