

CITY OF GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS
APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF MARCH 31, 2023

The Appointment Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Council George C. Tyros at 12:00 p.m. Appointment Committee Member Councilor's James Walsh was present. Councillor Judy Mack was absent.

Also, present Mayor Michael Nicholson; Police Chief Eric McAvene; and City Clerk Titi Siriphan.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPEN MEETING RECORDINGS: 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 and exhibits used or referenced at the meeting must be submitted in duplicate to the City Clerk, as they become part of the Meeting Minutes. This information is also posted on the wall by the door for review.

I. Reading and Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting(s)

On a motion made by Councillor James Walsh and seconded by Councillor George Tyros, it was voted viva voce to waive the reading and accept the minutes of January 6, 2023 and January 17, 2023.

II. Appointments:

#10949 – A Measure Confirming the Mayor's Appointment of Bryant Powlowski to the position of Permanent Police Officer.

Mayor Nicholson informed the Committee that Officer Brian Powlowski is coming to us as a lateral appointment and is already academy trained. He has worked for several years as an officer at Quinsigamond Community College. Since he comes to us already graduated from the academy, we have been able to start him immediately in the field training program. During this time he has also received positive remarks from the department's personnel.

Police Chief Eric McAvene spoke in favor of the appointment and is very excited to have Bryan on board. Having Bryan who is already academy trained saves the City a significant amount of time and fiscally.

On a motion made by Councillor James Walsh and seconded by Councillor George Tyros, it was voted to recommend to the City Council to confirm *A Measure Confirming the Mayor's Appointment of Bryant Powlowski to the position of Permanent Police Officer.*

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#10950 – A Measure Confirming the Mayor’s Appointment of Angel Espada to the position of Permanent Police Officer.

Mayor Nicholson informed the Committee that Officer Angel Espada graduated from the Massachusetts Police Academy last week and did remarkably well in his studies. He grew up in Gardner at the Old English Village and his family is still local. The Administration issued his temporary appointment back when he first entered the Academy, under which he is serving currently. Since his graduation from the academy, he has been working on the field training portion of his training, during which he shadows one of our existing officers. During this time, he has received positive remarks from the police department personnel.

Police Chief Eric McAvene also spoke in favor of the appointment. Mr. Espada brings a lot of resources to the community. Being bilingual in Spanish, it has been a huge asset to the community.

On a motion made by Councillor James Walsh and seconded by Councillor George Tyros, it was voted to recommend to the City Council to confirm *A Measure Confirming the Mayor’s Appointment of Angel Espada to the position of Permanent Police Officer.*

III. New Business

Police Chief McAvene mention that two officers are starting Monday at Holyoke Academy in April, there is one starting at the Boylston Academy. The current officers in the Academy are three males. There is one male and one female in the works. If all works out, it will bring the department to full staff.

On a motion made by Councilor Walsh and seconded by Councilor Tyros, it was voted viva voce to adjourn at 12:11 p.m.