

Garfield Township  
Budget Workshop Board Meeting Minutes  
May 5, 2021

Called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance, Board members present were Byl, Clayton, Lard, Roland & Yarhouse.

**Agenda:** The meeting agenda was reviewed, no changes made. Motion to accept agenda was made by Clayton, supported by Lard. All ayes, motion carried.  
Motion to approve the April 26, 2021 minutes was made by Lard and supported by Yarhouse. All ayes, motion carried.

**Public Comment:** No comments

**New Business:**

The Board was given a copy of an Invoice from Clare County Equalization with 3 options of fees. We have until June 1, 2021 to decide, Robin would like some time to look this over so it will go on the May 24<sup>th</sup> agenda.

The Meeting schedule for 2021-2022 was given to the Board.

Kevin Tubbs gave out an equipment list for a 5-year replacement plan. Fire Department millage to do 2 additional mills for 3 years, time frame. It has been 1.9 mills for over 20 years. This would take it to 3.9 for 3 years. This would accomplish what the fire department needs and put money back into the reserves. Kevin has many connections and will be able to find what is needed on his budget.

Would it make sense to replace the Rescue now while we can get the money out of the one that is worth the most? Kevin brought in the Thermal camera that was recently purchased. The Board tried it out and it was quite impressive. It was recently used on Crooked Lake to find a lost kayaker.

David Byl spoke to Tracy at Equalization and said the County needed a resolution from the Board so that they can get the Gray Lake assessment on the tax bill for the summer taxes. PLM will wait for the payment on the treatment until we collect the money from Gray Lake on the taxes. A letter will need to be written to the State, explaining why Gray Lake was in a deficit.

Roland stated that we need to explain to the Gray Lake residents why it is on the summer taxes and again on the winter taxes.

Byl said that because Gray Lake does not have an association to okay the treatment (like Crooked, Eight Point, Perch) on the lake, it is the Township responsibility with the help of residents. The treatment coverage will be approx. 12,500 sq. ft this year.

Lard said that PLM Lake & Land Mgmt sent a letter to all residents about treatment. Lard said there was a huge difference from the treatment last year with the weeds in the lake.

Byl ask that the Board passes a resolution that Garfield Township will collect the special assessment from the treatment of 2020 to go on the Summer 2021 tax bill.

**Resolution to collect the Special Gray Lake Assessment (SAD) on the Summer 2021 property tax for Gray Lake. Motion to accept this resolution was made by Byl and supported by Clayton. Resolution Vote: Byl – yes / Yarhouse – yes / Roland – yes/ Lard – yes / Clayton – yes. All ayes, motion carried.**

Change the May Board meeting from 5/17/21 to 5/24/21 Motion was made by Clayton and supported by Lard. All ayes. Motion passed.

Byl shared frustration with Yarhouse on the percentage of the CD interest. This is something that we need to ask the CPA's about to make it fair. The auditor would be able to figure this out.  
Yarhouse said we are not penalized by TCF or Isabella for withdrawing money.

Roland questioned the proposed pay scale for 2021-2022. Why employees had 1.3% and the Board increased to 3% The Clerk said that a COLA raise has not been given to the Board since 2017.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn by Byl, supported by Clayton. All ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.