VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
May 9, 2022

Monday, May 9, 2022, 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, Tim Hill, Dick Hileman, and Mayor Mike Serena. Village Engineer Casey McCollom was also present. Village Attorney Bryan Wellner was absent. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of April 25, 2022 were presented. Comm. Wolf made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Hill. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Mayor Serena. Pass: Smith. 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 Wolf. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Smith, Wolf, Hill, Smith, Mayor Serena. Nays – None. Motion passed.

Public Comments

Seve Frit, representing the Lutheran Church, was informed that there was an agenda item regarding the sidewalk issue and a vote would be taken when the Board gets to that part of the meeting.

Resident Dan Alexander addressed the Board regarding the Scapegoat Car Show during the Red Carpet event. He thanked the Board for allowing use of the Depot Street parking lot and commented that there was a lot of activity in the area, that it has grown over the years. They had changed trophy awards this year, a Cobra received the best of show. He is planning several changes for next year for registration and locations for all-day vs. temporary participants. Hugo and Don Phillips did a good job.

Unfinished Business – No unfinished business was presented

Agenda

Comm. Hill made motion, second by Smith, to approve payment for concrete only for the Lutheran Church once the bill is sent directly to the Village. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Smith, Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Mayor Serena. Nays – None. Motion passed.

Comm. Hileman made motion, second by Smith, to approve the All-Town Garage Sales. The proposed date for the sales is June 4, however, the refuse company cannot do the all-town clean-up on June 6; South Wilmington has that date. In the future, garage sales must be cleared with the Village before proceeding. The Clerk will work on coordinating with the person running the sales to see if the date can be changed. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Smith, Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Mayor Serena. Nays – None. Motion passed.

The All-Town Clean-Up has been scheduled with the refuse company for June 27. Comm. Hileman made motion to approve, second by Smith. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Smith, Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Mayor Serena. Nays – None. Motion passed.

Ordinances from several neighboring municipalities were distributed to Board members to review for discussion at the next meeting.

Reports

Attorney Bryan Wellner – Absent

Comm. Hileman – We received a bill from Chamlin and will transfer $100,000 from Motor Fuel Tax savings to checking. We have requested approval for approximately $230,000 from the state from Motor Fuel Tax for the road project.

He contacted Nicor. To run the generator at Ida Lane last month, once a week for one hour on Wednesdays, cost $158. In March it was 58¢ a therm, in April it was 68¢ a therm, and today it has gone to $1.11 a therm. So the gas bill just on Ida Lane (not including the water plant) will jump to $300 a month.

Comm. Smith – Presented photographs of seven alleys which need work. The alley behind the post office should be blacktopped, but not any of the others because it would cost around $500,000, according to Hileman. Also, the Village also owns the service road behind the BP since VonQualen was mayor. That has not been done since around 1996. To blacktop that will cost around $700,000 to $800,000 and that road is going to pot. Hileman also reported that at one time, the Church of Hope requested to blacktop the alley but it was not allowed because a sewer line runs through it and it would not be replaced if it had to be dug up.

Also brought up sidewalks that need work. The cost to redo one block of sidewalks is estimated at $20,000.

Comm. Hill – With summer coming up, several properties need to be cleaned up and junk cars need to be moved. Mayor Serena has requested letters to be sent from our attorney to a number of property owners.

Comm. Wolf – Nothing to report

Casey McCollom – Bids for the road project came in under estimate, P T Ferro was the low bidder at $192,074.32.

He also reported on grants for safe route/passage to school sidewalks. Schools would need to be involved, with letters of support and routes with/without bus service. They must be ADA compliant. The maximum is $200,000 with the state contributing $160,000 or 80%.

Clerk Malinowski – The audit is scheduled for June 20.

Mayor Serena – There were no issues with the Red Carpet event. Gaming machine owners have been contacted regarding our new ordinance. Several railroad crossings will be closed for 48 hours for repairs. He has provided phone numbers for any schools or other agencies that might be inconvenienced by the closings. We need to address the hole at Carbon Hill Road in the near future.

At 8:26 p.m. Comm. Hileman made motion to enter into executive session pursuant to 5ILCS120/2(c)(1) and 5ILCS120/2(c)11of The Open Meetings Act, second by Hill. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Smith, Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

At 8:51 p.m. Comm. Hileman made motion to reconvene, second by Hill, with agreement by the entire board. Motion passed.

A Special Board meeting will be held on Friday, May 13, at 4:00 p.m. to conduct interviews for the maintenance position. In addition, we have advertised that position at $25 and so it is only fair to increase Dan Babcock's salary to $25 per hour effective this morning, May 9.

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. Smith, Wolf, Hill, Hileman, Mayor Serena. Nays – None. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk