VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
February 13, 2023

Monday, February 13, 2023, 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 Dick Hileman, Erik Smith, Rob Wolf, and Mayor Mike Serena. Commissioner Tim Hill was absent. Village Engineer Casey McCollom was also present. Village Attorney Bryan Wellner was absent. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of January 23, 2023, were presented. Comm. Wolf made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Hileman. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Hileman, Smith, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

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

The Treasurer's Report for the month of January was not available.

Public Comments

Eric Heddins addressed the Board regarding a property at 205 West Parker that he is interested in purchasing. He wishes to use the garage for personal use, to store antique cars, and build kids' racing car chassis. He wants to make sure that there are no issues regarding the property before completing the purchase and was initially referred to the building inspector, who then directed him to the Planning & Zoning Board. The property is zoned Residential, and the P & Z Board recommended that he apply for a zoning variance for a garage and storage facility, since this is not one of the conditional permitted uses. Mayor Serena will review the issue with the P & Z Chairman and have a response at the next meeting.

The current owner, John Griffen, then addressed the Board regarding businesses on Main Street and Jackson Street being run out of residences. He indicated that he has no problem seeking legal counsel in this matter. He has been in court with the Village previously with regard to his property and said that he has no issue with spending taxpayer money.

Resident Rick Marketti addressed the Board regarding the South Jackson streetlights. Mayor Serena informed him that we have no update, we are waiting for ComEd to schedule. Street signs look good. He requested an update on the former Royal Blue building, and Mayor Serena reported that the issue has been referred to the Village Attorney. The owners of the building have been informed that they must provide an engineer's study on the building and that has not been done yet. He also remarked that there should be better lighting on the I-55 exit.

Unfinished Business – No unfinished business was presented

Agenda

Comm. Hileman made motion to approve purchase paint for the Red Carpet Corridor, second by Wolf. Volunteers will paint the medallions on Route 66 with paint provided by the Village and Route 66 organization provides signs to mark the route. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Hileman, Smith, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Reports

Attorney Bryan Wellner – Absent

Comm. Hileman – We have about five CDs totaling around $200,000 coming due, hopefully, we can get around 4.5%. We do not want to go out further than 15 months.

The fuel pump needs to be replaced in the old red Ford truck.

Comm. Smith – Nothing to report

Comm. Hill – Absent

Comm. Wolf – The Kraus contract has been auto-renewed for another ten years, however, there will be a meeting with Kraus on Friday, February 24.

Casey McCollom – The planning meeting for the railroad is set for February 28 with a back up of March 15. Some of the clean-up has been done on the asphalt but some requires further work. They are waiting for better weather to complete it.

Clerk Malinowski – Nothing to report

Mayor Serena – He has been to several meetings regarding Red Carpet. Several events are planned for Gardner – car show on Saturday; the Lions Club will be doing root beer floats and pork chop sandwiches on Saturday and Sunday; all Town Garage sales on Saturday and Sunday; working on a Tractor Show on Sunday.

As there was no further business brought before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Hileman, second by Smith. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Hileman, Smith, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk