

**Garfield Township**  
**Special Board Workshop Meeting Minutes**  
**October 18, 2017 7:00pm**

**1. The meeting** opened at 7:00pm by Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Byl, Farwell, Irwin, Roland and Yarhouse and fourteen township citizens.

**2. Agenda:** The meeting agenda for the October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Motion to approve the agenda made by Irwin. Supported by Yarhouse. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**3.** Motion to approve the minutes of the regular Board Meeting September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 was made by Farwell, Seconded by Yarhouse. Two abstained, three ayes. Motion carried.

**4.** Motion to approve the minutes of the Special Board Meeting October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 was made by Irwin, Seconded by Farwell. All ayes. Motion carried.

**5. A Power Point** presentation was made by Byl which recapped to township accomplishments for the past five years. Improvements to the township facilities, professional services, the depot area, assessments, cemetery and parks. Grant applications and acceptance, and items which were not funded from the general fund; like transfer station and fire department improvements.

He then offered revenue data for the 2017-2018 budget. Our mileage percent has not changed since 1974. Our state revenue sharing has been set at \$165,000 and we are only receiving \$150,582 per the state records. Other revenue expected totals \$108,000. This will leave us with a shortfall if the entire budget expenses were to be spent for the current budget year. There were several budgeted items that probably will not be needed, totaling approximately \$84,000 due to closer examine of what we anticipated during our budget workshops six months ago, which would lower our 2017-2018 budget by that amount. Expenditures will be closely watched.

Road improvements, which have been paid for out of our general fund, are paid by the majority of townships by special assessments. We have paid out \$200,000 in the last three years from our general fund.

**6. Board discussion.** We have spent a lot, but no improvements have been done for the township in several years. Roads are in good shape, now. Should only have minor repairs on buildings. What were property values in 1974, as property values improved, the percent should still cover it. Need to look at the original verbiage that placed transfer station and fire department special assessments on the ballots. Sheriff protection should also be a special assessment, not be paid out of the general fund. Most budget meetings cover revenue as well as expenses. We will have quarterly budget workshops, at least, to keep abreast of where we are.

**7. Blight Power Point:** Several properties were shown, listed because complaints have been received from the public and letters sent to the owners. (First letter with a copy of the Blight Ordinance is sent to the property owner of record.) We have several success stories and many properties have been removed from the list because the letters are getting results. There are, also, many properties that are being addressed with noticeable blight problems. These continuing blight problems are continuing to be addressed. The board discussed procedures to take care of the blighted properties. How many of the worst ones should be pursued at a given time. What order should they have. oldest ones first, worst ones first? There was a lot of

discussion on these properties and ~~the end result was~~, a list of these properties ready for Step Two will be presented at the November Regular Board Meeting. We have a blight ordinance and we need to enforce it.

**8. Public Comment:**

- Joe Stragea- Blight based on appearances. People don't like what they see. What about kids on 4 wheelers. I don't like what I hear. Need to confiscate. I have issues there and am working on it. Some people come over from 8 Point Lake up-set with property appearances on Hillcrest. That's all.
- Joseph Richard Peroge-11020 Alpine. Third year here. This is a great community. Worked with Dave. Smart and hard working. I'm a real estate broker and appraiser. I approached Dave on property on Alpine. I know blight. Dave is going about it correctly. I have seen the supervisor get abused and beat up over blight issues from blighted residents. Keep going forward, stay strong. Blight does have an impact on surrounding properties.
- James Monaghan.-There is no sheriff in Delaware. Why. Don't know Bill of Rights. Free country. A man is in his home. You have no right to harass him. We're following the agenda of the Kremlin. Gun laws! Catholic history, they shot the Pope. Tyranny now in this country.

**9. Motion to adjourn by Irwin.** Supported by Farwell. All ayes. Motion carried.

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*David Byl, Supervisor*

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*Joan E Farwell, Clerk*