

PUBLIC HEARINGS OF MAY 16, 2016

ATTENDANCE

Ten Councillors were present, including President James Walsh and Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Scott Graves, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Marc Morgan, and Matthew Vance. Councillor Paul Tassone was absent.

PUBLIC HEARINGS**#9576**

President James Walsh opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, reading aloud the comprehensive Hearing Notice, as follows:

“In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 567 of the Code of the City of Gardner, notice is hereby given that the Gardner City Council will conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chamber, Room 219, Gardner City Hall, to consider renaming the portion of Matthews Street north of Route 140 to “Old Matthews Street.” All persons interested in this matter and desire to offer testimony are invited to attend the hearing.”

GARDNER CITY COUNCIL
ALAN L. AGNELLI, City Clerk

President Walsh called for persons wishing to testify.

Robert Hankinson, City Engineer, testified in favor of the Resolution, stating that Matthews Street “is a very old way” that begins across from Heywood Hospital and travels northeast across what is now Route 140 (in existence before Route 140 was constructed) and ending at Pearl Street. He said that the section of Matthews Street on the opposite side of Route 140 is not connected to Route 140, but connected to Pearl Street and Pearly Lane, and that only a portion of the street has been developed and has houses along it.

Mr. Hankinson continued, saying that the main reason that the proposal is before the Council is to address public safety concerns – Ambulance, Fire, and Police. The City presently “has three ways named ‘Matthews,’” a “Matthew Street,” “Matthews Road,” and “Old Matthews Way.” The legal name for all three, he said, is “Matthews Street,” thus, in order for emergency services [mutual aid] to reach the homes on Matthews Street on the northeast side of Route 140; then the City must clearly identify the location. He said that the street sign on the section proposed to be named “Old Matthews Street” reads “Old Matthews Street” and that some of the property deeds on the street read “Old Matthews Street,” some read “Matthews Street.” He remarked that no house numbers will change, since the Engineering Department assigned house numbers sequentially when the roadway was laid out in order to avoid confusion.

With no other persons presenting themselves, the Hearing was closed at 7:05 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARINGS OF MAY 16, 2016

#9577

President James Walsh opened the Public Hearing at 7:06 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, reading aloud the comprehensive Hearing Notice, as follows:

“In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 567 of the Code of the City of Gardner, notice is hereby given that the Gardner City Council will conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chamber, Room 219, Gardner City Hall, to consider renaming 210 feet of Summit Avenue off Union Street to “Clairmont Street.” All persons interested in this matter and desire to offer testimony are invited to attend the hearing.”

GARDNER CITY COUNCIL
ALAN L. AGNELLI, City Clerk

Robert Hankinson, City Engineer, testified in favor of the Resolution, saying that the measure is a follow-up action to the Council’s recent decision to accept Clairmont Street as a public way. He said that the portion of the roadway immediately off Union Street is presently named “Summit Avenue” while the remainder of the road parallel to Union Street is named “Clairmont Street.” He said that confusion arose when Summit Avenue was originally laid-out, beginning at Union Street, crossing both Rouville Avenue and Jerome Avenue, and ending at Ames Avenue. He noted that confusion persists with emergency services and UPS deliveries because the section off Union Street is called “Summit Avenue.” The proposal, he stated, is to rename only the portion of Summit Avenue from Union to Clairmont Street as “Clairmont Street,” adding that no houses are affected because each has a Clairmont Street address.

With no other persons presenting themselves, the Hearing was closed at 7:08 P.M. and adjourned.

Accepted by the City Council: *June 6, 2016*