



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
GARDINER CITY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, August 17, 2022
6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hart at 6:05 p.m.

1) ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

City Council Absent: Councilor Rines. Councilor Berry,

Also present: City Manager Andrew Carlton, Meeting Clerk Angelia Christopher, Simon West, Jessica Lowell, Finance Director Denise Brown, and Debby Willis.

City Clerk Cutler, introduced Michelle Snowden .Deputy City Clerk

Mayor Hart and City Council offered a minute of silence for Retired Gardiner Fire Chief- Rick Cote who recently passed away.

2) PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3) PETITIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS/PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

a. Public Hearing to consider the approval of proposed amendments to the City Code-

Mayor Hart opened the public hearing at 6:08 p.m. and asked for any comments from the public. Mayor Hart closed the public hearing at 6:10 p.m.

4) NEW BUSINESS

a) Second Read on Amendments to the City Code

Action: Councilor Frey moved to approve these ORC amendments to the City Code final Read on August 17, 2022.

Councilor Greenleaf seconded the motion to approve the amendments to the City Code.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. None. All Council members present in favor. Unanimous.

b) Consideration of awarding the bid for the Facility Study

Mayor Hart requests that this item be postponed until all Council members are present. This item will be moved to the next meeting. September 7, 2022.

c) Consideration of an appointment to fill the District 2 Vacancy

Mayor Hart introduced Mr. Simon West- Mr. West was available for questions, but none were offered. Mr. West will also be serving on the Solid Waste Committee. Present Council members voted via Secret ballot. Mayor Hart reported that the vote- All Council members present voted in favor for Simon West to fill the City Council District 2 Vacancy. City Clerk Kathleen Cutler issued the oath of officers to Mr. Simon West.

d) Discussion of the process for filling the Public Works Director Vacancy

City Manager Andrew Carlton spoke on this matter- He has presented a timeline and process for the vacancy to Councilors. The position has been advertised, and Andy will be speaking with the PW staff about what they are looking for in a supervisor. A hiring committee is being developed to review applicants, and Councilor Cusick will be part of that committee. Andy has set a goal to be interviewing, checking references/backgrounds by late October, but reports that they are looking for the best person for this job and will look longer if needed.

e) Consideration of an Appointment of a representative of the City to the Merry Meeting Trail Board.

City Manager Andrew Carlton has volunteered to serve on the board. Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. None.

Action: Councilor Brown--moved to approve Andrew Carlton to the Merry Meeting Trail Board. Councilor Frey seconded the motion. All Council members present in favor. Unanimous

f) Consideration of approval for Planning Board reappointments

Action: Councilor Cusick moved to approve the reappointments of Shawn Dolley, Adam Lemire, and Zachary Hanley to Planning Board. Councilor Greenleaf seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. None. All members present in favor. Unanimous.

g) Department head reports – Councils thanked the Department Heads for their service.

h) Approval of Council minutes 8/3/22

Action: Councilor -Frey-- moved to approve the attached meeting minutes.

Councilor Cusick- seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. None. All those in favor. Unanimous.

i) Approval of Event at the Common on 8/20/22 Major Event

Action: Councilor Greenleaf moved to approve the Celebration of life for John Shaw.

Councilor Frey seconded the motion. Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. None. All members present in favor. Unanimous. Buildings and grounds will work on the common Friday to get ready for this event.

3) CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Andrew Carlton, acting Public Works director, thanks John Cameron for all his help recently. Kingsbury St. is taking shape with most of the work done. Paving will be scheduled soon. The crew for PW is working on drainage improvements/repairs at Commonwealth and Griffin St., and then work on culverts in Mattson heights. Chip sealing is scheduled to happen on Libby Hill Rd, next week. City Manager Carlton knows that sidewalks need to be worked on, and will be working to revitalize this work when a new Public Works Director is hired.

City Manager Carlton congratulated Kathy Cutler on her promotion, and welcomed Michelle Snowden as deputy City Clerk. There are some minor changes happening at City Hall. The awning that was installed on the front of the building has been taken down. The front garden has been cleaned of weeds. Due to office reorganizations, there will be some work done to build an office space for Kathy Cutler.

City Manager Carlton also reported that he went to the City Manager's conference which was very educational and informative. He thanks the City for opportunities for professional development.

4) CITY COUNCIL REPORT

Councilor West- No updates this evening.

Councilor Cusick –What is the status of Brunswick Hill paving, and why is it taking so long?

City Manager Carlton will reach out to the engineers to see what the holdup is. Councilor Cusick offers condolences for Rick Cody and family.

Councilor Frey offers condolences to the Cody family and expresses the same concern about the construction on Brunswick Hill.

Councilor Greenleaf offers his condolences to the Cody family.

Councilor Brown offered condolences and welcomes new staff.

Mayor Hart spoke briefly about Mr. Cody and mentioned that Gardiner has lost a few of its most treasured residents. Jody Clark passed at the beginning of the month and John Shaw’s funeral at 3pm Saturday.

The Art Walk is back and will be happening this Friday 5- 830pm at the same time there is a concert at the waterfront. At the next meeting Council will be reviewing the application for the yearly event of Swine and Stein.

Mayor Hart spoke about an organization called the Mayor’s Coalition and the value of the work they do. She would like a representative to come to a Council meeting for a discussion.

5) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

a) Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)A- Personnel Matter

Action: Councilor- Councilor Cusick motioned to move into executive session Per 1 M.R.S. § 405(6) C- Real Estate Matter. Councilor Brown seconded the motion.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none, a roll call was conducted.

Unanimous.

The City Council moved into executive session at 6:40 p.m.

6) ADJOURN

Action: Councilor Cusick motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Councilor Brown seconded. Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none, a roll call was conducted. Unanimous.

The City Council adjourned the meeting at 7: p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Angelia Christopher

Meeting Clerk