

THE GARDNER NEWS

Your Locally Owned Community Newspaper for Gardner, Ashburnham, Hubbardston, Phillipston, Templeton, Westminster, Winchendon

GARDNER, MA
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July 12, 2017

7/7/2017 10:12:00 AM

Mayor, Council support open space protection

Opinion Survey

CLASSIFIEDS

Legal Notices

Community

Community Announcements

Community Events Calendars

Community Photos

Community Recipes

Local History

Obituaries

PHOTOS

Supplements

Animal Enthusiasts

For Your Health

AP NEWS

EXTRAS



Beat The Forecaster

Thank you to the mayor and Gardner Conservation Commission for endorsing a plan to preserve the Omealia Property off of Leo Drive in Gardner for the generations to come.

Councilors Boudreau, Ron Cormier, Graves, Hardern, Morgan, Tassone, Vance and Walsh voted in favor of acquiring the property for open space and recreation. Thank you for your forward thinking!

I am very disappointed Councilors James Boone and James Johnson voted against the acquisition. I have to question their motive, as their negative vote was not in the best interest of the residents of our community.

Preserving land and keeping it open space actually keeps taxes lower as the city does not have as much roads and infrastructure to maintain. Less development also means fewer children attending the public schools.

Much thanks to land protection specialist Janet Morrison for continuing to find grants for open space protection.

As a whole, I am pleased with the "smart growth" within Gardner and the officials' positive approach to follow the "Open Space and Recreation Plan" that is in place.

Please take the time to thank the city officials who have supported open space preservation over the last several years within our community as they realize the importance of preserving open space for the generations to come.

Let's continue to work together for the common good of our community and the place we are proud to call home.

Paul DeMeo
Gardner

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