

**Garfield Township**  
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**  
**August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 7:00pm**

- 1. The meeting** opened at 7:00pm by Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance and the Star Spangled Banner. Board members present were Byl, Roland, Farwell, Irwin and Yarhouse. Also attending the meeting were Garfield Township Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs; Clare County Commissioner, Dale Majewski; and Jeanie Stewart-Friends of Garfield Twp. Parks Committee.
- 2. Agenda:** The meeting agenda for the August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 after an addition into Old Business of item 15c, to keep in compliance to the Open Meeting Act, per Roland. Motion to approve the agenda made by Irwin. Supported by Farwell. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
- 3. Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes of the July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017, was made by Yarhouse. Supported by Roland. All ayes. Motion carried
- 4. Clerk's report:** a) To look into mandatory Direct Deposit of all payroll checks and b) The new election system equipment training is on 8-30-2017 with the equipment delivery to be September 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 5. Treasurer's Report:** Distributed. Motion to approve the report was made by Roland, Supported by Irwin. All ayes. Motion carried.
- 6. Trustee Irwin:** Reported all roads repair projects completed. On Bluff Lake, the road over the hill is washed out but it is passable.
- 7. Trustee Roland:** None.
- 8. Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs:** reported 33 runs for July, 29 were medical, 1 downed power line and 1 mutual aid and 1 stand-by, 1 personal injury. Total for the year is 190 runs. He reported that Levi Treloar has stepped down from the department. Kevin received a phone call from Bill Foster, founder of Spartan Motors, to be a participant with our new fire truck at the Annual Fire Truck Training on September 23<sup>rd</sup> where they will showcase our truck. There is a new procedure for fire truck driver operator status. That a fire department could use retired fire dept. personnel or even school bus drivers, if qualified to drive the truck, as drivers only. Must pass a physical. Other departments have opted to use this talent and it has been checked out with the insurance company. Auxiliary wants to have a black tie event for emergency services personnel in 2018. Looking for a venue to hold approx. 200 people. Jason Wentworth, 97<sup>th</sup> District Representative, has asked Kevin to participate in the 9-11 Memorial Ceremony for Firefighters.
- 9. Fire Dept. Auxiliary: President Becky Gott.** She reported new auxiliary board was elected. Car wash is September 9, 2017 from 10am till 2pm. First Winter Fest meeting is 9-24-2017 at the fire hall, 10:00am. Trunk or Treat will be 10-28-17 at 5:00pm with games and activities for the kids. Our meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, each month, at the Fire Hall at 7:00pm.
- 10. Clare County Commissioner** – Dale Majewski left the commissioners meeting report for attendees. He reminded us there will be a Haz/Mat disposal on September 13<sup>th</sup> from 10AM till 2Pm on Larch St Northern Oaks in Harrison, by Michigan Auto Parts Business. (B) Ruby from Animal Control received a \$5,000 donation to pay for neutering and adoption procedures at the shelter. C) The 9-9-17 Budget Meeting appeals process is going well using the 2015 budget. D) The Prosecutors office budget was adjusted for a second prosecutor, trying to keep up the pace.
- 11. Jeanie Stewart: Friends of Garfield Parks**—Caboose is moved. The DNR approved our site plans and we are waiting to have the pavilion plans OK'd. We received a donation from Chemical Bank for \$500.00 and another for \$910.00 donation from the Eight Point Lake Property Owners Association. Working on a grant from Meijers and another from Consumers Energy that would help with the lighting needed along Mystic Lake Dr.

**12. Grey Lake: J R Perog:** Committee requesting approval for a long range goal for a special assessment to collect fees for aquatic plant weed control on the lake. 12 members in the group.

**13. Supervisor Notes:** a) Byl reported that a lakefront property adjacent to Cold Springs is available for sale, Lot 12. Understands it has a \$25,000 price tag. Lot has approx. 50 foot lakefront and 100 foot deep. He received a letter from CLIA requesting the board to consider the purchase of this property for the township to make Cold Springs a safer place for swimmers and boaters alike. Safety consideration. The boat parking area is small and infringes on the swimming area when boats back out to leave. Should the township look into this as a purchase. b) We received a Willow Dr fire insurance check to demolish and clean up the property. This check is placed in escrow pending cleanup.

**14. Public Comments:**

Keith Keeler – 562 Hillcrest. Asking the board to pursue the purchase of the lakefront property near Cold Springs. Lots of cleanup has happened. This will expand our recreation properties. Swimming area is in jeopardy when boats are being backed out. This is a benefit to the community. I am in support of this purchase.

Marty Rottiers-Hot dog sale at Witbecks on Thursday 8-31-2017, 10a to 4 or 5p. Root beer floats, hot dogs, brats. Also, if you can, go in and say thank you to Jerry Witbeck for their generosity allowing the community to have these sales.

Jeanie Stewart: I am a history buff and was loaned this book on Lake. Book is full of many local writers, some with descendants still here. Could scan the book so anyone could read it on-line. I would ask the board to consider a link to the web page. Cost to the township would be a one-time hourly cost to add a link. This is our history for every-one, to be shared.

S J Conroy: The road improvement done by the County Road Commission. Company did not do a good professional job. Again the Fire Dept was not informed of what roads were affected.

Tom Pirnstill-Clare County Transit: Spoke of the Fire incident for a bus and the quick response of the driver. He heard a pop, lost power, pulled over to stop, saw white smoke come over the hood which turned into dark smoke. He removed the passenger immediately. It took only 7 minutes before the bus was engulfed in flames. Great support from Clare City, DEQ, and many others. Also plan to offer training to the care givers at the Personnel Care Facilities within the area. We plan to have a fire suppression placed under the hood, which won't put a fire out but could buy some time to get passengers out safely. Also, additional training on evacuations for drivers and passengers.

Dale Majewski: Lincoln Township Fire Dept: was asked "How can the Lincoln Fire Dept give-a-way a 4 day cruise". This is a scam. Somehow a scammer was able to use our non-emergency phone number. There is an app available for scammers to select a local number out of the air to use. Remember-"If it sounds to good to be true, it probably is!"

Ken Ebaugh-361 Crooked Lake Dr, owner of the Whistle Stop. In support of the purchase of the property adjacent to Cold Springs. He has been on the lake for 14 years and has noticed more and more families are using the Cold Springs location to enjoy the lake.

Joe Stragea- 571 Hillcrest-Mr. Byl! You know what this is about! I'm getting poison pen letter! Planing to meet with you about the situation. Told you -I need specifics! You refuse to do that. So there are two problems with that- If you will not give me the specifics of what you want, that puts you in a poor legal situation when you decide to prosecute. The other thing is that it leaves me to decide for myself what I have to do, and that's the course I'm following. I don't like to drag this business out in public put it on the street but if you won't learn to behave like a responsible adult and negotiate, and tell me what you want, this is the way it's gonna to be. Like I said before, "We will have a dialog of words or we will have a dialog of events, BUT we will have a dialog! Nope that's not a threat. This is an event right here. Brings our business out on the street. I'm serous.

(interruption from attendee and the supervisor had Joe Stregea continue by addressing him as 'Joe') That ain't necessary. (interruption, again) One other thing. There's only one person who can give you permission to call me by my first name, and I did not do that. Let's keep it professional here. I'm done.

Linda Keeler-562 Hillcrest-neighbor and friend of Stragea-(to Joe)- Joe and I are neighbors. Joe and I are friends. I don't like to speak against him, but--" Joe, you know the situation. It's been going on for years. So I don't see how you can stand up here and say 'you need specifics of what you want'. You know what the situation is. I'm sorry there's hard feelings, but I think you're the one that's just brought it up in front of the

public. I think Dave has done a nice job of keeping this private, as well as he can. And the accusations you have made of him, I just don't think it right, because you are the one who actually brought it up in public. I hope we're still friends.

□ Jim Monahan-8848 Florence-Republican delegate and the Chaplin of the Michigan Militia. After a history about how wrong this country has been since we fought for our independence from England and it's leaders have governed in the past, he then blamed the supervisor for the destruction of the peace here in Garfield Township by having people clean up their property, most of them being poor people, in his words, he said to the board "Mind your own business!" We are heading for a civil war and you are worried about blight! Mind your own Business!

□ Rick Miller 1691 Crooked Lake Dr-Cold Springs is a good deal for the community.

**15. Old Business:** Resolution for acceptance of the new Election Voting Equipment. The clerk read the resolution to the board as it was presented at the last meeting. She made a motion to re-approve the resolution, supported by Irwin. Roll Call Vote: Farwell-yes, Irwin-yes, Byl-yes, Yarhouse-yes, and Roland-yes.

**16. New Business:** None

**17. Approval of Bills:** Irwin made a motion to approve the payment of bills, supported by Yarhouse All ayes. Motion carried.

**18.** Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm after a motion by Irwin, seconded by Farwell. Motion carried

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*David Byl, Supervisor*

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*Joan E Farwell, Clerk*