

**GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**March 9, 2021**

The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:10 p.m. by Township Clerk, Brenda Lester. Supervisor, Gerry Tatrow, was not present. The meeting was held virtually through Zoom.

**Present:** Craig Potvin, Brenda Lester, Janet Feenstra-Daasch, and Susan Rochefort.

**MODERATOR:** Brenda made a motion, seconded by Craig, to appoint Janet as the meeting moderator due to the absence of Gerry. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** None

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

**MINUTES:** Craig made a motion, seconded by Sue, to approve the minutes for February 9, February 17, and March 3, 2021. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS:** None.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:** Payment to Eagle Assessment Services was added under the General Fund. A motion was made by Sue, seconded by Craig, to approve the bills as submitted by the Clerk. Roll Call Vote: Sue – yes, Craig – yes, Janet – yes, and Brenda – yes. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:**

**ASSESSOR'S REPORT:** The board accepted the Assessor Report as received which included a land division for parcel number 010-054-014-00 between LaButte and KEG Land Co., LLC.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Chief Farley was not present. The plow has been repaired on the truck.

**CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT:** The Clerk was unable to complete her clerk reports and the reconciliations of funds could not be completed with the Treasurer because all bank reconciliations need to be redone for the months of May 2020 to present due to the entry of accountant's changes from the last audit. Brenda made a motion, seconded by Janet, to increase the price of graves sold to township residents or property owners to \$200.00 per grave and \$550.00 per grave to people that do not reside or own property in Garden Township. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**PAY BACKS TO THE GENERAL FUND:** A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Janet, to have the Fire Department pay the General Fund their share of expenses for Administrative Salaries in the amount of \$3,500.00, Assessor/Equalization for \$2,527.48, Newsletter for \$122.40, and Township Office Expenses for \$900.00. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Sue – yes, Brenda – yes, and Janet – yes. Motion passed. Motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Janet, to have the Transfer Station pay the General Fund their share of expenses for Administrative Salaries in the amount of \$8,000.00, Assessor/Equalization for \$5,265.58, Newsletter for \$255.00, and Township Office Expenses for \$2,370.64. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Sue – yes, Brenda – yes, and Janet – yes. Motion passed.

**TREASURER:** The Treasurer and Clerk were not able to reconcile the funds due to the Clerk's problem with the bank reconciliations. There was also a deposit for property taxes that was deposited into the General Fund for the Transfer Station and Fire Department funds in error. There was a treasurer's report presented to the board; however, due to the deposit error will need to be revised.

**TOWNSHIP HALL:** Sue asked if the office needs to be open for the Board of Review. Brenda will forward the Wi-Fi password to Colleen Maki and Janet will be in the office in case they need to get in. Sue made a motion, seconded by Janet, to open the hall for small gatherings of 25 or less. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**TRANSFER STATION:** The “To Do List” is still being worked on. Parts are ordered for the heaters. The consideration to increase the fees for beds, TV’s, etc. was tabled. Janet said she’ll contact Delta Solid Waste to get their list of fees.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** A new recreational plan will need to be done in about a year.

**SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:** Supervisor was not present.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Fire Signs:** Nothing will be done until the spring.
- **Hiring of Part-Time Employee:** Tabled.
- **Marq 6 Internet:** Craig said their next step is to go up on the tower to get signal from The Dock. If they are able to get a signal then a proposal will be done.
- **Audio System:** Craig ordered the system and it should arrive soon.
- **Purchase of State Land at Transfer Station:** Craig will complete the paperwork for the transfer of the property from the State of Michigan to Garden Township. The State of Michigan wants the township to ask them to rescind the revision clause so the property doesn’t go back to the State of Michigan because they do not want it back.
- **Appointment of Temporary Supervisor:** The deadline for applications is March 19, 2021. The board agreed that a special meeting will need to be scheduled the following week.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Public Use of Township Hall:** Covered under Treasurer’s Report.
- **Land Division:** Covered under Assessor Report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

Brenda made a motion, seconded by Craig, to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Lester  
Garden Township Clerk