VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
February 22 2021

Monday, February 22, 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 Rob Wolf, Tim Hill, Dick Hileman, and Mayor Mike Serena. Commissioner Erik Smith was absent. Also in attendance was Village Engineer Casey McCollom. No Village Attorney was present. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of January 25 were presented. Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Wolf. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

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

The Treasurer's Report for the months of December and January were presented. Comm. Wolf moved to approve the Treasurer's Reports as printed, second by Hileman. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Public Comments

No public comments were presented

Agenda –

A discussion was held regarding roof mounted solar energy systems as an amendment to the Village's solar farms ordinance. Ordinances from Diamond and Coal City were presented, with Coal City's more detailed. A decision to adopt an ordinance was tabled to the next meeting. The Village Clerk will draft an ordinance as an amendment to our current solar farms ordinance to be reviewed at the next meeting for possible approval.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business was presented

Reports

Comm. Hileman – CDs are coming due at Peoples National Bank in Dwight. CDs due at First Midwest will be renewed and he will make sure they will be deposited to the general fund and not the Centennial account.

A discussion was held regarding the 5+ acre property. A letter was presented from Midwest Commercial Real Estate to market the site. At present we have approximately $6,100 invested in the property, and the broker's fee would be 6% of the sale. We would have the option to choose the type of business and have the right to turn down an offer. A sales tax revenue producing type of business is most desirable. Hileman will contact the broker to move forward with the proposal.

One new pump is up and running at the water plant. We have received two loads of salt, 50 tons. We have to order a year in advance and that is what we ordered. Next year we will be ordering a lot more since we went through around 125 tons this year. He talked to Casey about whether we can use motor fuel tax funds to pay for road salt.

We still owe another $460,000 on the water tower and roughly $20,000 on engineering expenses.

Comm. Smith –Absent

Comm. Hill – He has received questions from residents about snow in front of fire hydrants. Hileman brought up property concerns such as abandoned cars, grass cutting and junk in yards.

He has been sending letters but pointed out that it is Comm. Hill's responsibility. Mayor Serena suggested sending letters with a deadline of May 1 to have clean up completed by Red Carpet weekend.

Comm. Wolf – Nothing to report. Added a comment regarding ground-mounted panels and green space limitations.

Casey McCollom – The pump project is moving along; there were some programming issues. The water tower is progressing and did not slow down much with the water. A decision has not yet been made with painting the ball on the ground or set it and then paint. They will roll the paint, they no longer spray. There might be an issue with accessibility on Main Street for a short while they are setting it as they are not sure where they will set the big crane. He has already contacted authorities and utilities regarding the project so they are aware what is taking place.

Casey will prepare a resolution for Board approval to use motor fuel tax funds for road salt, then it will need IDOT approval.

Mayor Serena asked Casey to see if Chamlin has a zoning map with overlays for the Ohare property.

Clerk Malinowski – Nothing to report

Mayor Serena – There had been some issues regarding snow removal, but there are only so many places you can push the snow. There were some problems with the trucks.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Wolf, second by Hill. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk