VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
September 13, 2021

Monday, September 13, 2021, 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 Erik Smith, Rob Wolf, and Mayor Mike Serena. Commissioners Tim Hill and Dick Hileman were absent. Also in attendance was Village Engineer Casey McCollom. Village Attorney Bryan Wellner was not present. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of the 20th anniversary of 9/11.

The minutes of August 23, 2021 were presented. Comm. Hileman made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Smith. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Smith, and Mayor Serena. Pass: Wolf. Nays: None. Motion passed.

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

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

Public Comments

Resident Dan Bell addressed the Board with a comment that things are looking better in the Village. He asked what the process is to condemn a building, as he had heard that a house that was condemned in the past was then purchased by the "condemner." He feels that the structure should come up for bid to the general public. Mayor Serena commented that he had just become aware of the situation recently and he did not think it was legal. He also commented on solar panels and golf carts, and using lawn mowers with a cart as transportation.

Agenda –

Resident Anthony Stein-Rojas, of 302 N. Pine, addressed the Board regarding an update on the Roof-Mounted Solar Panels ordinance, specifically section 15.15.545A, having to do with solar panels on the street side of a structure. With this restriction, south-facing houses would not be able to install solar panels. The Mayor commented that this is worth looking into. Comm. Smith commented that it might be advisable to have neighbors sign off to allow the installation. Village Engineer McCollom mentioned that most municipalities limit coverage.

The Ordinance to authorize the TIF second extension was on the agenda, however, it was not received from the TIF attorney because there is a specific timeline from the time the announcements were sent out. Comm. Wolf made motion, second by Smith, to table discussion/approval to the next meeting. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Smith, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Comm. Wolf made motion to table the Golf Cart Ordinance, second by Smith. We have not yet received any information from the County regarding Main Street. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Smith, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Unfinished Business

Mayor Serena has talked to Animal Control and they will review our suggestions in October, and present a contract in November. If we agree to renew the contract it will be effective December 1. They did report, however, that they will respond to animal bites.

Reports

Attorney Bryan Wellner – Absent

Comm. Hileman – Absent

Comm. Smith – Nothing to report

Comm. Hill – Absent

Comm. Wolf – Nothing to report

Casey McCollom – The new water tower is coming online. Demolition of the old tower is scheduled in the next couple of weeks. One water meter blew apart. We are now at 60#, and going to 65#.

Clerk Malinowski – Nothing to report

Mayor Serena – There was considerable wind damage last week as far as branches and tree limbs. Maintenance picked what residents brought out to the street.

At 7:34 p.m. Comm. Wolf made motion to enter into executive session pursuant to 5ILCS120/2(c)(1) of The Open Meetings Act, second by Smith. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Smith, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

At 7:50 p.m. Comm. Wolf made motion to reconvene, second by Smith Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Smith, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

On August 30, Maintenance employees were called back in to work to deal with a water main break on Washington Street and worked through the night until 8:00 a.m. the next morning. According to our employment policy, they were paid overtime only for those hours over 40 for the week. A revision to the policy will be offered for discussion/approval at the next Board meeting to pay time and one half for hours worked over eight hours in an emergency situation, subject to Board approval, when employees work past midnight into the next work day.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Wolf, second by Smith. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Smith, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk