

Garfield Township
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
December 19th, 2016 7:00pm

- 1. The meeting** opened at 7:00pm by Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance and the Star Spangled Banner. 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; Clare County Commissioner, Dale Majewski; and Jeanie Stewart-Friends of Garfield Township Parks Committee.
- 2. Agenda:** The meeting agenda for the December 19th, 2016 were approved after an addition to Business-Item 15 letter d, Transfer Station. The motion by Roland. Supported by Yarhouse. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
- 3. Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes of the November 28th, 2016 with a correction of K Tubbs thanking D Runyon, instead of the other way around; and the deletion of 17 item b. Motion by Roland. Supported by Yarhouse. All ayes. Motion carried
- 4. Clerk's report.** Check out new hall lighting. Wishing all a Merry Christmas and a healthy, happy New Year
- 5. Treasurer's report** was approved after a motion by Irwin, seconded by Roland. All ayes. Motion carried.
- 6. Trustee Irwin:** Spoke with Al from the Road Commission and our roads needing of repair. .
- 7. Trustee Roland:** None
- 8. Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs** reported 291 runs YTD. There is a total of 9 runs; 7 medical, 1 PI, and 1 chimney fire. He requested approval of 2 new firefighters, Dustin Hand, a cadet and Levi Smith. He also requested permission to pursue a grant from DNR of \$1,600.00 towards new radios. Irwin a motion to approve the fire-fighters, seconded by Lisa, All Ayes. Motion carried. **Fire Dept. Auxiliary report:** Read by K Tubbs, fire chief. The Kids Community Christmas Party had 45 kids in attendance. The Auxiliary is preparing an accounting of what monies have been made by their fund raisers.
- 9. Clare County Commissioner** - Commission meeting is next week. There is an opening in the prosecutor's office for an assistant prosecutor. He thanked Jeanie Stewart for her dedication and success in obtaining grants for the Trailhead Project. Great job. No other community has had such success. Everyone have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
- 10. Brad Beach, Assessor:** AMAR had 2 corrections for Land Value Determinations which are corrected. There were 739 valuation adjustments that did not state a reason for the adjustments. Record Cards were given an 87% accuracy score. 5 needed to be reviewed. The Board of Review received 16 Pre petitions during their meeting. They had to re-meet for another 8 petitions because the County did not update their records on a timely basis. This is the second year in a row the county has been behind in updating the records before the Tax Bills are sent out, He recommends using a company; KCI to send the bills, which several other taxing areas use, because they use our records and are more cost effective. Residential properties can expect a 4-5% increase in valuations next year because of sales in the area.
- 11. Jeanie Stewart; Friends of Garfield Parks**—A meeting is planned in January with Rowe Engineering for final adjustments to the Parks Project. The caboose is scheduled to be moved in June. Sometime between April and June, the Appropriations Committee will be meeting to award the grants. There were 130 application, and 87 were recommended for approval. Ours being one of the top runners.
- 12. Supervisor Byl reported:** He has a Christmas Wish List: (1) Cemetery ideas; (2) Transfer Station Ordinance Up Dates with board.; (3) KCI Tax Bill Issuance; (4) Dangerous Building Issues and cost to our township; (5) Long Term Planning; (6) There is a Septic System under the new Depot Parking lot and a need to permit is needed for \$406.00.

13. Public Comment:

S Mackley expressed concern that our police patrol hasn't been around lately. She questioned the blight conditions at two houses on Cook Rd.

R Williams will have a blight report in January to let people know where the township stands on some of the blight problems.

T Pirnstill thanked J Stewart on her success in obtaining grants. He also stated that the Board of Review can operate more efficiently if the records are done right. If we can get a job done better and cheaper, we should be moving forward for the sake of our township and residents.

14: Old Business:

- a. Petty Cash Policy passed after a motion from Yarhouse and supported by Irwin. Roll Call Vote; Yarhouse-yes, Irwin-yes, Byl-yes, Roland-yes and Farwell-yes. Motion Carried
- b. Carpet bid; Yarhouse presented a carpet bid from Woods Furniture for \$4,770.89 for the carpet, which included the underlay and furniture moves in all three rooms. Work to take 2 or 3 days. Motion by Yarhouse to accept the bid, supported by Farwell. Roll Call Vote; Yarhouse-yes, Farwell-yes, Byl-yes, Irwin-yes and Roland-yes.
- c. Stump removal: Tabled
- d. Transfer Station: Roland inquired about the future vision for the transfer station from the supervisor. He reported that in the past four years the cost to Waste Management have been cut by him looking at the bill and questioning the charges. Also the bar code issuance has decreased many people out of our township from dumping there. The problems continue to be looked into and corrected. The transfer station problems were brought up by another trustee with good reason, and we continue to take care of them.

15. New Business:

- a. Auction: Three sealed bids were received for the pontoon boat and trailer. The highest bid was \$755.00, which the board accepted. The other auction items will be advertised in the paper and on the web page.
- b. Grant Coordinator compensation: Most grant writers receive 18% of the grant and Jeanie Stewart has, yes she volunteered to do this, worked diligently for the past several years with Rowe Engineering on the Five Year Plan. The township budgeted \$20,000.00 at the beginning of the project, and \$5,000.00 remains of this budgeted amount. She has raised 103,000.00 in matching funds through grants, which is \$5,000.00 more than needed,

16. Approval of Bills: Motion to approve the bills was made by Irwin, supported by Roland. All ayes. Motion carried.

17. Meeting adjourned at 8:40PM

David Byl, Supervisor

Joan E Farwell, Clerk