

**GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 12, 2019**

The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:02 p.m. by Township Supervisor, Richard Pichette.

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

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** Public comment was received.

**MINUTES:** Motion was made by Lisa, seconded by Mary Ann, to approve minutes for the regular meeting held on February 19, 2019. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS:** The following budget amendments were presented by the Township Clerk:

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Heritage Lease Revenue:** Increase from \$.00 to \$2,125.00  
**FD Share Assessor Expense:** Decrease from \$3,000.00 to \$2,700.00  
**FD share Admin. Payroll Expense:** Increase from \$3,500.00 to \$3,900.00  
**FD Share Newsletter Expense:** Decrease from \$200.00 to \$125.00  
**FD Share Township Office Expense:** Increase from \$900.00 to \$2,000.00  
**Utilities Other Expense:** Increase from \$6,000.00 to \$7,000.00

**TRANSFER STATION**

**Capital Outlay Expense:** Decrease from \$90,000.00 to \$87,400  
**T.S. Share Twp. Office Operation Expense:** Increase from \$2,500.00 to \$4,000.00  
**Payroll Taxes:** Increase from \$2,000.00 to \$2,200.00  
**Utilities Expense:** Increase from \$4,000.00 to \$4,600.00  
**Supplies Expense:** Increase from \$400.00 to \$700.00

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

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:** There is an additional bill for the Fire Department in the amount of \$724.35 to reimburse Kyle Connolly for jackets to be paid from their fund-raising revenue. Mary Ann made a motion, seconded by Lisa, to approve payment of the bills with the additional bill for the jackets as presented by the clerk. Roll Call Vote: Brenda – yes, Tyler – yes, Lisa – yes, Mary Ann – yes, and Richard - yes. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:**

**ASSESSOR'S REPORT:** The assessor's report was presented to the board and a copy will be placed on file.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Chief Farley presented his report. Volunteer Firefighter, Frank Sakowski, passed away. His number, 21, will be retired. He will be sadly missed as he was a dedicated, valuable volunteer to the fire department. \$1320.58 in the fund-raising account has been turned over the Township. The jackets were purchased from this money and will be need to be screen printed. Roof leak has been settled and the motion light works great. The letter of request for the 2% Sault Tribe grant to help cover new L.E.D. lighting for the fire hall has been mailed.

**CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT:** Two new expense accounts were created to reflect equipment purchased for Besse funds and other grants. A letter was received from the Michigan Department of Treasury stating the problem with tax period of quarter ending September, 2017, has been resolved and Garden Township does not owe anything for taxes, penalties, and interest. Motion made by Brenda, seconded by Mary Ann, to have the Fire Department pay the General Fund at 12% and the Transfer Station pay the General Fund at 25% for their share of administrative salaries, township office operations, newsletter and assessor expenses. Roll Call Vote: Mary Ann – yes, Lisa – yes, Tyler – yes, Brenda – yes, and Richard – yes. Motion carried.

**TREASURER/TOWNSHIP HALL:** The Treasurer and Clerk accounts balanced and a copy of the reports will be placed on file. Mary Ann stated the new lights have been installed in the township hall.

**TRANSFER STATION:** No updates.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** No updates.

**SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:** The new township website is online with the web address of [www.gardentwp.com](http://www.gardentwp.com). Garden Township also has a Facebook page. Richard gave updates for meetings he attended since the February meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Motion Lights & Lighting for Township Hall:** Covered under Fire Department and Treasurer reports
- **Fire Signs:** C.U.P.P.A.D. will assist installing the 911/fire signs. No new updates on the Village regarding the fire signs.
- **Assessor Contract:** Motion made by Lisa, seconded by Tyler, to approve the new assessor contract. Roll Call Vote: Mary Ann – yes, Lisa – yes, Tyler – yes, Brenda – yes, and Richard – yes. Contract approved.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **FY 2019/2020 Meeting Schedule:** Motion was made by Lisa, seconded by Tyler, to approve the meeting schedule as presented by the Clerk with corrections. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried
- **Heritage Lease Extension:** Motion made by Lisa, seconded by Brenda, to extend Heritage's lease at the fire hall through June 2019 as stated in their letter dated March 5, 2019. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- **Use of Township Hall by DEQ:** Motion made by Brenda, seconded by Mary Ann, to allow the DEQ to use the township hall at no expense for a public hearing regarding wetlands issue. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- **Resolution to Approve and Support a Wind Energy Ordinance to be Included in the Delta County Updated Master Plan:** Delta County is redoing their master plan and Richard asked the board to submit a request that the wind energy ordinance be changed to add restrictions for the Township of Garden. Motion was made by Richard, seconded by Lisa, to approve and support a wind energy ordinance to be included in the Delta County Updated Mater Plan and Zoning Ordinance. Ayes: 3, Nays: 2. Motion carried.

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

Motion made by Mary Ann, seconded by Tyler, to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

*Brenda Lester*

Garden Township Clerk