

CITY OF GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS  
CITY COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2022

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The Finance Committee meeting was called to order by Council President Elizabeth Kazinskas at 8:00 a.m. in the City Council Chamber, Room 219, City Hall.

Finance Committee Members Councillors Ronald Cormier and Aleksander Dernalowicz were also present.

Also participating was Mayor Michael Nicholson; Public Works Director Dane Arnold; Purchasing Agent Joshua Cormier; and City Clerk Titi Siriphan.

**1-1 Review and Approval of the Meeting Minutes**

On a motion by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor Aleksander Dernalowicz, it was voted viva voce, three (3) yeas, President Elizabeth Kazinskas, Councillors Ronald Cormier and Aleksander Dernalowicz to waive the reading and to accept the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2022.

**2-1 A Measure Authorizing \$9,225.75 Payment of Prior Year Golf Maintenance Salary Expenditure**

Mayor Nicholson informed the Committee that due to an oversight back in 2019, an employee who is a groundman at the golf course did not receive the longevity step that he is entitled to. The City is legally obligated to pay this employee retroactive difference in what the employee should have received. The funds will come out of the enterprise account, so it does not require additional appropriation.

On a motion made by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by President Elizabeth Kazinskas, it was voted to recommend to the City Council that the following Order ought to pass. Councillor Aleksander Dernalowicz abstained because he is a member of the golf commission.

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF PRIOR  
YEAR SALARY EXPENDITURE

**VOTED:** To authorize payment of prior year Golf Maint Salary  
Expenditure.

FY2019 – FY2021                                      Golf Maint. Salary Expense   \$9,225.75

**2-2 An Order Appropriating \$10,000.00 from Solid Waste Surplus to Operating Expenses**

Mayor Nicholson informed the Committee that due to the increases in prices as a result of the Russian invasion of Ukraine on raw materials, such as steel, the Department of Corrections has increased the price of the trash receptacles funding that was approved for at the February 22, 2022 meeting.

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On a motion made by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor Aleksander Dernalowicz, it was voted to recommend to the City Council that the following Order ought to pass:

AN ORDER APPROPRIATING FROM SOLID WASTE SURPLUS TO  
OPERATING EXPENSES

ORDERED: That there be and is hereby appropriated the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000.00) from Solid Waste Surplus to Operating Expenses.

- 2-3 **An Order Appropriating \$75,000.00 from Free Cash to Landfill Closure Expenditures**  
Mayor Nicholson informed the Committee that the City is obligated to maintain and monitor the former West Street Landfill for a period of thirty (30) years from the date of the closure. The fund that was previously set up to maintain and monitor the former landfill will be exhausted by the end of the fiscal year. It is required to be monitored to ensure that the torches that burn off the methane remain active and lit to avoid any potential hazards in the future.

On a motion made by Councillor Aleksander Dernalowicz and seconded by Councillor Ronald Cormier, it was voted to recommend to the City Council that the following Order ought to pass:

AN ORDER APPROPRIATING FROM FREE CASH TO LANDFILL  
CLOSURE EXPENDITURES

ORDERED: That there be and is hereby appropriated the sum of Seventy-five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$75,000.00) from Free Cash to Landfill Closure Expenditures.

- 2-4 **An Order Authorizing the City to Borrow \$1,800,000.00 to Complete Paving Costs Project**

Public Works Director Arnold informed the Committee that these funds are to paved the water main streets. A list of the streets to be paved were attached to the order. There are funds available from the previous eleven-million-dollar loan, however the order was changed, and more streets were added. Rates for the water will not be increased.

Mayor Nicholson also mentioned that the cost of paving has gone up because of the Russian Invasion of Ukraine, just like any other oil products that we have seen, the price of oil or gas has gone up nationwide.

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Director Arnold said that it is now \$83 a ton. The rate has gone up \$12.

On a motion made by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor Aleksander Dernalowicz, it was voted to recommend to the City Council that the following Order ought to pass:

CITY OF GARDNER LOAN ORDER (Repaving Project)

ORDERED: That the City appropriates One Million Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,800,000) to pay costs of paving streets effected by the Water Main Replacement Program, as follows:

Street	From	To
Central Street	Maple St	Green Street
Woodland Ave	Central St.	Green Street
Warwick Road	Jackson Hill Rd	West Broadway
West Lynde Street	Main Street	Pine Street
Robillard Street	Bates Road	Douglas Rd
Wickman Drive	Pond Street	Douglas Rd
Pond Street	Robillard Street	Wickman Drive
Myrtle Road	Douglas Rd	End
Douglas Road	Coleman Street	Myrtle Rd
Draper Road	Douglas Rd	West Street
Wasa Street	Wickman Drive	Robillard Street
Monadnock Street	West Street	Way Street
Green Street	Rotary	200' North
Elm Street	Rotary	200' South
Robillard Street	Pond Street	Parker Street
Pearl Street	Pearly Lane	Betty Spring Road
Connors Street	Parker Street	City Hall Ave
Parker Street	Main Street	Jean Street
West Street	Parker Street	Monadnock Street

And for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to G.L.c. 44, §7(1) or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.

**5-1 A Measure Authorizing the City to Enter in Contract not-to-exceed 5 years for the following vendor(s)**

- **On-Call Tradesperson Contracts (Installation, Repair, and Maintenance) for HVAC, Electrical Services, Plumbing Services, and/or General Contracting**
- **School Custodial Services**
- **General Office and Janitorial Supplies**

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Purchasing Agent Joshua Cormier informed the Committee that every year they look at contracts that have been out for five years. Per Massachusetts General Law, any contract that exceeds three years must be approved by a majority vote of the City Council. The three that are listed in the order are up at the moment.

On a motion made by Councillor Aleksander Dernalowicz and seconded by Councillor Ronald Cormier, it was voted to recommend to the City Council that the following Order ought to pass:

**AUTHORIZING FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT PERIOD**

VOTED: To authorize the City to enter into contracts not to exceed five (5) years, pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 30B, section 12 and under the terms outlined in the Purchasing Agent's March 1, 2022 Memorandum.

- On-Call Tradesperson Contracts (Installation, Repair, and Maintenance) for HVAC, Electrical Services, Plumbing Services, and/or General Contracting
- School Custodial Services
- General Office and Janitorial Supplies

**8-1 A Resolution Regarding Electric Vehicles in the City Fleet**

Mayor Nicholson informed the Committee that the Department of Transportation will be releasing new incentive funding for municipalities can obtain funding to either purchase and install new charging stations or new electric vehicles for their municipal fleet.

The Committee decided to keep this item on the Finance Committee agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Councillor Aleksander Dernalowicz and seconded by Councillor Ronald Cormier on call of the roll, it was voted to adjourn at 8:17 a.m.