

REGULAR MEETING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE of JUNE 7, 2018

Meeting of the Public Service Committee was held in the office of the DPW, 416 West Broadway, at 4:30 p.m. on June 7, 2018.

Members Present: Councilor Nathan Boudreau Chairman, Councilor Craig Cormier, Councilor James Boone, Administrative Assistant Denise Merriam

Attendees: Dane Arnold DPW Director; Chris Coughlin City Engineer; Jeff Legros Conservation Agent; Mr. & Mrs. Andre Valois

CALL TO ORDER

Councilor Nathan Boudreau called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

OPEN MEETING RECORDING

ANNOUNCEMENT – any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting, or may transmit the meeting through any medium, subject to reasonable requirements of the chair as to the number, placement and operation of equipment used so as not to interfere with the conduct of the meeting. Any person intending to make such recording shall notify the chair forthwith. All Documents referenced or used during the meeting must be submitted in duplicate to Secretary of the Committee, pursuant to the Open Meeting and Public Records Law. All documents shall become part of the official record of the meeting.

No one is recording the meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion to accept the Minutes of the May 7, 2018 meeting as written, Councilor Craig Cormier second by Councilor Nathan Boudreau, all in favor motion carries.

ORDINANCE ISSUES

The Committee and Department Heads all went over the individual budgets with no recommendations to change anything. Dane explained the increase in water/sewer budgets because City is taking back distribution systems, increase in salaries, purchase materials, etc. Dane stated because we are just estimating what costs are going to be there may be some adjustments needed in April or May.

Request from Mr. & Mrs. Andre Valois to dig in street for sewer because their septic failed and a new septic does not meet Title V.

Dane Ordinance states no digging in the street within five years of new pavement. Dane could put on the force main.

Mr. Valois paved road is not as wide as it could be.

Dane stated he is not opposed to allowing this as it is an emergency.

Motion made by Councilor Craig Cormier second by Councilor Nathan Boudreau, all in favor motion passes.

#9905 – An Ordinance to Amend the code of the City of Gardner by Adding a New Chapter to Be Entitled “Scenic Roads.” (In City Council and Referred jointly to Public Service Committee and Public Welfare Committee, 3/19/2018).

Committee request more time, leave on agenda.

An Ordinance to Amend the Code of the City of Gardner, Chapter 600 Thereof, Entitled “Vehicles and Traffic,” Section 23, All Night Parking.

We have not received a legal opinion yet. Dane in theory give and take on both sides now ban is 2:00 am to 6:00 am only gives us four hours to get streets cleared. I suggest a larger window 11:00pm to 6:00 am giving us more time to clear roads and we may not have to come back. This would be from November to April. I fear how public will be notified 24 – 48 hours prior to snow, not always sure when storms will start.

Councilor Boudreau same as snow days.

Councilor Boone just like no school days.

Chris said we could do the code red, city web site, Facebook, TV channel, have a light somewhere when on ban in effect. Problem with people not following the rules.

Dane puts burden on Police.

Councilor Boone do on a trial basis.

Councilor Boudreau takes burden off renters if they can park in street.

Dane if we have 50 cars on the roads we will not be able to clear them.

Councilor Boudreau: Only 10-12 streets with heavy apartments.

Dane: Then we will not be able to clear roads.

Leave on Agenda for more time.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

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Dane Arnold: Mayor gave a list of streets he would like paved I will be going out to measure for cost. Clark St. from Otter River Rd. to Ryan, Pearly Lane, Myles Circle, Old Colonial Dr., Baker St. from Nichols to Waterford also will narrow down; Oak St.; Graham St.; Richmond St. will only be doing sidewalks on one side of Oak St. will be having a public hearing on this. Councilor Boudreau stated this is a good idea. Dane we always have more that needs to be done but not enough money.

GIS is moving out of City Hall and coming to the new DPW building, we work together on many projects only makes sense.

Doing work at the High School, curbs, walks, will tie in with the construction.
Proposal for sludge landfill going out for more borings. Different application to complete process not in scope of design.
Curb and walks installed at new building waiting for Verizon to put in new line.

Chris Coughlin: Willis Road pump station takes in mostly the prison has had a few breaks we are going to replace it this summer. Councilor Cormier asked if on a loop Dane said no it is the sewer line. We are getting prices now will send up to next Finance Committee meeting. Pipe is corrosive prison is using leach fields; DEP says we need to fix so we are getting a design this summer. Next meeting should have a request in for funds.

Last week we did Timpany Crossroads traffic impact for the 99 Restaurant, going back and forth upgrades will be made on intersection. Doing a round-a-bout on the TIP list.

It is becoming more dangerous for us to do water shutoff and financially, always fighting with people on payment plans. Dane we sent out letters and at least twenty came back people will not accept in the mail. Just going to do liens on property now, we will get paid by banks with tax bills. Councilor Boudreau shut off only? Dane yes twenty homes abandoned. Councilor Boone ends up on lien? Chris yes put on tax bills every November. Councilor Boone that makes sense. Dane we send out delinquent notices every month and a lien notice in October. Councilor Boudreau I do not disagree 90% of payment plans in a situation work, don't want to take away this option. Councilor Boone do we send out certified letters. Dane yes they do not accept. Councilor Boudreau would like to leave this on agenda for the next meeting. Chris stated abatements would stay the same. They are separate than shut offs. Councilor Boudreau what did Mayor say, Dane did not talk with him.

Jeff Legros: We have a lot going on, closing on the Omelia Property draft survey coming back. We will explain to Planning Board, Title is with City Solicitor, base line documental land management doing now should be done at the end of month, it has to be closed by the 30th. If accepted by State then goes to City Council total amount should still be under original approved should go to City Council next week. Next step in July park grant for following year will get together with Dane and Chris to see if we do now or later.

College project moving along no violations on conditions.
Checked with Mr. LaJoie will reach out to DPW.

**WATER ABATEMENT/REBATE APPEAL
REPORTS & REQUESTS FROM COUNCILOR'S**

Councilor Boudreau:

Councilor Cormier: Nothing at this time.

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Councilor Boone: Asked Dane if he received any e-mails regarding Little League field. Dane stated no we have been mowing the grass and maintaining the area, I was told they were going to build concession stand we put in water and sewer to facility they will put a meter to keep track of water usage. We do not even know who is in charge now.

Motion made by Councilor Craig Cormier second by Councilor James Boone to adjourn meeting at 4:39 pm. All in favor motion passes.

Next meeting will schedule at later date.

All documents submitted at this meeting are stored in the office of the DPW 416 West Broadway for any review.

Minutes approved at the August 20, 2018 meeting as written