

GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
September 10, 2019

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

Present: Tyler Lucas, Mary Ann LeBresh, Lisa Pichette, Brenda Lester, and Richard Pichette.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

MINUTES: A motion was made by Lisa, seconded by Tyler, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on August 13, 2019. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: The following budget amendments for the Fire Department were requested by the Township Clerk:

- **Heritage Lease/Other Revenue:** Increase from \$1150 to \$2684. An increase of \$1534.
- **Property Taxes Delinquent Escrow Revenue:** Decrease from \$1900 to \$1793. A decrease of \$107.
- **Property Taxes Delinquent Checking Revenue:** Decrease from \$1900 to \$1793. A decrease of \$107.
- **Fund Raising Expense:** Increase from \$.00 to \$1320. An increase of \$1320.

A motion was made by Lisa, seconded by Mary Ann, to approve the budget amendments as presented by the Clerk. Roll Call Vote: Lisa – yes, Mary Ann – yes, Tyler – yes, Brenda – yes, and Richard – yes. Budget amendments approved.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: A motion was made by Mary Ann, seconded by Lisa, to approve the bills as presented by the Clerk. Roll Call Vote: Tyler – yes, Brenda – yes, Mary Ann – yes, Lisa – yes, and Richard – yes. Bills approved.

REPORTS:

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Maki's were not present for the meeting. The assessor's report was received and a copy will be placed on file.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Diesel fuel has been ordered and bill has been received. Ten buckets of foam have been ordered. Their K12 saw broke down and is in for repair. A spot mirror on a truck was damaged and needs to be replaced. Keith has not heard from Kobas Electric regarding the LED light installation. Fire prevention will be held at the school soon.

CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT: Anderson Tackman is still working on the F-65 report and is due on September 30th and Brenda sent an email to them asking about the status. Election equipment will be going to Delta County tomorrow for an update. Delta county refunded Garden Township for the May election for all expenses billed except for the meals. Total received was \$1,039.92. There has been 5 burials and 12 graves were sold. Also, a donation was received in the amount of \$20 for a mutual aide grass fire in Thompson. There is no Clerk report for the General Fund this month due to an error that is being worked on.

TREASURER/TOWNSHIP HALL: The Treasurer and Clerk accounts balance for the Fire Department, Transfer Station, and Hiawatha National Forest Road Fund. General Fund Clerk report for August will be completed before the October meeting.

TRANSFER STATION: Inspection was completed by EGLE (Formerly DEQ).

PARKS AND RECREATION: Lisa is still working on the sign for the park.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: Supervisor updated the board regarding several various meetings he attended.

HERITAGE (moved from New Business): Heritage lease will end on 9/30/19 and they will be moving out of the Fire Hall. The township did receive adequate notice per the lease requirements. Marty Lagina informed the board that Heritage is under contract with DTE Energy to sell the wind farm and will work with them to finish development in Fairbanks. DTE's Director of Renewable Energy was introduced.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Roads:** Chloride bill was already received and paid but bill for project that was approved for N-26 Road has not. Work on N-22 Road (old Cota Road) will be on hold until possibly next year due to lack of funding and time.
- **Hall/Septic:** Tabled until after joint meeting with the Village of Garden. Joint meeting will be scheduled for September 17, 2019, or September 19, 2019.
- **Township Hall Decision:** Tabled until after joint meeting with the Village of Garden.
- **Fire Hall Lights:** Still waiting to hear from Kobas Electric.
- **Fire Sign Update/Payment of \$5,000:** Richard updated the board on the project. Grid mapping is complete. The Township's share of \$5,000 will need to be paid soon. Brenda will check with Mary Wilson. The signs will be blue. Lisa made a motion, seconded by Brenda, to include the street names on the signs.
- **Village of Garden Park User's Fee:** Tabled until after joint meeting with the Village of Garden.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **FOIA:** Brenda recommended the FOIA fee schedule be updated to reflect increases in wages, copy fees for 11 x 17-inch paper, and fees to be charged for digital media. Motion was made by Lisa, seconded by Mary Ann, to approve the new FOIA fee schedule presented by the Clerk. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- **Memorials for Fire Department:** Memorial donations were received by the Fire Department as a memorial for Nancy Dalgord totaling \$2,505. Brenda will send a letter to the family.
- **Extra Payment for Fire Truck:** Approximate payoff for the fire truck is around \$43,000 plus interest. A motion was made by Mary Ann, seconded by Tyler, to pay off the remaining balance owed Rural Development for the fire truck loan provided the minimum balance needed is maintained at the bank. Roll Call Vote: Lisa – yes, Mary Ann – yes, Tyler – yes, Brenda – yes, and Richard – yes. Motion carried.
- **Transfer Station Building Repair:** Metal is rusting from the bottom up on the transfer station building. Richard called 6 different contractors and only received two bids, one from Superior Steel for \$5,950 and the other from Roy Ness for \$13,640. Brenda made a motion, seconded by Tyler, to adjust the budget by increasing the Property/Building Upgrades Expense account to \$7,000 (an increase of \$2,000) and decreasing the Solid Waste/Recycling Expense account from \$38,000 to \$36,000 (a decrease of \$2,000). Roll Call Vote: Lisa – yes, Tyler – yes, Mary Ann – yes, Brenda – yes, and Richard – yes. Motion carried. Richard made a motion. Seconded by Lisa, to accept the bid from Superior Steel bid in the amount of \$5,950. Roll Call Vote: Tyler – yes, Mary Ann – yes, Lisa – yes, Brenda – yes, and Richard – yes. Motion carried.
- **Transfer Station Truck Purchase:** Richard said the used truck the township was looking at, 2011 IHC Roll-off for \$84,755, should not be considered because of known issues with trucks from 2011 and before having problems with emissions. Two trucks for consideration are:
 1. U.P. International Trucks Inc. - 2020 HV613 International Roll Off for approximately \$169,097 but it wouldn't be ready until April 2020.
 2. U.P. Truck Center, Inc. – 2019 Western Star 4700SB Tandem Axel Chassis Roll Off for \$165,490. That truck is ready now.

Richard also checked into contracting the service out. He checked with Delta Disposal who would charge \$350 per container plus tipping fees with a 5-year contract. The other contractor he checked with was Peninsula Sanitation. They would charge \$200 per container with a 12-month contract. Waste Management only sells roll off containers. Motion was made by Lisa, seconded, by Mary Ann, to purchase the 2019 Western Star 4700SB Tandem Axel from U.P. Truck Center for \$165,490. Roll Call Vote: Brenda – yes, Tyler – yes, Mary Ann – yes, Lisa – yes, and Richard – yes. Motion carried. The township was offered \$22,000 from Peninsula Sanitation and Richard will check with the MTA and Delta County to see if we can go ahead and sell the truck without publishing it to the public.

- **Joint Meeting with Village of Garden:** Before this meeting, any issues with the Village of Garden should be listed with a suggestion with how it can be fixed. Garden Township is also requesting the Village of Garden do the same for the Township with each list being shared with the other entity.
- **Ditch Clean Up:** The Village of Garden will be holding their ditch clean up on September 28th and everyone will meet at the pavilion. Volunteers are needed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Mary Ann made a motion, seconded by Lisa, to adjourn at 8:48 p.m. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Lester
Garden Township Clerk