

Garfield Township  
Board Meeting Minutes  
July 24, 2023

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.

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

**Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes June 26, 2023, Board Meeting, was made by Lard and supported by Roland. All ayes, motion carried.

**County Commissioner - Marlene Housler** reported:

- The State is going to pay for the additional 9 days of early voting.
- The County is giving \$6500.00 to help reseal the runway. The machine to do this job and the product will be donated.
- On 8/4/23 27 parcels will be at the tax sale. [wwwtaxsale.com](http://wwwtaxsale.com)
- The Board of Commissioners is being sued by the Clare County Prosecuting Attorney. The issue is that the Prosecutor wants to hire another lawyer for her office and the County Commissioners voted no.

**Fire Department:** 6/29/23-7/24/23 19 Medical / 7 Fires /2 Mutual Aid / 28 month / 172 YTD.

- The car wash scheduled for July's car wash was a rain out. The August one is scheduled for Aug 26, 2023.
- Kevin would like input from the Board about adding to the Ordinance for hazard materials like electric bicycles, electric vehicles and charging stations. He feels the need to be updated to meet today's standards and issues. Should we involve the attorneys? Byl will reach out to talk to our attorney. With the recent fire at the BP station, we were lucky it wasn't worse.
- He would like to proceed to have the 3 doors on the west side of the building replaced and the bottom half of the Fire Department wrapped in steel, as per the approved bid. DeGeer Builders will do the work.

**Supervisor Notes:**

- Assessing issues - finding there are properties that are not taxed. Tina, our assessor, is working on it.
- Issues have come up again on the 20 ft. property at Bluff Lake. A survey is needed on this property, the property needs to be platted.
- At Bluff Lake neighbors are buying blighted places and cleaning them up.
- MTA has education for assessing classes for the Township.
- Byl applied for the \$10,000.00 grant for equipment for the Fire Department.
- Finding that there is property that goes on the tax sale that isn't usable.
- BLIGHT: Report for this meeting; Byl spoke about the current properties he has been working on.
- Gray Lake-Nancy Carmen: Trash overflowing
- Neighbor filled out a complaint form on both of his neighbors on Alpine Dr.
- Frank Patson tickets will be issued.
- Ron Cramer owned on Birch St.; Rick McNeilly is out there clearing off the old vehicles to put in a pole barn.
- Gary Smith on Cook St.-yard full of trash.
- Robert Barber – Willow St, burn out.
- Amy Schmitt – 140 Crooked Lake Dr. – cleaning up.
- Krabill's place on 8 Point Lake Rd is being cleaned up and looks like new people have purchased it.
- On Davy St – property bought on tax sale was resold and now a motor home is in there with people living fulltime.

No General Comment.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Resolution# 2023-22 Increase the Transfer Station from \$79.86 to \$100.00 per year, per property. This will be doubled for small businesses.

Motion was made by Lard and supported by Yarhouse. Roll call vote: Lard-yes/Yarhouse yes/Clayton-yes/Byl-yes/Roland-yes. All ayes, motion carried.

Resolution# 2023-23 Decrease the Fire equipment millage from 1.9 to 1.65 mills. Motion was made by Roland, supported by Clayton. Roll call vote: Roland-yes/Clayton-yes/Lard-yes/Byl-yes/Yarhouse-yes. All ayes, motion carried.

Resolution# 2023-24 Keep the Operating Millage for the Fire Department at 2.0 Mills. Motion was made by Clayton, supported by Lard. Roll Call vote: Clayton-yes/Lard-yes/Yarhouse-yes/Byl-yes/Roland-yes. All ayes, motion carried.

We received a document for AT&T right away, an agreement to use the right of way (utilities). Motion made by Yarhouse and supported by Lard. All ayes, motion carried.

Ken Ebaugh has joined the Board of Review; he will go through the training and now SJ Conroy will be the alternate. Motion to accept Ken Ebaugh to this position was made by Clayton and supported by Lard. All ayes, motion carried.

The Board of Review (BOR) met on July 19, 2023. This was to correct Veteran exemptions and any corrections missed from past meetings. The next BOR will be in March 2024. Roland asked if the BOR members should be fulltime residents, she also referred to "fence watchers".

Byl reported that Gray Lake will have their weed treatment this week.

Approval of Bills \$146,281.81. Motion was made by Lard and supported by Clayton. All ayes, motion carried.

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

There being no further business, motion to adjourn by Roland, supported by Byl. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting adjourned 7:30 pm.

Next Board meeting August 28, 2023, at 6:30pm.

---

Supervisor – David Byl

---

Clerk – Janet Clayton