

GARDINER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, February 25, 2015
Gardiner City Hall

Mayor Thom Harnett called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present for the meeting were Mayor Thom Harnett, Councilors Terry Berry, Scott Williams, Phil Hart, Maureen Blanchard, Jon Ault & Patricia Hart; Councilor Richard Heath was absent. Also present were City Manager Scott Morelli and Tax Collector Kathleen Cutler.

Mayor Harnett announced the following actions were taken during the Executive Session:

- **Executive Session – Foreclosure Redemptions**
 - Motion by Councilor Phil Hart to redeem the property, motion seconded by Councilor Berry. Motion carried by unanimous vote 7-0.
 - Motion by Councilor Phil Hart to accept payment in full, motion seconded by Councilor Berry. Motion carried by unanimous vote 7-0.
- **Executive Session Per 1 MRS 405 (6) (D) to Discuss City Manager's Contract and Annual Evaluation**
 - This item was postponed to a later date.

Petitions, Public Hearings (Public comment for anything not on agenda):

Mayor Harnett opened the meeting to public comment; hearing none the public comment portion of the meeting was closed.

Second Reading of \$425,000 General Obligation Bond:

Motion by Councilor Williams to approve the 2nd reading of the \$425,000 General Obligation Bond (\$350,000 dedicated to Highland Avenue and \$75,000 dedicated to road paving), motion seconded by Councilor Berry. Motion carried 6-0 with Mayor Harnett abstaining from the vote.

Consideration of Mayoral Appointments:

Mayor Harnett listed the appointments as follows:

- Audit Committee – Jon Ault, Maureen Blanchard, Scott Williams, Phil Hart & Rich Rambo.
- Housing Committee – Sue Crawford
- Maine Service Center Coalition – Scott Morelli (Voting Member) & Thom Harnett (Alternate)

Motion by Councilor Berry to approve all appointments as listed, motion seconded by Councilor Phil Hart. Motion was unanimous 7-0.

Consideration of Submitting Letter of Intent for CDBG Grant (Lovely):

Jennifer Wade was present to update the Council. She said that Central Maine Meats will be opening on Monday and will employ 18 people. This business ships USDA quality meats all over the country. She also spoke about the slaughter facility that will be opening in April. They will start with 12 employees and hope to increase that number over time. She said grant money is needed and the letter of intent is due the 1st Friday of the month. Motion by Councilor Ault to approve a letter of intent, motion seconded by Councilor Patricia Hart. Motion was unanimous 7-0.

Representatives from Commonwealth Poultry were also present to update the Council on their business. They informed the Council that they currently have 6 employees and hope to expand that number in the future. They are working with UMA & KVCC as well as the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association which supports the Small Business Maine program. Motion by Councilor Ault to approve a letter of intent, motion seconded by Councilor Williams. Motion was unanimous 7-0.

Petitions, Public Hearings (Public comment for anything not on agenda:

Mayor Harnett opened the meeting up again for public comment knowing that George Trask who had just arrived wanted to address the Council. Mr. Trask spoke about the Libby Hill ordinance change and stated that he would like to have his property considered for a zoning change rural to industrial. A brief discussion followed. The Council took no action regarding this matter.

Sewer Commitment:

Motion by Councilor Blanchard to approve the sewer commitment, motion seconded by Councilor Berry. A brief discussion followed. Motion carried by unanimous vote 7-0.

City Manager Update:

- The property located at 4 Riverview was discussed. Motion by Councilor Berry to have the City Manager work with Nate Rudy to sell the lot to the highest bidder with the two conditions discussed in executive session, motion seconded by Councilor Phil Hart. Motion carried by unanimous vote 7-0.
- The City Manager said that Librarian Anne Davis would need authorization to sell old computer equipment owned by the City. Motion by Councilor Berry to authorize Librarian Davis to proceed with the selling of used computer equipment for at least \$25.00 each, motion seconded by Councilor Williams. Motion carried by unanimous vote 7-0.

Motion by Councilor Williams to adjourn the meeting, motion seconded by Councilor Berry. Motion carried by unanimous vote 7-0.

Respectfully submitted by,
Kathleen Cutler, Tax Collector