

## Township Board meeting Minutes

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Garfield Township  
Regular Board Meeting  
June 24, 2013  
7:30 p.m.

The meeting opened at 7:31 p.m. with Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Byl, Yarhouse, Rottiers, Irwin and Roland. Also attending the meeting were Fire Chief Tubbs, Road Commission Member Eddy Garver, County Commissioner Dave Majewski and 16 citizens.

Motion by Yarhouse, seconded by Irwin, to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2013 Regular Meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Rottiers, seconded by Roland, to accept the Treasurer's Report. All ayes. Motion carried.

The regular meeting recessed at 7:35 for the Public Hearing on Budget. There being no comments or concerns, the regular meeting resumed at 7:36 p.m.

The regular meeting recessed at 7:36 for the Public Hearing on Solid Waste Special Assessment. No other comments. The meeting closed and the regular meeting resumed at 7:37 p.m.

The regular meeting recessed at 7:37 for the Public Hearing on Fire Department Special Assessment. No other comments. The meeting closed and the regular meeting resumed at 7:38 p.m.

Fire Chief Tubbs reported 24 runs, 19 of which were medical, 1 grassfire, 1 down power line, 1 mutual aid, 2 miscellaneous fire (1 car and 1 gas leak). He also reported the following:

- Jerry Becker from Emergency Management has an extra handheld radio and Kevin has put in a request for that radio.
- Newly appointed firefighter Shayne Henry has been on a couple of runs and he was not requesting approval for Calob Koslowski yet.
- The paperwork for another DNR grant is being completed

County Commissioner Dale Majewski gave a brief report and distributed information regarding activities at the county level.

Road Commission Member Eddy Garver reported the following:

- A new tractor with 4-wheel drive had been purchased with a goal to mow four townships each season.
- Isabella County now has a program to spray to keep the weeds down.
- An AMZ machine has been purchased for crack sealing the black top to extend the life of the roads.
- A roller with two hitches is now available when pouring gravel to pack down.

- Roof repair bids are being taken for the road commission building.
- He has talked to Ron Bushong regarding a project in Garfield Township on Mystic Lake Road to see if it is feasible and if it will benefit the current congestion in that area. Discussion will continue to move forward with this project and an engineer will look at the project.

Comments from the community present included Gibson Road between US-10 and Mystic Lake needs fixing. Discussion followed regarding plans for mowing the shoulders. Eddy indicated that they are out on the freeways and when finished will get the job done. Mardi Dysinger indicated was that it appears that the road repairs were being made using clay, fieldstone, sticks and other debris. Eddy indicated he would check on this. Potholes on Rock Road and deterioration were discussed. He indicated it needs to be milled and will work with the Board to do an overlay indicating that one mile costs approximately \$60,000. Partridge Road potholes need repair and Lake Station Road drops at the shoulder and needs to be pulled up.

Under Public Participation Mardi Dysinger gave details of lawlessness on Willow Street and indicated that she is having a neighborhood meeting and what she is willing to do. Keith Keeler indicated that seasonal residents who own property by Cold Springs are concerned that the bathrooms need to be opened again. Supervisor Byl indicated that it is being addressed and gave details of the projects that the maintenance staff is working on. Kim Irwin, Lake Firefighters Auxiliary President, reported they are having a pop can drive and will be going around Crooked Lake and Eight Point Lake on July 7, 2013 beginning at 3:00 p.m. to pick up cans that are bagged and put by the road.

Byl reported the following:

- A denial had been received from the health department for a property where the owner didn't get permits. He also indicated that the person was taking care of the problem.
- He has received permits for break walls on Crooked Lake.
- He indicated that he has received a request to use the hall for a line dancing class. Following discussion, the Board indicated they had no problem with this class being held at the hall.
- He said that he is attending the Neighborhood Watch meetings and there is good communication from the Sheriff and State Police.
- He attended a meeting at Hamilton Township to see their new building and following a visit with the supervisor, he was able to obtain their newly developed Junk and Blight Ordinance. He would like the Board to review for a future update of our township's ordinance with the possibility of changing our ordinance to a Nuisance Ordinance.
- He indicated that a lawsuit has been filed regarding the dilapidated trailer in Pla-Land and a trailer on Lake Station Avenue, indicating the owners of the property were located in Colorado and North Carolina, respectively.

Byl updated the Board on the activities at the Depot:

- A bike-a-thon had passed through our town via the rail trail and the bikers indicated they liked having the Depot available to them.
- Bill and Joe have put a lot of hours removing the deck and stage and have cleaned up around the property.
- A new pump has been installed, the inside cleaned up, plumbing repaired, shed moved to the Fire Department which Rick McNeilly did for the department and flowers planted.

Byl gave a maintenance update indicated projects completed were:

- The eaves repaired and poles wrapped at the hall
- The steps widened at the entrance of the township hall, paving stones added, floors in the office refinished.
- He also reported that tools and equipment are needed for the many projects in the township and gave details of the use of budget monies to purchase these new tools and equipment.

Discussion of the bid from Steve DeGeer followed. Irwin indicated he will find out the cost included in the bid of clean-up and disposal. Comments by Roland and Rottiers followed regarding feelings of the community regarding renovation of the Depot. The Depot bid was tabled until the next meeting.

Rottiers explained that “a” and “b” under New Business should be combined as in the past for approval.

Motion by Byl, seconded by Rottiers to combine under New Business “a. Resolution to Adopt Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014” and “b. Resolution to Approve Salaries and Wage Rates – 2013-2014.” All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution to Adopt the Budget as Changed for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 by Byl, seconded by Rottiers.

Roll call vote Irwin – yes, Roland – nay, Yarhouse – yes, Byl – yes, Rottiers – yes. Resolution approved.

Resolution to Approve the Meeting Schedule for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 by Rottiers, seconded by Yarhouse. Roll call vote all ayes. Resolution approved.

Resolution to Continue Township Banking at Any Clare County Bank with FDIC Protection or Credit Union with NCUA Protection by Yarhouse, seconded by Rottiers.

Roll call vote all ayes. Resolution approved.

Resolution to Continue Authorizing Clerk to Transfer Funds Between Expense Items in a Cost Center to Avoid a Deficit by Yarhouse, seconded by Rottiers.

Roll Call vote all ayes. Resolution approved.

Motion by Rottiers, seconded by Roland, to approve the one-year Assessor Agreement for Services with Beach Appraisal Company LLC. All ayes. Motion carried.

Byl indicated that he would like the Board to review Hamilton Township’s Junk and Blight Ordinance and consider some or all of it to update the Garfield Township Blight Ordinance.

Byl reported that Tom Hawley has resigned from hauling metal at the Transfer Station. Byl indicated three proposals consisting of:

- Fair Salvage supplying a container and picking up the container when full at a cost of \$150 with the remainder of the monies from the metal returned to the Township.
- Current Transfer Station Attendant removing the metal and keeping the profit made from selling the metal.
- Hire someone to replace Tom Hawley.

Following discussion and other solutions offered, the item was tabled until the next meeting.

Rottiers explained a motion to amend the budget to increase account 206-801-705.000 by \$3,000, account 206-801-706.000 by \$500 and account 206-801-707.000 by \$2,000 was needed to correct the 2012-2013 budget.

Motion by Roland, seconded by Irwin, to approve bills and wages of \$77,566.80 to include and additional check to be written to Voelker Implement Sales, Inc. for \$1495.95. All ayes. Motion carried.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.