



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
GARDINER CITY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, December 1, 2021
6:00 PM

OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES WILL BE ACTION ITEMS ONLY, THIS IS DUE TO TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES, NO AUDIO OR VIDEO CAPTURED.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hart at 6:01 p.m.

1) ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

City Council Absent: None.

Also present: Acting City Manager Anne Davis, City Clerk Alisha Ballard, Tina Wood, Ed Greirer, Shawn Pierce, John Graham Jr, Library Director Justin Hoenke, Tom Reeves, Jessica Lowell, Dayton Crites, and John Bellino.

2) PUBLIC COMMENT

Anne Cough spoke about wreaths across America.

Councilor Berry mentioned looking into the budget about adding a plaque at Plaisted cemetery.

3) PETITIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS/PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

a) Presentation of Heart of Gardner's Master Plan

Dayton Crites gave a presentation on the Heart of Gardiner's Master Plan.

4) NEW BUSINESS

a.) Introduction of our new Gardiner Public Library Director, Justin Hoenke

Justin Hoenke spoke briefly.

b.) Presentation from Upstream – an update

Tina Wood spoke briefly. She played an Upstream video. Tina spoke more in depth about Upstream.

c.) Consideration of accepting and adopting Heart of Gardiner's Master Plan

Action: Councilor Cusick moved to accept and adopt the Heart of Gardiner Downtown Master Plan.

Councilor Rees seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. None. All those in favor. Unanimous.

d.) Discussion of Ambulance Service presentation

Chief Rick Sieberg gave a presentation.

e.) Consideration of additional ARPA requests from Kennebec County

Acting City Manager Anne Davis spoke briefly.

Action: Councilor Greenleaf moved to approve Acting Manager Davis' request to add additional requests for Kennebec County ARPA funding to purchase 4 CPR machines at a cost of \$64,167 and to upgrade the city's communications infrastructure at a cost of \$118,000.

Councilor Cusick seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. None. All those in favor. Unanimous.

f.) Consideration of petitioning the Maine Department of Transportation to create a Rail Corridor Use Advisory Council

Tom Reeves spoke briefly.

Action: Councilor Rines moved to petition the Maine Department of Transportation to create a Rail Corridor Use Advisory Council.

Councilor Frey seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion.

Councilor Berry thanked Tom for coming before council.

All those in favor. 7 yes, Councilor Berry abstained.

g.) Consideration of Council meeting dates for 2022

Action: Councilor Cusick moved to set the above dates as the 2022 Gardiner City Council meeting dates.

Councilor Greenleaf seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. None. All those in favor. Unanimous.

h.) Approval of Council minutes

Action: Councilor Cusick moved to approve the 07/21/2021, 08/04/2021, 09/01/2021 and 11/10/2021 City Council minutes as presented.

Councilor Frey seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. None. All those in favor. Unanimous.

i.) Update on the Tax Acquired Property located at 596 Water St., Gardiner

Acting City Manager spoke briefly.

Action: Councilor Berry moved to accept the bid of \$70,000 from Echo Property Management.

Councilor Greenleaf seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. None. All those in favor. Unanimous.

5) CITY MANAGER REPORT

Acting City Manager Anne Davis received an update from Sherry Emmons; \$13,047 in credit checked will be mailed out this week.

Acting City Manager Anne Davis stated the fire engine2 lost its transmission, this will be on the 12/15/2021 agenda.

Acting City Manager Anne Davis stated she hired Barbara Gipson to the part time before she retired from the library. Jessica Betit was promoted to full-time.

Acting City Manager Anne Davis thanked Dawn Thistle for her work of running the library.

Acting City Manager Anne Davis stated Cathy Pelletier passed away this week, she was the Election Warden for years.

Acting City Manager Anne Davis mentioned the brown tail moths and that she will have an update soon.

6) CITY COUNCIL REPORT

Was unable to capture City Council updates.

7) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Action: Councilor Cusick motioned to move into executive session

Councilor Frey seconded.

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

The City Council moved into executive session at 9:03 p.m.

- a.) Per M.R.S. §405 (6)(f) - Discussions of information contained in records made, maintained or received by a body or agency**

Nothing to report.

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

Nothing to report.

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

Nothing to report.

8) ADJOURN

Action: Councilor Rees motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Councilor Cusick seconded.

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

The City Council adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alisha Ballard".

Alisha Ballard

City Clerk