

GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
June 13, 2023

The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor, Katherine Young.

Present: Jenna Silkworth, Susan Rochefort, Craig Potvin, and Kathy Young. Brenda Lester was absent.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Michigan Fire Equipment Grant Program Application was added under New Business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

MINUTES: Correction was made in the minutes for the May 9, 2023 regular Board meeting. Jenna made a motion, supported by Craig, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on May 9, 2023 as amended and special meeting held on May 22, 2023. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried. Motion made by Jenna, seconded by Sue, to approve the closed session meeting minutes for May 22, 2023. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Invoices were received from Damon Plumbing & Heating to install outside faucet and gas line for the township hall. Sue made a motion, seconded by Craig, to add the bills to the bill sheet. Roll Call Vote: Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes, and Kathy – yes. Motion carried. Motion was made by Jenna to approve the bills with the two additional invoices from Damon Plumbing & Heating, seconded by Sue. Roll Call Vote: Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes, and Kathy - yes. Motion carried.

REPORTS

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Assessor was not present. Assessor's report was received and will be kept on file. Kathy noted that special meetings will be set up to discuss solar ordinances for the township.

CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT: There has been 5 burials so far and 2 pending.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Keith Farley, Fire Chief, gave his report. Jenna made a motion, seconded by Craig, to have Mitch Rochefort remove overgrowth around the fire hall not to go over to \$300.00. Roll Call Vote: Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes, and Kathy – yes. Motion carried. New air packs have been received. New jaws will be received on June 14, 2023. At the end of June, the Delta County Board will open up the bids for the new side-by-side and at the July meeting the township board will need to select their preference. Once that's done, it's needs to go back to the County Board for their final approval. Final cost for the side-by-side may increase from the original estimates. Sue made a motion, seconded by Craig, to apply for a grant and complete a letter of intent for equipment (Michigan Fire Equipment Grant Program). Roll Call Vote: Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes, and Kathy – yes. Motion carried. Some things need to be ordered for their AED and Kathy will check into it. Keith updated the board on MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System).

TREASURER: The Treasurer and Clerk accounts balance for May, 2023. Jenna attended the first annual meeting for the treasurers in the county. She will look into getting a barcode scanner to expedite entering tax payments in BS&A.

TOWNSHIP HALL: Still looking into repairs for the hall roof.

TRANSFER STATION: Lawn mower is out for repair. Camera system is still pending.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Parks & Recreation Committee has lost two members, one from Fairbanks Township and the Village. A meeting will be scheduled when those members are appointed.

PLANNING COMMISSION: More frequent meetings, other than regular quarterly meetings, have not been scheduled yet.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: Supervisor did forward the township resolution for a speed study on U.S. Highway 2 at Garden Corners. Flag poles are up at the old cemeteries. The township is still waiting to hear from Cloverland Electric regarding their Franchise Agreement.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Enhanced Services for Tri-Star (Bay de Noc Ambulance Authority):** Tabled until we hear from Fairbanks.
- **Training:** Planning and Zoning and ZBA trainings are now on hold pending application of a grant from the Michigan Participating Plan. Sue made a motion, seconded by Craig, to approve trainings for the Clerk, Treasurer, and Supervisor by the Michigan Township's Association, five classes at \$90.00 a session, with approval for payment. Roll Call Vote: Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes, and Kathy – yes. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Reappointment for Planning & Zoning Commission Member:** Jodi Durrance's term on the Planning Commission is ending June 30, 2023. Kathy would like her reappointed and stated she contacted Jodi who she would like to continue on the Planning Commission. Jenna made a motion, seconded by Sue, to appoint Jodi Durrance for a three-year term on the Planning Commission Board for the term ending on June 30, 2026. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- **Renewal of Interim Zoning Ordinance:** Resolution to renew the interim zoning ordinance was read by Kathy. A motion was made by Sue, seconded by Craig, to adopt the resolution to renew the interim zoning ordinance for a period of one-year, effective July 30, 2023. Roll Call Vote: Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes, and Kathy – yes. Motion carried.
- **Tax Collection Policy:** Motion was made by Jenna, seconded by Craig, to adopt the Tax Collection policy as presented by the Treasurer. Roll Call Vote: Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes. and Kathy – yes. Motion carried.
- **Waste Hauler License:** Motion was made by Sue, seconded by Craig to pay and approve the fees for the waste hauler license renewal for the Transfer Station for \$45.00. Roll Call Vote: Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes, and Kathy – yes. Motion carried.
- **Debit Card Policy:** Jenna made a motion to approve the debit card policy as presented, seconded by Craig. Roll Call Vote: Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes, and Kathy – yes. Motion carried.
- **Part-Time Position Vacancy:** Position was advertised and one application was received. Another application was received after the deadline. Motion was made by Sue, seconded by Jenna, to accept the late application. Roll Call Vote: Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes, and Kathy – yes. Motion carried. A motion was made by Craig, seconded by Jenna, to hire Arnold Weaver as the part-time employee. Roll Call Vote: Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes, and Kathy – yes. Motion carried. Sue made a motion, seconded by Craig, to have a 90-day probationary period for all new hires. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- **Lawn Mower Attachment:** Equipment presented is made by Agri-Fab which is a large vacuum with a chipper. Board decided to table this to allow feedback from new employee.
- **Dump Trailer:** A dump trailer would benefit the Transfer Station to haul mattresses and other large items to Solid Waste. Now, the employee has to unload all the mattresses by himself but with the dump trailer, he'll just have to dump them. An estimate was received for a new dump trailer. Jenna made a motion, seconded by Craig, to purchase a dump trailer at a cost up to \$14,500.00. Roll Call Vote: Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes, and Kathy – yes. Motion carried.
- **Michigan Fire Equipment Grant Program Application:** Covered in Fire Department Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment was received.

Sue made a motion, seconded by Craig, to adjourn. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Lee Lester
Garden Township Clerk