

MERCANTILE BANK CORP
 Form 4
 December 16, 2016

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
GARDNER JEFF A

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
**MERCANTILE BANK CORP
 [MBWM]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
12/06/2016

____ Director
 ____ Officer (give title below)
 ____ 10% Owner
 ____ Other (specify below)

C/O MERCANTILE BANK CORPORATION, 310 LEONARD STREET

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | | | |
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | | | |
| Common Stock | 12/06/2016 | | W | V | 6,000 | D | \$ 0 0 | I | by Marshall Gardner Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/13/2016 | | W | V | 9,000 | D | \$ 0 10,000 | I | by Norma Gardner Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/06/2016 | | W | V | 6,000 | A | \$ 0 6,000 | I | by Jeff Gardner & Susan Gardner |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|------------|---|---|-------|---|------|-----------------------|---|--|
| Common Stock | 12/13/2016 | W | V | 6,000 | A | \$ 0 | 12,000 | I | Weinberg as joint tenants by Jeff Gardner & Susan Gardner Weinberg as joint tenants |
| Common Stock | 12/13/2016 | W | V | 3,000 | A | \$ 0 | 50,252 | I | by Trust |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 16,669 ⁽¹⁾ | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 11,500 | I | by IRA |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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(9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Director 10% Owner Officer Other |

GARDNER JEFF A
C/O MERCANTILE BANK CORPORATION

310 LEONARD STREET
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504

Signatures

/s/ Bradley J. Wyatt,
Attorney-in-Fact

12/16/2016

__Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

This number includes 267 shares acquired since the reporting owner's last report of common stock ownership by reinvesting cash (1) dividends under the issuer's dividend reinvestment plan. It further reflects an additional 2,612 shares, for which the form of beneficial ownership changed since the reporting owner's last report of common stock ownership.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.