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City of Gardner, *Executive Department*

Mark Hawke, Mayor

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2016 APR 12 A 8:27

CITY CLERKS OFFICE
GARDNER, MA

April 11, 2016

James M. Walsh, President
And City Councilors
95 Pleasant Street
Gardner, MA 01440

RE: Municipal Electric Aggregation

Dear President Walsh and Councilors,

I had forwarded to you previously information regarding Municipal Electric Aggregation. I would like to schedule a time to have Colonial Power come to the City for a presentation before the City Council on Municipal Electric Aggregation.

Once a date is set, I will ask Colonial Power to forward information in advance for your review.

Respectfully,

Mark Hawke
Mayor, City of Gardner

City of Gardner, *Executive Department*



Mark Hawke, Mayor

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2016 APR -4 A 10:42

CITY CLERKS OFFICE
GARDNER, MA

March 31, 2016

James M. Walsh, President
And City Councilors
95 Pleasant Street
Gardner, MA 01440

RE: Municipal Electric Aggregation

Dear President Walsh and Councilors,

Municipal Electric Aggregation is the method by which the City can buy electric power on behalf of our constituents. The enabling legislation, passed in 1997, allows consumers to purchase electric power from an entity other than their distribution company. A key provision of the legislation specifically allows local municipal governments to aggregate the electric loads of the consumers within their boundaries in order to negotiate more favorable terms with a power supplier.

This process is very similar to how we are able to achieve such favorable pricing for our trash removal services. Everyone is included, but anyone may opt out. This allows us to achieve tremendous economies of scale thereby saving money.

The Department of Energy Resources has produced a useful guidebook which can be found here <http://www.mass.gov/cea/docs/doer/electric-deregulation/agg-guid.pdf>

I would like to schedule a time to have Colonial Power come to the City for a presentation before the City Council. Therefore, I ask that this item be referred to the Council as a Committee of the Whole and that we arrange a mutually agreed upon date to hold a special/informal meeting of the City Council.

Respectfully,

Mark Hawke
Mayor, City of Gardner

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has engaged in a process to establish a competitive market place through the restructuring of the electricity market; and

WHEREAS, citizens of Gardner have a substantial economic and social interest in terms of greater customer choice and opportunities for savings in this restructured market~ and

WHEREAS, the City of Gardner hereby finds that it may be in the interest of its citizens who are electric ratepayers, both residential and commercial/industrial, to develop and secure such approvals and enter into appropriate agreements with consultants, experts and attorneys in connection with the establishment and operation of an electricity aggregation plan.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the City of Gardner hereby:

Accepts the provisions of M.G.L. c. 164, § 134, and publicly declares its intent to become an aggregator of electric power on behalf of its residential and business electric customers and to authorize the Mayor, as provided by such statute to develop a plan, for review by the citizens of the City of Gardner, detailing the process and consequences of aggregation and further to reestablish such plan if its operation is suspended, and to negotiate and enter into such contracts for power supply pursuant to the plan or services for such plan, with the understanding that if a power supply contract is executed, individual consumers would retain the option not to participate in the aggregation plan and, instead, to choose any electricity) alternatives they desire and, further, to take such other action relative hereto as may be appropriate and necessary.