

Garfield Township Unapproved Regular Board Meeting Minutes September 23rd, 2019

The meeting opened at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance and the Star Spangled Banner, Board members present were Byl, Roland, Yarhouse, Farwell and Irwin. Also in attendance was Fire Chief Tubbs, Dale Majewski, County Commissioner, and Lori Martin, County Clerk, Brad Beach-Assessor.

Agenda: The meeting agenda for September 23rd 2019 was approved after a motion from Irwin and support from Roland. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of the August 26th 2019 Board Meeting minutes from Irwin after an addition of a property ID number in new business #2, supported by Yarhouse. All ayes. Motion carried.

Clerks report. Funds Equity Report. Motion to approve by Yarhouse, supported by Irwin. All ayes. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Motion to approve the report was made by Roland, supported by Irwin. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Fire Dept. Report: Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs reported 232 YTD. There were 18 incidents in August. Down Power Line- 1, Standby-1, Medical-14, Illegal Burns-2. Added two fire fighter names to the Fireman's Memorial in Roscommon and has another to add, Delmer Scott. Two Fire fighters stepped down, Shayne Henry and Chris Hilyard.

Fire Dept. Aux- Becky Gott: The Haunted Forest will take place on October 18-19. A bus or hay ride will transport participants to the forest. The Kids Halloween Party will be from 1:00pm till 3:00pm and they will make scarecrows again with the help of the Friends of Garfield Parks and Recreation. She asked to board to purchase 8 Mum plants for \$60.00 for the Depot and the township porch.

Dale Majewski, County Commissioner: Reported Harold Parks-Drain Commissioner is moving forward with the Tobacco Drain and is seeking bids. The County Budget has been finalized at \$12,396,266., which is back to 2017 levels. The Sheriff Dept. cut \$400,000 from there already short budget. Parks & Recreation is no longer funded and MMDC has been reinstated. Questioned as to where are we falling short, there are mandated services. Veteran's services are great but they cost money.

Lori Martin- County Clerk: On 11-5-2019 the county has two elections, Farwell Schools and Arthur Township. There are three elections scheduled in 2020. Saturday is National Voter Registration day. A \$3,000 software was bought for the Register of Deeds office. There is a significant increase in the Circuit Court revenue with a text messenger reminder for payments. 2018 the county received \$98,000.00 of which Restitution received \$49,000 and \$49,000 in Fines and Court costs. This year it has doubled because of the reminders to pay being sent out. Just so you know, Dale Majewski is on the side responsible spending. Property Tax sales are down a little from previous years.

Brad Beach-Assessor: New bill for Land Divisions and Splits. The client needs a certification that all property taxes are paid before any division or split can be made.

Friends of Garfield Township Parks: Barb Lijewski. Treasurer in the trunk sale made \$1,400., and the DAV took everything not sold. Looking forward to the Halloween Kids Party.

Blight Update: Formal Hearings for 2 properties on Wednesday, October 2, 2019.

Supervisors Notes: 1) Waiting for the Soil Erosion Permit from MSU Extension Service. Recommended to have a fabric as sand is placed. \$200-\$300 cost. Irwin to get prices. 2) Gray Lake is a private lake. Trustee comments: their first petitions were referred to Township Attorneys for wording approval. There is a cost to that. No billings were received yet. These types of problems are not specific to Gray Lake. This could evolve into other lake areas who might want the same procedures handled. 3) Attended the Supervisors Conference: Talked about Green Burials-in a cardboard box, back to earth.

Public Comments: Barb Lijewski: The drain next to my house is a hole, large enough for a child to fall into. It drains into the lake. Needs a drain cover or something done.

Joe Stragea: He will hold his comments on Cold Springs, but there needs a designated swim area. Alleys are overgrown and there is no signage. They need to be opened up and restored.

Ryan Blaine: Meeting on Wednesday night at 6:30pm in the High School Library about the Farwell School Election. Lots of unanswered questions about the use of the millage. Trying to be more responsible about what is being proposed. He will have 3 kids in the Farwell schools for the next 12 years.

Len Pilz- 8 Point Lake: What's happening on the Law Enforcement proposal we presented. Like to keep it moving ahead.

Old Business: a.) Approve Hall floor Quote. Quote was not increased from a year ago. Floor can be done the first week in October. Motion by Irwin to accept the quote, supported by Yarhouse. Roll Call Vote: Irwin-yes, Roland-yes, Yarhouse-yes, Byl-yes and Farwell-yes. b.) Cold Springs encroachment was discussed and a letter is being sent to the adjacent property owners to Cease and Desist doing anymore improvement efforts on the Cold Springs property. c.) A Hillcrest property title search needs to be done to the east of address 651 Hillcrest. d.) Windows 10 office computers. Discussion on why Windows 10 can't be placed on the current computers. According to our computer technical support group, the current serve and computers are too old be compatible by only replacing the Windows 7 operating program. Old system is 4th generation and the new one will update to the 8th generation. The 2019-2020 budget planned for the computer upgrades. The Board, supervisor, clerk, treasurer, and elections all budgeted \$1,000., each in equipment for the known upgrades needed and \$5,000 for the network changes was to be moved from the roads budget. Farwell made a motion to purchase the new server and processors for \$9,691.00, supported by Yarhouse. Roll Call Vote: Farwell-yes, Yarhouse-yes, Roland-no, Irwin-yes, Byl-yes. Motion carried.

New Business: a). Approve George Boersma as the CLIA representative. (Crooked Lake Improvement Association) The person is elected/appointed by the association. Farwell made the motion to approve the Boersma, supported by Yarhouse. All ayes. Motion carried. b.) The Perch Lake line account 841-445-818.00 needs to be increased by \$2,000.00 due to higher contractor costs. A motion to increase the budgeted line item was made by Irwin, supported by Yarhouse. Roll Call Vote: Irwin-yes, Yarhouse-yes, Roland-yes, Byl-yes, and Farwell-yes. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills: Approval of Bills. Irwin made a motion to approve bills, supported by Yarhouse. All Ayes. Motion carried

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Farwell, Supported by Yarhouse. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm

David Byl, Supervisor

Joan E. Farwell, Clerk