

**Council Meeting Agenda
Gardiner City Council
Wednesday, September 6, 2017
Meeting Time 6:00 PM**

Mayor Thomas Harnett called the regular Council Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call:

Mayor Thomas Harnett, Councilors Terry Berry, Timothy Cusick, Philip Hart, Jon Ault, Patricia Hart, Interim City Manager Anne Davis, And City Clerk Lisa Gilliam. Councilors Maryann White and Shawn Dolley were absent.

Petitions, Public Hearings (Public comment for anything not on the agenda):

1. Councilor Phil Hart announced that he will not be running for Council again. He said that he had a great time serving on Council, he has made some great friends and will miss everyone. Thanks to everyone, and the to the staff of the City of Gardiner.
2. Steve Bolduc- Representing his parents who live at 22 Adams St. regarding the ditching done on Adams St. Steve showed Council members before and after pictures of ditching. The ditch is 40-43 inches in depth, his dad is disabled and still takes care of the property. His concern is that his dad will end up in the ditch. Dave Bolduc (brother and son) stated the family is also concerned that people are walking on the road as there are no sidewalks, the town does a great job, we would just like the culverts put back. Also, his parents' home may possibly be losing value. He would like the safety factor back as his parents also have a camper that they need to get in and out of the driveway. Mayor Harnett, thanked them for coming and said he would like to meet with them, the City Manager and the Public Works Director. Mr. Bolduc will call to make an appointment.

Per M.R.S. §405 (6)(A): Councilors will go into Executive Session to discuss the search for a City Manager. At 6:05 Councilor Phil Hart made a motion to go into executive session, seconded by Tim Cusick, Motion passed with a unanimous vote. Council provided Dave Barrett with directions for a selection process and ok to move forward.

Per M.R.S. §405 (6)(A): Councilors and Department Heads will go into Executive Session to discuss the extension of an MOU for Interim City Manager. At 6:25 Councilor Patricia Hart made a motion to approve the extension, also including the Economic Development Director, Councilor Philip Hart seconded. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Presentation of Spirit of America Award. Mayor Harnett presented Robert Abbey with the Spirit of America Award.

Public Hearing: CDBG Grant Close Outs- Present Are Economic and Community Development Coordinator Patrick Wright, and Andrea Smith, from CDBG. Andrea Smith, Development Program Manager, DECD commended the City for all the good work that has been done- the City has done great things. She has met a lot of great people and it's been a pleasure.

Bill Lovely and Jen from Central Maine Meats gave Council an update. Jen says the smoke kitchen is up and running, last week was their biggest week ever. Some of the grant money was used for training. Bill Lovely: Central Maine Meats has brought 60 jobs to Gardiner and will bring another 100. We have had great support from local farmers. Like knowing where the products are coming from. We get products from North Center, AG New England and local farms.

Mayor Harnett: Congratulations. Councilor Phil Hart: I've known Bill for a long time and his heart & soul are in this community. Thank you Bill for bringing jobs to Gardiner.

Ryan Wilson – Commonwealth Poultry- we got a 90K grant. We now have over 20 employees; the employees need cross training. We are now over capacity and have applied for an expansion.

Sebago Lake Distillery- Dave Tomer- we have had 3 full time employees since last year. We have a 5-year lease on the building and all the equipment is from Maine. Mayor Harnett: thank you for the work you've done inside, it's been fun to watch the progress.

Lost Orchard Brewery- Dave Boucher- Funds we received were used for Work Force Development. We have made great strides in trying to compete. We have reorganized and have had great training for our staff. We are moving in a forward direction. Mayor Harnett- Thank you for coming to Gardiner. Dave Boucher- We are not in South Gardiner anymore; we are back to our original location on Church St. Mayor Harnett- Best of Luck to you. Gail Warren asked the Dave if the machinery was damaging the floors of the church and his response was no.

Consideration of Reappointment of Police Chief for One-year term -Interim City Manager, Anne Davis – 8/5/15, City Council approved the “retire/rehire” of Police Chief James Toman which took effect on 9/19/15. City Manager recommended Council reappoint Chief Toman for a one-year term through September 19, 2018. Councilor Cusick makes a motion to reappoint Chief Toman until September 19, 2018. Motion Second by Councilor Jon Ault. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Councilor Philip Hart says he is not a big supporter of this, to many people are retired. Personally glad that he is here, he has brought our police department to the front, and I wish him well. Mayor Harnett- Chief Toman was at L.E.R. on the first day of school giving the kids high five's and the kids loved him being there.

Discussion with AARP Regarding “Age Friendly Communities” - Louis Sigel- I strongly recommend immediately applying for the assessment grant. This program will not cost Gardiner anything. There will be a conference Tuesday, September 12th at the Elks Club in Augusta. Councilor Patricia Hart moved to approve a committee being formed in Gardiner, Seconded by Councilor Cusick. Motion passed with unanimous vote.

Pinball Machine License – American Legion- Councilor Patricia Hart made a motion to approve the license, second by Councilor Ault. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Special Event Permit- 8th Annual Swine and Stein Oktoberfest- Motion made by Councilor Philip Hart to approve the permit, Second by Councilor Cusick. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Interim City Manager Report- With the death of Donny Staples this past week, the Fire Department will be part of the funeral. Fire Chief Al Nelson- Services will be Friday the 8th at 11am at Staples Funeral Home, then it will proceed to Mt. Hope Cemetery in South Gardiner. At the last council meeting Councilor Philip Hart had asked of the dead grass at the waterfront, city staff has researched and it would cost \$1000.00. There will be an Elected Officials Class in Augusta on November 30th, this would be great for councilors to attend. The next council meeting is next Wednesday, September 20th, the agenda will not be ready until the 18th.

City Councilors Reports:

Councilor Pat Hart- A lot of tough times lately in Gardiner, proud to live here.

Councilor Ault- We have a lot of strength in our community. Thank you to councilor Philip Hart for his service. There will be a multi-family yard sale at 242 Brunswick Ave. for the Robotics-Iron Tigers September 16th from 9am to 1pm.

Councilor Berry- All set.

Councilor Cusick- My condolences to the Staples family.

Councilor White- I would like to send my condolences to the Staples family.

Mayor Harnett- to Councilor Philip Hart, I'm sad of the news of you leaving but respect what you bring to Council and that will be missed. It's been a hard week for Gardiner, but there has been a lot of support. Niche' Inc. opened a new space today.

Per M.R.S. §405 (6) (A): Councilors and Department Heads will go into Executive Session to Discuss Non-Union Wages. At 8:16 pm Councilor Cusick made a motion to go into Executive Session, second by Councilor Philip Hart. At 8:29 pm Council came back into public session and instructed staff on how to proceed.

At 8:30pm Councilor Berry made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate Matter, second by Councilor Cusick. At 8:50 pm, Council came back into session and instructed staff on how to proceed.

At 8:35 pm Councilor Pat Hart made a motion to adjourn, second by Councilor Cusick. Motion passes with a unanimous vote.

Submitted by: Robin E. Plourde