

CITY OF GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS  
CITY COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING OF AUGUST 2, 2023

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

Finance Committee Members Councillor Aleksander Dernalowicz, and Ronald Cormier (via phone conference) were also present.

Others present, Mayor Michael Nicholson; DPW Director Dane Arnold; and City Clerk Titi Siriphan.

**Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes**

On a motion made by Councillor Aleksander Dernalowicz and seconded by Councillor Ronald Cormier, it was voted on call of the roll to waive the reading and to accept the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of:

- June 2, 2023
- July 3, 2023

**#11033 - A Measure Authorizing Acceptance of Donations and Gifts for Use by Mayor's Department, Summer Celebration Account – Banner Sponsorships.**

Mayor Nicholson informed the committee that the General Laws of the Commonwealth require that the City Council vote to accept all donations made to the City. A list of those who have sponsored banners throughout the downtown this year:

**Business Name**

Hair Boutique of Beau Monde  
Full-Circle Coaching LLC  
Pelletier Properties Inc.  
Gardner Furniture Outlet  
Mack Prototype  
Main Street Tattoo  
Gardner Redevelopment Authority  
Ron Bouchard Auto Sales  
Gardner's Best Kids  
Molina Realty LLC  
GAAMHA, Inc.  
Maki Building Centers  
The Gardner Museum  
Gardner AARP Chapter #3237  
Gardner Golden Age Club

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Garlock Printing & Converting  
The Velvet Goose

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

**ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS AND GIFTS – MAYOR’S DEPT.**

**VOTED:** That the City of Gardner is authorized to accept certain donations and gifts for use by the Mayor’s Dept. – Summer Celebration Account, said acceptance in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53A ½ of the General Laws.

#11034 - A Measure Authorizing Acceptance of Donations and Gifts for Use by Mayor’s Department, Summer Celebration Account – Flowerpot Sponsorship.  
Mayor Nicholson informed the Committee that the General Laws of the Commonwealth require that the City Council vote to accept all donations made to the City. This is a list of all those who have sponsored flowerpots throughout the City this year:

**Company/Organization**

Elite Accounting Services, LLC.	Simplified Development, LLC
National Lumber	Candor Realty, LLC
Heywood Wakefield Commons	Dernalowicz Family
Empire Management	Square Two
Empire Real Estates Group, LLC	State Rep Zlotnik
Mass Ave Rentals	Full-Circle Coaching LLC
Out Back Laundry	Mack Prototype
Bob Reed Plumbing and Heating	Gardner Zoning Board of Appeals
Blessington Corporation	Kendall Pond Betterment Association
Garrick Contract Carriers, Inc.	Long Long Noodle
Moon Hill Brewing Co. Inc.	Unitarian Universalist Society of Gardner
Gardner Danceworks	Alyssa’s Place
Bab’s Auto Body	Gardner Redevelopment Authority
GAAMHA, Inc.	Greater Gardner Chair City AARP Chapter 3237
Energica of New England	Gardner Girl Scouts
Rob’s Dyno Service	Molina Realty LLC
LaChance Interiors, Inc.	Gardner Golden Age Club
Dow’s Family Shoe Store	Garlock Printing & Converting
W.E. Aubuchon Co., Inc.	Ann and Arthur Young

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The Velvet Goose  
John's Sport Shop  
Jon & Margaret Hogue  
Nails 2000

In Memory of Jaques Siedentopp  
Elizabeth Kazinskas  
Michael Nicholson

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

**ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS AND GIFTS – MAYOR'S DEPT.**

**VOTED:** That the City of Gardner is authorized to accept certain donations and gifts for use by the Mayor's Dept. – Summer Celebration Account, said acceptance in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53A ½ of the General Laws.

**#11035 - A Measure Authorizing Acceptance of Donations and Gifts for Use by Mayor's Department, Summer Celebration Account – Summer Kick Off Sponsorship.**

Mayor Nicholson informed the committee that the General Laws of the Commonwealth require that the City Council vote to accept all donations made to the City. A list of those who sponsored the Summer Kick Off Concert that was held on Thursday, June 29, 2023.

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

**ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS AND GIFTS – MAYOR'S DEPT.**

**VOTED:** That the City of Gardner is authorized to accept certain donations and gifts for use by the Mayor's Dept. – Summer Celebration Account, said acceptance in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53A ½ of the General Laws.

**#11036 - A Measure Authorizing Acceptance of Donations and Gifts for Use by Mayor's Department, Summer Celebration Account – Welcome to Gardner Sign.**

Mayor Nicholson informed the committee that the General Laws of the Commonwealth require that the City Council vote to accept all donations made to the City. Recently, the North Central Massachusetts Development Corporation donated a new "Welcome to Gardner" sign.

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

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**ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS AND GIFTS  
WELCOME TO GARDNER SIGN DONATION**

*VOTED:* That the City of Gardner is authorized to accept certain donations and gifts, namely a welcome to Gardner sign, with an estimated value of \$8,600, said acceptance in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53A ½ of the General Laws.

**#11037 - An Order Transferring \$39,643.48 FY2023 Appropriations from Various DPW Salaries and Wages to FY2023 Various Operating Expenditures.**

Mayor Nicholson informed the Committee that The Massachusetts Department of Revenue allows for fiscal year books to be worked on as needed to properly close out a fiscal year and until September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. These are appropriation transfer request from salary appropriations for the Department of Public Works to various expense accounts.

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

**AN ORDER TRANSFERRING FY23 APPROPRIATIONS FROM VARIOUS DPW SALARIES & WAGES TO FY23 VARIOUS OPERATING EXPENDITURES.**

*ORDERED:* That there be and is hereby transferred the appropriations sum of Thirty-Nine Thousand Dollars, Six Hundred, Forty-Three and 48/100 Cents (\$39,643.48) from DPW Various Salaries & Wages Accounts to Various Operating Expenditures.

**#11038 - A Measure to Create and Authorize Acceptance of Donations and Gifts for Use by City of Gardner – Gardner Waterford Street Building.**

Mayor Nicholson informed the Committee that the City is looking into grant funding from private non-profit granting organizations for the Waterford Street School Building Renovation Project.

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

**ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS AND GIFTS  
GARDNER WATERFORD STREET BUILDING DONATIONS**

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**VOTED:** That the City of Gardner is authorized to accept certain donations and gifts for use by the City of Gardner, said acceptance in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53A ½ of the General Laws.

**#11039 - An Order Authorizing the City to Borrow \$550,000.00 for Waterford Street School Renovations.**

Mayor Nicholson informed the Committee that this loan order is associated with work to be done at the Waterford Street School facility, in order to convert the structure into a new community center.

On a motion made by Councillor Aleksander Dernalowicz and seconded by Councillor Ronald Cormier, it was voted on call of the roll to recommend to the City Council to place this item on the City Council Calendar and request the President to schedule an executive session.

BOND ORDER NO. \_\_\_\_\_

IN CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

A BOND ORDER TO PAY COSTS OF REMODELING AND EQUIPPING AN EXISTING CITY BUILDING FOR USE BY THE COUNCIL ON AGING AND VARIOUS OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

BE IT ORDERED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDNER AS FOLLOWS:

That there be raised and appropriated the sum of Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$550,000) to pay costs of remodeling and equipping an existing City-owned building for use by the Council on Aging and various other community organizations, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and to meet this appropriation, the City Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, be and hereby is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor. The Mayor is authorized to accept and expend any federal or state grants that may be available for the City on account of the projects described above. The amount authorized to be borrowed pursuant to this loan order shall be reduced to the extent of any federal or Commonwealth grants received by City on account of the project approved by this vote.

**#11040 - An Order Appropriating \$115,000.00 from Available Funds – Sale of City Property Reserved to GRA Rear Main Street Capital Project.**

Mayor Nicholson respectfully request that the order from this reserve fund to be approved so that the City can move forward with purchasing one of the last remaining parcels needed for the project and add this parcel to the design, so that this project can begin.

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

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AN ORDER APPROPRIATING A SUM OF MONEY FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS-SALE OF CITY PROPERTY RESERVED.

ORDERED: That there be and is hereby appropriated the sum of ONE HUNDRED FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS 00/100 CENTS (\$115,000.00) from Available Funds-Sale of City Property Reserved to GRA Rear Main Street Capital Project.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Councillor Aleksander Dernalowicz and seconded by Councillor Ronald Cormier it was voted on call of the roll to adjourn at 8:24 p.m.

