



GARDINER CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET



Meeting Date	10/14/2020	Department	City Council
Agenda Item	4.a Introduction of New Team Members		
Est. Cost	n/a		

Background Information	<p>Jerry Douglass, Public Works Director; Kaleb Marston, Gardiner Police Officer; Robert Pekins, Gardiner Police Safety Officer; Brianna Theriault, Front Counter Clerk; Andrew Williams, Gardiner Fire Department; Damon Ross, Gardiner Fire Department; Ariel Kinchen, Buildings and Grounds</p> <p>Some new team members will be present and some bios are attached hereto.</p>		

Requested Action	n/a
City Manager and/or Finance Review	n/a
Council Vote/ Action Taken	
Departmental Follow-Up	

City Clerk Use Only	1 st Reading _____	Advertised _____	EFFECTIVE DATE _____
	2 nd Reading _____	Advertised _____ w/in 15 Days	
	Final to Dept _____	Updated Book _____	Online _____

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Robert Pekins, of West Gardiner, Maine has been hired as Safety Officer. He started with the city in January and was previously due to meet with the council prior to now, but due to Covid that was delayed. Rob has his Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Adirondack Community College. Rob currently works part-time as a Security Officer at Thomas College and he is employed by MSAD 11 as the Swim Coach, a position he has held for 20+ yrs. Rob is also an assistant coach for the high school's girls lacrosse team. Rob is a certified lifeguard instructor as well as an AED and CPR instructor. The Safety Officer position is a 25 hour per week position with a varied schedule. Rob has already received Harbor Master training and he will be receiving animal control officer certification once the State offers the training.

Kaleb Marston, of Pittston, Maine was hired as our newest police officer in May. Kaleb is a 2015 graduate of Gardiner Area High School and a 2019 graduate of the University of Maine, Augusta. Kaleb holds an Associate's Degree in Business Administration. Prior to being hired by the City of Gardiner, Kaleb has worked the past two years as a corrections officer at Two Bridges Regional Jail in Wiscasset. Kaleb has completed his 14 weeks of internal field training and is the agency's Utility officer. A position utilized to minimize the City's exposure to overtime when vacancies occur. Kaleb will need to attend the 18 week basic law enforcement training program at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. It is unknown when that will occur due to Covid.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Andrew Williams

Andrew is 19 years old. Born and raised in Gardiner. Andrew was home schooled along with 6 siblings. Andrew's father is a loved and respected Priest with his mother being a home maker. Andrew started riding with us when he turned 16. He fell in love with fire and EMS during his time here. Chief Nelson helped guide Andrew and he soon was able to join the Richmond Fire Department as a call firefighter and first responder. Andrew worked his way through EMT school and continued riding with us while volunteering in Richmond. Andrew was accepted into a Paramedic program that started in January 2019. To gain further experience Andrew began working part time for Winthrop EMS. Andrew was hired here on June 8th of this year. On his off time Andrew enjoys hiking and visiting all the beautiful sites our great state has to offer. COVID 19 has delayed his graduation date from Paramedic school, however I am confident it will be well worth the wait. We are so happy to have "Baby" Andrew as part of our team.

Damon Ross

Damon is 24 years old. Born in California and typical of any military child, he moved around a fair amount, settling in Dresden when he turned 10. Damon has one older brother. Damon's father is a police detective in Bath and his mother is a nurse at MidCoast Hospital. Damon graduated from Hall-Dale High School in 2014. Damon worked various jobs after high school. It wasn't until being in a car accident that he became interested in pursuing EMS. Damon began working at Delta Ambulance in 2018 after completing an EMT class. While working at Delta, Damon found that EMS was a passion and he was accepted into a

paramedic program last September. Damon was hired on July 6th of this year. In his off time, Damon enjoys attending music concerts and travel. Damon is also accomplished in martial arts. I worked with Damon at Delta Ambulance and knew immediately that he would be a great fit here at Gardiner. Damon has proved to be a very reliable and constant performer. I have no doubt that our community will be better with Damon on our team.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Ariel Kinchen joined the Buildings and Grounds crew on March 16, just one day before we closed City services due to COVID19. She is the custodian for City Hall and the Library and has certainly had her hands full not only performing the normal cleaning services, but the extra cleaning required due to COVID19. You may have also noticed the new look on the outside of City Hall. Ariel was instrumental in the landscaping. Ariel has reached her 6-month anniversary and she is rocking the job!

FRONT OFFICE CLERK

Due to the promotion of Alisha Ballard to City Clerk, we have hired Brianna Theriault as the new Counter Clerk – just two days ago. Brianna comes to us with real estate and banking experience, which will serve her well in her transition into municipal life. She will be the first person you see when entering City Hall, so be sure to say hi to her when you come in.