

GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
October 8, 2019

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

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

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

MINUTES: A motion was made by Lisa, seconded by Mary Ann, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on September 10, 2019; special joint meeting with the Village of Garden Board held on September 19, 2019; and the special meeting held on September 19, 2019, with corrections. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

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

- **Transfer from Fund Balance:** Increase from \$6,857 to \$33,857. An increase of \$27,000.
- **Loan Principle:** Increase from \$28,600 to \$55,600. An increase of \$27,000.

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

REPORTS:

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Assessor Joe Maki was present and gave his report and a copy will be placed on file.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A letter was received from the State of Michigan's Fire Marshall for the Upper Peninsula, Kevin Sehlmeier, of the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. The letter stated the fire department is currently not reporting their fire incidents to the Bureau of Fire Service and they are not in compliance. They stated Section 29.4 mandates that the fire chief of an organized fire department is to report any fire resulting in the loss of life or property to the Bureau of Fire Services. Keith stated that reports should be done every 30 days. Keith said he does his reports every three months. He spoke to Dan Hamenberg who is the Fire Fighter Coordinator of the Upper Peninsula. Keith stated he will get the reports done and will be back on track. If the reports are not filed, the fire department will not be able to apply for any federal funding, which they do not do anyway, per Keith. The LED lights are now completely installed at the fire hall. Heritage moved out the end of September. Keith said he talked to Darren Ranguette of Heritage who stated they don't want to move or empty their propane tank and they just may donate the propane to the fire department. Keith asked Heritage for a letter regarding the propane donation, if that's what they decide. The township board needs to decide what to do with the vacant space. Troy Paulson is working on replacing the mirror on the fire truck. Fire Prevention will be in October and the invoice will be sent to the township. The payoff for the fire truck will be completed effective 10/9/19. The renewal for the fire department millage will be on the

November 5, 2019, ballot. Keith and Richard met and they made a list of what needs to be done at the fire hall.

CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT: F-65 report and year-end postings were completed by Anderson Tackman. There will be an ad in the Advisor about the cemetery.

TREASURER/TOWNSHIP HALL: The Treasurer and Clerk accounts balance. There will be a flu clinic at the township hall on October 21, 2019. CUPPAD will be using the hall on November 6, 2019.

TRANSFER STATION: The new truck has been picked up. Corey Hansen from Peninsula Sanitation will be purchasing the old transfer station truck and will pick it up by the weekend. Bill is still working on cleaning up the Transfer Station. Superior Metal is backlogged right now so there will be a delay getting the building repaired.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Lisa is still working on closing out the Placemaking Mini Grant. She plans on getting three additional cement curb stops. Lisa made a motion, seconded by Brenda, to convert the outhouses to unisex bathrooms. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried. Bids were received for the sign replacement, one from Steve Johnson for \$550.00 and the other was from Yoooper Design for \$400.00. Lisa made a motion, seconded by Brenda, to accept the bid from Steve Johnson. Roll Call Vote: Mary Ann – yes, Lisa – yes, Brenda – yes, and Richard – yes. Motion carried. The bathrooms at the township park will be closed on November 1, 2019. Lisa checked with Dotty LaJoye of CUPPAD and was told that the remaining funds of about \$500.00 for the Placemaking Mini Grant may be used toward expenses the township will pay for the Village of Garden Park. Lisa and Gary Sporer, Trustee for the Village of Garden, met regarding the Village Park to see what upgrades they want to do. A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Mary Ann, for the township to purchase the fence safety topper, 1,020 feet, provided the cost is \$2,000.00 or less including shipping. Roll Call Vote: Lisa – yes, Mary Ann – yes, Brenda – yes, and Richard – yes. Motion carried. It was suggested that a new sign for the Village Park be made that said “Garden Peninsula Park, supported by the taxpayers of the Village of Garden, Garden Township, and Fairbanks Township”. Since it is a Village park, the Village of Garden Board would have to make that decision.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: Supervisor updated the board regarding several various meetings he attended. Richard also recognized members of the community who came out and helped clean out the ditch at Van’s Harbor. DCTA is still trying to get additional funding for the 911 sign project.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Hall/Septic/Easement:** The Village of Garden has approved the township to place the septic system for the hall on park property. The village park, Charles/Karen Paulson, and bank properties need to be surveyed. Richard spoke to the surveyor who will mark everything so that we know where the property lines are. The village did give a copy of their survey to Richard. The easement will need to be done, not knowing if we need to add the bank and Paulson’s property in addition to the village for the easement, which is already being worked on by the attorney. Estimates will be coming for the township to consider.
- **Fire Hall Lights:** Covered under Fire Department.
- **Fire Sign Update/Payment of \$5,000.00:** Brenda is waiting to hear back from Gregg Johnson of Bark River Township.
- **Transfer Station Building Repair:** Covered under Transfer Station.
- **Final Inspection of Fire Hall:** Covered under Fire Department.
- **New Truck Warranties:** Brenda made a motion, seconded by Lisa, to purchase the following extended warranties for the new semi for a total of \$4,712.00:

Engine	5 year/100,000 miles	add \$2,450.00
Transmission	5 year Unlimited	add \$1,142.00
Front/Rear Axles	5 year/100,000 miles	add \$320.00
Towing	5 years	add \$800.00

Roll Call Vote: Mary Ann – yes, Brenda – yes, Lisa – yes, and Richard – yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Mary Ann, to pay the invoice when it is received provided invoice is not more than what was approved. Roll Call Vote: Lisa – yes, Mary Ann – yes, Brenda – yes, and Richard – yes. Motion carried.

- **Village Park:** Covered under Parks and Recreation.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Garden Old Timers:** Not present.
- **New Sign Bids for the Township Park:** Covered under Parks and Recreation.
- **Painting Outside of Hall and Mural:** Hall needs to be painted and there's a possibility to receive a grant to have a mural done for the north side of the building. The mural would be done on a board and it would be installed on the building. The township only has until the end of November to get the mural approved through CUPPAD. The money is already there, the township just needs to know how much it will cost and what it will be. Richard and Lisa will check further into the mural which would include painting the exterior of the hall.
- **New EPollbook Replacement Laptop:** Delta County is checking into ordering new laptops for the townships to be used for the EPollbook for elections but each jurisdiction would be responsible for the cost. Brenda stated that some townships are questioning why the State of Michigan is not paying for the new computers. Tabled until more information is received.
- **CUPPAD 2020 Call for Project:** This meeting will be held at the township hall on November 6, 2019. -
- **Part-Time Transfer Station Employee:** Substitute, Mike Turan, has moved out of state so the position is vacant. Brenda made a motion, seconded by Lisa, to place an ad in the Advisor to hire an additional substitute to replace Mike Turan provided they have a CDL. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried. Richard will compose a letter to Mr. Turan thanking him for his service.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

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

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Lester
Garden Township Clerk