

Garfield Township
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
February 27, 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, Irwin, Yarhouse, Roland and Farwell. Also attending the meeting were Garfield Township Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs; Clare County Commissioner, Dale Majewski; and Jeanie Stewart-Friends of Garfield Township Parks Committee, Ken Lind-Lind Insurance and Richard Outman.

2. Agenda: The meeting agenda for the February 27, 2017 after a motion by Farwell to accept the agenda, supported by Irwin. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

3. Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of the December 19th, 2016 was made by Roland, supported by Yarhouse. Motion carried. The minutes of the January 23, 2017 with a motion by Yarhouse, supported by Irwin. All ayes. Motion carried

4. Clerk's report. None

5. Treasurer's Report. Motion by Roland, seconded by Irwin. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. Trustee Irwin: Reported 2 roads were given to the Road Commission to be graveled, Smith and Maple. He would also like to have Gibson Rd done, but prefers to wait until the town rehab is done. He has an agreement with the Commission to provide another road for them to gravel.

7. Trustee Roland: None

8. Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs reported 19 runs for January, 15 were medical, 1 personal injury, 2 downed power lines and 2 misc fires. He also reported the department received a \$300.00 donation from Camp Neyati and the Winterfest netted approx. \$3,000.00 on 2-25-2017. Next spring, Dr Pol Veterinarian, will conduct a Rabies Clinic at the Fire Hall for dogs and cats. Sarah Williams was awarded the Fireman of the year award. Shawn Harmon was probationary fire fighter of the year and Anthony Chedester and Steven Irwin were awarded 10 year service awards

Fire Dept. Auxiliary report: Read by K Tubbs, fire chief. A Thanks to everyone who in any way supported the Winterfest Event. Sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt on April 4th at noon and on April 15th the Auxiliary will be at the Paula Pirnstill Health Fair.

9. Clare County Commissioner – Left the Commission meeting minutes for anyone who wanted them. He reported that Dan Rolander-Parks and Recreation shared information on events. The Clare County Emergency Plan was reviewed and approved. Clare County Budget Meetings are already starting.

10. Ken Lind. Lind Insurance: Ken gave a highlighted report on their company fire vehicle coverage and what reliable coverage the township is carrying from their company

11. Jeanie Stewart: Friends of Garfield Parks—No report. No new grants at this time.

12. Supervisor Byl reported:

- a. There will be a power outage south of Lake, south of Maple Grove, but including Hillcrest with Rock Rd and Lake Station and the Gray Lake Area
- b. Board of Review Organizational Meeting is March 7th at 4:00pm. To hear appeals, March 13th from 9am till noon and 1pm till 4pm and on March 16th from 2pm to 5pm and 6pm till 9pm.
- c. Five Year Plan from Rowe Engineering. Approved \$20,000.00 and spent \$13,000.00. Requesting the continuance of the investment for the corridor and have Rowe develop a plan from Lake Station to Terry Street.
- d. A Sign-up sheet is available at our public meetings for those who wish to sign..
- e. Anti-Blight update- Bid received to demolish the burned out property on Garfield

- f. Letter from state on AMAR. The state wants to take over assessments. We are more equipped to handle assessments.

13. Public Comment:

1. Rich Outman, June Emmons staff: He is a term limit timed out former representative and will be the liaison for the five county district.
2. Darrell Runyan volunteered to help clean up blighted properties.
3. Tom Pirnstill thanked the Fire Dept Auxiliary for the Winterfest Event. Lots of organization and activities. He also requested the board to get behind the Corridor project. We need to keep the momentum going forward.
4. Margaret Geyer reported on a pothole on Lake Station near Lake and Beech streets that you can lose a car in.

14: Old Business:

- a. One sealed boat bid was received. The township had placed a low bid for each boat at \$200.00. The bid was for both boats for \$301.00. Bid was turned down.

15. New Business:

- a. Septic System move bid. A motion to accept the bid was made by Farwell. Supported by Irwin. All Ayes. Motion carried.
- b. Bight officer: The supervisor announced he would like to take over as the township blight officer, since the resignation of the former officer. Much discussion ensued on the supervisor doing the job. Some of the board thought we should advertise the position. Farwell said Byl is the most knowledgeable about the township blight problems. Byl also requested the assistance of the Deputy Clerk to do letter sending and computer updates. Roland to check with MTA. She wants to see a job description for the blight helper. Tabled pending a meeting with Fahey.
- c. Tax Foreclosure Sales from the County. Byl feels the township is losing a lot of revenue on these tax sales. We have first right of refusal. Irwin feels we could be opening a can of worms. Our goal is not to acquire property but to get bit cleaned up. We will schedule a meeting with Fahey, our lawyers for guidance.
- d. Rowe Engineering. Working with Lori Ware, USDA, Tom Pirnstill, Jeanie and Ralph Stewart, Consumers Energy and others for the corridor development. Everyone will work together for the betterment of the township. Per Jeanie, involve people from various groups. Rowe would develop the vision of what can be done over time. We would try to fix part of what could happen in the area from the input of the people Byl mentioned. The Friends Group is very much in favor of the corridor study. It goes hand in hand with the Friends group projects. (A comment from Jay Vaughn "Stick to the north side of the road, south side owners don't want to do anything.) Consensus from the board is to proceed with Rowe Engineering.
- e. Bid for Garrison demolition: Irwin motioned to accept the bid of \$5,000.00 from Rick's Excavating. Supported by Yarhouse, All ayes. Motion carried.
- f. Webpage Renewal: Motion to accept Sheryl Judd's cost renewal for our web page, for three years was made by Irwin, Seconded by Yarhouse. All ayes. Motion carried

16. Approval of Bills: Motion to approve the bills was made by Irwin, supported by Roland. All ayes. Motion carried.

17. Meeting adjourned at 8:44PM