

**GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**June 10, 2025**

The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:04 p.m. by Supervisor, Kathy Young.

**Present:** Susan Rochefort, Jenna Silkworth, Craig Potvin, Brenda Lester, and Kathy Young,

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Public comment was received.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Brenda requested an additional item under New Business, trash bin for the township hall. A motion was made by Jenna to approve the agenda with the additional change. It was seconded by Sue. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**MINUTES:** Brenda made a motion, seconded by Jenna, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on May 13, 2025 and special meeting held on June 4, 2025. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS:** None.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:** A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Jenna, to approve payment of the bills as presented by the Clerk. Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Sue, Jenna, Craig, Brenda, and Kathy. Nays - None. Motion carried.

**BOARD OR COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:** Kathy made a motion, seconded by Sue, to appoint Deanna Manke and Janet Feenstra Daasch to the Planning Commission with their terms ending on December 31, 2027, at 12:01 a.m. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Correspondence received from the United States Department of Agriculture regarding Gabor Zsolnay.

**REPORTS**

***ASSESSOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:*** Joe Maki was not present for his report. A motion was made by Jenna, supported by Brenda to accept the Assessor/Zoning Administrator report for May, 2025. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried. A copy of the report will be on file.

***FIRE DEPARTMENT:*** Fire Chief, Keith Farley, was not present; therefore, no report was received.

***TRANSFER STATION:*** Bill Harris, Transfer Station Attendant, stated that Delta Solid Waste will be setting up a date for tire collection at their site in Escanaba. An invoice has not been received for the repair of the doors. Bill will follow up with Delta Door. Transfer Station needs a new lawn mower. Gas pump needs a new nozzle and Bill will contact Manistique Oil to ask them to repair it.

***CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT:*** Brenda gave her report. Clerk will attend training next week for the cemeteries and the new Earned Sick Time Act. HLE Drones sent a refund check in the amount of \$2,500.00 because they reduced the price of the drone. Brenda stated she asked Keith if the Township needs to send the money left over from the 2% Grant to Sault Tribe since it wasn't all spent and was told the Township may keep it. Keith plans on using the leftover money for training for the drone and other items they may need for it. There has been a lot of burials, mostly cremations. Audit report was received and a copy was given to each Board member. A motion was made by Jenna, seconded by Kathy, to accept the clerk's financial report for May, 2025. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

***TREASURER:*** Jenna gave her report. The Treasurer and Clerk accounts balance for May, 2025. Summer tax bill will be mailed before the end of June. A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Sue, to accept the treasurer's report for May, 2025. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**TOWNSHIP HALL:** Sue gave her report. An electrical problem needs to be repaired related to the septic system. A-1 Septic will come to determine what the problem is. Hiawatha Chef looked at the floor scrubber and the stove in the kitchen. The scrubber needs two new batteries and the gas lines on the back of the stove need to be replaced. Hiawatha Chef will come back and do all the repairs. A verbal estimate was received from Damon Plumbing for the furnace repair in the amount of \$550.00. Floor scrubber is not working and Sue is working with Hiawatha Chef for its repairs.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** Jenna gave her report.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** They are working on the Master Plan and the Zoning Ordinance. Master Plan will be ready soon to present to the Township Board.

**SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:** Kathy gave her report and gave information regarding the emergency 911 signs.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Land Division Appeal:** Land Division appeal may no longer be needed. Applicant will contact Assessor regarding this.
- **First Bank Accounts:** Tabled.
- **Employee Handbook Policy:** Tabled.
- **Road Repair Plan:** Tabled.
- **Emergency Preparedness Shelters:** Kathy completed the survey stating that the Township Hall may be used for emergency cooling and heating during disasters.
- **Master Plan:** Resolution to adopt the Master Plan was offered and read by Brenda, supported by Jenna. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Push Mower for Transfer Station:** Bill presented prices for 4 different lawn mowers. Two were from Menards: Two 21" mowers for \$189.99 and \$219.00. The other two were from Ace, a 21" for \$344.00 and a 20" for \$319.19.
- **Transfer of Graves:** A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Jenna, to transfer 4 graves from the Historical Society to Spencer Larscheid (2 graves) and Heidi and Mark Ostrowski (2 graves). These graves are located in Block 3, Lot 66, graves 3, 4, 7, and 8. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Craig, Sue, Jenna, Brenda and Kathy. Nays: none. Motion carried.
- **Roof for Township Hall Generator and Air Conditioners:** Sue will check into options.
- **Local Community Stabilization Funds Received in May:** Motion by Jenna, seconded by Sue, to put entire May payment of the Local Stabilization money, \$25,251.92, into the General Fund. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Sue, Craig, Brenda, Jenna, and Kathy. Nays: none. Motion carried.
- **Tax Rate Request:** Motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Jenna, for the Township to request the maximum millage rate for all funds. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Kathy, Brenda, Sue, Craig, and Jenna. Nays: none. Motion carried.
- **Trash Bin for Township Hall:** Tabled. Kathy volunteered to call the Village to see if they'd be willing to remove trash from a bin rather than on the street.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Public comment was received.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Jenna, seconded by Craig to adjourn. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Lee Lester  
Garden Township Clerk