

**GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**June 14, 2022**

The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor, Steven Freeman.

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

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

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

**MINUTES:** Janet made a motion, seconded by Sue, to approve the minutes as read for the regular meeting held on May 10, 2022. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS:** The following budget amendments were presented by the Clerk for the Fire Department:

Miscellaneous Exp.: Increase from \$150.00 to \$175.00  
Building Maintenance Exp.: Decrease from \$5,023.19 to \$4,998.19

A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Brenda, to approve the budget amendments presented by the Clerk. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Sue – yes, Janet – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:** A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Sue, to purchase and approve the payment of the Plus Package for Michigan Township's Association online training for \$1,000.00. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Janet – yes, Sue – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried. A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Janet, to adjust the General Fund Budget by increasing new account Township Office MTA Training expense account from \$-0- to \$1,000.00 and decreasing Cemetery Contracted Expense from \$10,000.00 to \$9,000.00. Roll Call Vote: Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Janet – yes, Sue – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried. A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Janet, to approve the bills as presented by the Clerk with the addition of \$1,000.00 for MTA training. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Janet – yes, Sue – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried.

**REPORTS**

***ASSESSOR'S REPORT:*** Colleen Maki, presented the assessor's report. Board of Review has been scheduled for July 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to correct clerical errors and mutual mistake of fact.

***FIRE DEPARTMENT:*** Chief, Keith Farley, presented his report. The location for the July 3<sup>rd</sup> fireworks has not been decided. The new pagers arrived. The Fire Department must purchase some "stop/slow" signs for directing traffic for safety concerns. Pomasl has them for \$80.00 per set and Keith will order them. H & H Automotive will repair the air conditioner on the pumper truck. Delta County is looking at signing up with MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System) through the State of Michigan for mutual aid. It's not much different than the mutual aid agreement that is currently in place but if they sign on with MABAS the fire department will have access to resources across the State of Michigan. There no cost to township. Steve and Keith will attend a meeting on this. Keith was requested by Fairbanks Township to attend their meeting for possible approval from their ARPA funds for fire equipment.

***CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT:*** A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Sue, to grant authority to Brenda to purchase a laptop to be used for the electronic poll book as long as the price in below \$1,500.00 through the Help America Vote Act. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Sue – yes, Janet – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried. The Election Committee will meet on June 21, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. to make decisions for the August 2, 2022 Primary Election. There will be election worker training on July 22<sup>nd</sup> at the township hall. The permanent AV ballot applications will be mailed soon. Mary Ann LeBresh, Deputy Clerk, will be taking training for the QVF (Qualified Voter File) so she may assist the Clerk with the absentee ballot process. The cemetery clean-up from the storm is coming along nicely but there is still some debris that

needs to be removed. There have been complaints that the roads in the cemetery aren't visible due to large amounts of debris so Betty Smithson has been asked to clean those up. Once the storm clean-up is completed, Brenda will submit the request with the insurance company for reimbursement.

**TREASURER:** The Treasurer and Clerk accounts balance for the month of May, 2022. Summer tax notices will be mailed by July 1<sup>st</sup>. The township newsletter will be mailed with the tax notices.

**TOWNSHIP HALL:** The filter for the septic was cleaned by A-1 Septic. The pricing for propane has not been received yet from U.P. Propane. Vicky Janes installed the new hands-free soap and towel dispensers in the restrooms and cleaned the kitchen. There is a wedding scheduled for June 25, 2022. Sue received two quotes from NLB Electric (Nate Berg) for a generator for the hall for \$9,280.00 and \$9,560.00. A verbal quote was received by Steve and Brenda from Chad Damon for the gas hook-up of \$400.00. Purchase of generator is tabled until next year when the township can apply for a grant through the Participating Plan which may cover up to \$5,000.00. Janet will call Superior Electric to obtain another generator bid.

**TRANSFER STATION:** Bill is pricing hydraulic dump trailers for the Transfer Station. Purchasing this type of trailer would be beneficial to Bill for safety concerns. It would be used to haul buck items to Solid Waste and transport the tractor or lawn mower when needed. The annual waste hauler's agreement was received from Delta Solid Waste. The annual inspection was performed and a report will follow.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** Janet made a motion, seconded by Craig, to adopt the resolution for the 2022-2027 Garden Peninsula Parks and Recreation Plan which was read at this meeting. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:** Delta County Road Commission asked what Garden Township is willing to contribute for road projects this year but the Board tabled this. A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Craig, to send a letter to DTE, Heritage, Keg Land and Rockland asking for support paying for road repairs for 18<sup>th</sup> Road. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried. There's a temporary reduction in tipping fees from Delta Solid Waste. Steve also updated the Board on the bridge project on OO.25 Road near the Transfer Station and on the safety items that need to be purchased for the employees. Brenda made a motion, seconded by Janet, to allow Steve to order chaps from Lund's Service and safety glasses from Amazon using the debit card. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Brenda – yes, Sue – yes, Janet – yes, and Steve – yes. Motion carried.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER:** Not present.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Fire Signs Update:** Steve gave an update on the project. There are people that missed the deadline and Steve is inquiring with Delta County about the process to be followed to request a sign.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **ARPA Bank Account:** The second and final payment of ARPA funds should be received before the end of this month.
- **MTA Dues & Training:** Covered under Bills.
- **Update of Bridge Project:** Covered in Supervisor's Report.
- **Land Division:** A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Janet, to approve the land division request for parcel number 010-058-016-00. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried

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

Janet made a motion, seconded by Sue, to adjourn. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Lester  
Garden Township Clerk