

Garfield Township
Board Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2023

Called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor David Byl, leading the Pledge of Allegiance, Board members present were Clayton, Lard, Roland & Yarhouse. Also in attendance was Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs.

Agenda: The meeting agenda was reviewed. The motion to accept the agenda was made by Clayton, supported by Lard. All ayes, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: A motion to accept the July Treasurer's report was made by Lard and supported by Roland. All ayes, motion carried.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes July 24, 2023, Board Meeting, was made by Lard and supported by Yarhouse. All ayes, motion carried.

County Commissioner - Marlene Housler reported:

- The County has finished the patching of the runway. This work was done on budget.
- The yearly budget is almost completed.
- The Board of Commissioners is being sued by the Clare County Prosecuting Attorney. The issue is that the Prosecutor wants to hire another lawyer for her office and the County Commissioners voted no. The article in the Clare County Cleaver is true and accurate.
- Byl asked Marlene about the \$1 million opioid crisis that the County received. She will check into this and let the Township know.
- Roland asked if Narcan is on all fire trucks, Tubbs replied that this is supplied free to the fire department and is kept on the Rescue and the Squad.

Friends of Garfield Township: Barb Lijewski reported that the Friends are having a bake sale at Jay's on 10/7/23. Friends are looking for permission to decorate the Depot and pavilion on 11/11/23. The Friends are trying to see if they can have a bake sale in December. The Friends would like to purchase a working railroad sign and before pursuing this they wanted permission from the Board, if purchased, to put on Township property near the Depot area.

Fire Department: 7/25/23-8/28/23 24 Medical / 1 Grass Fire /1-down powerline /2-Road hazards/2-mutual aid 32 month / 204 YTD.

- Kevin reported that the Fire Fighter's Memorial on 9/16/23 at 9:00 am.
- A 911 Memorial walk is set up on 9/10/23 at 9:00 am through the Township. The fire fighters participating will walk in full gear to honor the ones lost in 911.

Supervisor Notes:

- The Assessor and Byl went to Bluff Lake where there is a huge concern with the 20' public section of the lake.
- Byl reported that in 2012 the Township updated emergency response with charges. This one updated the original one in 1999. Roland questioned about electric vehicle batteries, do we need an extra insurance on our policy?
- SJ wants to replace the light at the corner of the garage, currently it stays on 24/7.
- Byl received a letter and phone call about the road end at Rock & South Shore, complaining that people are being stopped from using this access.
- Tires are needed before winter for the Township truck, a quote of \$1,000.00 was received.
- SJ found a power sweeper for gravel at intersections. This sweeper is \$600.00.
- Both the tires and sweeper will be on the agenda in September.
- USDA grant is reimbursing for the remodel of the inside of the Depot.

Blight:

- Robert Barber has a rental on Willow and in March of 2023 there was a fire. Mr. Barber came in and the renter is gone, the place is currently being cleaned up.

- Byl received 5 phone calls from Bass Lake. Byl went out there, no one was around, he saw no problem.
- Byl received a court abatement order on Carmen Rodriguez's place on Rock Rd. Waiting for the judge to sign this abatement order.
- A ticket was sent to Frank Patson on Gray Lake.
- Gary Smith on Cook Ave -tons of trash.
- 1691 Maple St-vacant/owner has passed, no mailbox, tax sale?
- At the tax sale Jose Rodriguez's placed on Miles was sold to the neighbor next to the property. Miles St is looking very good.

No General Comment.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Approval of Bills \$73,111.08. Motion was made by Lard and supported by Yarhouse. All ayes, motion carried.

Public Comment: Public comment was held.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn by Clayton, supported by Yarhouse. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Next Board meeting September 25, 2023, at 6:30pm.

Supervisor – David Byl

Clerk – Janet Clayton