

REGULAR MEETING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE of SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

Meeting of the Public Service Committee was held in the office of the DPW, 50 Manca Drive, at 4:34 p.m. on September 13, 2018.

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

Attendees: Dane Arnold, DPW Director; Christopher Coughlin, City Engineer; Robert Oliva, Assistant DPW Director; Jeffrey Legros, Conservation Agent; Jennifer Susan-Roy, BOH Director; and, Hector Rosario.

CALL TO ORDER

Councilor Nathan Boudreau called the meeting to order at 4:34 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

Councilor Craig Cormier moved to accept the Minutes of the August 20, 2018 meeting, as written. Councilor James Boone seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE ISSUES

#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).

Councilor Boone stated the Welfare Committee is still looking to do something with this.

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

Councilor Walsh made motion to send back to Service Committee to discuss adequate way to notify residents.

Safety Committee e-mail today from Deputy Chief Braks and Chief Erickson areas have snow piles from cars parking on streets.

Councilor Boone feels we voted in favor and to advertise big and wait until next year.

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Jennifer stated she does the code red and text and it works with the people that are signed up for it.

Councilor Boudreau get people to sign up.

Councilor Boone what if they do not know how.

Mayor's office could sign people up.

Dane still would like the Code changed to have vehicles off the streets from 11:00pm to 7:00 a.m., so the DPW can get the streets cleaned.

Councilor Boudreau asked us to put out signs, flyers in water bills.

Jennifer asked who would be doing the code red call.

Dane what happens if they don't get notified.

Councilor Boone 7:00 am people go to work could leave car on street.

Motion made by Councilor Craig Cormier second by Councilor James Boone to move to Council as a whole, all in favor motion passes.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

Dane Arnold: 90% of our time has been spent at the High School, changed all the walks, made it safer with crosswalks and made sidewalk handicapped accessible, eliminated some paving.

Did leveler course on Baker Street. Doing walks, and curbs, changing the intersection at Harvard St.

Paved Olde Colonial Drive

Oak, Vernon, Graham, Lake Streets residents want concrete walks and granite curb on both sides . Now only doing Oak and Graham in spring. I could not get the concrete crew in.

Councilor Boone is opposed to doing both walks we need to save money.

November 1st we are getting water and sewer back, we are in negotiations with Mayor and employees (they have more licenses).

Pre-construction meeting on WW Dewatering should be done in 2020.

Permitting of the Sludge Landfill for next year.

Chris Coughlin: Reported on status of private roads from the meeting held by the Private Way Betterment Committee. (Fredette St., top of Harvard St., Old Matthew St.)

Received a complaint from a resident on Smith Street section has no ownership that goes out to the prison, the state put in a cul-de-sac, street up in air on ownership, title search is needed, Council vote.

Councilor Boudreau asked if they would bring the Betterment Committee back, Dane stated it is still there.

Councilor Boone stated a house was built.

Chris A&R Lot.

Councilor Boudreau asked what their options were.

Chris stated we pay for a title search.

Dane tell homeowners to do the search, we have looked back no definite answers.

Reach out to older people in the City who may remember back when.

Moving forward on the new LED Street lights, get contractor in should be quick.

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Jeff Legros: MWCC parking and access roads have been done. Good job with erosion control. Timpany Crossing approved, Commission looked at the water quality testing no salt or pesticides, minimum separation, water going into pond.
16 Pearson Blvd. approved erosion control under way.
Trail at Cowee Pond Recreational trails grant, scouts will be helping to start cleaning.
Councilor Boudreau did group contact moving you forward looking for site 60 acres on right of driving range.
Bill Frank is ok with that area, putting together a proposal.
Councilor Boone asked if it was commercial, Jeff no pay, free to use does not want to cost City money, sponsorship.
Sat with Dane and Chris issue on Brookside Dr. Leo Drive culvert backing up, culvert is undersized. Not city issue but working with Developer. Going to address with Conservation Commission.
Chris stated it only flooded once from debris or rain. Jeff resident feels pipe is full, detention basin holds water, beavers on north side of city property.
Dane stated we can hire a trapper.

WATER ABATEMENT/REBATE APPEAL

75 Regan Street: Received a letter for tampering with his meter: Resident stated he purchased the house in June 2018 he was doing repairs needed water for the plumber meter was on the pipes put it in backwards not knowing he was not allowed to touch the meter.
Dane asked him if he installed the meter and he said yes.
Rob asked who took the meter out. Resident did not know, it was on the pipes detached when he bought the house. Suez came and installed it properly today. No units in the house are rented.
Councilor Boone asked what the procedure was for meter installation, Dane according to Ordinance it has to be installed by SUEZ, or the City.
Councilor Boudreau informed the resident the committee would take under advisement and get back to him.
Councilor Boone was the meter registering negatively.
Rob stated the bill was estimated we have a reading going forward. Resident stated he will pay what he owes and it will not happen again.
Councilor Boone stated he put it on backwards but he was honest about it.
Rob stated he should have called to have it put back in. Dane feels we could waive the tampering fee but pay lost water fee.
Rob fee for Suez to go back out to correct installation.
Councilor Cormier stated the account does not show the amount.
Rob bill was estimated because it was in backwards, May was an actual reading.
Councilor Boone agree to pay labor and estimated bill.
Motion made by Councilor Craig Cormier second by Councilor James Boone not done malleolus tack on fee for SUEZ and water usage waive tampering with meter fee. All in favor motion passes.

REPORTS & REQUESTS FROM COUNCILOR'S

Councilor Boudreau: Harvard Hill Pot Holes

Councilor Cormier: Nothing at this time.

Councilor Boone: Public Hearings on tree cutting. Jeff took some training but has not been appointed tree warden. Councilor Boone asked is we need one, Dane stated no we don't.

Motion made by Councilor Craig Cormier second by Councilor James Boone to adjourn meeting at 5:40 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 50 Manca Drive for any review.

Minutes approved as written at the 11/8/2018 meeting