

GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

August 11, 2020

The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m. by Township Supervisor, Richard Pichette. The meeting was held virtually through Zoom.

Present: Mary Ann LeBresh, Brenda Lester, Richard Pichette, and Lisa Pichette. Tyler Lucas did not attend.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

Brenda made a motion, seconded by Mary Ann, to recess for 10 minutes at 7:08 p.m. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Richard called the meeting to order again at 7:15 p.m. Present, Lisa Pichette, Richard Pichette, Mary Ann LeBresh, and Brenda Lester. Tyler Lucas was absent.

MINUTES: Budget amendment was for the Transfer Station, not the G. Lisa made a motion, seconded by Lisa, to approve minutes for the regular meeting held on July 14, 2020, with the correction. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: None.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: A motion was made by Mary Ann, seconded by Lisa, to approve the bills as submitted by the Clerk with the two additions to Foxy's Den and Lisa Pichette. Roll Call Vote: Brenda – yes, Mary Ann – yes, Lisa – yes, and Richard – yes. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Assessor Report was given by Colleen Maki. There were positive comments received regarding the letters the assessor mailed regarding their site visits.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Farley was not present so there was no report.

CLERK/CEMETERY REPORT: The township received a Freedom of Information request from True the Vote asking questions and requesting documents regarding the August 2020 Primary. The board supported Brenda's request to contact the township attorney for guidance. Brenda will also work with the county clerk who will provide some of the information they requested.

TREASURER/TOWNSHIP HALL: Treasurer and Clerk balances agree. Mary Ann will check with Jack Anderson regarding the cement repairs that are needed to the rock portion of the township hall.

TRANSFER STATION: Will be covered under old business.

PARKS AND RECREATION: The murals for the township hall are now installed. Lisa and Richard installed the new sign at the township park. Richard will talk to Dave Cortez regarding killing the weeds on the walkways at the park.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: Richard updated the board regarding some meetings he attended. MDOT stated the dip in the road on M-183 may be repaired in 2021. Richard gave the board an update on the PILT money. The maintenance schedule has been updated for the next year.

OLD BUSINESS:

- ***Fire Signs:*** Richard spoke with Mike Lange who is planning on starting the first phase of installation for the new signs in August or September.
- ***Township Hall Murals:*** The new murals have been installed on the township hall.

- **N-22 Road Repairs:** The Road Commission will be starting the project in about a week.
- **Transfer Station Overflow for Fuel Tanks:** Motion was made by Lisa, seconded by Mary Ann, to approve repairs to the fuel tanks with parts totaling \$1,566.92. Roll Call Vote: Brenda – yes, Mary Ann – yes, Lisa – yes, and Richard – yes. Motion carried.
- **Millage for the Transfer Station:** Brenda said it's too late to place the proposal on the November 2020 ballot. A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Lisa, to request a renewal of the Transfer Station millage of two mills be placed on the ballot for the May 2021 election with the township attorney drafting the ballot language. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- **Plow Truck for Transfer Station:** Richard contacted several dealerships and he had a difficult time finding any used trucks suitable for plowing. A motion was made by Lisa, seconded by Mary Ann, to purchase a new Ford F-250 with a plow and 4-wheel drive from Chuck Renze Ford for \$37,065.00 through their fleet program.

FIRE DEPARTMENT TRANSFER STATION BUDGET AMENDMENTS: Brenda made a motion, seconded by Lisa, to increase the Fire Department Capital Outlay expense account from \$6,400.00 to \$38,000.00 and increase the Contingency Fund revenue account \$-0- to \$31,600.00. Roll Call Vote: Brenda – yes, Mary Ann – yes, Lisa – yes, and Richard – yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Yearly Maintenance:** Richard will make arrangements for yearly maintenance on the furnaces, space heaters, the generator, and pump the septic tanks and pit toilets.
- **New Tractor Tires:** The tires need to be replaced on the tractor. Richard has an estimate from U.P. Tire for \$280.00
- **Mowing of the Septic Mound for the Hall:** The Village will continue to mow the grass on the septic field mound.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Lisa made a motion, seconded by Mary Ann, to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Lester
Garden Township Clerk