

Mayor Hart called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

A moment of silence was observed for all involved in the Farmington explosion.

Council unanimously approved an amendment to add item agenda 4.8 Consideration of a Major Special Event: GEPTA Octoberfest 10/05/2019.

1. ROLL CALL

Patricia Hart, Mayor at large; Councilors: Terry Berry, District 1; Amy Rees, District 2; Shawn Dolley, District 3; Maryann White, At large; Jon Ault, At large; Tim Cusick, At large

Absent: Marc Rines, District 4

Also in attendance: City Manager, Christine Landes; City Clerk, Kelly Gooldrup; Wastewater Director, Doug Clark; Finance Director, Denise Brown; Librarian, Anne Davis; Phil Hart, Jessica Lowell, Bill White, Mike Lyne

2. PUBLIC COMMENT (anything not on the Agenda)

Mayor Hart asked for any comment from the public. Hearing none, we will move on to the next item on the agenda.

3. PETITIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS

a) Public Hearing of the Proposed Amendments to the General Assistance Ordinance

This will be a Public Hearing for proposed changes to the General Assistance Ordinance. These changes are initiated yearly by the State of Maine Department of Health and Family Services for consideration by each municipality.

The following changes are noted and attached:

Appendix A- Persons in the Household GA Overall Maximums Changed: 1 person: \$727 to \$752
2 people: \$756 to \$777 3 people: \$944 to \$969 4 people: \$1,241 to \$1,273 5(+) people:
\$1,326 to \$1,360

Appendix B- 2018-2019 Food Maximums: Each line increased by +/- \$11.00

Appendix C- 2018-2019 Housing Maximums for Heated & Unheated All Heated & Unheated
Categories Increased

Appendix D- Utilities: No noted changes

Appendix E- Heating Fuel: No noted changes

Appendix F- Personal Care: No noted changes

Appendix H- Funeral Maximums: No noted changes

Mayor Hart opened the public hearing at 6:08pm and asked for any comments from the public. Hearing none. Mayor Hart closed the public hearing at 6:08pm.

4. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider Request from Phil Hart for Waterfront Park Memorial Bench

Phil Hart asked the City Council to consider and approve the placement of a memorial bench at the Waterfront Park. This park bench would be in memory of Donnie Mansir. Currently, there has been a donation of \$1,500 to pay for the bench in full. Should there be additional donations or the total cost does not exceed the \$1,500, any excess monies will be given back to the original donor. Tony LaPlante has offered to work with Mr. Hart on the placement of the memorial bench and coordinating a plaque to be attached in memory of Mr. Mansir.

Councilor Berry moved to allow the placement of a memorial bench at the Waterfront Park in memory of Donnie Mansir. The Public Works Director will work with the interested parties directly on the placement of such bench.

Councilor White seconded.

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

2. Consider Approval of the Proposed Amendments to the General Assistance Ordinance

Councilor Cusick moved to approve the proposed amendments to the General Assistance Ordinance as presented and posted.

Councilor Ault seconded.

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

3. Consider and Sign the City of Gardiner FY20 Ambulance Service Contract

This agenda item is the approval and signing of the City of Gardiner's contract with the EMS department. The City of Gardiner's portion has a reduction of 5.54%. Affiliated municipalities have been billed.

Councilor Ault moved to approve the FY20 contract with the City of Gardiner's EMS Service.

Councilor Cusick seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion.

Councilor Rees asked how budget is calculated for all included Towns.

City Manager Landes responded the numbers are based on calls and population.

Mayor Hart asked for any further discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

4. Discuss, Evaluate, and Possibly Approve List A of Sewer Abatement Requests

The City Council will discuss, evaluate, and possibly approve the 'A' list of sewer abatement requests. Sewer abatement requests are reported quarterly to the City Council. Requests over \$150.00 require Council approval. See attached list for more information.

List A: City Council consideration (over the \$150.00 threshold)

List B: City Council Special Consideration (outside water meter readings not given within the six (6) month ordinance window)

List C: Internal City Staff Approval (under \$150.00 threshold)

Councilor Rees moved to approve the Sewer Abatement Requests from List A, in the amount of \$567.10.

Councilor White seconded.

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

5. Consider Amended and Restated Option and Predevelopment Agreement

Developer's Collaborative is asking for City Council approval to enter into an amended and restated option and predevelopment agreement. This option would extend the original agreement, acknowledging that the Grantee has closed on and acquired the Housing Project Option, to October 1, 2020. The option agreement would continue in full force and effect. Attached is the proposed amendment, and the original amended and restated option and predevelopment agreement that was signed on 7/24/2018 for 2 Highland Ave and 1 Summer Street.

Mike Lyne gave a brief overview of the project and agreement.

Councilor Ault moved to extend the amended and restated option and predevelopment agreement with Developers Collaborative until 10/1/2020 and allow the City Manager to sign the agreement.

Councilor Berry seconded.

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

6. Consider Approval of Victualers License: Diggy Dogs Food Truck

The City Council is being asked to consider the approval of a Victualer license: Diggy Dogs. They are a mobile food truck that will be vending their goods at Bateau Brewing on 9/20. As of the agenda posting, the business had not paid for the license, but they were told it would not be issued until payment was received in full. It was a matter of getting this application on as an agenda item in time for posting.

Councilor Cusick moved to approve a Victualers license for Diggy Dogs Mobile Food Truck.
Councilor Ault seconded.

Councilor Cusick expressed his concern of the license fee.

City Manager Landes replied that there will be a proposal of the fees schedule in the upcoming meeting. You may wish to reduce the fee at that time.

Mayor Hart asked for any further discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

7. Accept Minutes of August 14, 2019 and September 04, 2019

Councilor Berry moved to approve the minutes of August 14, 2019 and September 4, 2019 as presented.

Councilor Dolley seconded.

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

8. Consideration of a Major Special Event: GEPTA Octoberfest 10/05/2019

Jaclyn O'Donnell has submitted a request for a major event (GEPTA Octoberfest to be held on October 05, 2019 with a rain date on October 06, 2019.) This event is a non-profit fundraising event hosted by the Gardiner Elementary Parent/Teacher Association which will run from 11:00am - 3:00pm at the Gardiner Commons & Gazebo. It will feature a bounce house, cake walk, etc.

Councilor Ault moved to approve the major event application as submitted by Jaclyn O'Donnell for the GEPTA Octoberfest being held on October 05, 2019 with a rain date on October 06, 2019.

Councilor White seconded.

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

• **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

- Benches are being refinished and have started to be returned to Johnson Hall Park
- KVCOG parking study has been completed. We will be meeting with next week to review the report and have it ready for an upcoming Council meeting.
- City received a \$123,000 grant from KVCOG to help with a Brownsfield cleanup on a Spring Street property.
- Reminder of the employee picnic next Wednesday. The Council is invited.

• **CITY COUNCIL REPORT**

Councilor Ault

- Gardiner food co-op hired a new general manager, Thomas 'Tiger' Marion.
- Asked for a final candidate list for the upcoming local election.

Councilor Cusick

- Asked for an update on the City paving.
City Manager Landes replied that we are very near completion.

Councilor White

- Thanked Mayor Hart for the moment of silence.
- We are doing a fundraiser through the United Way at Lawrence Jr High. Chief Nelson has graciously lent a pair of firemen boots. So we will be filling the boot and donating all the money to United Way for the Farmington Fire Department.
- The fire relief yard sale fundraiser that was held last Saturday raised \$1,500.

Councilor Berry

- The paving is fantastic.
- Spring Street, will it include raising the house
City Manager Landes replied that the house will be removed.

Councilor Rees

- My heart goes out to all affected in Farmington. It is heartbreaking.

Councilor Dolley

- Agreed with the other Councilors comments.

Mayor Hart

- Swine & Stein looking for volunteers
- This Saturday is the ceremony to honor P.O.W./ M.I.A. at the Gardiner American Legion. I will be unable to attend, but if any Councilors would like to, I can send the details.
- Paving is fantastic.
- We had a celebration this week for the artists from the Spin Off Studio for their Community Art Project.
- Reiterated the remarks of Mondays tragedy in the Farmington explosion. We are appreciative of the dangerous jobs that so many people do within our City and elsewhere.
City Manager Landes said that on Monday, our Fire Chief, Al Nelson stood watch at the medical examiner's office and on Friday, a crew from our department will be taking engine #1 to cover the Farmington Fire Department for the day.

• EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Pursuant to M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(F) Property Tax Poverty Abatement Request

Councilor Berry moved to enter into executive session pursuant to M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(F)

Councilor Rees seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous 6:38pm.

Councilor Rees moved to exit out of executive session pursuant to M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(F)

Councilor Dolley seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous 6:58pm.

Councilor Rees motioned for staff to send a letter to the applicant as outlined with recommendations mentioned in executive session.

Councilor Berry seconded.

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

2. Pursuant to M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A) Annual Review of the City Manager

Councilor White moved to enter into executive session pursuant to M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A) regarding the Annual Review of the City Manager.

Councilor Rees seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous 6:59pm.

Councilor Dolley moved to exit out of executive session pursuant to M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A) regarding the Annual Review of the City Manager.

Councilor Rees seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous 7:42pm.

No action taken.

- **ADJOURN**

Councilor Dolley moved to adjourn.

Councilor Rees seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous 7:42pm.

(Draft minutes until the October 09, 2019 Council Meeting)