

**GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**April 12, 2022**

The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:07 p.m. by Supervisor, Steven Freeman.

**Present:** Brenda Lester, Janet Feenstra Daasch, Craig Potvin, Susan Rochefort, and Steven Freeman

**CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Added minutes for the Budget Hearing meeting that took place on March 8, 2022.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None.

**MINUTES:** Sue made a motion, seconded by Brenda, to approve the minutes as read for the regular meeting held on March 8, 2022; Budget Hearing meeting held on March 8, 2022; and special meeting held on March 29, 2022. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS:** None.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:** A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Sue, to approve the bills as presented by the Clerk. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Janet – yes, Sue – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried.

**REPORTS**

***ASSESSOR'S REPORT:*** Assessor, Joe Maki, presented his report. Craig asked the exact date some permits for solar arrays were applied for. Joe state the board would need to contact the Building and Zoning Department in Delta County.

***FIRE DEPARTMENT:*** Chief, Keith Farley, presented his report. ***Janet made a motion, seconded by Sue, that \$1,500.00 is moved out of the Building Maintenance Expense budget and added to the Communications Equipment Expense budget*** and then allow Fire Chief to purchase ten pagers, not to exceed \$4,000.00. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Janet – yes, Sue – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried. The board discussed what would be involved with lighting off fireworks on July 4, 2022.

***CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT:*** Daughter of Montgomery Ward, Regina Ward, contacted Brenda regarding burying her father's ashes on the one of graves that were purchased by Montgomery's mother, Evelyn Wendlandt (a.k.a. Evelyn Ward and Evelyn LaButte). There are two vacant graves and Brenda asked the board if she should treat it as first come, first serve. The board stated that Regina should contact all her aunts and uncles and ask for permission. Staples doesn't have any paper towel and soap dispensers available at this time. Brenda checked with Quill Corporation and found some on their website. Brenda was unable to place an order to be invoiced and before they would give Garden Township the ability to be invoiced. Janet made a motion, seconded by Sue, to allow Brenda to purchase supplies form Quill Corporation totaling \$657.46 using the township's debit card. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Sue – yes, Janet – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried. A motion was made by Sue, seconded by Brenda, that Brenda has permission to place an order with Quill Corporation during the months of May and June, 2022, for regular office supplies not to exceed \$150.00 per month. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Sue – yes, Janet – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried. The Accident Fund Audit is almost ready to submit and an extension was granted from the Accident Fund from them until April 22, 2022. Receipt issue was discussed regarding the Transfer Station. Brenda suggested Janet contact the township auditors at the time of the audit to come up with an acceptable practice. For now, Janet will make copies of the carbon copies in the Transfer Station receipt book so the office has a record of missing receipts. The Deputy Supervisor Expense account will need an adjustment in the budget. Brenda will request the budget amendment at the next regular meeting. Brenda made a motion, seconded by Janet, to use ARPA funds to purchase the towel and soap dispensers and start-up supplies. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

***TREASURER:*** The Treasurer and Clerk accounts balance for the month of March, 2022.

**TOWNSHIP HALL:** Sue will contact Hannula Agency to see if there are any grants available for the township to purchase a generator for the township hall. There are still repairs needed for the mold issue upstairs and the roof needs to be inspected for the hall. There will be rentals on June 25, 2022 and on September 3, 2022 for weddings.

**TRANSFER STATION:** Nothing to report.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** An ad was placed in The Advisor for the 30-day public review period for the draft of the Garden Peninsula Recreation Plan. A digital copy of the draft plan is available on gardentwp.com and a paper copy is available at the school and the township office. There will be a public hearing after the public review and then the three boards, Garden Township, Fairbanks Township, and the Village of Garden, will have to vote on the plan's acceptance.

**SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:** Steve will meet with Gary Sporer to go over the maintenance plan.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER:** John Malnar, District 1 Delta County Commissioner, was not present.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Fire Signs:** Signs have been printed and will be installed in the spring.
- **Purchase of State Land at Transfer Station:** Still pending. Brenda received a phone call from Bob Burnham. They are still working on this and Lansing still needs to make a decision.
- **Road Repairs:** Steven's Lake Road project will be more costly than originally thought. Steve talked to Jody Norman who stated the Steven's Lake Road Project will be more costly than originally thought. Steve will talk with Gary Sporer and get back to the board.
- **Cemetery Ordinance:** Still pending.
- **Transfer Station Millage:** Ballot language was received from the township attorney. Craig made a motion, seconded by Janet, to approve the ballot language for the millage proposal for the Transfer Station. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Janet – yes, Sue – yes, and Steve – yes. Ballot language was approved.
- **Cloverland Franchise Agreement:** Township attorney is working on it.
- **Covid Bonuses for Essential Workers and First Responders:** Brenda made a motion, seconded by Janet, to not consider Covid bonuses for Essential Workers and First Responders at this time. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Delta County Zoning Repeal:** A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Craig, to contact the township attorney regarding the legal issues with the potential repeal of zoning by Delta County. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- **Solar Ordinance:** Tabled.
- **Cemetery Clean Up:** Craig will contact the school to see if there are any students that would assist with the clean-up.
- **Fairbanks Township Fire Protection Agreement:** Janet made a motion, seconded by Craig, to approve the Fairbanks Township Fire Protection agreement. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Janet – yet, Sue – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried.
- **New Requests for Fire Signs:** Steve has received new requests for fire signs who missed the deadline. Steve will contact Delta County to find out who they need to contact to request a new sign and will have the information posted on the township's website.
- **Website Update:** Tabled.
- **Township Office Purchases:** Tabled.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public contact

Steve made a motion, seconded by Janet, to adjourn. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Lester  
Garden Township Clerk