

Garfield Township
Board Meeting Minutes
October 24, 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. Motion to accept agenda was made by Clayton, supported by Lard. All ayes, motion carried.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of September 26, 2022, was made by Lard and supported by Roland. All ayes, motion carried.

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

Road Commission Report: Trustee Jim Lard reported that the Road Commission (RC) met at the Township Hall on Friday October 22, 2022, Dave Bondie, David Byl and Jim Lard. They rode around the Township roads and discussed the conditions of the roads and look at developing up with a plan. Some roads are in worse shape than others. The RC will put together a plan and pricing for a long-term plan. Roland stated that when the State gave access to the 4-wheelers, that access could be stopped if it ever became a problem.

Dale Majewski: The County purchased a new plow and maintenance truck. The County received approval to hire 1 Assistant Prosecuting Attorney.

Fire Report: Kevin Tubbs reported the following: 9/27/22-10/23/2022

16 Medical /2-Mutual Aid/1-Fire = 19 for the month /270289 YTD.

Samechia LaHale (Sam) new applicant, Lard made the motion to accept her as candidate and Clayton supported it. All ayes. Motion passed.

Offer on the Tender for \$70,000.00, they will give us a \$10,000.00 deposit and pick the Tender up when our new truck arrives, due to back orders on some equipment. Kevin reported that steel on the lower part of the fire department should be replaced due to rusting.

Supervisor Notes: Byl reported everything was finalized with the USDA grant. Robin & Janet received 2 more days of training with BS&A. SJ will be taking the Township truck in to have the fluids flushed.

Public Comment

Joe Stragea stated that Covid deaths are up. He feels that the Township needs to stop spending money on attorney fees for ordinances and blight. Daryl Runyan asked if our Township attorney was here at the meeting and wants him to be at the next meeting.

LG Roberts spoke about the ordinances that were handed out to the Board and why the Township is spending taxpayers' money? Roxanne Hadley asked the Board if these Ordinances could be passed tonight. Chris Whittker asked the Township to be transparent and put the documents on the website, Dorn Blanchard agrees that Lake Station is heavily traveled by big trucks. Dorn is concerned with the grass & weed ordinance; he has 12 acres of nature. Ken Ebaugh stated that the grass Ordinance is only for Section 5.

Blight: Byl stated that he will be emailing the Board his Blight report. A tax sale property 1670 Maple was torn down by the County and has been sold, a great improvement to the area.

Old Business: None

New Business:

The lower part of the Fire Department Building steel is rusting. Kevin has been trying to get 3 bids for the replacement. The 1999 Tender, manual transmission, the offer is \$70,000.00. Motion to accept this was made by Lard and supported by Yarhouse. Roll call vote: Lard-yes, Yarhouse-yes, Byl-yes, Clayton-yes, Roland-yes. All ayes, motion passed.

Clayton asked the Board to hire on the payroll Denise Hicks. Roland asked if she was sworn in by the clerk. Motion to approve was made by Lard and supported by Yarhouse. All ayes, motion passed.

Ordinances:

Grass Ordinance & Civil Infractions

Byl presented the Board with these 2 potential new ordinances, for subdivisions (Pla-land, etc.), & vacant unoccupied homes. Currently, we are sending letters, asking for them to mow their lawns. Yarhouse would like more time to look these over, Lard suggested some of the areas might want to be reworded, Clayton feels the Board needs to make suggestions, if changes need to be made. Roland is in favor of this in an open meeting-it was sent to a lawyer and paid for and then handed out to the Board.

The Board opted to table this discussion until the November 28, 2022, meeting. At this time, we will look, discuss, and highlight the areas that need to be changed or redone.

Roland said in 2017 Byl gave out a job description for the Blight officer. The Board has not received a Blight report monthly. The updated Blight ordinance that was distributed out was not created by this Board and it was strongly recommended by our attorney to revise it.

Approval of Bills in the amount of \$51,877.82. Motion was made by Lard and supported by Clayton. All ayes, motion carried.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn by Lard, supported by Clayton. All ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Next meeting November 28, 2022, at 6:30 pm.

Supervisor – David Byl

Clerk – Janet Clayton