

**GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
October 11, 2022**

The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:01 p.m. by Supervisor, Steven Freeman.

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

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Approval of the Bills was moved to the end of the agenda before Public Comment. Land Division Fees was added under Old Business. Salaries for the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals boards was added under New Business. Attorney Fees was added under New Business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

MINUTES: Janet made a motion, supported by Sue, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on September 13, 2022. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: The following budget amendments were presented to the Board by the Township Clerk for the General Fund:

- **Zoning – Contracted Services Exp:** Increase from \$-0- to \$3,083.00
- **Zoning – Board of Appeals Wage Exp:** Increase from \$-0- to \$1,000.00
- **Zoning – Travel Exp:** Increase from \$-0- to \$200.00
- **Zoning – Ads & Notices Exp:** Increase from \$-0- to \$200.00
- **Zoning – Supplies Exp:** Increase from \$-0- to \$100.00
- **Legal Contracted Services Exp:** Increase from \$20,000.00 to \$25,000.00, an increase of \$5,000.00
- **Twp. Office – Dues Exp:** Increase from \$1,500.00 to \$1,680.00, an increase of \$180.00
- **Contingency Fund:** Decrease from \$24,000.00 to \$17,395.69, a decrease of \$6,604.31

REPORTS

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Assessor, Joe Maki, gave the assessor's report and a copy will be kept on file. The report included two properties that were foreclosed upon and sold to pay the taxes. Brenda stated the Township did receive notice from the Delta County Treasurer about one property in the northern part of the township but the other property listed was in the Village and the Township was not notified, giving them the first right of refusal. Steve stated he would call the County Treasurer to inquire as to why the Township was not notified.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief, Keith Farley, was not present to give his report. Steve will follow up on maintenance needed in Tri-Star's office to repair the ceiling drywall and to find out if the roof was repaired.

CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT: Election Commission will meet on October 13, 2022 at 10:30 to make decisions for the State General Election. There will be a training for election workers on October 20, 2022 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The insurance company was billed for the extra wages for the cemetery workers for the storm clean-up damages. The claim total was \$4,085.00 and the township will be reimbursed \$3,585.00 (deductible is \$500.00). An extension was received for billing the State of Michigan for the Fire Department's grant they received for turn-out gear. The audit has been completed by Anderson Tackman and Brenda will meet with them on October 20, 2022 to discuss their findings. The Annual F-65 Report has been completed and was submitted online to the Michigan Department of Treasury. Brenda will place an ad in The Advisor regarding the fall clean-up at the cemetery. The Township was informed by Cooper Office that the new color copier may take up to six months before it's received.

TREASURER: The Treasurer and Clerk accounts balance for September, 2022.

TOWNSHIP HALL: Randy Myszkier is still planning on repairing the flashing on the hall chimneys. Brenda made a motion, seconded by Sue, to have Janet to apply for a matching funds grant for a new generator for the township hall from the Michigan Participating Plan. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

TRANSFER STATION: Steve did write a letter to the editor to the Manistique Pioneer Tribune stating recyclables will only be received by Garden Township residents or property owners. Bill needs to order a replacement hand pump for the Transfer Station.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Janet gave her report. A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Craig, to paint the pit toilets at the Garden Township Park. A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Craig, to purchase the paint and supplies, not to exceed \$500.00, to be paid with the Township's debit Card. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Sue -yes, Janet – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: Delta County's Addressing Committee is in the process of realigning the road systems to fit with Delta County's 911 grid system. All areas of the County will be affected to include all Township's, City's, and Villages. This will change some building addresses. The project may take up to a year or more to complete. The County has asked to have the Township put on hold issuing anymore 911 fire signs until the changes have been made; therefore, the sign project is on hold. Steve wants to get something together to let the public know what the process is in an emergency, fire or EMS.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Janet updated the Board on the Planning Commission. There will be a public hearing and a special meeting on October 24, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. They are working on temporary solar and wind ordinances for the interim zoning ordinance.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER: Not present.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Land Division Fees:** Tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

- **MiDeal Membership:** In order to take advantage of the reduced price for the new color copier, the Township needs to become a member for a fee of \$180.00. Motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Janet, to approve the MiDeal membership along with the payment of \$180.00. Roll Call Vote: Sue – yes, Janet – yes, Brenda – yes, Craig – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried.
- **WIX Website and Domain Renewal:** The Township's website and domain will expire on November 26, 2022. Steve will work with Nicole on getting the email for the account changed over to the township supervisor's email account and check further into it.
- **Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals Salaries:** Motion was made by Janet, seconded by Brenda, to pay a meeting stipend to the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals members at a rate of \$40.00 per meeting which includes the ex officio members. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Sue – yes, Janet – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried.
- **Attorney Fees:** Motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Sue, that the Planning Commission receive approval in advance from the Township Board before they confer with the Township Attorney. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: The Township was informed by Cooper Office that the new color copier may take up to six months before it's received. A motion was made by Craig, seconded by Janet, to approve the bills as presented by the Clerk. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Sue – yes, Janet – yes, Sue – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment was received.

Janet made a motion, seconded by Craig, to adjourn. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Lester
Garden Township Clerk