

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA  
GARDINER CITY COUNCIL  
WEDNESDAY, April 3, 2013  
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:30 p.m.  
REGULAR SESSION 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL – All Present

~~EXECUTIVE SESSION: EXECUTIVE SESSION – per MRSA, Title 1, Chapter 13, Section 405 (6)  
(A) Personnel, City Manager Evaluation~~

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, & RESOLUTIONS

Public Comment for anything not on the Agenda – No Public Comment

OLD BUSINESS- Mark Eyerman from Planning Decisions- Review of the Comprehensive Plan process. Comprehensive Plan is a statement of what the community wants and where they are going in the future. 1. Legal purpose= local zoning has to be consistent with the Comp. Plan. 2. Attempt to think about the future, guide in the right direction. Look at the big picture. A. understands the process/studies that have been done. B. what do we need to deal with- focus on what really matters to the city. Keep your eyes on what the state requires. C. What are the Cities goals and policies, what do we want the city to be like in the future. D. So what do we really need to do to get to our goals? The community is doing workshop discussions with 7 broad themes. When the Council is actively involved you get better results. If you are part of the process you understand it better. Councilor Johnston: Thank you for coming, as the public conversations happen will the results be available quickly? Mark: yes you will get immediate results. We can get the information to the councilors and put it on the cities web site. Councilor Pat Hart: Thank you for coming. Could we have the results put on the cities web site and Grow with Gardiner.net? Mark: yes and the idea of the 7 sessions are to make Gardiner better – bring your ideas. Mayor Harnett: Thanks for coming; we are very excited about this for Gardiner.

WORKSHOP: Domestic Livestock Ordinance – Councilor Johnston; My vision of Gardiner is Live & let live We should allow things to happen with a neighborly attitude. Councilor Phil Hart: People move to the HDR so they are not involved with farm animals. What do the majority of people in Gardiner think? Councilor Barron: Could not support a proposed ordinance like the 2 acre option. Councilor Pat Hart: willing to discuss the 2.5 and the 3 acre option. Councilor Heath: Have heard from some people and they are strongly against this. I am interested in more discussion. Councilor Williams: the people I've talked to are totally against this. Animals do not belong in the city. Councilor Leake: In favor of re-writing the proposal. We have a lot of abutters that are unhappy. Councilor Phil Hart: I'm paying taxes on 7 acres. Everyone has restrictions. Councilor Barron: We already allow chickens. Councilor Pat Hart: The Johnson (Plaisted St.) have been great. Mayor Harnett: I agree with Councilor Johnston, we made a mistake allowing the goats. Council heard from a lot of people-with all points of view. I am not comfortable with what is proposed, not sure how to move forward. Councilor Pat Hart-What is everyone thinking? 2-3.5 acres with a 75 feet setback from dwelling, 50 foot set back from the property line? Councilor Heath: I think there is a lot of negative energy, maybe we should take it to the Heart and Soul team. Councilor Leake: voting no on the ordinance. Councilor Pat Hart: We should make a decision. Councilor Johnston: I think we would benefit from more discussion. Mayor Harnett: My only concern is keeping this on the table; we don't want to discuss it at every meeting. Councilor Phil Hart: We do have an ordinance in place. Councilor Heath: It just seems messy to me, do we leave it on the table or take it off, we could amend. Motion made by Councilor Leake to take off the table, second by Councilor Williams. Councilor Phil Hart and Mayor Thom Harnett vote to take off the table, Councilors Pat Hart, Heath, Johnston and Barron vote to keep on the table.....motion failed.

Consideration of UB Commitment –City Clerk- Deirdre Berglund. Sewer bills under \$5.00 do not go to lien. Councilor Leake: How much does it cost to file a lien? City Clerk: \$52.00, We have a certain window

for allowing the liens. Councilor Phil Hart- does everyone get mailed a notice? City Clerk: Yes Motion made by Councilor Phil Hart to approve commitment, second by Councilor Barron. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Consideration of Employee Handbook – Councilor Phil Hart would like the Council or City Manager to have discretion on Hire in Place and should not be part of the Employee Hand Book. Councilor Leake: Do they accrue vacation or sick time if they are out on disability? Finance Director Denise Brown: No and not on FMLA either. Councilor Barron: to Councilor Phil Hart, are you saying the policy itself or just that you don't want it spelled out in the Hand Book. Councilor Phil Hart: Just not in the Hand Book. City Manager: this only applies to non-union members. Motion made by Councilor Johnston to approve "Retire in Place" policy, second by Councilor Leake. Motion passed by a vote of 6-1, with Councilor Phil Hart voting against.

(Current policies approved by Council)

CITY MANAGER UPDATE- No updates at this time.

CITY COUNCIL UPDATE- Councilor Pat Hart- Heart & Soul is holding 7 listening events through out Gardiner; I will e-mail everyone the documents. Please invite friends and neighbors. The Orton review is coming soon will keep you updated. I'm feeling very frustrated with the process on the goats. We as a council will have to make big decisions. Please get involved, come with an opened mind. Thanks to city staff for the maps provided tonight. Councilor Johnston: Thanks to the public for participating in the discussion tonight. 90% of what happens in the city is because people show up. Thanks to Dee for showing us that more things change the more they stay the same. Attended the Parks and Rec meeting, really good public hearing on the gazebo. Had some great suggestions. They are getting more information on the height of the pad, moving quickly to drawings and putting out to bid. It was a great meeting; they are moving on to other projects too. Councilor Barron: Thanks to the people who came to Water ST. Café's wine tasting event. It was fun and a lot of people there. Councilor Phil Hart: Thanks for the Heart & Soul invitation list for the discussion events. I feel we had a good discussion on the small animal ordinance, we have a good council. Councilor Heath: I appreciate the conversation regarding the goats. Councilor Williams: Thankful. Councilor Leake. Mayor Harnett: went to the dinner @EJP for Heart & Soul, very nice. There is a Gazebo there and Tony is going to see if we can move it to the common for graduation. On Saturday went to the Easter Egg hunt and visited each business, got very good positive feed back. Attended the gazebo meeting, all the same people, would like to see different people. This Friday night @ Monkey Tree there will be an artist who uses maps. I appreciate the council having a good discussion tonight. City Manager Morelli: 2 weeks until the budget comes out, I have sent notices to the non-profits. Mayor Harnett: Ingrid Stanchfield from the Boys and Girls Club has invited us for tours of facility.

#### **ADDENDUM**

1. Consideration of Appointment to the Housing Committee- Motion made by Councilor Pat Hart to appoint Greg Thompson , second by Councilor Williams. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

2. Consideration of the transfer of the Pump Station to Pine State Trading, and the Pump House to the Water District, with the City then leasing space from the District to house emergency communications tower/electronics. Motion of approval made by Councilor Phil Hart, second by Councilor Barron. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Adjournment: 9:35 Respectfully Submitted: Robin E. Plourde