



**GARDINER CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET**



Meeting Date	11/15/2023	Department	City Clerk
Agenda Item	4a. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes		
Est. Cost			

Background Information	<p>Please see the attached minutes of the November 1, 2023 regular City Council Meeting</p>
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Requested Action	"I move to approve the minutes from the November 1, 2023 regular meeting of the Gardiner City Council"
City Manager and/or Finance Review	City Manager approves this 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 _____



CITY OF
Gardiner
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES *Moving Forward*
GARDINER CITY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, November 1, 2023

1. ROLL CALL / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

City Staff Present: City Manager Carlton, Hailee Lovely- Deputy City Clerk, Kelly Hare- Sewer/ Wastewater Admin, Doug Clark- Sewer/ Wastewater Superintendent, Denise Brown- Finance/ Human Resource Manager.

Other Present: Tamara Whitmore.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: No comment.

3. PETITIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS: Mayor Hart opened the public hearing at 6pm. There being no comment she closed the public hearing at 6pm.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Approval of City Council Minutes from October 25, 2023

Action: Councilor Brown moved to approve the City Council minutes from October 25, 2023. Councilor Greenleaf Seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.

- b) Approval of a Large Event: Gardiner Main Street's Parade of Lights on December 2, 2023

Action: Councilor Cusick moved to approve the Gardiner Main Street Event Parade of Lights on December 2, 2023. Councilor Greenleaf seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.

- c) Discussion of an increase to the minimum sewer rate

Slideshow is available on the City of Gardiner Website.

FY23 added expenses and lower revenue, leaving us a fund balance of 74k. when we needed 100k. Prices have become extremely high for costs and maintenance. When Customers are not using as much water, the City is not making as much money. Requesting for a 30% increase on the minimum rate only. This increase would add about 200k a year in revenue. A thirty percent increase means it would add \$0.33 a Quarter or \$143 a year. Our current rate puts us at the lowest rate around. This increase is just for the City of Gardiner residents, not Farmingdale, Pittston, etc. Councilor Frey- Is this proposed increase to get our fund balance back to where it should be? City Manager Carlton- Yes, also we are hoping it will not be a big increase in phase two. Councilor Greenleaf- If a sewer break were to happen in any other surrounding town that town is on their own. The November 15, 2023 meeting will include a public hearing regarding this, as well as phase 2. The Wastewater board is recommending this.

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- d) Presentation from the Cobbossee Trail Committee
Postponed for November 15, 2023 meeting.

5. CITY MANAGER REPORT

The Facility Committee met this afternoon, work is still needed from the committee, with recommendations coming soon. New heat pumps are coming soon. Thankyou Public Works for the work on Church Street. The Estimated proposed cost we got was \$268,345.00. Altogether the cost totaled \$78,805.00 as a huge savings. The crew completed it in 9 days when it was proposed to finish in 20 days. Our Hearts go out to Lewiston. We Sent 2 trucks as well as Officer Moody and Chief Pilsbury, big thank you to them as well.

6. CITY COUNCIL REPORT

Mayor Hart: Thank you to the city staff. Monday night the students held a vigil to reflect on the event that took place in Lewiston. Gardiner High schoolers brought everyone together and gave me hope. A great turnout for the Trunk or Treat, with a tremendous amount of trick or treaters. The Election on Tuesday is at the Boys and Girls club on Pray St, Gardiner. Every district Council seat is on the ballot, and you are able watch the video on the City of Gardiner website for the forum regarding the candidates.

Councilor Cusick: Thank you to Public Safety for responding to the Lewiston tragedy.

Councilor Berry: Nothing to report.

Councilor Frey: Nothing to report.

Councilor Greenleaf: Gardiner Rotary still held their meeting even after receiving the news with Lewiston.

Councilor Brown: Nothing to report.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No sessions took place.

8. ADJOURN

Action: Councilor Berry moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:32pm. Councilor Cusick seconded the motion. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.

2023 MEETING DATES

11/15/23

12/6/23

12/20/23