



REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 19, 2016

Regular Meeting of the City Council was held in the City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor, City Hall, on Tuesday evening, April 19, 2016.

CALL TO ORDER

President James Walsh called the meeting to order at 7:30 o'clock p.m.

CALL OF THE ROLL

City Clerk Alan Agnelli called the Roll of Members. Ten (10) Councillors were present, including President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, and Matthew Vance. Councillor Marc Morgan was absent.

OPENING PRAYER

President Walsh led the Council in reciting the Opening Prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Walsh led the Council in reciting the "Pledge of Allegiance".

OPEN MEETING RECORDING & PUBLIC RECORDS ANNOUNCEMENT

President Walsh announced to the assembly that the Open Meeting Recording and Public Records Announcement is posted at the entrance to the Chamber, and that any person planning to record the meeting by any means should identify themselves.

READING & ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

On a motion by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor Nathan Boudreau, it was voted viva voce, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, to waive reading and to accept the Minutes of the April 4, 2016 Public Hearings and Regular Meeting, as printed.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

ORDERS

#9602

Reporting for the Finance Committee, Councillor Ronald Cormier informed the Council that the funds represented by the Order were not properly encumbered from the prior fiscal year and should not have reverted to Free Cash.

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On a motion by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor James Boone, it was voted on roll call, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, to adopt the following Order:

AN ORDER APPROPRIATING FROM FREE CASH TO CITY HALL HEATING SYSTEM CAPITAL PROJECT.

ORDERED: That there be and is hereby appropriated the sum of Thirty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Forty-Two Dollars and No Cents (\$32,542.00) from Free Cash to City Hall, Heating System Capital Project.

Presented to Mayor for Approval – April 20, 2016

Approved – April 20, 2016

MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor

#9603

Reporting for the Finance Committee, Councillor Ronald Cormier informed the Council that \$200,000 was appropriated to the Termination Leave account in FY2016; however, nearly \$224,000 has been paid-out due to employee departures. He noted that three employees (Firefighters) recently and unexpectedly retired, thus the unanticipated need for additional funding. He added that the additional appropriation would leave a small balance in order to provide termination leave benefits to the recently-retired Public Health Director.

Citing the Mayor's list of employees that have or will draw from the Termination Leave account, Councillor James Boone questioned the absence of the Termination Leave due to the retiring Health Director.

Councillor Ronald Cormier responded, stating that the Termination Leave for the Health Director had not yet been computed, as he is currently using accrued vacation leave. He added that the Mayor provided the Committee with an estimate of projected termination leave for the Health Director, which should be covered by the Order.

On a motion by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor Karen Hardern, it was voted on roll call, eight (8) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, and Paul Tassone; two (2) nays, Councillors James Boone and Matthew Vance, to adopt the following Order:

AN ORDER APPROPRIATING FROM FREE CASH TO MAYOR'S UNCLASSIFIED TERMINATION LEAVE RESERVE.



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ORDERED: That there be and is hereby appropriated the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$40,000.00) from Free Cash to the Mayor's Unclassified Termination Leave Reserve.

Presented to Mayor for Approval – April 20, 2016

Approved – April 20, 2016

MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor

#9604

Reporting for the Finance Committee, Councillor Ronald Cormier informed the Council that the bulk of overtime is the result of coverage for firefighters on various leaves (sick, injured, vacation) or as a result of retirements. The new vehicle, he stated, was included in the City's Capital Improvement Plan and would replace "a considerably-older vehicle," noting that the Fire Department utilizes its vehicles well in excess of five years. With regard to Holiday Pay, College Credits, and Sick Leave Incentive, Councillor Cormier reported that the appropriation would provide for contractual items negotiated after the FY2016 Budget was adopted.

On a motion by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor Paul Tassone, it was voted on roll call, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, to adopt the following Order:

AN ORDER APPROPRIATING A SUM OF MONEY FROM FREE CASH TO FIRE DEPARTMENT - VARIOUS ACCOUNTS.

ORDERED: That there be and is hereby appropriated the sum of One Hundred Forty-Five Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Dollars and No Cents (\$145,320.00) from Free Cash to the following accounts:

Fire Department Overtime	\$84,000.00
Fire Department New Vehicle	\$48,000.00
Fire Department Holiday Pay	\$ 5,500.00
Fire Department College Credits	\$ 4,620.00
Fire Department Sick Leave Incentive	\$ 3,200.00

Presented to Mayor for Approval – April 20, 2016

Approved – April 20, 2016

MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor

#9605

Reporting for the Finance Committee, Councillor Ronald Cormier informed the Council that the vehicle is not included on the Capital Improvement Plan; however, it is a specialty Police

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vehicle used by the School Safety Officer, used for transporting trailers/signage, and would replace an older vehicle that “has outlived its usefulness.” He added that the vehicle would be purchased from the State Bid List, which provides the City with upfront costs.

Councillor James Johnson questioned the disposition of ancillary vehicle equipment once the vehicle is disposed.

Councillor Ronald Cormier noted that the price quote lists the cost to transfer radio equipment from the old vehicle to the new vehicle, but that he was unsure as to the disposition of other equipment.

On a motion by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor James Johnson, it was voted on roll call, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, to adopt the following Order:

AN ORDER APPROPRIATING FROM FREE CASH TO POLICE DEPARTMENT, NEW VEHICLE.

ORDERED: That there be and is hereby appropriated the sum of Forty Thousand and No Cents (\$40,000.00) from Free Cash to Police Department, New Vehicle.

Presented to Mayor for Approval – April 20, 2016

Approved – April 20, 2016

MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor

#9606

Reporting for the Finance Committee, Councillor Ronald Cormier informed the Council that the Finance Committee voted, by majority, to recommend adoption of the Order Appropriating \$40,000.00 from Free Cash to Debt Service. He explained that two and one – half years earlier, the City Council voted to authorize borrowing for its share of the MSBA Project for Gardner High School, noting that the City issued Bond Anticipation Notes (“BANs”) as opposed to Bonds. He said that the Mayor wishes to pay-off the Debt using Free Cash as opposed to paying borrowing costs.

Councillor Ronald Cormier moved to adopt the following Order:

AN ORDER APPROPRIATING FROM FREE CASH TO DEBT SERVICE.

ORDER: That there be and is hereby appropriated the sum of Two Hundred Forty-Two Thousand and No Cents (\$242,000.00) from Free Cash to Debt Service.

Councillor Karen Hardern seconded the motion.

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On the motion, Councillor Matthew Vance voiced opposition to the Order, saying that there are better things to spend the City's Free Cash on than paying off a debt that has a low borrowing interest rate.

On roll call, three (3) yeas, Councillors Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, and Karen Hardern; seven (7) nays, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Scott Graves, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, the Order was not adopted.

#9607

On a motion by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor Paul Tassone, it was voted on roll call, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, to adopt the following Order:

AN ORDER APPROPRIATING FROM FREE CASH TO PUBLIC WORKS, NEW BUILDING.
ORDERED: That there be and is hereby appropriated the sum of One Hundred Thousand and No Cents (\$100,000.00) from Free Cash to Public Works, DPW New Building.

Presented to Mayor for Approval – April 20, 2016

Approved – April 20, 2016

MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor

#9608

Reporting for the Finance Committee, Councillor Ronald Cormier informed the Council that the Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Order be referred to the Council as a Committee of the Whole in order to allow for a full and complete report from the presenting parties with respect to implementing a Fire Department Ambulance service.

Councillor Ronald Cormier moved to refer AN ORDER APPROPRIATING FROM FREE CASH TO FIRE DEPARTMENT, PRIVATE SALARIES to the Council as a Committee of the Whole to allow a full and complete report from the presenting parties with respect to implementing a Fire Department Ambulance service.

Councillor James Johnson seconded the motion.

On the motion to refer, Councillor Karen Hardern stated that the issue has been discussed for more than a year, acknowledging, however, that the Council has two new members, but that she believes that they have “been brought up to speed as to what’s been going on,” and that she would like to see it move forward.

Councillor Hardern then moved to adopt the Order.

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President Walsh informed the Council that the motion to refer is a priority motion.

Councillor James Johnson stated that he would not support the motion to refer the measure; however, acknowledged that more discussion is necessary to review the measure. He said that getting the process started with passage of the Order and the hiring the new employees is not a bad idea.

Councillor Paul Tassone stated his opposition to the motion to refer, saying that the Council has the data to start the process and the Council doesn't need to slow down the process at this point.

Councillor Ronald Cormier stated that the intent of the Finance Committee is not to slow down the process, but to make certain that it be done expeditiously but with all the facts and figures. He noted that not only are the salaries of the firefighter/EMTs part of the overall cost, but that the cost of equipment isn't known. He added that the earlier presentation lacked data and specifics, specifically the number of calls. He added that further discussion and review would make the Council "far more informed," particularly for something that would be very costly in the future if a wrong decision is made.

Councillor James Boone stated that as a new member [of the Council], the "numbers before me seem to make a lot of sense," however, saying that he needs time to digest them. He added that he supports a presentation in order to "bring him up to speed" on the issue.

Councillor James Johnson questioned if it would be possible to vote on the Order as well as to schedule a full presentation before the Council.

President Walsh replied that the Council could still hold a meeting if the Order passes.

On the motion, four (4) yeas, President Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Ronald Cormier, and Scott Graves; six (6) nays, Councillors Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, and Matthew Vance, the motion to refer the Order did not pass.

Councillor Matthew Vance moved to adopt the Order. Councillor Paul Tassone seconded the motion.

Councillor James Johnson then moved to amend the Order to include a meeting of the Council as a Committee of the Whole with a presentation.

President Walsh ruled the motion out of order, saying that such a proviso cannot be attached to a money order. He added, however, that if there is a sense of the Council to have such a meeting, then one would be scheduled.

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On the motion, it was voted on roll call, eight (8) yeas, Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, and Matthew Vance; two (2) nays, President Walsh and Councillor Scott Graves, to adopt the following Order:

AN ORDER APPROPRIATING FROM FREE CASH TO FIRE DEPARTMENT, PRIVATE SALARIES.

ORDERED: That there be and is hereby appropriated the sum of Sixty-One Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Nine Dollars and No Cents (\$61,569.00) from Free Cash to Fire Department, Private Salaries.

Presented to Mayor for Approval – April 20, 2016

Approved – April 20, 2016

MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor

PETITIONS, APPLICATIONS, ETC.

#9609

On a motion by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor James Boone, it was voted viva voce, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, to adopt the following Measure:

VOTED: To approve an exemption pursuant to G.L. C. 268A, §20(b) in the Matter of a Financial Interest by Erica Corral for a Contract for Interpretive Services in the Translation of Documents.

Presented to Mayor for Approval – April 20, 2016

Approved – April 20, 2016

MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor

#9610

On a motion by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor James Boone, it was voted viva voce, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, to adopt the following Measure:

VOTED: To approve an exemption pursuant to G.L. C. 268A, §20(b) in the Matter of a Financial Interest by Traci Podrazik for a Contract for Interpretive Services in the Translation of Documents.

Presented to Mayor for Approval – April 20, 2016

Approved – April 20, 2016

MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor



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#9611

On a motion by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor Nathan Boudreau, it was voted viva voce, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, to refer to the Council as a Committee of the Whole the following:

ELECTRIC POWER AGGREGATION RESOLUTION
AND ACCEPTANCE OF G.L. CHAPTER 164, § 134

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has engaged in a process to establish a competitive market place through the restructuring of the electricity market; and

WHEREAS, citizens of Gardner have a substantial economic and social interest in terms of greater customer choice and opportunities for savings in this restructured market— and

WHEREAS, the City of Gardner hereby finds that it may be in the interest of its citizens who are electric ratepayers, both residential and commercial/industrial, to develop and secure such approvals and enter into appropriate agreements with consultants, experts and attorneys in connection with the establishment and operation of an electricity aggregation plan.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the City of Gardner hereby:

Accepts the provisions of M.G.L. c. 164, § 134, and publicly declares its intent to become an aggregator of electric power on behalf of its residential and business electric customers and to authorize the Mayor, as provided by such statute to develop a plan, for review by the citizens of the City of Gardner, detailing the process and consequences of aggregation and further to reestablish such plan if its operation is suspended, and to negotiate and enter into such contracts for power supply pursuant to the plan or services for such plan, with the understanding that if a power supply contract is executed, individual consumers would retain the option not to participate in the aggregation plan and, instead, to choose any electricity) alternatives they desire and, further, to take such other action relative hereto as may be appropriate and necessary.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

#9582

There being no objections, the Public Safety Committee was granted more time to report on the request of Seven Point of Massachusetts, Inc. for Support/Non-opposition to siting a Registered Marijuana Dispensary in the City of Gardner.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

#9588

There being no objections, the Finance Committee was granted more time to report on A NOTICE UNDER G.L. CHAPTER 61, §8, RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL, SALE OF LAND CLASSIFIED AS FOREST LAND (PARCEL M32-6-5, 85.41 ACRES EASTERLY OF CLARK STREET; PARCEL M-37-21-42, 3.37 ACRES EASTERLY OF CENTURY WAY; M32-6-10, 0.34 ACRES EASTERLY OF CLARK STREET).

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#9595

On a motion by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor James Boone, it was voted on roll call, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, to adopt the following Order:

AN ORDER APPROPRIATING FROM SEWER SURPLUS TO SEWER, SEWER CLERK.

ORDERED: That there be and is hereby appropriated the sum of Four Thousand Five Hundred Forty-four Dollars and No Cents (\$4,544.00) from Sewer Surplus to Sewer, Clerk.

Presented to Mayor for Approval – April 20, 2016

Approved – April 20, 2016

MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor

#9599

President Walsh, addressing the Council as Chairman of the Finance Committee, reported that the Committee anticipates that a report will be made to the Council at the next regular meeting, adding that Councillors wishing to offer input into the Committee's deliberations to please transmit their comments to the Committee at least 48 hours before its next meeting. There being no objections, the Finance Committee was granted more time to report on AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GARDNER, CHAPTER 171 THEREOF, ENTITLED "PERSONNEL," TO CHANGE THE COMPENSATION SCHEDULE.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**#9234**

President Walsh stated that each Councillor was provided with a copy of the City Solicitor's letter to Assistant Attorney General Kelli Gunagan regarding proposed Charter provisions. He said that he spoke with Attorney Gunagan who informed him that she had not reviewed it. President Walsh added that he hoped that a response would be forthcoming within thirty days. There being no objections, the Committee of the Whole was granted more time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**#9551**

President Walsh informed the Council that the Council cannot act on AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GARDNER, CHAPTER 675, ZONING, SUBSECTION 675-970, SIGNS PERMITTED IN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS, PERPENDICULAR SIGNS, AND SUBSECTION 675-980, SPECIAL REGULATIONS FOR SIGNS IN HISTORIC AREAS, PERPENDICULAR SIGNS, until the Planning Board issues its Final Report to the City Council. He said that the Community Development Director informed him that the Planning Board is scheduled to meet on May 10; therefore, the Council should expect the Final Report by the second Council meeting in May.

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#9569

President Walsh informed the Council that the Council cannot act on AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GARDNER, CHAPTER 675, ZONING, ADD A NEW SECTION 675-590, MILL STREET CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY DISTRICT, until the Planning Board issues its Final Report to the City Council. He said that the Community Development Director informed him that the Planning Board is scheduled to meet on May 10; therefore, the Council should expect the Final Report by the second Council meeting in May.

#9570

Councillor Matthew Vance moved to amend the Order discontinuing John Street as a public way by substituting language that was submitted by the City Engineer, as follows:

DISCONTINUING AS A PUBLIC WAY
JOHN STREET FROM PLEASANT STREET
TO THE ROUTE 2 RIGHT-OF-WAY

WHEREAS: In the opinion of City Council of the City of Gardner, a certain parcel of land known as John Street running between Pleasant Street and Route 2 is in excess of the City's current and future needs, it is therefore;

ORDER: That the portion of John Street from Pleasant Street running east 334 feet to the layout of Route 2 (as laid out and accepted as a Town road in 1881 and in 1921) be discontinued as a public way, with the following conditions:

The City and Others shall retain existing easement rights in and over the parcel for maintenance of utilities and access. Abutting property owners shall have a right-of-way over the discontinued way to or from their property to the nearest or most accessible roadway.

The parcel as described contains approximately 4,300 square feet.

Councillor James Johnson seconded the motion.

Councillor James Boone sought clarification as to the section of John Street to be discontinued.

President Walsh confirmed that the section includes only the portion off Pleasant Street.

On the motion, it was voted viva voce, eight (8) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance; two (2) nays, Councillors Scott Graves and Karen Hardern, to adopt the amendment substituting a new Order.

Mayor Hawke addressed the City Council, stating that the original intent was to discontinue John Street as a public way and to construct a cul-de-sac on John Street on the south side of

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Route 2 to serve the two homes, which would still be plowed and maintained by the City. He said that the former owners of the two homes on John Street were in favor of discontinuing the road. The goal is to then discontinue Risley Street which is surrounded by a single landowner, the Salvadore Family. He added that the Salvadore's planned to submit a letter to the City Council in support of the measure; however, no letter arrived.

Councillor Craig Cormier questioned whether the City Council received any complaints from the residents of John Street off Pleasant Street.

President Walsh stated that nothing was received by the Clerk or anyone else to his knowledge.

On a motion by Councillor Matthew Vance and seconded by Councillor James Boone, it was voted viva voce, eight (8) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance; two (2) nays, Councillors Scott Graves and Karen Hardern, to adopt the following Order:

DISCONTINUING AS A PUBLIC WAY
JOHN STREET FROM PLEASANT STREET
TO THE ROUTE 2 RIGHT-OF-WAY

WHEREAS: In the opinion of City Council of the City of Gardner, a certain parcel of land known as John Street running between Pleasant Street and Route 2 is in excess of the City's current and future needs, it is therefore;

ORDERED: That the portion of John Street from Pleasant Street running east 334 feet to the layout of Route 2 (as laid out and accepted as a Town road in 1881 and in 1921) be discontinued as a public way, with the following conditions:

The City and Others shall retain existing easement rights in and over the parcel for maintenance of utilities and access. Abutting property owners shall have a right-of-way over the discontinued way to or from their property to the nearest or most accessible roadway.

The parcel as described contains approximately 4,300 square feet.

Presented to Mayor for Approval – April 20, 2016

Approved – April 20, 2016

MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor

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#9571

Councillor Matthew Vance moved to adopt the following Order with intent to defeat:

DISCONTINUING AS A PUBLIC WAY
RISLEY STREET FROM WEST BROADWAY
TO JOHN STREET

WHEREAS: In the opinion of City Council of the City of Gardner, a certain parcel of land known as Risley Street running between West Broadway and John Street is in excess of the City's current and future needs, it is therefore;

ORDER: That the entire length of Risley Street from West Broadway running north and east 334 feet to John Street (as laid out and accepted as a Town road in 1881 and in 1921) be discontinued as a public way, with the following conditions:

The City and Others shall retain existing easement rights in and over the street for maintenance of utilities and access. Abutting property owners shall have a right-of-way over the discontinued way to or from their property to the nearest or most accessible roadway.

The parcel as described contains approximately 19,000 square feet.

Councillor James Johnson seconded the motion.

Mayor Hawke addressed the Council, saying that he spoke with the Salvadore Family and the two homeowners on John Street and all expressed support for discontinuing Risley Street. He noted that the road is in dire condition and that Risley Street entering onto West Broadway is a traffic hazard.

Councillor James Johnson expressed opposition to the Order, citing the need to access West Broadway due to the closure of the Pleasant Street Bridge.

Councillor Scott Graves stated that he has heard the arguments for discontinuing Risley Street as a public way "and it doesn't pass the smell test." He said that the proposal "came out of nowhere" and that no facts about accidents, injuries, or floods have been presented, thus he would not support the measure.

Mayor Hawke addressed Councillor Graves' comments, saying that the genesis of the measure is not with the current Council, but that a past Council approved an Order for \$10,000 to \$12,000 to study the City's roadways, which incorporated accepting certain streets, such as those being addressed by the Council at this meeting. He added that a committee was named to review the roadways, noting that former Councillor Edward Gravel served on that Committee.

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Councillor James Boone stated that he would like to hear more from the residents of John Street since they expressed opposition [at the recent hearing] to discontinuing the street as a public way. He added that he supports the motion to defeat the measure until the Council hears more from the John Street residents and the Salvadore family.

On the motion to adopt, it was voted viva voce, zero (0) yeas; ten (10) nays, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, and Matthew Vance; accordingly, the Order did not pass.

#9572

Councillor Matthew Vance moved to adopt the following Order with intent to defeat:

DISCONTINUING AS A PUBLIC WAY
SAINT JOHN'S ROAD FROM WEST STREET
TO LAND OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP

WHEREAS: In the opinion of City Council of the City of Gardner, a certain parcel of land known as Saint John's Road running between West Street and Saint John's Cemetery is in excess of the City's current and future needs, it is therefore;

ORDER: That the portion of Saint John's Road from West Street running south 334 feet to land of the Roman Catholic Bishop (as laid out and accepted as a Town road in 1881 and in 1921) be discontinued as a public way, with the following condition:

The City and Others shall retain existing easement rights in and over the street for maintenance of utilities and access.

The parcel as described contains approximately 14,500 square feet.

Councillor Nathan Boudreau seconded the motion.

On the motion, Councillor Karen Hardern questioned the urgency to discontinue the road as a public way, particularly since the City has plowed and maintained the road for 95 years.

Mayor Hawke addressed the Council, saying that Father Brian, the former Pastor of Annunciation Parish, approached him and asked if the City would upgrade the road. The Mayor advised him that he did not anticipate that the City could pave the roads (St. John's Road and Notre Dame Road) for a very long time due to the very lengthy list of City roads that need to be improved. He continued, saying that the idea was broached that if the City paved the roads, then the Church would take over responsibility for them. "So, I took the priest at his word and here we are a few years later," the Mayor added.

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Councillor James Boone stated that he would like to see financials, specifically the cost to the City to maintain both roads. He added that the City could think about discontinuing one road and still maintain the other road.

Councillor Graves said, "Every city and town has a soul. We had a soul, we still have a soul," adding that a lot of the City's factory buildings "are being torn down one by one," so "the 'Furniture Capital of the World' and the 'Chair City Capital of the World' is slowly losing its soul-filled buildings." He continued, saying "We have another soul called Acadiens and Canadians...that came and served in the factories for decades. We went from 5,000 people to 21,000 people virtually overnight. The Acadiens and Canadians worked day and night in those factories."

Referring to remarks about "financials," Councillor Graves stated that if the City cannot afford to plow these streets, then something is dead wrong. "Ninety-five years ago, there was a thing called the First Amendment...people are saying that there's a thing called separation of church and state. Yes, but the First Amendment was there when we started plowing these places back then." He continued, saying that there are three City-owned cemeteries, asking "What religion are the people in those cemeteries? We are plowing them! Should we be plowing those because they have religion, too? It's not about religion. It's about the soul of the City. And, I do not understand why this is even before us. It's shameful and disgraceful and objectionable to me."

Councillor James Boone stated that he did not think that the issue is only about plowing, but the DPW Director and the Mayor pointed out that there is also a cost to maintain and repave the road. He added that they [cemeteries] are private property, which is why he suggested the possibility of maintaining one of the roads.

Councillor Karen Hardern stated that she agreed with Councillor Graves' comments, saying that St. John's Road and Notre Dame Road have been cared for by the City for 95 years, "so what is the big deal? It's only 500 feet."

Councillor Paul Tassone stated his agreement with Councillors Graves and Hardern "to a degree," adding that if the City does not maintain the roads, they could become safety hazards.

On the motion to adopt, it was voted viva voce, one (1) yea, Councillor James Boone; nine (9) nays, President James Walsh and Councillors Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, and Matthew Vance; accordingly, the Order did not pass.

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#9573

Councillor Matthew Vance moved to adopt the following Order with intent to defeat:

DISCONTINUING AS A PUBLIC WAY
NOTRE DAME ROAD FROM WEST STREET
TO LAND OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP

WHEREAS: In the opinion of City Council of the City of Gardner, a certain parcel of land known as Notre Dame Road running between West Street and Notre Dame Cemetery is in excess of the City's current and future needs, it is therefore;

ORDER: That the portion of Notre Dame Road from West Street running south 1242 feet to land of the Roman Catholic Bishop (as laid out and accepted as a Town road in 1921) be discontinued as a public way, with the following condition:

The City and Others shall retain existing easement rights in and over the street for maintenance of utilities and access.

The parcel as described contains approximately 47,000 square Feet.

Councillor Nathan Boudreau seconded the motion.

On the motion, Councillor Scott Graves added to comments that he made earlier, saying that "there are also a lot of Irish people in there [cemeteries], Scandinavian people from Finland, Sweden, Norway, not just all Canadian people in these cemeteries. But, whoever is in there, [they] made this City great...to what it is today. That's why we are all here!"

On the motion to adopt, it was voted viva voce, zero (0) yeas; ten (10) nays, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, and Matthew Vance; accordingly, the Order did not pass.

#9574

Councillor Matthew Vance moved to adopt the following Order with intent to defeat:

DISCONTINUING AS A PUBLIC WAY
MATTHEWS STREET FROM STATION 70 OF THE
RELOCATED MATTHEWS STREET TO ROUTE 140

WHEREAS: In the opinion of City Council of the City of Gardner, a certain parcel of land known as Matthews Street running between Route 140 and the relocated portion of Matthews Street is in excess of the City's current and future needs, it is therefore;

REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 19, 2016

ORDER: That the portion of Matthews Street from Route 140 and running southwesterly approximately 2600 feet to the relocated Matthews Street (as laid out and accepted as a Town road in 1803 and in 1980) be discontinued as a public way, with the following conditions:

The City and Others shall retain existing easement rights in and over the street for maintenance of utilities and access. Abutting property owners shall have a right-of-way over the discontinued way to or from their property to the nearest or most accessible roadway.

The parcel as described contains approximately 90,420 square feet.

Councillor Craig Cormier seconded the motion.

Councillor Karen Hardern stated that she visited Matthews Street and noted that a single home is served by the road. She questioned the impact on the home's value if the road were to be discontinued.

Councillor Paul Tassone noted that if the City discontinues the road and no longer plows it, then how would public safety services reach the home?

Councillor Craig Cormier stated that the road has not been paved in the fifteen years that the current resident has lived in the home, which is partially the reason that the road is in such disrepair.

On the motion to adopt, it was voted viva voce, one (1) yea, President Walsh; nine (9) nays, Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, and Matthew Vance; accordingly, the Order did not pass.

#9575

On a motion by Councillor Scott Graves and seconded by Councillor Nathan Boudreau, it was voted viva voce, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, to indefinitely postpone and remove from the Calendar *A Resolution to Rename Matthews Road to Matthews Street (Route 140 to Green Street)*.

#9576

On a motion by Councillor Scott Graves and seconded by Councillor Craig Cormier, it was voted viva voce, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, to schedule a Public Hearing on *A Resolution to Rename a Portion of Matthews Street to Old Matthews Street*.

REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 19, 2016

#9577

On a motion by Councillor Craig Cormier and seconded by Councillor Nathan Boudreau, it was voted viva voce, nine (9) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, and Paul Tassone; one (1) nay, Councillor Matthew Vance, to schedule a Public Hearing on *A Resolution to Rename a Portion of Summit Avenue to Clairmont Street (from Union Street for approx. 210' southeasterly)*.

#9578

On a motion by Councillor James Boone and seconded by Councillor Nathan Boudreau, it was voted viva voce, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, to adopt the following Order:

ORDER OF TAKING IN FEE
FOR PUBLIC WAY
BY THE CITY OF GARDNER BY AND THROUGH ITS CITY COUNCIL
FOR CLAIRMONT STREET

In City Council 19th day of April, 2016

RESOLVED:

Whereas, in the opinion of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Gardner, the Public convenience and necessity of the inhabitants of the City require that the roadway known as Clairmont Street be laid out as a public street of the City of Gardner, from its beginning at Union Street to its dead end a distance of approximately 600 feet and of a width of 40.00 and 50.00 feet, all as more particularly hereinafter described, and for that purpose it is necessary to take the parcel of land, it is therefore:

ORDERED:

That by virtue of the authority conferred by Chapter 79 and every other power and authority thereto enabling, the City of Gardner, acting by its City Council, hereby lays out and establishes as a public street or way on behalf of the City of Gardner as described in "Exhibit A" attached hereto, and as shown on a plan entitled "Street Plan of a Portion of Clairmont Street, Gardner, MA", prepared for the City of Gardner. Plan Date: September 19, 2007, prepared by Szoc Surveyors, to be recorded, and made a part of this taking with a copy filed in the office of the Survey Department, of the City of Gardner Massachusetts.

The City Council, having considered the question of damages sustained by persons or corporations in their property, are of the opinion that no damages have been sustained, and, therefore award no damages.

EXHIBIT A

Being more specifically described as follows:

Beginning at a stone wall on the southerly side of the Union Street layout, approximately 66 feet west of an iron pipe located on the Union Street sideline.

THENCE: S.16° 41' 35"E., one hundred twenty four and 29/100 feet (124.29') to an iron pin;



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THENCE: S.15° 02' 19"E., eighty five and 00/100 feet (85.00') to a corner;
 THENCE: N.74° 57' 47"E., fifty and 00/100 feet (50.00') to a corner;
 THENCE: S.15° 02' 13"E., forty and 00/100 feet (40.00') to a corner;
 THENCE: S.74° 57' 47"W., fifty and 00/100 feet (50.00') to a corner;
 THENCE: S.15° 02' 13"E., fifty and 00/100 feet (50.00') to a corner;
 THENCE: S.74° 57' 47"W., fifty and 00/100 feet (50.00') to a corner;
 THENCE: N.15° 02' 13"W., fifty and 00/100 feet (50.00') to a corner;
 THENCE: S.74° 57' 47"W., four hundred eleven and 08/100 feet (411.08') to a corner;
 THENCE: N.08° 16' 56"E., twelve and 28/100 feet (12.28') to a point;
 THENCE: N.10° 35' 18"E., thirty one and 85/100 feet (31.85') to a corner;
 THENCE: N.74° 57' 47"E., three hundred ninety two and 44/100 feet (392.44') to a corner;
 THENCE: N.15° 02' 13"W., eighty four and 28/100 feet (84.28') to a point;
 THENCE: N.16° 41' 35"W., one hundred twenty six and 25/100 feet (126.25') to a corner;
 THENCE: N.76° 22' 23"E., fifty and 07/100 feet (50.07') to the point of beginning.

The total area described by this order of taking is 33,073 square feet.

Presented to Mayor for Approval – April 20, 2016

Approved – April 20, 2016

MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor

#9579

On a motion by Councillor Matthew Vance and seconded by Councillor Craig Cormier, it was voted viva voce, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, Matthew Vance, to adopt the following Order:

ORDER OF TAKING IN FEE
 FOR PUBLIC WAY
 BY THE CITY OF GARDNER BY AND THROUGH ITS CITY COUNCIL
 FOR WILKINS ROAD AND FREDETTE STREET

In City Council 19th day of April, 2016

RESOLVED:

Whereas, in the opinion of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Gardner, the Public convenience and necessity of the inhabitants of the City require that the unaccepted portions of Wilkins Road and Fredette Street be laid out as public streets of the City of Gardner, from the end of the 1974 layout of Wilkins Road to the end of the 1979 layout of Fredette Street a distance of approximately 2,226 feet and of a uniform width of 50.00 feet throughout, all as more particularly hereinafter described, and for that purpose it is necessary to take the parcel of land hereinafter described, it is therefore:

ORDERED:

REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 19, 2016

That by virtue of the authority conferred by Chapter 79 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and every other power and authority thereto enabling, the City of Gardner, acting by its City Council, hereby lays out and establishes as public streets or ways on behalf of the City of Gardner as described in "Exhibit A" attached hereto, and as shown on a plan entitled "Fredette Street, Acceptance Plan of Land in Gardner, MA, prepared for the City of Gardner. Plan prepared by Szoc Surveyors to be recorded, Plan Book _____ Page____, herewith and made a part of this taking with a copy filed in the office of the Survey Department, of the City of Gardner Massachusetts.

The City Council, having considered the question of damages sustained by persons or corporations in their property, are of the opinion that no damages have been sustained, and, therefore award no damages.

EXHIBIT A

The following described parcel of land is taken in fee from the Greater Gardner Industrial Foundation as the layout of Wilkins Road/Fredette Street and is more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the northeasterly corner of the end of the 1974 layout of Wilkins Road at a concrete bound.

Thence S 43° 33' 47" W, 50.00 feet to a concrete bound; thence N 46° 26' 13" W, 32.12 feet to a concrete bound and point of curvature; thence along a curve to the right of radius 270 feet and length of 137.21 feet to a concrete bound and point of tangency, thence N 17° 19' 10" W, 644.27 feet to a concrete bound and point of curvature, thence along a curve to the left of radius 475.00 feet and length of 366.73 feet to a concrete bound and point of tangency, thence N 61° 33' 20" W, 130.01 feet to a concrete bound and point of curvature, thence along a curve to the right of radius 525.00 feet and a length of 478.12 feet to a concrete bound and a point of tangency, thence N 09° 22' 35" W, 143.62 feet to a concrete bound and a point of curvature, thence along a curve to the left of radius 475.00 feet and 294.93 feet in length to a concrete bound and a corner, thence N 45° 02' 55" E, 50.00 feet to a concrete bound and a corner, thence along a curve to the right of radius 525.00 feet and a length of 325.97 feet to a concrete bound and a point of tangency, thence S 09° 22' 35" E, 143.62 feet to a concrete bound and a point of curvature, thence along a curve to the left of radius 475.00 feet and of 432.58 feet in length to a concrete bound and point of tangency, thence S 61° 33' 20" E, 130.01 feet to a concrete bound and a point of curvature, thence along a curve to the right of radius 525.00 feet and of length 405.33 feet to a concrete bound and point of tangency, thence S 17° 19' 10" E, 644.27 feet to a concrete bound and a point of curvature, thence along a curve to the left of radius 220.00 feet and of length 111.80 feet to a concrete bound and a point of tangency thence S 46° 26' 13" E, 32.12 feet to a concrete bound and the point of beginning.

The above described layout of Wilkins Road and Fredette Street comprises an area of 111,318 square feet, more or less all from separate lots of the Greater Gardner Industrial Foundation.

Presented to Mayor for Approval – April 20, 2016

Approved – April 20, 2016

MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor

#9580

On a motion by Councillor James Boone and seconded by Councillor James Boone, it was voted viva voce, nine (9) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, and Paul Tassone; one (1) nay, Councillor Matthew Vance, to adopt the following Order:



 REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 19, 2016

ORDER OF TAKING IN FEE
FOR PUBLIC WAY
BY THE CITY OF GARDNER BY AND THROUGH ITS CITY COUNCIL
FOR SNAKE POND ROAD

In City Council 19th day of April, 2016

RESOLVED:

Whereas, in the opinion of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Gardner, the Public convenience and necessity of the inhabitants of the City require that the roadway known as Snake Pond Road be laid out as a public street of the City of Gardner, from its beginning at Airport Road to its dead end a distance of approximately 1,465 feet and of a uniform width of 40.00 feet throughout, all as more particularly hereinafter described, and for that purpose it is necessary to take the parcel of land, it is therefore:

ORDERED:

That by virtue of the authority conferred by Chapter 79 and every other power and authority thereto enabling, the City of Gardner, acting by its City Council, hereby lays out and establishes as a public street or way on behalf of the City of Gardner as described in "Exhibit A" attached hereto, and as shown on a plan entitled "Snake Pond Road, Acceptance Plan of Land in Gardner, MA, prepared for the City of Gardner. Plan Date: August 25, 1997, prepared by Szoc Surveyors, recorded in Plan Book 722, Page 19, and made a part of this taking with a copy filed in the office of the Survey Department, of the City of Gardner Massachusetts.

The City Council, having considered the question of damages sustained by persons or corporations in their property, are of the opinion that no damages have been sustained, and, therefore award no damages.

EXHIBIT A

Being more specifically described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the northeasterly side of the Airport Road layout, 33.95 feet southwest from the highway bound located at a point of curvature.

THENCE: Turning to the left along a curve to the left having a radius of ten and 00/1000 feet (10.00') a distance of twenty five and 236/100 feet (25.236') to a point;

THENCE: N.59° 22' 55"E., three hundred eighty one and 92/100 feet (381.92') to a point;

THENCE: Turning continuing in a southerly direction on a curve to the right having a radius of one hundred eighty five and 00/1000 feet (185.00') a distance of two hundred fifty five and 838/100 feet (255.838') to a point;

THENCE: S.41° 23' 00"E., twenty four and 22/100 feet (24.22') to a point;

THENCE: S.72° 00' 28"E., one and 86/100 feet (1.86') to a point;

THENCE: S.21° 24' 29"E., two and 77/100 feet (2.77') to a point;

THENCE: S.41° 23' 00"E., one hundred seven and 93/100 feet (107.93') to a point;

THENCE: Turning continuing in a south westerly direction on a curve to the right having a radius of one hundred eighty and 00/100 feet (180.00') a distance of one hundred eighty four and 202/1000 feet (184.202') to a point;

THENCE: S.17° 15' 00"W., sixty five and 27/100 feet (65.27') to a point;

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THENCE: Turning to the left along a curve to the left having a radius of forty and 00/100 feet (40.00') a distance of thirty four and 267/1000 feet (34.267') to a point;

THENCE: S.31° 50' 00"E., eighty one and 34/100 feet (81.34') to a point;

THENCE: Turning to the right along a curve to the right having a radius of two hundred and 00/100 feet (200.00') a distance of ninety two and 416/1000 feet (92.416') to a point;

THENCE: Turning to the right along a curve to the right having a radius of five hundred and 00/100 feet (500.00') a distance of sixty eight and 462/1000 feet (68.462') to a point;

THENCE: Turning to the left along a curve to the left having a radius of thirty seven and 50/100 feet (37.50') a distance of fifty six and 435/1000 feet (56.435') to a point;

THENCE: S.83° 44' 24"E., five and 01/100 feet (5.01') to a point;

THENCE: S.06° 15' 36"W., forty and 00/100 feet (40.00') to a point;

THENCE: N.83° 44' 24"W., eighteen and 79/100 feet (18.79') to a point;

THENCE: Turning to the left along a curve to the left having a radius of twenty seven and 50/100 feet (27.50') a distance of thirty eight and 799/1000 feet (38.799') to a point;

THENCE: Turning to the right along a curve to the right having a radius of three hundred and 00/100 feet (300.00') a distance of fifty seven and 092/1000 feet (57.092') to a point;

THENCE: N.81° 09' 02"W., forty two and 26/100 feet (42.26') to a point;

THENCE: Turning to the left along a curve to the left having a radius of two hundred sixty and 00/100 feet (260.00') a distance of eighty and 996/1000 feet (80.996') to a point;

THENCE: Turning to the left along a curve to the left having a radius of four hundred sixty and 00/100 feet (460.00') a distance of eighty and 053/1000 feet (80.053') to a point;

THENCE: N.16° 38' 06"W., thirty four and 09/100 feet (34.09') to a point;

THENCE: N.07° 10' 56"W., fifty one and 96/100 feet (51.96') to a point;

THENCE: N.14° 01' 36"E., fourteen and 43/100 feet (14.43') to a point;

THENCE: Turning to the left along a curve to the left having a radius of one hundred sixty and 00/100 feet (160.00') a distance of twenty seven and 689/1000 feet (27.689') to a point;

THENCE: N.31° 50' 00"W., fifty and 17/100 feet (50.17') to a point;

THENCE: N.61° 41' 50"W., two and 16/100 feet (2.16') to a point;

THENCE: N.40° 32' 55"W., forty two and 00/100 feet (42.00') to a point;

THENCE: N.16° 11' 01"W., forty seven and 00/100 feet (47.00') to a point;

THENCE: N.19° 35' 25"E., twenty eight and 00/100 feet (28.00') to a point;

THENCE: N.35° 15' 16"E., thirty six and 41/100 feet (36.41') to a point;

THENCE: N.17° 15' 00"E., twenty one and 51/100 feet (21.51') to a point;

THENCE: Turning to the left along a curve to the left having a radius of one hundred forty and 00/100 feet (140.00') a distance of forty seven and 812/1000 feet (47.812') to a point;

THENCE: N.21° 24' 29"W., ninety one and 58/100 feet (91.58') to a point;

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THENCE: Turning to the left along a curve to the left having a radius of one hundred forty and 00/100 feet (140.00') a distance of two and 162/1000 feet (2.162') to a point;

THENCE: N.41° 23' 00"W., one hundred thirty six and 36/100 feet (136.36') to a point;

THENCE: Turning to the left along a curve to the left having a radius of one hundred forty five and 00/100 feet (145.00') a distance of two hundred and 522/1000 feet (200.522') to a point;

THENCE: S.59° 22' 55"W., four hundred fifty and 69/100 feet (450.69') to a point;

THENCE: N.48° 44' 25"W., eleven and 43/100 feet (11.43') to a point;

THENCE: N.23° 58' 33"E., eighty one and 62/100 feet (81.62') to the point of beginning;

Presented to Mayor for Approval – April 20, 2016

Approved – April 20, 2016

MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor

#9582

There being no objections, the Council postponed discussion on the referral to the Mayor to negotiate a Host Community Agreement with Seven Point of Massachusetts, Inc. as it relates to the City's Support/Non-opposition to siting a Registered Marijuana Dispensary in the City of Gardner.

#9588

There being no objections, more time was granted to the Law Department for study and report on A NOTICE UNDER G.L. CHAPTER 61, §8, RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL, SALE OF LAND CLASSIFIED AS FOREST LAND (PARCEL M32-6-5, 85.41 ACRES EASTERLY OF CLARK STREET; PARCEL M-37-21-42, 3.37 ACRES EASTERLY OF CENTURY WAY; M32-6-10, 0.34 ACRES EASTERLY OF CLARK STREET).

#9606 - AN ORDER APPROPRIATING FROM FREE CASH TO DEBT SERVICE

Mayor Hawke rose to address the Council, recommending that Councillors speak to the City Treasurer with regard to #9606, *An Order Appropriating \$242,000 from Free Cash to Debt Service*, which the Council defeated earlier in the meeting. He stated that "despite a grossly misleading headline in *The Gardner News*, the measure "was not a battle over taxes versus paying off debt," but by not paying off the debt, "it forces the Mayor to find \$242,000 worth of room in next year's budget." He continued, saying that it is not just a matter of small borrowing costs, but that the money would have to be borrowed this fiscal year and the City would have to incur bonding costs, as well, which amounts to \$10,000 to \$15,000. He closed by stressing that by not paying off the debt in the current fiscal year, it will force the City to find room in next year's budget for \$242,000.

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NEW BUSINESS

On a motion by Councillor James Boone and seconded by Councillor James Johnson, it was voted viva voce, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, and Matthew Vance, to consider New Business.

#9606 – An Order Appropriating from Free Cash to Debt Service

Councillor Matthew Vance said “Fortunately, the City had almost one and one-half million dollars in Free Cash, so I imagine we could find \$250,000 in the budget if we had to with how much Free Cash we have left over. But, I don’t write the budget, so I could be wrong.”

Announcements and Commentary

Councillor Scott Graves stated that every year, it seems, that homeowners’ real estate taxes go up, the City basically runs on the backs of real estate owners. “There’s money to be found. That’s why the Mayor gets the big bucks.”

Councillor James Johnson suggested that the City consider committing Free Cash to improve local roads.

Councillor James Johnson informed Councillors that Saturday, April 23 is Citywide Cleanup Day, sponsored by the Leo Club.

#9572 & #9573 – Discontinuance of St. John’s Road and Notre Dame Road

Councillor James Boone stated that it was his intent to seek a compromise and to not offend any particular groups, but provide for safe passage to the top of the hill leading to the cemetery. He added that if the measure should come before the Council at a later time that the Council would be provided with financial information concerning improvements and maintenance costs for the roads.

CLOSING PRAYER

President Walsh led the Council in the Closing Prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councillor Nathan Boudreau and seconded by Councillor Paul Tassone, it was voted viva voce, ten (10) yeas, President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, James Johnson, Paul Tassone, and Matthew Vance, to adjourn at 8:31 o’clock p.m.

Accepted by the City Council: *May 2, 2016*