



**GARDINER CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET**



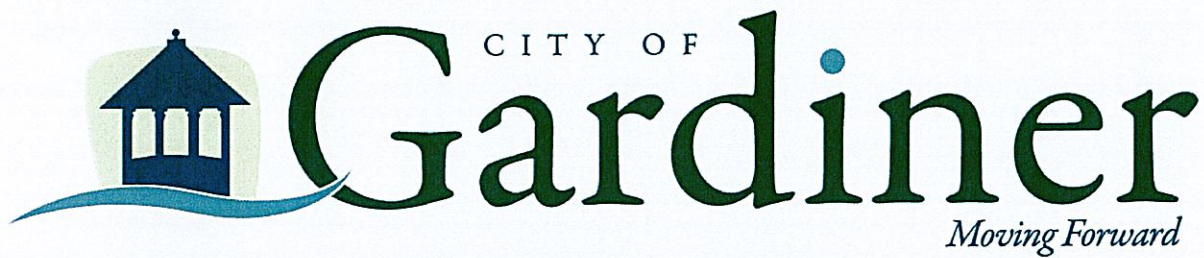
<b>Meeting Date</b>	11/01/2023	<b>Department</b>	City Clerk
<b>Agenda Item</b>	4a. Approval of City Council Minutes from 10/25/2023		
<b>Est. Cost</b>			

<b>Background Information</b>	Please see attached documentation.		

<b>Requested Action</b>	"I move to approve the City Council Minutes from October 25, 2023."
<b>City Manager and/or Finance Review</b>	
<b>Council Vote/ Action Taken</b>	
<b>Departmental Follow-Up</b>	

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





**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
GARDINER CITY COUNCIL  
WEDNESDAY, October 25, 2023**

**1. ROLL CALL / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

City Council Present: Mayor Hart, Council Cusick, Councilor Berry, Councilor Frey, Councilor Greenleaf, Councilor Brown, Councilor Grant.

City Employees: City Manager Carlton, Hailee Lovely- Deputy City Clerk, Kathy Cutler- City Clerk, John Cameron- Public Works Director, Doug Clark- Waste Water Director, Chief Pilsbury, Melissa Lindley- Economic Development Director, Denise Brown-Finance Director, Dawn Thistle.

Others Present: Barbara Baston, Chad Harrington.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT:** There are no comments.

**3. PETITIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Mayor Hart opened the Public Hearing at 6:01, there being no comment she closed the public Hearing at 6:01.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes from October 11, 2023

**Action: Councilor Cusick Moved to approve the city council meeting minutes from October 11, 2023. Councilor Greenleaf seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.**

- b) Consent to increase the Agent fee from \$1 to \$5 for IF&W ATV and Snowmobile registrations per LD296.

*Kathy Cutler- This is an opportunity for us to raise the fee for our services performed through IFW. This only pertains to snowmobiles and atvs. Councilor Berry- "Is this the money we turn over to the snowmobile club?" No. Denise Brown- "The state has a program in which they give a certain amount of money for so many miles driven that is not associated with this fee."*

**Action: Councilor Greenleaf moved to approve the Agent fee increase from \$1 to \$5 for IF&W. Councilor Brown seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.**

- c) Consent to adopt a resolution to join the Community Resilience Program to access grant funding.  
**Action: Councilor Berry moved to adopt a resolution to join the Community Resilience Program to access grant funding. Councilor Cusick seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.**
  
- d) Consent to a Mayoral Proclamation for Red Ribbon Week  
**Action: Councilor Cusick moved to approve the Mayoral Proclamation for Red Ribbon Week. Councilor Grant seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.**
  
- e) Committee Appointments  
*Doug Baston, Dorothy Washburn*  
**Action: Councilor Greenleaf Moved to approve the Committee Appointments. Councilor Frey seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.**
  
- f) Department Head Reports: The Mayor and Councilors thanked Dept. Heads for all their work.

## 5. CITY MANAGER REPORT

It has been a crazy last three weeks. Thank you for the support for my trip to Austin, TX. I returned on Monday, from medical leave. Thank you to the Department heads. We have fantastic department heads and City staff. I am very appreciative. Public Works Director Cameron met with DOT about a culvert on route 202 past the Costello rd. It is going to be a 35-day project to fix, and a public meeting will be held soon. The goal is to get this done in 2025. Church street is done and looks good. Thank you, Public Works. They got the job done in 9 days. Church St will need another layer of paving next summer. Public Works hopes to get a few more paving projects done in the next couple of weeks. Harrison Ave, we are still working with FEMA. It is not an easy process, but we are collaborating with engineers to get this taken care of. There will be a facility meeting next week. Thank you, Kathy Cutler, for all your hard work with the election coming up. Thank you, Buildings and Grounds, for the look of the city, you are doing an amazing job. Employee Appreciation Day was great and there was a huge turnout. The new phone system recently installed is going well. The fountain project is coming along nicely.



## 6. CITY COUNCIL REPORT

**Mayor Hart:** Thankyou Kathy Cutler- City Clerk for the candidate forum which was held on Sunday evening. Shoutout to Kevin Mitsui- of West Gardiner for moderating that meeting. Thank you for the work on Church Street, it is nice to have that problem taken care of. The Barbie Movie played at the Library last night and was a hit. Downtown Trick or treat will be returning this Friday. The EJP Great Race, June 25, 2023, is a three-day event with more information to come. Next City Council meeting is Wednesday November 1, 2023.

**Councilor Cusick:** Nothing to report.

**Councilor Berry:** I gave councilors an insert from FirstPark. Waterville is starting to have a large homeless population, with around 60-70 tents. There are 20-30 encampments in the FirstPark woods. Individuals trespassing is not getting prosecuted. The City of Augusta has a huge issue as well. Are you aware of any issues that have surfaced here in Gardiner? Chief Pilsbury- In Gardiner we have on average maybe 2 homeless, possibly 3. Officers are very familiar with them. This Situation will probably get worse before it gets better. Augusta has added foot patrol for the situation. The city of Augusta is getting pressure from business owners and homeowners, some even moving out. City Manager Carlton- It needs to be a Nationwide discussion.

**Councilor Frey:** Nothing to report.

**Councilor Greenleaf:** Partridge Dr seems to have reoccurring problems. Doug Clark- There is a lot of ground water because of the amount of ledge, which causes more problems with drainage. When power goes out the pumps do not run, and the current generator cannot handle the load when the power does go out.

**Councilor Brown:** We have a very active community committee working on the issues with the unhoused. Never assume there is no one doing anything about it, there are a lot of nonprofits doing what they can. There has been a study done of high school kids living in cars and bouncing from couch to couch. There is a lot going on, but we should try to always look at the positives. Registration forms for the Parade of Lights will be going around for the City Council. Thank you to City staff that have been helping the Solid Waste Committee. The SW Committee will have a table at the election polls with the new survey that was conducted.

**Councilor Grant:** It would be great if we could access information about what is happening towards the folks unhoused. Councilor Brown will get more information. Is there an update on the Capen Rd culvert? Public Works Director Cameron- The plan is to repave next year, and we are prepping for it now.

## 7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Enter into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)C-Consideration of the Acquisition or Disposition of Real Property  
**Action: Councilor Greenleaf motioned to go into executive session at 6:39. Councilor Frey seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved. Out at 6:49.**  
**See Section 8a. Other Business.**
- b) Enter into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)C-Consideration of the Acquisition or Disposition of Real Property  
**Action: Councilor Greenleaf motioned to go into executive session at 6:53. Councilor Frey seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved. Out at 7:22.**
- c) Enter into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)C-Consideration of the Acquisition or Disposition of Real Property  
**Action: Councilor Cusick motioned to go into executive session at 7:23. Councilor Berry seconded the motion, No further discussion. Unanimously approved. Out at 7:29. Councilor Berry left the meeting at 7:30.**
- d) Enter into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6)C-Consideration of the Acquisition or Disposition of Real Property  
**Action: Councilor Greenleaf motioned to go into executive session at 7:31. Councilor Frey seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved. Out at 7:39.**

## 8. OTHER BUSINESS

8a. Motion to grant an easement to an abutter across City property at the end of Pierce St 40.16 x 25' and direct the City Manager to file with the registry.

**Action: Councilor Grant moved to grant an easement to an abutter across City property at the end of Pierce St, 40.16 x 25' and direct the City Manager to file with the registry. Councilor Cusick seconded the motion. No further discussion.**

**Unanimously approved.**

## 9. ADJOURN

**Action: Councilor Frey moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:40. Councilor Greenleaf seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.**

### 2023 MEETING DATES

11/1/23

11/15/23

12/6/23

12/20/23