



GARDINER CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET



Meeting Date	01/06/2021	Department	City Council
Agenda Item	4.n Advise and Consent to the Mayor's Appointment(s): Planning Board/Justin Young & Lisa St. Hilaire		
Est. Cost	n/a		

Background Information	Attached are statements of interest for the Planning Board from Justin Young and Lisa St. Hilaire.
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Requested Action	'I move to advise and consent to the Mayor the appointment of Justin Young and Lisa St. Hilaire to the Planning Board.'
City Manager and/or Finance Review	The City Manager recommends the above action.
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 _____

Justin Young
310 Highland Avenue
Gardiner, ME 04345

Mayor Patricia Hart
6 Church Street
Gardiner, ME 04345
CC: Christine Landes, City Manager

Mayor Hart:

I am writing to express my interest in joining the City of Gardiner's Planning Board. As a Gardiner resident since December 2017, I look forward to becoming involved in the civic life of our community.

I am deeply appreciative of the role that Planning Boards, town offices, and other committees play in the long-term health of our cities and their residents. As a homeowner who has been making improvements on our home on Highland Avenue, I have become familiar with some of our building codes and ordinances. I understand that a position on the planning board would likely present a steep learning curve, though I look forward to this challenge.

Working as a data analyst, I also understand the importance of making objective decisions while engaging with a variety of stakeholders. Prior to moving to Maine, I worked as a social science researcher and completed my doctorate in sociology, where I focused on issues related to social change in communities and organizations. I am confident that this background has afforded me many of the skills necessary to be a successful member of the Gardiner Planning Board.

Should you have any questions about my interests and would like to speak further, I am happy to talk any time via email (jrobertyoung@gmail.com) phone (814-442-3272) or video conference. Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Justin Young

Christine Landes

From: Lisa St. Hilaire <maine.saint@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2020 9:15 AM
To: Christine Landes
Cc: pat@hartconsultinginc.com
Subject: gardiner planning board vacancies

Hi Christine,

I'm interested in serving on Gardiner's Planning Board. Pat noted I should contact you so that this can get on the City Council January 6 agenda.

Professionally, I am a Biologist with the Maine Natural Areas Program, within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. I serve as the Information Manager and my responsibilities include environmental review of development projects, forestry projects, and Farm Bill projects. I coordinate with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife biologists to inform landowners and their agents of natural resource features and management suggestions for any features on those properties for forestry and farm bill projects. Much of our site review for development projects is in the pre-application phase with the consultant, but we also work with the permitting agencies (DEP, LUPC, Maine Forest Service) and landowners (small and large). Though we are not the regulatory agency, I am familiar with state regulations regarding natural resources under Site Law and NRPA.

I work with large databases for rare features and review tracking and make this information available for use by others (some is public, some is not). I am the first point of contact for our program and answer many questions, typically along the lines of "what is this plant?" "how do I submit a request?" "who can help me manage my invasive plant?" "I'm looking for more information about...". Within the program, I'm a technical resource for the other biologists and assist our director with financial processing and tracking (though we are a state program, we fundraise and work more like a consulting company, charging time and other expenses to specific projects/grants). I also put together the website for our Program and update it as needed (<https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/>).

I've read through the Gardiner Comprehensive Plan, and skimmed the entire Land Use Ordinance, reading portions in some detail, so I'm becoming familiar with Gardiner's ordinances.

I'm happy to answer any questions you may have. I believe, as noted below, that I would be an asset to the Planning Board and the City.

Thank you,

Lisa St. Hilaire
63 River Ave
maine.saint@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Lisa St. Hilaire** <maine.saint@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Dec 28, 2020 at 9:31 PM
Subject: gardiner planning board vacancies

To: <debbywillis@roadrunner.com>, <pat@hartconsultinginc.com>, <tdesjardins@gardinermaine.com>, Kristopher McNeill <kmcneill@gardinermaine.com>, <achristopher@gardinermaine.com>

Hi Debby, Tracey,

I understand that there are a couple of vacancies on the Gardiner Planning Board. I'm interested in serving on the board. I would bring to the board experience with environmental concerns and state regulations. I also have empathy and familiarity with construction and development concerns as my dad was a builder. I'm detail oriented, well-organized, and believe I would be an asset to the board and the City.

Would you send me more information about expectations for board members?

Thank you,

Lisa St. Hilaire
63 River Ave
458-4937