

**Garfield Township
Unapproved Regular Board Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2016 7:00pm**

1. The meeting opened at 7:00pm by Supervisor Byl leading the Star Spangled Banner and the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Byl, Farwell, Irwin, Yarhouse and Roland. Also attending the meeting were Garfield Township Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs, Garfield Township Blight Officer Rod Williams, Garfield Fire Fighters Auxiliary President Betty Tessman, Clare County Dale Majewski, and several citizens. Byl reminded those present of the supervisor's authorities and responsibilities as noted in the Michigan Township Association Rules and Regulations.
2. The meeting agenda was changed to add an old business item.
3. Motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2016 meeting was made by Irwin, and supported by Yarhouse with a correction in Item 6 for Damaged buildings to Dangerous buildings.. All ayes. Motion carried
4. Treasurer's report was approved after a motion by Farwell, seconded by Roland. All ayes. Motion carried.
5. Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs reported 20 runs, 4-miscellaneous fire, 1-trees downed, 15-medical. 32 runs YTD in 2016. He reported that no bids have been received on the Dodge Pickup. Asked the board for suggestions on how to proceed with a sale. The consensus was to ask for sealed bids. New fire engine is in service and will be here after in meeting if anyone would like to see it. He and M Fouchey attended a class on Legal Policies and Recommendations. Very good class.
5. Clare County Commissioner Dale Majewski had the minutes of the Commissioner's meeting. He also reported on maintenance/repair work being done at the Court House on the elevator and lighting. The Clare County Airport has received a matching fund grant for improving the runways.
6. Blight Officer Rod Williams talked about Section 2 under definitions and Sec10 in the Damaged Building Ordinance. The 180 day vacant notice is to provide for 'due process' which would hopefully correct delayed mail problems. He is still working on the List for consideration of the Damaged Building Ordinance.
7. Lori Ware, Director of Senior Services/Council on Aging for Clare County spoke of her responsibilities and that there are grant monies available to citizens needing assistance in making certain home improvements. She mentioned Mark Fitzpatrick, Building Official for Clare County, could answer questions about the Dangerous Building Ordinance as it affects Hayes Township.

8. Mardi Dysinger-Deerfield Subdivision Resident-addresses the council about the Meth 'Stage One' pop bottle she picked up during her walk through the neighborhood. She was taking the cap off, as she always does, not paying attention to what she had in her hand and the bottle almost flew out of her grasp. The bottle had what looked like rock salt to melt icy areas. It then filled her pole barn with an orange cloud and had a strong odor. She called the Sheriff and they told her it was the first stage in making meth of which there are five stages.

9. Sheriff's report given by Deputy Aaron Miller. One larceny of a building and one meth cooker. No B&E's Quiet month. He answered questions about our coverage hours.

10. Jeannie Stewart, Garfield Township Park Committee Chair, addressed the Lake Station Trailhead and DNR site fund. The grant application is nearly completed and distributed copies to the board. There will be a Public Hearing on March 23rd, 2016 with a DNR representative present. The board vote on the grant has an April 1st deadline. Our lease location currently is from Lake Station Ave to Gibson Ave.

11. Supervisors notes: Five items

1. He is seeking quotes to replace the metal chairs used in the Hall, good plastic ones could be better.
2. Township remodel of the office. Looking to hire a contractor who could do the job readily in less than a week, i.e. Central Restoration or a like insured business.
3. Savings reduction on the interest paid for the Fire Truck Loan amounted to \$3,718.00 for the first year.
4. Board of Review will hold its public hearings on Monday, March 15th from 9AM to Noon and 1:00PM till 4PM and Wednesday, March 16th from 2PM till 5PM and 6PM Till 9PM.
5. The Poverty Guidelines needs to be approved by the board. The Federal Poverty Level Chart was distributed to be approved by the council. Farwell made a motion to accept the recommended levels, seconded by Irwin. All ayes. Motion Carried.

12. Old Business: Added to the agenda: Request from the board to vote on the Dangerous Building Ordinance--- Move by Roland to make the vote as the ordinance was presented in January, seconded by Yarhouse. Roll Call Vote; Roland- no; Yarhouse-no; Irwin-no; Byl-no; Farwell-no. The Dangerous Building Ordinance, as presented, is voted down.

13. No new business. Budget Meetings are scheduled for Mondays- April 11th, and May 9th, 2016

12. Public comments.

Lori Martin, Deputy Clerk for the County Clerk, said that she will be running for the County Clerk position in the August Primary Election and spoke of her skills to be able to fulfill the position.

Kimberly Davis, employee for Sheriff Department, is also a candidate for the August Primary Election to run for the County Clerk's Position.

L G Roberts presented the board with his answers to the summons he received in 2013.

Various citizens: Told of their situations with the Dangerous Building Ordinance; which had already been voted down; speaking both for and against the ordinance. Citizens wanting blight and buildings cleaned up because the conditions were affecting their property investments, and those concerned that their rights were being taken away- because they were being instructed to clean up their properties. Some people claimed they don't have the money to maintain their property.

Jose Rodriquez told the group that he would take their trash to the Transfer Station free. Just call him.

One person said we need to work together in the middle. There are problems with some buildings.

One person said to get door to door pickup to solve the 'trash out the back door' problem.

13. Approval of bills. Motion to approve all bills was made by Irwin. Supported by Roland. All ayes. Motion carried.

14. Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.