**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**GARDINER CITY COUNCIL**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024**

1. **ROLL CALL / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

City Council Present: Mayor Hart, Councilor Greenleaf, Councilor Cusick, Councilor Berry, Councilor Dolley, Councilor Grant, Councilor Babcock, Councilor Brown.

City Employees Present: City Manager-Andrew Carlton, Deputy Clerk- Hailee Lovely, Rick Sieberg- Fire/Ambulance Chief, Dawn Thistle- Library Director, Denise Brown-Finance and HR Director, Todd Pilsbury- Chief of Police, John Cameron- Public Works Director, Melissa Lindley- Economic Development Director, Chuck Applebee- Waste Water Director.

Others Present:

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT (anything not on the Agenda):** There were no comments.
2. **PETITIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS PETITIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS:**
3. Public Hearing regarding a Community Development Block Grant for work on Dearborn Park

*There was a letter sent by a citizen. Please see attached on city website.*

1. **NEW BUSINESS:** 
   1. Approval of Council minutes from March 20, 2024 and Remote Meeting on April 4, 2024

**Action: Councilor Grant moved to approve the Council minutes from March 20, 2024 and Remote Meeting on April 4, 2024. Councilor Brown seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.**

* 1. Request from a resident to name a Private Road

*Citizen George Trask is requesting to change his private road name to Trask Lane.*

**Action: Councilor Berry moved to approve the naming of a private road. Councilor Babcock seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.**

* 1. Advise and Consent for an application for a CDBG Grant for Dearborn Park

**Action: Councilor Grant moved to approve an application for a CDBG Grant for Dearborn Park. Councilor Greenleaf seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.**

* 1. Approval of a Food Truck License for Wicked Thai Food Trailer

**Action: Councilor Cusick moved to approve a Food Truck License for Wicked Thai Food Trailer. Councilor Brown seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.**

* 1. Advise and Consent to the disposition of Tax Acquired Property

*728 River Ave is a very small, and unbuildable lot. Looking to dispose of it.*

**Action: Councilor Greenleaf moved to approve the disposition of the Tax Acquired Property. Councilor Grant seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.**

* 1. Advise and Consent to a CDS Application for up to 5 million for Wastewater improvements.

Interim Superintendent Applebee spoke regarding submitting a request for up to 5 million dollars in Congressionally Directed Spending to enhance the Phase 2 Wastewater project. The goal of this would be to not increase the City’s obligation related to Phase 2 but to do more work and use the Phase 2 work as the match for the CDS funds.

**Action: Councilor Berry moved to approve. Councilor Brown seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.**

* 1. Overview of the Proposed FY25 City of Gardiner Budget

*There was a presentation, and packet made. This is located on the city website.*

1. **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

*Mayor Hart and Councilor Brown thanked the Department heads for the reports.*

1. **CITY MANAGER REPORT:**
2. We survived yet another potential flood disaster this weekend.  The water on the Kennebec got incredibly high but luckily, we came through well.  We did close the Arcade parking lot and Waterfront as both had a significant amount of water in them.  We were able to get all the cars out safely and I have not heard that much (if any) water got into buildings.
3. With regards to the Waterfront, it is really in bad shape at the moment.  I am keeping it closed until further notice.  We have compounding issues with the amount of silt/mud that has settled and the workload in B/G and PW.   B/G is down to a staff of two at the moment and PW has a strict timeline to get the Business Park ready for paving starting in 13 days.  We will pick away at the Waterfront with the hopes to get it ready by the end of the week.  The FD is going to hopefully get down there this week to spray down the mudded up paved areas.
4. A letter was received from Maine Housing Authority asking for City Feedback on Matt Morrill’s project on the TW Dick lot. The plan is to write a letter of support for the project.
5. All roads will be unposted on Monday April 22, 2024
6. **COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

Mayor Hart: *Thanks everyone for the budget, it’s very helpful. The City Staff efforts this weekend with the storm and flooding were remarkable. Look forward to seeing Councilor Greenleaf this weekend and picking up wreaths.*

Councilor Brown: *Nothing to report.*

Councilor Greenleaf: *Thank you to City Staff. Wreaths across America needs volunteers to help pick up the wreaths.*

Councilor Cusick: *Thanks to the City Manager, finance director and budget committee. Budget is very reasonable. Citizens should be very happy.*

Councilor Berry: *Nothing to report.*

Councilor Babcock: *Nothing to report*.

Councilor Frey: *Nothing to report.*

Councilor Grant: *Nothing to report.*

1. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**
2. Enter into Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 406(6)(D)-Labor Negotiations
   1. Motion by Councilor Cusick. Councilor Dolley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously Approved.

In at 7:09pm

Out at 7:38pm

1. **OTHER:**
   1. Approval of a two year agreement with Teamsters Local #340(Public Works) from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026
      * Motion by Councilor Cusick. Councilor Berry seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously Approved
2. **ADJOURN:**

Action: Councilor Berry moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:39pm. Councilor Greenleaf seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.