CITY OF GARDNER
MASSACHUSETTS 01440-2630
OFFICE OF THE
CITY COUNCIL

April 9, 2020

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

Date: Monday, April 13, 2020
Time: 6:00 P.M.
Location: Remotely*

The City Council will meet on Monday, April 13, 2020 to act on #10264, Orders Relating to the May 12, 2020 Special City Preliminary Election; the June 9, 2020 Special City Election; and, Designating Official Polling Places for the Special Elections.

CITY COUNCIL OF GARDNER
Elizabeth J. Kazinskas
ELIZABETH J. KAZINSKAS
Council President

*Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Gardner City Council will be conducted via remote participation. The audio recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings will be posted on the City’s website as soon as possible after the meeting.

NOTICE: The listing of Agenda items are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.
Hon. Elizabeth J. Kazinskas, President
And Members of the City Council
City Hall
Gardner, MA 01440

Re: Special City Elections

Dear President Kazinskas and Councillors:

I am writing to address two concerns that were raised at Monday’s meeting associated with the upcoming special elections, particularly since the Preliminary is now scheduled only one week after the Governor’s Emergency Order is due to expire.

My first concern is the Precinct 3B polling location – the High Rise. Since it is a residential building, I believe that it should not be used for voting for the near future. Therefore, I am recommending that Precinct 3B be relocated to the Acadien Club until the pandemic ceases, at the least.

Secondly, I recommend that the potential health risks to our election officers be reduced by shortening the polling hours by opening at 10:00 a.m. and closing at 8:00 p.m. The 10:00 a.m. opening time is allowed under G.L. c. 54, § 64. Many other precautionary measures for poll officer and voter health and safety will be implemented.

Finally, once these changes are acted on, I can begin preparing the mass mailing to all voters. I am hopeful that many voters will choose to vote by mail and avoid any potential health risks by going to the polls on Election Day. A draft of the Final Election Orders are enclosed for your consideration.

Thank you very much for your attention and consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,

Alan L. Agnelli
City Clerk

Enclosure
CITY OF GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS

MAY 12, 2020 SPECIAL MUNICIPAL PRELIMINARY ELECTION ORDER

JUNE 9, 2020 SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION ORDER

DESIGNATION OF POLLING PLACES FOR SPECIAL ELECTIONS

ORDERED: In accordance with the provisions of Section 64 of Chapter 54 of the General Laws, that meetings of the citizens of this City qualified to vote for City officers shall be held on TUESDAY, the 12th DAY of MAY, 2020 from 10:00 o'clock in the morning until 8:00 o'clock in the evening for the purpose of casting their votes for the nomination of Mayor to serve for the unexpired term.

ORDERED: In accordance with the provisions of Section 64 of Chapter 54 of the General Laws, that meetings of the citizens of this City qualified to vote for City officers shall be held on TUESDAY, the 9th DAY of JUNE, 2020 from 10:00 o'clock in the morning until 8:00 o'clock in the evening for the purpose of casting their votes for Mayor to serve for the unexpired term.

ORDERED: In accordance with the provisions of Section 24 of Chapter 54 of the General Laws, the following polling places are designated by this Council:

WARD 1, PRECINCT A – Elk’s Home, 31 Park Street
WARD 1, PRECINCT B – Elk’s Home, 31 Park Street
WARD 2, PRECINCT A – Levi Heywood Memorial Library, 55 W Lynde Street
WARD 2, PRECINCT B – Levi Heywood Memorial Library, 55 W Lynde Street
WARD 3, PRECINCT A – Acadien Social Club, 193 Parker Street
WARD 3, PRECINCT B – Acadien Social Club, 193 Parker Street
WARD 4, PRECINCT A – Gardner Police Headquarters, 200 Main Street
WARD 4, PRECINCT B – Gardner Police Headquarters, 200 Main Street
WARD 5, PRECINCT A – Knights of Columbus Hall, 110 South Main Street
WARD 5, PRECINCT B – Knights of Columbus Hall, 110 South Main Street

BY ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL