

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD
TOWN BOARD MEETING
April 14, 2015

Chuck Korn called the Town Board Meeting to order on April 14, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Garfield Township Hall, 3848 Veterans Drive, Traverse City, Michigan.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call of Board Members

Present: Bob Featherstone, Kit Wilson, Molly Agostinelli, Denise Schmuckal, Jeane Blood Law, Lanie McManus, and Chuck Korn

Also Present: Brian VanDenBrand and Rob Larrea

1. Public Comment (6:01)

None

2. Review and Approval of the Agenda - Conflict of Interest (6:02)

Agostinelli moved and Featherstone seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

Yeas: Agostinelli, Featherstone, Blood Law, Schmuckal, Wilson, McManus, Korn

Nays: None

3. Consent Calendar (6:02)

a. Minutes

March 24, 2015
(Recommend Approval)

b. Bills

General Fund \$100,063.99
(Recommend Approval)

Gourdie-Fraser

Developer's Escrow Fund \$ 202.50

Utility Receiving Fund 27,256.25

Total \$ 27,458.75

(Recommend Approval)

c. MTT Update (Receive and File)

d. County Road Improvement Agreement between the Grand Traverse County Road Commission and Garfield Township (Recommend Approval)

e. Ordinance No. 68, the Garfield Township Zoning Ordinance – Introduction and schedule for public Hearing at the May 12, 2015 Township Board Meeting (Recommend Approval)

Korn asked to remove Consent Calendar Item D to New Business Item D.

Featherstone moved and Blood Law seconded to adopt the consent calendar as amended.

*Yeas: Featherstone, Blood Law, Schmuckal, Wilson, Agostinelli, McManus, Korn
Nays: None*

Larrea and VanDenBrand left the meeting.

4. Correspondence (6:05)

a. Grand Traverse Conservation District – March Staff Report

5. Reports

a. County Treasurer’s Report (6:22)

Heidi Scheppe provided a copy of the settlement history over the past three years for Garfield Township. She said she has made changes and that she is working with township clerks to balance tax rolls on a twice monthly basis. She says it is easier to catch mistakes to make the bills correct. The amount “purchased” by the County has gone down over a three year period. Blood Law said Scheppe has been excellent to work with and makes her job much easier.

b. Construction Report (6:06)

Jennifer Hodges provided a written construction update which summarized all the ongoing projects in the township at this time. She added that the Zimmerman Road project is slated to be closed out in May and that LaFranier Road is closed at South Airport Road.

c. Sheriff’s Report (6:08)

Deputy Chris Barsheff reported that 41.2% of calls occurred in Garfield Township last month for a total of 1,580 calls. Complaints have been rising since January. Deputy Holliday was recognized by MADD for a significant amount of drunk driving arrests. A stolen truck from Concrete Service was recovered quickly this week and deputies rescued a dog from Silver Lake. A large amount of trash and a makeshift shelter with stove were discovered behind the Verizon property on S. Airport Rd. The Sheriff Dept. will be working with G. T. Land Conservancy, Goodwill Homeless Outreach, and American Waste to clean up the site. Jason Polzien, a Garfield CPO, was selected as Employee of the Year for 2014.

d. County Commissioner’s Report

No report at this time.

e. Building Committee’s Report (6:17)

Bill Mouser said the parking lot drainage issue and construction of roof structures are scheduled to be started by the first of May. The building

committee has not met yet regarding islands on South Airport near Logan's Landing and the board questioned ownership of the islands. Mouser also said he is collecting quotes for the sealing and striping of the parking lot.

f. Personnel Committee (6:21)

Schmuckal said that there may be some staffing changes in the near future since an employee would be switching her part time status. Some shifting of responsibilities will most likely occur.

g. Treasurer's Report (6:29)

Blood Law reported that 98% of taxes have been collected in 2014 and historically that has been the highest rate in recent years. She added that personal property tax write-offs have decreased.

h. Clerk's Report (6:32)

McManus reported that she submitted her financial report in writing and that she is receiving many absentee ballots back.

i. Supervisor's Report (6:33)

Korn said that Metro Fire has interviewed architectural firms and a decision will be made soon. CPO negotiations are ongoing and he hopes an agreement can be reached soon between the county and the townships. Criteria are being established for determining a raise based upon actual numbers of how much it actually costs for an officer. Meadowlane Park has contacted the township and may want to connect to the township's water system. Korn attended a joint Brownfield City/County meeting regarding a \$70 million Park Place Development Upgrade project. The township is considering whether to join a class action lawsuit against the makers of flushable products. A 2015 Ford F 250 Heavy Duty truck was delivered to the township today.

6. Unfinished Business

a. Consideration of authorization to proceed with the design, permitting and construction services for the Pump Station #3 Upgrade (6:46)

Jennifer Hodges from Gourdie-Fraser said that the original intention to fund the upgrade for the pump station was to apply for a SAW grant. Garfield Twp. was not chosen for the grant and this project needs to be done very soon. Funds will have to come from elsewhere. She hopes to manage projects with the BPW so that they can all be proactive rather than reactive and then get the township on a preventive maintenance program.

Wilson moved and Schmuckal seconded to approve \$157,986 for the sanitary sewer pump station #3 rehabilitation to come out of the sewer receiving fund.

*Yeas: Wilson, Schmuckal, Featherstone, Blood Law, Agostinelli, McManus, Korn
Nays: None*

7. New Business**a. Consideration of Bids for fertilization and weed control at Silver Lake Recreation Area (6:54)**

Mouser said that three quotes were received for the fertilization and weed control project in Silver Lake park. Tru Green has bid \$8,775 for five applications which is the same rate as last year, not including the two extra applications requested. Landgreen Lawncare has bid \$8,921 for five applications and will do two additional applications for a total of \$9,747. Board members discussed the quotes and all quotes include spraying for weeds.

Wilson moved and Blood Law seconded to approve the bid from Landgreen Lawncare for the Silver Lake Fertilizer and Weed Program at a cost of \$8,921.00 for the 2015 summer season.

*Yeas: Wilson, Blood Law, Featherstone, Agostinelli, Schmuckal, McManus, Korn
Nays: None*

b. Consideration of an increase in Election Inspectors Wages (7:09)

McManus said that the State of Michigan has changed the parameters and now anyone trained in election work can work at any precinct in the state, thus making it competitive to retain good election workers. McManus proposes raising the rates for election inspectors and the receiving board and recommends a rate of \$18-20 an hour for the receiving board.

Schmuckal moved and Featherstone seconded to pay election inspectors \$13 per hour; election co-chairs \$14 per hour; election chairs \$15 per hour and the receiving board members \$19 per hour.

*Yeas: Schmuckal, Featherstone, Wilson, Blood Law, Agostinelli, McManus, Korn
Nays: None*

c. Construction bid review of Silver Lake Recreation Area Sidewalks project (7:17)

Mouser said that only one bid was received for the Silver Lake Recreation Area sidewalk project and the board agreed that they were not comfortable taking action on a project with only one bid. The board would like to discuss the sidewalk plan and the bids in further detail when VanDenBrand could be present. Alisa Kroupa, former Parks and Recreation Committee Chair, said that the sidewalks were in the amended Silver Lake Master Plan and allow for ADA accessibility. This was a goal project when the state was giving out money for park projects, but that money has since been curbed considerably.

Featherstone moved to reject the bid from Hallmark Construction and to postpone action on the item for discussion of the Silver Lake Park sidewalk plan and possible rebidding of the project. Schmuckal seconded the motion.

*Yeas: Featherstone, Schmuckal, Wilson, Blood Law, Agostinelli, McManus, Korn
Nays: None*

d. County Road Improvement Agreement between the Grand Traverse County Road Commission and Garfield Township (7:29)

Agostinelli moved and Blood Law seconded to approve the County Road Improvement Agreement between the Grand Traverse County Road Commission and Garfield Township for two brine applications at a cost of \$307.31 per application.

*Yeas: Agostinelli, Blood Law, Wilson, McManus, Schmuckal, Featherstone, Korn
Nays: None*

e. County Commissioner’s Report (7:32)

Kroupa reported that the Cass Road project will cost \$10.2 million and will be completed in two phases. The bridge alone will cost \$3.1 million and at their last meeting, the Road Commission agreed to fund \$.5 million towards the project. The bulk of the cost of dam removal (\$7.1 million) will fall on the county since it owns the dam. Funds could be raised for this removal phase of the project, but Kroupa says it is unlikely for all of it to be raised. The Board of Commissioners is moving forward with the Hartman/Hammond project since an east/west thoroughfare is still needed. The Ways and Means Committee will be reviewing the County Administrator’s contract at its next meeting.

8. Public Comment: (7:46)

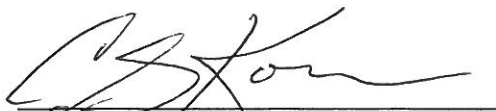
9. Other Business (7:46)

Schmuckal asked about the LaFranier Road project and said that heavy equipment was being parked on Ridgeview jeopardizing the integrity of that road.

Bill Mouser said that Elmer’s would be receptive to comments and would contact the Engineer on the project and relay the problem.

10. Adjournment

Korn moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:52pm.



Chuck Korn, Supervisor
Charter Township of Garfield
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Lanie McManus, Clerk
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