

GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
August 13, 2019

The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:05 p.m. by Township Supervisor, Richard Pichette.

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

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

MINUTES: Lisa made a motion to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on July 9, 2019. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: Under the Transfer Station, lighting and supplies in the amount of \$290.03 should be removed as those items were returned as defective. Also, charge of \$29.98 under the Transfer Station for two gas cans was entered on the bill sheet twice in error so one should be removed. Richard requested the payment for the FOIA to the Village of Garden in the amount of \$160.82 be tabled until next month when Brenda will be present. A motion was made by Lisa to approve the bills as presented by the Clerk minus the corrections. Roll Call Vote: Mary Ann – yes, Tyler – yes, Lisa – yes, and Richard – yes. Bills approved.

REPORTS:

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Colleen Maki presented the assessor's report to the board and a copy will be placed on file. Assessor Maki has approved a land division for parcel 010-065-007-00 per Garden Township's policy. Motion was made by Lisa, seconded by Tyler, to support the land division of parcel 010-065-007-00. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire Chief Farley was not present. Richard stated the new LED/motion lights should be installed in the fire hall in September.

CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT: No report, Clerk was absent.

TREASURER/TOWNSHIP HALL: The Treasurer and Clerk accounts balanced.

TRANSFER STATION: Richard is getting bids to repair the building as it's rusting from the bottom up. Also, Bill is still working on the items that surfaced during the Transfer Station inspection that took place in July.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Lisa is still working on closing out the grant and is researching a new sign for the park. No other updates at this time.

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:** Richard has not heard anything back from the Road Commission regarding the project that was approved for N-26 Road. Richard will check to see if it's been completed. The Road Commission is trying to obtain an additional \$3,000 in funding for N-22 Road (a portion of 16th Road, the old Cota Rd.). If it's possible, the township may be able to complete work on N-22 Road as well, if the board approves it, in September or October, 2019. The other road projects will most likely need to wait.
- **Village of Garden Park User's Fee:** Brenda submitted a FOIA request to the Village of Garden asking for the Village Park expense and received the information. Richard developed a worksheet itemizing their expenses for the Village of Garden Park. Is it the responsibility of the township to support the Village for the park if it's a justified expense? The township may pay the user's fee but they don't have to. Tabled until September.
- **Hall/Septic:** Tabled until September meeting.
- **Township Hall Decision:** If the township decides not to replace the septic system the township may need to close the hall, possibly sell the hall, and/or find a new location to do business and conduct elections. Septic field could go in vacant lot used for parking but it's rock and the township would lose its parking lot.
- **Fire Hall Lights:** Covered under Fire Department Report.
- **Fire Sign Update:** Richard updated the board on the project. The grid mapping is almost complete. It appears the township will get around \$25,000 to \$30,000 to assist with completing the sign project with the balance to be paid by Garden Township.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Heritage Update:** Covered before Old Business.
- **Heritage Lease Termination:** Covered before Old Business.
- **Village of Garden FOIA/Payment:** Tabled until September. Covered with the bills.
- **Memorials for Fire Department:** Will be covered in September.
- **Extra Payment for Fire Truck:** Will be covered in September.
- **Transfer Station Truck Purchase:** A 2011 IHC Roll-off was found for possible purchase for the Transfer Station but it is located in Akron, Ohio. The total cost out the door would be \$84,775 which includes the old truck as trade. It would be delivered and there would be no delivery fee. Contacting an independent mechanic in the area the truck is located to perform an inspection of the truck is also a possibility. Brenda arrived at the meeting at this time. Richard will also check into purchasing a new truck and contracting someone to transport the garbage. A motion was made by Lisa, seconded by Mary Ann, to hire a mechanic look to at the truck in Ohio for a recommendation.
- **Village of Garden FOIA/Payment (revisited):** Richard said Mary Ann made a recommendation to the Village to consider waiving the user's fee this year so the \$2,000 may be used toward the septic system replacement. Brenda made a motion, seconded by Lisa, to pay the Village of Garden FOIA fee in the amount of \$160.82. Roll Call Vote: Mary Ann – yes, Lisa – yes, Tyler – yes, Brenda – yes, and Richard yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Lester
Garden Township Clerk