

**CITY OF GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS
CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 17, 2018**

The Committee Chairman, Councillor James Johnson, called the Public Safety Committee meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall. Committee members present were Councillors Karen Hardern and Edward Gravel.

Other Officials present and/or participating were Deputy Chief of Police Richard Braks; City Councillors James Boone and Christine Johnson; and, City Clerk Alan Agnelli.

I. Minutes of Prior Meeting(s).

On a motion by Councillor Edward Gravel and seconded by Councillor Karen Hardern, it was voted to accept the Minutes of December 3, 2018 Public Safety Committee Meeting, as printed.

II. Motor Vehicle Dealer Licenses.

Deputy Chief of Police Richard Braks informed the Committee that the Police Department reviewed the applications and recommended that all licenses be granted for 2019. He added that the Department is obligated to conduct routine inspections of all licensees prior to renewal.

Councillor Christine Johnson informed the Committee that she discovered that a local auto dealer's fire extinguisher inspection date was expired, so she questioned whether the Fire Department routinely inspects automobile dealer establishments.

Committee Chairman James Johnson remarked that surprise inspections are not routinely performed. He requested that the issue of periodic inspections of Motor Vehicle Dealers be discussed with the Building Commissioner and the Fire Chief at the next regular Public Safety Committee meeting.

On a motion by Councillor Edward Gravel and seconded by Councillor Karen Hardern, it was voted to recommend to the City Council that the following License Applications be granted:

(1) Class 1.

- Rob's Dyno Service, LLC, 268 Coleman Street
- Salvadore Chevrolet, 442 West Broadway
- Salvadore Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep-Ram, 442 West Broadway

(2) Class 2.

- AC Auto Clinic, 411 Parker Street
- APB Automotive Enterprises, 408 Parker Street
- Brian's Auto Sales, 549 West Broadway
- Chair City Auto Sales, 144 Pearson Boulevard
- Gardner Five Star Auto Sales, 407 Chestnut Street
- JPJ Automotive, LLC, 78 East Broadway

**CITY OF GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS
CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 17, 2018**

- J. Wood, Inc., 361 West Street
- Mike's Auto, 251 East Broadway
- Rahaim Auto Sales, Rear 27 Hill Street
- Ric's Radiator Repair Used Car Sales, 800 West Broadway
- Riverside Auto, 65 Riverside Road
- Salvadore Chevrolet, 249 Timpany Boulevard
- Salvadore Chevrolet, 421 West Broadway
- TJ & Sons Auto Sales, 537 West Broadway
- Vilson Auto Sales, 119 Pearson Boulevard

(3) Motor Vehicle Junk, Class 3.

- Lajoie's Used Auto Parts, Inc., Rear 27 Hill Street.
- Riverside Auto, 65 Riverside Road

III. An Ordinance to Amend the Code of the City of Gardner, Chapter 600 Thereof, Entitled "Vehicles and Traffic," Article V, Parking Meters (Submitted by Councillor Boone).

Councillor James Boone petitioned the Safety Committee for consideration of an Ordinance that would remove the Public Safety Committee as the authorizing authority for the siting of parking meters within Metered zones and assigning the authority to the full City Council. He said that the entire Council represents different interest groups and that a public hearing should be conducted to allow the public to have a chance to express opinions on the location of parking meters.

Councillor Edward Gravel questioned Councillor Boone's motivation for seeking the change.

Councillor Boone said that public safety officials, businesses, and individuals should have a say.

Committee Chairman James Johnson noted that under Councillor Boone's proposal, a proposed change to the location of a parking meter would still be referred to the Public Safety Committee for study and recommendation.

Councillor Karen Hardern stated that she spoke with Councillor Boone about other Council Standing Committee responsibilities, such as the Public Service Committee granting abatements for water and sewer user charges, as well as the Public Safety Committee granting trash fee abatements. To her, a change from the current practice is unnecessary, she added.

Chairman James Johnson stated that when he first served on the Public Safety Committee, he was surprised to learn that only the Committee had the authority to designate the location of meters in designated metered districts. He added that it makes sense to him that the full Council should decide individual meter locations.

**CITY OF GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS
CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 17, 2018**

Councillor Gravel suggested that the practice should remain with the Safety Committee, but that it the Ordinance could be presented to the Council to decide.

On a motion Councillor Karen Hardern and seconded by Edward Gravel, it was voted two (2) in favor, Councillors Gravel and Hardern, one (1) opposed, Councillor James Johnson, to retain the current Ordinance.

IV. Other Business – None.

VI. **Adjournment.**

On a motion Councillor Karen Hardern and seconded by Edward Gravel, it was voted to adjourn at 6:48p.m.

UNACCEPTED/UNCORRECTED PROOF