



**GARDINER CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET**



Meeting Date	07/20/2022	Department	City Manager
Agenda Item	5.a City Manager Report		
Est. Cost			

Background Information	
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Requested Action	
City Manager and/or Finance Review	
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 _____

CITY MANAGER REPORT

July 20, 2022 Council Meeting

I don't know about all of you but it is hard to believe that we are more than half way through July. Regardless of where we are in the year the weather we have had has been amazing. I hope all of you have had some time to get out and enjoy it.

There is no question that there is a lot going on in Gardiner this time of year. I am amazed at the amount of people that I see walking downtown every day as well as the number of people that come into downtown for the weekly events such as the Friday night concerts.

I would like to take a moment to welcome Mike McArthur to the City of Gardiner. Mike joins the Building and Grounds Department and it couldn't have happened at a better time. While City grounds and Buildings look fantastic the Building and Grounds Department has been stretched incredibly thin. An addition to the Department will certainly help alleviate some of the pressure and allow the flexibility to tackle more long term projects.

You will notice on the agenda the acceptance of a donation. Joanne Clark has generously donated a Sasson Sofer sculpture entitled "Sunflower" to the City. This is an amazing donation and I cannot thank her enough. Once the City takes possession I will be convening the Age Friendly Committee to discuss and make a determination as to where it should be placed in the City. As you may know the City also owns another Sofer piece that is displayed at the Waterfront. I would urge all of you take a moment to do some research on Sofer as he has quite the connection to Gardiner.

I want to thank Doug Clark for his speedy work on repairing a broken force main in the Libby Hill Business Park. What could have been a disastrous situation was taken care of quickly and no business in the park had to shut down operations. What I am learning is that with things like waste water we are constantly in reactionary mode because of the fact that most of the infrastructure lies where the eye cannot see. Doug was scheduled to go on vacation and yet because of his commitment to Gardiner and its residents he changed his plans to take care of this issue. I am incredibly grateful for that.

If you haven't had the opportunity yet I would urge you to take a ride on Dennis and Kingsbury Streets to see the work Jerry Douglass and his crew are doing. They are currently addressing the storm water system and preparing the streets for new pavement. Jerry and I walked the streets this past week and I can already see an improvement. With as short staffed on any given day as they are what they are doing is amazing.

A couple of items that you may see coming forward is that Gardiner was the recipient of a \$500,000.00 Brownfields Assessment Grant. Tracey Desjardins will be preparing a RFQ to put out shortly to start this work. As you all know currently we work with Eaton and Peabody as our Legal Firm and Jon Pottle is our City Solicitor. It has been a long time since we explored our options in this realm and I have made the decision to put out an RFP for legal services. While Mr. Pottle and Eaton and Peabody have been valuable partners to the City of Gardiner, I want to make sure we are working with the best, at a cost we can afford and so exploring those options is me making sure of that. I will keep you posted as we move forward.

Lastly, we have received the second round of ARPA funds from the Federal Government. These are important funds that we must be sure to use properly to benefit the City and its residents. Where these are one-time funds we need to use them on one-time purchases that we know we need and help increase the infrastructure in the City.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew R Carlton

City Manager