VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
January 25, 2021

Monday, January 25, 2021, at 7:02 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 Dick Hileman, Rob Wolf, Tim Hill, and Mayor Mike Serena. Also in attendance was Village Engineer Casey McCollom. No Village Attorney was present. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Todd Sandeno of D Construction.

The minutes of December 14, 2020 were presented. Comm. Wolf made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Hileman. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Hileman, Wolf, Hill, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

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

Public Comments

No public comments were presented

Agenda –

Mayor Serena read a letter from former Village Attorney Scott Belt announcing his resignation. Belt was appointed Associate Circuit Judge in Grundy County and can no longer practice law. We are currently without an attorney. We will request rates from Chris Dearth and will either move forward with him or another attorney. Belt was the Village Attorney since May of 1999. Comm. Wolf made motion to accept Belt's resignation, second by Hileman. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Hileman, Wolf, Hill, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business was presented

Reports

Comm. Hileman – A violation notice was received from IEPA regarding violations at the sewer plant. We got T & J Water as well as Chamlin involved in it. A report prepared by Chamlin on our behalf was presented with recommendations to bring the Village into compliance. The rock wall of the pond needs to be restored to its full design height. Once Chamlin can determine the amount of rock and other material required, the job will be put out to bid with a proposed completion date of June 15, at an estimated cost of $18,000-19,000.

We have h ad problems with the new pumps that were installed in the sewer plant. It is believed there was a power surge during the night and the generator kicked on and did not throw the automatic switch. Chris Cook had to come in to reprogram the controls. They will be back at the water plant to install the pumps. They are looking for payment for the pumps, which we will pay when they are up and running.

We will receive $52,487.61 from the CURES grant which covers a portion of our police protection and a couple of other things.

CDs are coming due on February 14 and he will make sure that the account is corrected.

Spring is coming, letters have been sent and some clean-ups have been done. Maintenance employees cleaned up one property on Main Street; we sent a letter to the owner of two houses on Jefferson Street, who had cut down some trees and left it there, and it has been cleaned up. There are some places that need to get some letters, with old cars and trucks sitting out on Village right-of-way.

We have not yet received the permit check from Kraus. Their contract expires in 2022. We will be checking into franchise fees they might owe us.

Casey reported that there will be another water tower payment due probably by the next meeting, we have paid them about a half-million so far.

Comm. Smith –Absent

Comm. Hill – Nothing to report

Comm. Wolf – Nothing to report

Casey McCollom – Reviewed the EPA response and progress on the water tower. They intend to paint the ball on the ground and then raise it. Parts of the stem are on site. They will weld the outside first, then flip to inside.

Clerk Malinowski – Nothing to report

Mayor Serena – One of employees has a CDL, the other has taken the written part and can only operate the truck when he has a passenger who has a CDL license. The last time we had a snow, Dan was out there by himself and he did a good job.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Hileman, second by Hill. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Hileman, Wolf, Hill, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk