

Garfield Township
Board Meeting Minutes
November 27, 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.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2023, Board Meeting was made by Lard and supported by Clayton. All ayes, motion carried.

Clerk: Clayton reported that in an 18-month period she has recouped \$6,373.75 for the fire fund. When an accident or emergency happens and the person is not a property owner, they are invoiced to the individuals involved in the incident. The uncollected funds are \$3,902.50. The collected money has gone back into the Fire Fund.

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

County Commissioner - Marlene Housler reported:

- The Animal Shelter purchased a second vehicle, 2019 GMC Terrain. This money came out of their budget.
- Redding Township Board was recalled (not the Clerk or Treasurer), the Supervisor and 2 Trustees were replaced.
- Clare County Commissioners passed a resolution opposing wind & solar farms.
- Marlene Housler, our Clare County Commissioner is on the Land bank committee.
- The Clare County prosecutor received a grant to hire a criminal investigator.

Friends of Garfield Township Parks – Barb Lijewski reported:

- Raffle tickets are now available. Prizes are a kayak, a Yeti cooler, and a \$200 gift card. The drawing will be held at the Friends first meeting in 2024, which is in April.
- The Christmas sale at the Depot went very well. The community came out and supported the Friends and their quest to improve the parks and our community.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs reported:

- 10/24/23 through 11/17/23 there were 24 medical calls, 1 down power line, 2 false fires, 2 car accidents, 1 Gas Leak for a total of 30 for the month and 271 year to date.
- Community Christmas party on 12/16/23 from 2-4pm at the Fire Department, everyone is welcome!

Supervisor Notes – Dave Byl reported:

- The Board of Review meeting will be on 12/13/23 at noon, at the Township.
- Local Stabilization revenue check was shorted, and a letter was sent telling us that we would have to wait for close to a year to pay us. Byl wrote them telling them we did not want to wait; a letter was recently received; they are issuing the check owed to Garfield Township.
- It was found out that Clare County issued a building permit to a group out of Miami, FL for a Marijuana grow center on Rock Rd. The facility is already built. We spoke to the County, and they claimed they had no idea we opted out in 2019. They are now aware of our ordinance. They are working with us to supply information for any other facilities that may be in our Township.

Blight Report – Dave Byl reported:

- Paperwork is in the for the County to pay for the demo of the Grange building from the grant money issued to the County.
- Byl spoke to the owner of the BP station. He is working with someone to pursue moving forward.
- Working with owners of the house across from the old roller rink.

- Barn on US10, the owner is working with the Township, Rick McNeilly will take it down.
- A lien was put on the taxes for the property on Rock Rd (Carmen Eichhorn).

General Comment: There were no general comments.

Old Business: There is no old business.

New Business: Ordinances

- At the October Board meeting, on the agenda was the Fire Ordinance on Hazardous Waste Materials. Kevin shared an ordinance given to him by Jerry Becker. We, as a Board, thought about using this as a guideline, but after reading this the Board felt that our current ordinance is sufficient for our Township. At the end of the day, it was stated that even if we pass another ordinance, we will still need to go through the court systems to try to recoup any lost revenue.
- Kevin said our highest risk is the highway and the pipeline in our Township.

Approval of Bills: A motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$56,390.79 was made by Lard and supported by Yarhouse. All ayes, motion carried.

Public Comment: Public comment was held.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 pm.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2023, at 6:30pm.

Supervisor – David Byl

Clerk – Janet Clayton