

**Garfield Township
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
February 25th 2019**

The meeting opened at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance, Board members present were Byl, Roland, Yarhouse, Farwell and Irwin. Also in attendance was Fire Chief Tubbs and Clare County Commissioner, Dale Majewski.

1. **Agenda:** The meeting agenda for February 25th, 2019 was approved by a motion from Farwell, and supported by Yarhouse. All Ayes. Motion carried. Roland requested to have the agenda a week before the meeting. It was explained that this was not possible as the agenda changes several times before the meeting. Every effort is made to inform the board members early, but this is not a requirement, and sometimes, it is not attainable.
2. **Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes of the January 30th, 2019 board meeting. A motion to approve the minutes from Irwin, supported by Roland. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. **Clerks report.** Funds Equity Report. Motion to approve by Roland, Supported by Irwin. All ayes. Motion carried.
4. **Treasurers Report:** Motion to approve the report was made by Roland, supported by Irwin. All Ayes. Motion carried.
5. **Fire Report:** Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs reported 298 runs in 2018. There were 27 runs since the December meeting for January 2019: with 25 medical; 1 mutual aid and 1 car fire. 6, of these occurred in December 2018. He reported the Cadet of the year-Wyatt Tubbs; Fire fighter of the year-Adam Gott; Officer of the year- Sarah Williams and most proficient Agility Test-Shayne Henry. February 2019: had 29 runs with 23 medical; 2 mutual aids; 1 gas leak; 2 PI's; and 1 misc Meth lab. For a total of 50 in 2019. He reported Joseph Swanson has moved to Gladwin; and 4 new applicants Ty Krabill, Tamika Campbell, Emily Young and Matt Disbrow. He also noted that Bernie Rottiers and Tom Pirnstill were named Honorary Fire Fighters and presented them with a plaque of appreciation for their help in several arenas during the year. The Fire Dept. washing machine is on the fritz. He reported that Winterfest had lots of people and a lot of Catch & Release fishermen. The power box at Peterson Park needs a 220 Amp plug, the food truck blew the 110 Amp plug.
6. **Becky Gott-Fire Dept Auxiliary President:** Thanked businesses for donated prizes, and thanked volunteers. There were 47 folks fishing; 27 teams for the Corn Hole Toss Tourn-ament; Red Neck Curling; etc. Still has some T-shirts for \$15.00. They made approximately \$4,600.00.
7. **Dale Majewski, Clare County Commissioner:** Left the Commissioners minutes. He reported the County is leasing 2 vehicles for Animal Control. The boxes on the current vehicles will be retrofitted on the newer trucks. He mentioned the May 7th elections. Revenues are down by \$11,000.00 and expenses are down by \$4,000 to help offset the loss.
8. **Blight Control Officer report:**
Had pictures of 3 properties cleaned-up. One on Lake Station and Oak St, one on Gray Lake and the third on Big Mud Lake.

9. Supervisors Notes:

- County having a Tree Sale on March 22nd. Details on their Web page
 - Spectrum/Charter has changes to their TV line-up.
 - Distributed to Credit Card policy
 - There will be a 150 mile footrace on the Pere Marquette Rail Trail and they are asking permission to use our pavilion as a stop-off site.
 - Michigan Chloride has increased its pricing 6.2%.
 - Met with AVON about Air Packs. They will come in to demonstrate the packs. The reason Avon had a specific date to end their proposal to us, was to match the deal given to Evert Fire Dept.
 - Winter burials. The past two weeks there were 2 burials and the frost was 18". Our policy states "If burial is insisted there will be an additional cost of \$100.00 per each inch of frost with a maximum of 6". The board agreed the policy should be followed.
- Jeanie Stewart with Dave on the Trail Head. Grant ends July 2019. We have come in under budget. Could add 4 more benches and have a DNR trail sign to be used throughout the state. There is \$24,000/25,000 left to use. Benches would include concrete slabs. Also place fences between Lake Side and Depot parking. Friends Group will pay for fencing behind the caboose. This will unify and delineate the property. The remaining funds-could get new doors and windows for the Depot and new flag poles.
Friends group made \$400.00 from the Bake Sale at Jay's.
From surveys, folks would like a pavilion at Peterson Park and the Township with grills, benches and tables. Looking into prices.

10. Public Comments: New dock at Peterson Park will be destroyed by ice if not removed.

11. New Business:

- Hall rental charges: Several townships replied with their rental fees. Liability insurance thresholds were discussed, or at least having a Hold Harmless Clause, as is on our Rental Application. A motion to increase our Hall Rental fee, effective immediately, to \$75.00 with a \$25.00 refund if the hall is left as it was found, was made by Byl and supported by Irwin. All ayes, Motion carried.
- It was brought to the board's attention that the insert letter in the Assessment Notices had some erroneous statements.
 - 1) The letter stated the rate hasn't increased in over 40 years: It should have read that the Dump costs held at \$20.00 until it became a Transfer Station 1992 when the rate jumped by \$25.00. Since then it slowly increased to the current rate of \$79.86 in 2004, and has not increased in the last 15 years.
 - 2) It also stated the Township Operating mills have been at a .71 rate for nearly 50 years. The truth is that in 1986, the Operating Millage was 2.0 mills and has been dropping for several years to its current rate of 0.7148 mills.

12. Approval of Bills: A motion to approve all bills was made by Irwin, seconded by Roland. All Ayes. Motion carried.

13. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Irwin, Supported by Roland. Motion carried.

David Byl, Supervisor

Joan E. Farwell, Clerk