VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
July 10, 2023

Monday, July 10, 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 Brad Kingma, Erik Smith, Tim Hill, Rob Wolf, and Mayor Serena. Village Engineer Casey McCollom was also present. Village Attorney Bryan Wellner was absent. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of June 26, 2023, were presented. Comm. Kingma made motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Hill. Roll call – Ayes: Kingma, Smith, Hill, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

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

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

Public Comments

Resident Rick Marketti addressed the Board regarding bidding for the new lawn mower, the Village had actually received bids from three businesses. The streetlights on South Jackson match the number of lights on Peck. Most of the streetlights in town are located at the intersections. Royal Blue – they received their permit in September of 2020 and it will be expiring in September of this year so they will need to apply for an extension. Drainage ditches – Fatlan did a good job on theirs, they are available for hire. The heads on the lights on the interstate were changed – Mayor Serena talked to someone at IDOT and within two days repairs were done. Out of 18 lights, eight were out and now fixed. He asked about grant money for repaving Rt. 129, would the grade school need to get involved. Letters of support might be helpful, Casey felt it would not go very far because of lack of accidents. More documented support community-wide is better than nothing. He asked whether getting a state representative involved would be helpful. Carbon Hill striping is not in the future.

Resident Sharon Pickles brought up several properties that need to be cleaned, with trailers and needing to be mowed. Also asked for an update on the train horns. We are at the notice of intent stage, which is a mandatory 60-day notice period, and we are in the middle of that. Fifteen days after that is the notice of establishment, once those letters go out, slowly the train whistles will phase out from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

Brian Fatlan addressed the Board about the recent water main break on Washington Street. He asked why he was not considered for the emergency water leak. Mayor Serena had called the three contractors we have used in the past. We will consider Fatlan in the future.

Unfinished Business – No unfinished business was presented

Agenda

A review of the Appropriations Ordinance 2023-02 took place, showing changes made to the previous year's ordinance. Comm. Hill made motion to approve the ordinance, second by Wolf. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Kingma, Smith, Hill, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

An offer of a land donation from the owner of property at Main and Jackson was discussed. It is possible that it had been a gas station in the past and there might be an issue with EPA. Comm. Wolf moved to table any further action until more research is done, second by Kingma. Roll call – Ayes: Comm. Kingma, Smith, Hill, Wolf, Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Reports

Attorney Bryan Wellner – Absent

Comm. Hill – Nothing to report

Comm. Smith – Nothing to report

Comm. Kingma – Nothing to report

Comm. Wolf – Asked if he has a key to the shop. Brought up an issue with a maintenance employee, who questioned his presence in the maintenance garage.

Casey McCollom – Mayor Serena asked if it would be a good idea to put a hydrant on that new line, based on a call from Joe Bexson. Casey said it might be a good idea to put one at the end of the line, however, it might be cost prohibitive at around $7,000 for just materials.

Clerk Malinowski – Nothing to report

Mayor Serena – The state has done some mowing of the ditches on 53. Our maintenance employees cleaned up what they could by the Subway and then the state finished

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: Kingma, Smith, Hill, Wolf, and Mayor Serena. Nays: None. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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Pat Malinowski, Clerk