Special Meeting of the City Council was held in the City Council Chamber, Room 219, City Hall, on Monday evening, June 10, 2019.

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Council President Scott Joseph Graves, City Clerk Alan Agnelli called the meeting to order at 6:45 o’clock p.m.

CALL OF THE ROLL

City Clerk Alan Agnelli called the Roll of Members. Nine (9) Councillors were present including Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Edward Gravel, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Elizabeth Kazinskas, and James Walsh. President Scott Joseph Graves and Councillor Christine Johnson were absent.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

On a motion by Councillor Edward Gravel and seconded by Councillor Elizabeth Kazinskas, it was voted viva voce, nine (9) yeas, Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Edward Gravel, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Elizabeth Kazinskas, and James Walsh, to elect Councillor James Walsh President Pro Tempore.

#10113

President Pro Tempore Walsh read aloud the Order:

ORDERED: That the City of Gardner appropriates the sum of Eleven Million Dollars ($11,000,000) to pay costs of replacing water mains throughout the City, and paying all costs incidental or related thereto; to meet said appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said sum under M.G.L. c. 44, §8, or any other enabling authority. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, §20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Councillor Gravel moved to pass the Order. Councillor James Johnson seconded the motion.

On the motion, Councillor Gravel moved to amend the Order by asking that the City Council be aware of Phase 2 or Phase 3 of the water main project going forward.

President Pro Tempore Walsh ruled that the motion was out of order, since the proposed amendment is not appropriate for a Loan Order.

On the motion, on call of the roll, nine (9) yeas, Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Edward Gravel, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Elizabeth Kazinskas, and James Walsh, it was voted to adopt the following Order:
CITY OF GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS
IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDERED: That the City of Gardner appropriates the sum of Eleven Million Dollars ($11,000,000) to pay costs of replacing water mains throughout the City, and paying all costs incidental or related thereto; to meet said appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said sum under M.G.L. c. 44, §8, or any other enabling authority. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, §20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Presented to Mayor for Approval – June 11, 2019
Approved – June 11, 2019
MARK P. HAWKE, Mayor

#10121
Councillor Ronald Cormier moved to Order the following Ordinance to First Printing:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GARDNER, CHAPTER 625 THEREOF, ENTITLED “WATER,” TO CHANGE METERED WATER RATES.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Gardner as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 625 of the Code of the City of Gardner is hereby amended to change Subsection A(1) of § 625-8, Water Rates, to read as follows:

A. Metered Water Rates (quarterly).
   (1) Uniform rate per 100 cubic feet of metered use:
      a. $5.72 effective July 1, 2019
      b. $6.00 effective July 1, 2020
      c. $6.26 effective July 1, 2021
      d. $6.50 effective July 1, 2022

Section 2. Effective date.

This ordinance shall become effective on passage and publication as required by law.

Councillor Edward Gravel seconded the motion.

On the motion, Councillor Ronald Cormier suggested that before the Council acts on passing the Ordinance, that the Public Works Director recalculate the receipts that would be generated by the proposed water rates according to the various phases up to the $11M loan amount.
On the motion, Councillor Edward Gravel noted that because of the aging infrastructure, it is necessary to spend money to replace the water mains and that the Council is cognizant of the ratepayers’ pocketbooks.

On the motion, on call of the roll, it was voted eight (8) yeas, Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Edward Gravel, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, and Elizabeth Kazinskas; one (1) nay, Councillor James Walsh, to Order the following Ordinance to First Printing:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GARDNER, CHAPTER 625 THEREOF, ENTITLED “WATER,” TO CHANGE METERED WATER RATES.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Gardner as follows:

Section 1.  Chapter 625 of the Code of the City of Gardner is hereby amended to change Subsection A(1) of § 625-8, Water Rates, to read as follows:

B.  Metered Water Rates (quarterly).
   (2) Uniform rate per 100 cubic feet of metered use:
      a.  $5.72 effective July 1, 2019
      b.  $6.00 effective July 1, 2020
      c.  $6.26 effective July 1, 2021
      d.  $6.50 effective July 1, 2022

Section 2.  Effective date.

This ordinance shall become effective on passage and publication as required by law.

FIRST PRINTING – JUNE 14, 2019

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councillor Ronald Cormier and seconded by Councillor James Johnson, it was voted viva voce, nine (9) yeas, Councillors James Boone, Nathan Boudreau, Craig Cormier, Ronald Cormier, Edward Gravel, Karen Hardern, James Johnson, Elizabeth Kazinskas, and James Walsh, to adjourn at 6:54 p.m.

Accepted by the City Council: August 5, 2019