

**GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**April 11, 2023**

The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m. by Janet Feenstra Daasch, Deputy Supervisor.

**Present:** Susan Rochefort, Craig Potvin, Jenna Silkworth, and Brenda Lester. Kathy Young, Supervisor, was absent. Janet Feenstra Daasch facilitated the meeting due to the supervisor's absence.

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

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

**MINUTES:** Brenda made a motion, supported by Sue, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on March 14, 2023; budget hearing meeting held on March 23, 2023; and special meeting held on March 28, 2023. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS:** None.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:** Sue made a motion, seconded by Craig, to approve the bills. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Sue – yes, Jenna – yes, and Brenda – yes. Motion carried.

**REPORTS**

***ASSESSOR'S REPORT:*** Colleen Maki presented the assessor's report. Land splits were approved by Assessor for parcel numbers 041-200-032-00 and 041-417-042-60.

***FIRE DEPARTMENT:*** Motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Sue, to approve the payment of the 2023 Fire Chief's Association annual dues in the amount of \$35.00. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Jenna – yes, and Sue – yes. Motion carried. Chief, Keith Farley, gave his report. The family of Nick Roder has directed memorial donations to the Garden Township Fire Department but the family gave the Village of Garden's address in error. Brenda said she would call the Village to let them know to forward donations to the Fire Department. The jaws were serviced and the bill has been received. Keith received three estimates for the new combo/jaws, Pomasl for \$12,895.00 for a demo, from Michigan Rescue Resources for \$13,825.00, and the TNT model for \$10,775.00 which is the one Keith recommended. The TNT model has a lifetime warranty and they would come to us, it uses regular Milwaukee 18-volt batteries and the other models may only be used with specific batteries through their companies. If a battery is needed, they could pick it up more easily if the TNT model was purchased. A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Jenna, to approve the purchase of the TNT model combination tool in the amount of \$10,775.00. Roll Call Vote: Brenda – yes, Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, and Craig - yes. Motion carried. The old jaws will still be kept and used as needed. The air packs and bottles, except for about \$3,000.00, would be covered by the extra money from Fairbanks for fire protection for this fiscal year. Motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Sue, to pay the bill for the TNT Combination Tool at the time of receipt as long as the price is at or below \$10,775.00. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Sue – yes, Jenna – yes, and Brenda – yes. Motion carried. Motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Sue, to give the fire department approval to order 6 air packs and 12 air bottles from Dalmatian Fire Equipment, LLC provided that the equipment and shipping does not go over \$20,000.00 along with approval to pay the invoice when received. Roll Call Vote: Jenna – yes, Sue – yes, Brenda – yes, and Craig – yes. Motion carried. Keith will order the air packs, bottles, and combination tool. Tier III grant money for the new side by side has been applied for.

***TREASURER:*** The Treasurer and Clerk accounts balance for March, 2023.

***CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT:*** Brenda gave her Clerk Report. The 50% DNR grant money has been received for the turn-out gear. Sue made a motion, seconded by Craig, to place a notice in The Advisor asking for volunteers to help clean-up the cemetery. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried. Brenda will also

place an ad for the removal of flowers/decorations for spring clean-up along with some rules for the cemetery.

**TOWNSHIP HALL:** Sue is meeting with Superior Electric on Thursday about the generator. The township is still waiting for an estimate from Valentine Construction for the hall roof. They plan on working with another company because they don't have liability insurance. Jenna made a motion, seconded by Sue, to have Sue place an ad in The Advisor for estimates for the hall roof repairs. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**TRANSFER STATION:** Empty plastic bags are not recyclable.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** Nothing new.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** Motion was made by Jenna, seconded by Craig, to approve a variance request that was approved by the Garden Township Board of Appeals at their meeting held on April 6, 2023 to allow the building of a garage within the normal set-back requirements. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:** Motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Jenna, to support a speed study for U.S. 2 traffic by Garden Corners. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried. A resolution now needs to be completed and approved by the board.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Enhanced Services for Tri-Star (Bay de Noc Ambulance Authority):** Tabled.
- **Speed Study:** Moved to Supervisor Comments under Reports.
- **Tax Collection Policy.** Not completed yet.
- **Flag Poles for Cemeteries:** The two flag poles and solar lights have been received for the Old Garden and Kate's Bay Cemeteries. A solar light was not ordered for the flag at New Garden Cemetery due to lack of sunlight at the pole's location.
- **NFIP Reinstatement:** The Township of Garden has been reinstated as a participating community in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Assessor's Contract:** Motion was made by Jenna, seconded by Sue, to approve the new Assessor's contract for May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2023. Roll Call Vote: Sue – yes, Brenda – yes, Craig – yes, and Jenna – yes. Motion carried.
- **Certificate of Compliance Liquor Control Code:** Jenna will complete the report.
- **Fairbanks Fire Protection Agreement:** A motion was made by Jenna, seconded by Sue, to approve the amended contract for fire protection provided to Fairbanks Township. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- **Grow Our Garden Group:** Motion was made by Sue, seconded by Jenna, to allow the Grow Our Garden Group to plant small bushes in front of the township hall. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

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

Sue made a motion, seconded by Craig, to adjourn. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Lee Lester  
Garden Township Clerk