Garfield Township

Board Meeting Minutes

July 25, 2022

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

**Agenda**: The meeting agenda was reviewed and amended. Motion to accept agenda was made by Clayton, supported by Yarhouse. All ayes, motion carried.

**Minutes**: A motion to approve the minutes of June 27, 2022, was made by Lard and supported by Yarhouse. All ayes, motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report**: The Board was given June 2022. Motion to pass was made by Lard, supported by Clayton. All ayes, motion carried.

**Road Commission Report**: Trustee Jim Lard reported that the Road Commission (RC) had complaints about the boom mower clear cutting that happened down Gibson Rd, the RC said that the clear cutting would grow back! Jim also the cable across the road end by Cold Springs, that Gay Ann showed him. The RC doesn’t think that is an issue. Residents have complained about the overweight trucks (loggers, etc.) on our roads. There is a phone number t they can call Weight Master for the State to report this issue. Logging companies will repair roads that they damage.

**Friends of Garfield Township Parks**: Barb Lijewski reported that the Treasure Sale made $1500.00+ in one day. The Friends would like permission to add 2 more picnic tables and a grill to make all the parks even, West Beach at 8 Point and another picnic table at Cold Springs. Shade is needed at some of the parks and the Friends would like to look at commercial grade shades for the parks in need of these items. The Friends have agreed to pay ½ of the Depot roof up to $5,000.00.

**Dale Majewski**: Dale reported that the County is looking into eliminating the “opt-out” of the Gypsy Moth spraying or changing the distance that they cannot spray. The County is looking at ways to save money on health benefits. There is a hiring freeze at the County.

**Tom Pirnstill**: Reminding everyone that the Clare County Transit millage is up for renewal. Covid has hit the transit hard, lack of customers and lack of drivers, they are down 8 routes. The drivers are the eyes and ears for the County. They can report incidents to the police, fire & road commission. Please vote on August 2, 2022. Clare County Transit will bring voters to the polls free of charge.

Living Hope Church participated in Orphan Grain Train. There was a 53’ trailer with 8500# with medical equipment, clothing, etc. At Living Hope Church on Tuesdays from 9:00 am-4:00pm is the free clothing give away. Tom has taken medical equipment and gives it out to anyone who needs it.

**Fire Report**: Kevin Tubbs reported the following: 6/27/22-7/24/2022.

25 Medical /1 Road Hazard (down tree) /2 Miscellaneous (illegal burn-gas leak) /4 Mutual aid = 32 for the month /206 YTD

The next car washes will be August 6, 2022, from 10-2pm.Please come and support the Fire Department. FF Emily Lauer passed her medical officer training. Kevin is looking at all avenues, his biggest concern is the trip hazard.

2 new candidates have applied to the fire department, Erica Robinson (present at the meeting) Clayton made the motion, supported by Yarhouse to accept this applicant pending physical and background check. Dylan Hund (absent from meeting) Lard made the motion and supported by Clayton to accept candidate, pending physical and background check. All ayes, motion carried.

**Supervisor Notes:** Dairy Doo came out and took our compost from the Transfer Station. Byl would like to put the Fire Dept parking lot on New Business for August. At Bluff Lake-there is a 20’ section that was thought to belong to all the property owners and have they have been using for over 50+ years. In checking it was found out that this property never had a Property ID and taxes have never been paid on this property. It is unclear who owns this property, nothing is clear, it is a nightmare. Further research is needed. Title search?

**Public Comment**: Joe Stragea would like the meeting moved back to 7:00 pm instead of 6:30 pm.

Brenda Keeler would like the County to eliminate the “opt-out” program for spraying of gypsy months.

Dave Vacek- reported they found a problem with their property that he is trying to correct so in the event of his death, his family will not have a nightmare. He found that he has been paying for a mobile home on this property, that there is none.

He has sold a portion of his property to his neighbor; they came in to correct the property description and was told he would need a survey to clarify the property. He wants it fixed without a survey.

**Blight:** Clean up on 9372 Miles will begin. The Township hired Rick McNeilly on an hourly basis. Byl has started a new process with new blight cases. He sends a letter and reaches out to the individual to come in and meet to discuss the process. LG Roberts trail for Blight is scheduled 8/17/22. Working on the vacant property on School Street, also working on a former blighted property on Partridge that is going back to a blighted state.

**Old Business**: Jeff Best sculpture. Last month the Friends came to the Township asking them to help participate with this art sculpture. Byl would like to team up with the Friends and Lake Associations to make this happen. Byl made the motion for the Township to put in $2500.00, supported by Clayton. Discussion: Lard said he thought it was a great idea. Yarhouse likes the idea but was not happy about the way it was presented. Roland said she would vote no. Board voted, 4 ayes, 1 nay. Motion carried.

Trailhead ordinance- Byl is working with the under Sheriff. Byl spoke to a person selling items at the pavilion. Byl would rather not set an ordinance.

Depot Roof bid from Miller Roofing is $8803.00. The Friends and Twp would split the cost, each pay $4,401.50. Motion made by Lard and supported by Clayton. All ayes, motion passed.

A resident wants to donate roofing material to the Township, maybe use on old Charter Building by the Fire Dept.

**New Business:** Cemetery Sexton is raising his prices, motion was made by Clayton to set the new rates, supported by Lard. All ayes.

Rocks were delivered to Peterson Park to stop vehicles driving in park area. Swing seats are cracked and need to be replaced. SJ will take care of this issue.

Elections committee met and appointed the election workers for 8/2/2022 primary.

We have a purchase agreement for 9850 Maple St from Curtis Schaub for $1,250.00. The lot is sold as is. Byl wants to make sure it doesn’t turn into blight. Roland made the motion to sell this lot for $1,250.00 on Friday 7/29/22, supported by Clayton. 4 ayes 1-abstain.

Approval of Bills in the amount of $72,286.91. Motion was made by Lard and supported by Clayton. All ayes, motion carried.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn by Roland, supported by Byl. All ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

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Supervisor – David Byl Clerk – Janet Clayton