



**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**GARDINER CITY COUNCIL**  
**WEDNESDAY, September 29, 2021**  
**5:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hart at 5:00 p.m.

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

City Council Present: Mayor Hart, Councilor Cusick, Councilor White, Councilor Rees  
Councilor Berry, Councilor Frey, Councilor Greenleaf and Councilor Rines.

City Council Absent:

Also present: Acting City Manager Anne Davis, City Clerk Alisha Ballard, and Public  
Works Director Jerry Douglass.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**3. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Action:** Councilor Greenleaf motioned to move into executive session Per M.R.S. §405

(6) (a): Discussion or consideration of employment

Councilor Berry seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none, a roll call was conducted.

Unanimous.

The City Council moved into executive session at 7:45 p.m.

The City Council exited out of executive session at 7:05 p.m. with nothing to report and  
took a break until 7:17 p.m.

**a.) Per M.R.S. §405 (6) (a): Discussion or consideration of employment**

No Action taken.

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **a.) Consideration of a paving project – Brunswick Hill**

Acting City Manager Anne Davis spoke briefly.

Public Works Director Jerry Douglass spoke briefly and explained the Brunswick Hill Paving project.

Mayor Hart asked what he means about shimming the road.

Public Works Director Douglass stated he had McGee Paving scheduled to skim the pavement to smooth out the road on September 21<sup>st</sup> and then have the Public Works department rake the hot mix in.

Councilor Cusick spoke briefly.

Mayor Hart asked Councilor Cusick if he had a question for Public Works Director Douglass.

Councilor Cusick asked Public Works Director Douglass if he could guarantee this project will be done next summer.

Public Works Director Douglass stated he could not guarantee it will not be done.

Councilor Cusick stated Public Works Director Douglass has a problem with shimming the hill for \$25,000 dollars for the next 10 months.

Public Works Director Douglass stated the road is not going anywhere in 10 months.

Councilor Cusick asked Public Works Director Douglass, if the Council decides to spend \$25,000 to shim the road, will you refuse?

Public Works Director Douglass stated he would do it but he does not recommend it.

Acting City Manager Anne Davis pointed everyone's focus to the roles of Council and Manager.

Mayor Hart stated Council will need to make a decision due to the safety of traffic; people are moving into the opposite lane while traveling down Brunswick Hill. Mayor Hart asked about the mess.

Public Works Director Douglass stated there have been issues with supplies.

Councilor Frey stated that his biggest concern is to make sure that the road is safe for the winter. Councilor Frey asked Public Works Director Douglass if he is confident that the tack will hold throughout the winter.

Public Works Director Douglass mentioned Church Hill's paving job that was done late in the year last year. You run that risk when laying pavement late in the year. Public Works Director Jerry Douglass stated he does not want to stick the taxpayers with a \$25,000 bill and then 10 months later tear it up. He stated it will last the winter and if needed they will re-shim.

Councilor Rines asked if they do not do anything until next year would it present any danger to traffic when it has sand and salt.

Public Works Director Douglass stated that if they shim the hill out the roads would be fine. He stated that if they did not have an agreement in place he would be in favor of the paving job.

**Action:** Councilor Greenleaf moved to have the discussion to patch the wheel rut on Brunswick Hill.  
Councilor Rees seconded.  
Mayor Hart asked for any discussion.

Councilor Cusick spoke briefly about the paving concerns. He asked Jerry if they plan to do anything on the other side of Brunswick Hill.

Public Works Director Jerry Douglass stated he does not feel like the other side of the hill is that bad.

Councilor Cusick stated the citizens of this City think differently.

Public Works Director Douglass stated the worst part of the road is on the right hand side as you're going down the hill, there are other parts of the road that are rough but there is a project on the books.

Councilor Rees stated that 47,000 cars travel down Brunswick Ave a week.

Councilor Cusick states there are other streets they were told there were projects waiting to happen and nothing has happened yet.

Mayor Hart stated she has had 50/50 views of this agenda.

Public Works Director Jerry Douglass that he is talking to DOT about the project to extend the length of the paving job.

Councilor Cusick asked for clarifying wording for the motion.

Public Works Director Douglass explained that he would McGee Construction to come grind down the wheel rut and purchase the material; the whole project would cost about a couple thousand dollars.

Councilor Greenleaf asked if this would cover both lanes.

Public Works Director Douglass stated the other lane is not as bad, they could patch some areas.

All those in favor. 5 in favor, 2 vote No (Councilor Berry and Councilor Cusick).

## **5. CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Acting City Manager Anne Davis stated she has contracted with a company to deal with the flea infestation in one of the homes. She spoke with Councilor Berry about a clean-out bid they received; in his option, it was a high bid.

## **6. CITY COUNCIL REPORT**

Mayor Hart mentioned Swine and Stein is October 9 and Gardiner Main Street is looking for volunteers.

Mayor Hart stated they had an interview last night with one of the finalists for City Manager and wanted to thank EJP.

## **7. ADJOURN**

**Action:** Councilor Rees motioned to adjourn the meeting.  
Councilor Berry seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none, a roll call was conducted. Unanimous.  
The City Council adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Alisha Ballard

City Clerk