

GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
May 11, 2021

The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:05 p.m. by appointed Township Supervisor, Gary Sporer.

Prayer was given by appointed Supervisor, Gary Sporer

Present: Craig Potvin, Janet Feenstra-Daasch, Brenda Lester, Susan Rochefort, and Gary Sporer

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: New hire for Transfer Station/Cemetery was added under Old Business. Treasurer computer and printer, road resurfacing for 17th and 18th Roads and American Rescue Plan funding were added under New Business

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

MINUTES: Sue made a motion, seconded by Janet, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on April 13, 2021. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Sue, to increase Miscellaneous Expense, Other from \$5,000.00 to \$25,594.00 and the Contingency Fund from \$6,292.06 to \$26,886.06 for the General Fund. Roll Call Vote: Brenda – yes, Janet – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes, and Gary – yes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: Payment to Delta County Equalization for annual services and consulting fee for \$1,268.10 was added under the General Fund. A motion was made by Sue, seconded by Craig, to approve the bills as submitted by the Clerk plus the addition to Delta County Equalization. Roll Call Vote: Brenda – yes, Janet – yes, Sue – yes, Craig – yes, and Gary – yes. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Joe Maki presented the assessor's report and a copy will be on file.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Report was given by Chief, Keith Farley.

CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT: Spring burials have started and a load of topsoil is needed. A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Janet, to order a load of topsoil from D&L Gembel for \$125.00. Roll Call Vote: Brenda – yes, Janet – yes, Craig – yes, Sue – yes, and Gary – yes. Motion carried. The clerk's QuickBooks software needs an upgrade. The price will be anywhere from \$199.00 to \$399.00 and was listed on the bill sheet.

TREASURER: The Treasurer and Clerk accounts balance for the month of April, 2021.

TOWNSHIP HALL: A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Sue, to rent the hall to Mary Wood for \$75.00 per day plus a \$200.00 deposit on August 20th, 21st, and 22nd, 2021. Mary Wood will also need to provide an insurance rider to show there's coverage for the event. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried. The board discussed the option of allowing the public to come into the hall to play basketball again. Craig and Gary will look into security cameras. Sue will work on an agreement and will talk to the health department to find out the requirements needed regarding COVID-19.

TRANSFER STATION: Bill will run a cable along the fence at the Transfer Station. The increase in fees for beds, furniture, TV's, was tabled. Craig will talk to Mike Lang, Fairbanks Township Supervisor, to see if they may want to join Garden Township and make the Transfer Station a joint effort for both townships.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Janet said volunteers met at the township park on April 16th for spring cleanup.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: Appointed Supervisor, Gary Sporer, gave his report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Fire Signs:** Nothing will be done until the spring. Supervisor is keeping track of missing and incorrect signs for the second phase. Gary will talk to Mike Lange next week to compare lists.
- **PILT Money:** Tabled. Since there's been no new information, this will be taken off the agenda until more information is received.
- **Hiring of Part-Time Employee for Transfer Station and Cemetery:** There were two applicants that applied for the part-time position, Betty Smithson and Douglas Wright. Janet made a motion, seconded by Craig, to hire Betty Smithson as the part-time employee. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- **Marq 6 Update:** They are still testing so nothing has been settled.
- **Purchase of State Land at Transfer Station:** Still waiting for the paperwork from the State of Michigan.
- **Vans Harbor Street Lights:** Tabled until the township is able to get a list from Cloverland.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Road Repairs and Chloride Treatment:** Delta County Road Commission wants to do work on 18th Road by the golf course. They would grind up what's there, grade it out, and resurface it next year with seal coat. The price is \$12,000.00. It was also mentioned that 17th Road (Van's Harbor Road) may be another option. Brenda wanted to know if there were any other options because there may be other roads that need repair. Brenda also wanted to know how much road money the Road Commission receives to maintain the roads in Garden Township. Gary is going to talk to the Delta County Road Commission with the board's questions; therefore, the project for the repair of 18th Road is tabled. The Hiawatha National Forrest P.I.L.T. money was received in the amount of \$12,476.12 for a total available of \$18,632.32 which may be used for repairs and chloride treatment this year. Brenda made a motion, seconded by Janet, to approve project agreement with the Delta County Road Commission for chloride application for 2021 at a cost of 41 cents per gallon, spot applied. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- **Zoning Contract:** The new zoning contract was received from Delta County. A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Sue, to approve the zoning contract. Ayes: 4, Nays: 1. Motion carried.
- **Treasurer Computer and Printer:** A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Janet, to approve the purchase of a new laptop, printer, and all peripherals needed for the treasurer as long as the total price is equal to or less than \$2,000.00. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- **American Rescue Plan:** Garden Township will be receiving about \$70,000.00 from the American Rescue Plan. It may be received sometime before the end of June, 2021. The township must have a DUNS number and a SAMS registration in order to receive the money. The guidelines haven't been received yet and the money must be spent by December 31, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Gary made a motion, seconded by Sue, to adjourn at 9:18 p.m. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Lester
Garden Township Clerk