

GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
April 13, 2021

The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:05 p.m. by Township Clerk, Brenda Lester. Newly appointed Supervisor, Gary Sporer, was not present.

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

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

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

MINUTES: Sue made a motion, seconded by Craig, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on March 9, budget hearing held on March 9, and special meeting held on March 24, 2021. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Craig, to increase the Fire Department's Transfer of Fund Balance account to \$108,819.98 (an increase of \$77,100.00) and increase Capital Outlay account to \$123,100.00 (an increase of \$77,100.00). Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Sue – yes, Janet – yes, and Brenda – yes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: The annual invoice from Bay de Noc Ambulance Authority was received and is listed on the bill sheet. A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Craig, to approve the bills as presented by the Clerk. Roll Call Vote: Sue – yes, Craig – yes, Janet – yes, and Brenda – yes. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Colleen Maki presented the assessor's report and a copy will be on file. Assessor's contract expires the end of April, 2021 and a new contract was received for consideration from the Township Assessor, Joe Maki. Brenda made a motion, seconded by Craig, to approve the new assessor's contract for the period of May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2023 for Eagle Assessment Services, Inc. Roll Call Vote: Janet – yes, Brenda – yes, Craig – yes, and Sue – yes. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Farley gave his report. The Polaris needed repairs so it was taken to Cozzi's in Marinette. The chassis is in for the new brush truck. Brenda will be sending a check in the amount of \$85,981.00 (listed on bill sheet) to 1st Attack for the chassis and half down for the additional equipment for the new brush truck. The current brush truck is owned by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources so the township can't sell it to anyone but we may ask the DNR to transfer it to another fire department. The extra equipment (skid unit) on the truck is owned by Garden Township. Keith said that Thompson Township needs a different truck so would like to see the old truck go there with the skid unit. Janet made a motion, seconded by Craig, to sell the skid unit to Thompson Township for \$1.00. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Sue – yes, Janet – yes, and Brenda – yes. Motion carried. Keith will take care of the transfer with the DNR. Keith spoke to Jody Norman of the Delta County Road Commission and Paul Geyer from Delta County. Both, Jody and Paul, stated the road project on OO.25 Road (M-183) to repair the culvert near the Transfer Station will not be done this year, possibly next year. Keith said the only thing left to do at the fire hall is to replace the window and replace/repair the drywall.

CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT: The ground is thawed so spring burials will be taking place soon. The leaf blower was stolen at the Transfer Station so Brenda gave Archie Gleason the approval to purchase another one.

TREASURER: The Treasurer and Clerk accounts balance for the months of February and March, 2021 and corrected reports are complete.

TOWNSHIP HALL: Vicky is going to work on cleaning the floor.

TRANSFER STATION: The compactor broke and Bill called Kobas Electric to repair it. The station will be closed tomorrow, Wednesday, April 14, 2021. If the compactor doesn't get repaired before Saturday, then the township will need to rent a trash bin for a price of \$626.00 through Zellar Sanitation. The option for increase in fees is tabled.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Janet said the township park needs to be cleaned up. Volunteers will be there on Thursday, April 16, 2021 to help clean it up.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: Supervisor was not present.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Fire Signs:** Nothing will be done until the spring. Supervisor is keeping track of missing, incorrect signs for the second phase.
- **PILT Money:** Tabled. No new information.
- **Hiring of Part-Time Employee:** Tabled until newly appointed supervisor is onboard.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Update on Mark 6 Internet:** They weren't able to get a good signal
- **Purchase of State Land at Transfer Station:** Waiting to hear back from the State of Michigan.
- **Assessor Contract:** Covered under Assessor's Report.
- **Audio System:** The new audio system has been received. Craig made a motion, seconded by Janet, that the new audio system does not leave the township hall unless the board approves it. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried. Brenda made a motion, seconded by Janet, to dispose of the old audio system. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- **Delta County Zoning Ordinance:** The Delta County Planning Commission is looking at an ordinance for solar. Motion was made by Craig, seconded by Sue, to pass a resolution and send it to the Delta County Planning Commission with the Garden Township Board's recommendations. Roll Call Vote: Craig – yes, Sue – yes, Janet – yes, and Brenda – yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Janet made a motion, seconded by Craig, to adjourn at 9:19 p.m. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Lester
Garden Township Clerk