

Garfield Township  
Board Meeting Minutes  
April 22, 2024

Called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor David Byl, leading the Pledge of Allegiance, Board members present were Clayton, Lard, Roland & Yarhouse. Also in attendance was Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs.

**Agenda:** The meeting agenda was reviewed. The motion to accept the agenda was made by Clayton, supported by Lard. All ayes, motion carried.

**Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Lard and supported by Yarhouse. All ayes, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** A motion to accept the Treasurer's report for March was made by Lard and supported by Roland. All ayes, motion carried.

**County Commissioner - Marlene Housler:**

- Ruthanne Hicks is retiring from the Clare County Animal Shelter in April 2024.
- Renewals will be on the ballot: Senior Citizens/Sponge Moth/Animal Control
- The County is selling the Senior Center located at 210 Wilcox Parkway Circle in Clare for \$90,000.00
- Perch Lake needs another Board Member.
- The next EMS meeting is being held 5/1/2024.

**Fire Department: Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs reported:**

- 3/26/24-04/22/24 there were 16 medical calls, 1-car accident 2-fires, 1-down power lines, 1-Gas leak, 6-Mutual aid. 27 for the month and 80 for the year.
- New applicant – Stephnie Bennett paperwork has been done and physical. The motion was made by Clayton to accept this applicant and supported by Roland. All ayes, motion carried.

Denise Hicks approached the podium and introduced herself. She is running for the office of Clerk of Garfield Township in the fall election 2024.

**Friends of Garfield Township:**

Barb Lijewski reported that the Friends agreed to pay for the following projects:

- 3 Tree's at West Beach-Eight Point Lake
- Sunshade Sail at West Beach-Eight Point Lake
- Work at the Depot – Paint & lighting upstairs.
- Cost split with Cooks Landing (Eight Point) on the adjoining fence between Garfield Park.
- Kayak launch at Peterson Park (Crooked Lake).

The Township Board was in favor of the work and money from the Friends for these projects.

**Supervisor Notes:**

1. The grant the Fire Department received in the amount of \$10,000.00 has been deposited.
2. Byl read the duties & responsibilities of the Supervisor and running the Township meetings.
3. Jeff Best will be delivering the sculpture that will be on loan for a year and in the art sculpture walk.
4. Blight report was handed out to the Board.
5. The Township participates in the Fire Withholding Program. The fire on Trails End has been cleaned up and a check is going out to the homeowner.
6. The Rock Rd property has been cleaned up, somewhat, the owner is responsible for having the renters clean up.
7. The owner of the BP Station on the corner of US10 and Gibson, has been working with the Township. Byl recently spoke to the contractor; Irish Design and he is working with the owner. Roland asked what can be done to make sure this clean-up/rebuild does happen.
8. ARPA report is due at the end of April. The remaining funds will be used for the Super 6 project-Lake Station project.

**Old Business:**

Transfer Station compensation: Byl asked the Board for their input.

- Lard asked if there was a dollar amount that was figured out that was owed.
- Yarhouse does not see how we can go back and pay for this.
- Clayton feels they are great employees and would like to see a minimum of \$500.00 be given to them.
- Roland reached out to the Township CPA and asked if this was legal. The CPA felt the past was the past and to go forward, Roland agrees with the CPA.
- Byl agreed that they are great employees and work hard, he felt that we could provide a one-time bonus or premium pay, like we did for the ARPA money.

**New Business:**

- Blight software – Byl sent the Board the information about the software. This will be a huge time-saving tool and accurate recording keeping. This code enforcement software costs \$3,850.00 for a year. Yarhouse said she did not receive the video on this program. Byl reported that he would resend it to the Board. It was agreed to put this on old business for May.

**Approval of Bills:** \$53,828.05 was made by Lard and supported by Clayton. All ayes, motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Public comment was held.

Adjourned: 7:24 pm -Motion was made by Clayton and supported by Lard. All ayes, motion carried.

***Budget meeting is 5/6/2024 at 6:30 pm / Board meeting is 5/22/2024 6:30 pm.***

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Supervisor – David Byl

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Clerk – Janet Clayton