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CITY OF GARDNER
MASSACHUSETTS 01440-2630

OFFICE OF THE
CITY COUNCIL



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Karen G. Hardern

WARD 5 COUNCILLOR
Alek Dernalowicz, Esq.

January 30, 2023

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday, February 2, 2023
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Location: DPW Office 50 Manca Drive

ANNOUNCEMENT - Any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting, or may transmit the meeting through any medium, subject to reasonable requirements of the chair as to the number, placement and operation of equipment used so as not to interfere with the conduct of the meeting. Any person intending to make such recording shall notify the Chair forthwith. All Documents referenced or used during the meeting must be submitted in duplicate to the Clerk of the Committee, pursuant to the Open Meeting and Public Records Law. All documents shall become part of the official record of the meeting.

AGENDA

- I. Abatement Water/Sewer
 - 25 Main Street
- II. Review and Approval of Minutes for prior meetings dated December 1st & 15th, 2022.
- III. Department Updates
 - Public Works/Sewer/Water – Dane Arnold, DPW Director
 - Survey/Engineering – Rob Oliva, City Engineer
 - Conservation Commission – Sophie Dorow, Conservation and Planning Agent
- IV. Councillor Requests
- V. Adjournment

NOTICE: The listing of Agenda items are those reasonably anticipated by the Chairman 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.

CITY COUNCIL OF GARDNER

James M. Walsh Esq.

Councilor James M. Walsh, Esq.
Chairman, Public Service Committee

Chris Harty

From: Dane Arnold
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2023 12:13 PM
To: Jonathan Bombaci
Cc: Ashley Laughlin; James M. Walsh; Chris Harty; Jessica St. John
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: 25 Main Street Water Break

Hi Jon,
I have copied the Chairman of the PCS to review and comment about getting on the agenda. We will notify you when we have a meeting date.

Thank You,

Dane E. Arnold, Director
Department of Public Works

50 Manca Drive
Gardner, MA 01440
978-630-8195

From: Jonathan Bombaci <bombacire@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2023 11:45 AM
To: Dane Arnold <darnold@gardner-ma.gov>
Cc: Ashley Laughlin <ashley.sdima@gmail.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: 25 Main Street Water Break

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the City of Gardner mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.
Thank you for the introduction Mike and nice to meet you Dane (dropping mike to BCC so he doesn't get a ton of emails).

Yes we had a waterline break on Christmas eve at 25 Main st in Gardner and didn't find out about it until Monday morning. So we had ALOT of water pouring into the building for a couple of days and was not going through the sewer system. If this is something that would make sense to ask for abatement on we would certainly like to do so and would appreciate any help or guidance to get it in front of the right people.

Best,
Jon

On Fri, Jan 27, 2023 at 10:27 AM Dane Arnold <darnold@gardner-ma.gov> wrote:

Hi Jon,

Please write me an email explaining what happened and I will ask the Public Service Committee to have your issue put on the agenda.

We do not have a date and time for the next meeting, but it may be next week. You would need to come to the meeting at the DPW and make your case to the PSC. I will notify you when we have a schedule but send me the appeal ASAP.

Typically, the water portion won't be reduced, but if the water didn't enter the sewer system, then might reduce that portion.

Thank You,

Dane E. Arnold, Director

Department of Public Works

50 Manca Drive

Gardner, MA 01440

978-630-8195

From: Mayor <Mayor@gardner-ma.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2023 9:00 AM
To: Dane Arnold <darnold@gardner-ma.gov>; Jonathan Bombaci <bombacire@gmail.com>
Subject: 25 Main Street Water Break

Hi Dane,

Jon Bombaci who owns 25 Main Street is copied on this email.

They had a substantial pipe break issue from 12/25 – a few days after.

Can you walk him through the abatement process?

Best,

MicNic

Michael J. Nicholson

Mayor of the City of Gardner

Gardner City Hall, Rm 125

95 Pleasant St

Gardner, MA 01440

Jon Bombaci
Real Estate Adviser | Team Leader
Candor Realty powered by FourPoints Real Estate
Cell: 978.710.8611
BombaciRE@gmail.com
Check us out at www.Candorealty.com



All Payments Are To Be Made At The Collector's Office, City Hall, Room 118
 MONDAY - THURSDAY 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
 For Questions About Your Bill, Please Call 978-630-8195

**WATER / SEWER / TRASH
 UTILITY BILL**

ACCOUNT NO.	BILL NUMBER	BILL DATE	DUE DATE	AMOUNT DUE
009-01330025	49864395	02/01/2023	03/02/2023	368.00

MILLENNIUM HOLDING GROUP LLC
 165 THORNDIKE STREET SUITE 200
 LOWELL, MA 01852-3485

CHARGE CODE	FROM	TO	PREVIOUS READING	CURRENT READING	USAGE (CF)	CHARGE AMOUNT			
WATER A	10/11/2022	01/09/2023	286900	290100	3200	208.00			
SEWER A					3200	160.00			
CREDIT APPLIED		INTEREST DUE		PAST DUE CHARGES		CURRENT CHARGES		TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	
.00		.00		.00		368.00		368.00	

LOCATIONS 25 MAIN STREET

RATES WATER \$6.50, SEWER \$5.00/100 CF, SEWER ONLY \$75.00, TRASH \$59.00
 CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, FEB. 20TH TO OBSERVE PRESIDENT'S DAY

DETACH PAYMENT COUPON



MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: THE GARDNER WATER DEPARTMENT
 OR PAY ONLINE AT: www.gardner-ma.gov

BILL NUMBER	BILL DATE	DUE DATE
49864395	02/01/2023	03/02/2023

ACCOUNT NUMBER 009-01330025

LOCATION 25 MAIN STREET
 MILLENNIUM HOLDING GROUP LLC
 165 THORNDIKE STREET SUITE 200

CREDIT APPLIED	.00
INTEREST DUE	.00
PAST DUE	.00
CURRENT CHARGES	368.00
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	368.00

Please write your Account No. on your check

AMOUNT ENCLOSED	
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CUSTOMER PORTAL

PAYMENT COUPON



Account

- Tier Hstry
- Replace Hist
- Demand Inq
- Report Options

Account: 00901330025 Customer: 713108
 Parcel: M220000500044
 Location: 25 MAIN STREET Status: Active
 Service: 100 Mfr SENS Meter # 12163379

1 of 1

Water use is actually lower than last yr.

Consumption history

Read Date	Read Time	Bill #	P	R	Current	Usage	Repl Use	Use Days	Bill Amt	Charge Amt	Adj Bill Amt
01/09/2023		49854395	A		290100	3200	0	90	368.00	208.00	368.00
10/11/2022		49857974	A		286900	6800	0	90	782.00	442.00	782.00
07/13/2022		49851584	A		280100	1500	0	63	172.50	97.50	172.50



REGULAR MEETING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE of December 1, 2022

Meeting of the Public Service Committee was held in the office of the DPW, 50 Manca Drive at 8:00 AM on December 1, 2022.

Members Present: Councilor James M. Walsh, Chairman; Councilor Alek Dernalowicz; Councilor George C. Tyros; Administrative Assistant Christine Harty

Attendees: Dane E. Arnold, DPW Director; Rob Oliva, City Engineer; Sophie Dorow, Conservation and Planning Agent

CALL TO ORDER

Councilor James M. Walsh called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

OPEN MEETING RECORDING

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ABATEMENTS WATER/SEWER

95 Crestwood Drive: Pierre Michel, owner of property, is present to for appeal of water/sewer bill. Property had high water usage for billing period of October 2022. Property owner states they had found a toilet leak. Once repaired, their water usage had stabilized, back to normal. Was hoping for some relief of charges.

Councilor Walsh, if excessive bill had been due to city issue, could have provided some relief.

Councilor Dernalowicz suggests providing 1 year for payment of October 2022 billing.

Motion made by Councilor Alek Dernalowicz, second by Councilor George Tyros to allow payment plan on charges under appeal (with no accruing interest) over a four billing periods, with the provision all subsequent quarterly billings remain up-to-date, current in payment status, all in favor, motion passes.

POLE PETITION

10850 – A Petition by National Grid – Coleman Street – To install 1 single owned pole beginning at a point approximately 250 feet east of the centerline of the intersection of Coleman Street and Robillard Street. Install 1 stub pole on Coleman Street to support P25 on Parker Street.

Rob states has not drawn up an official memo regarding petition. Will do so for the record, is in favor of recommending petition to City Council. Motion made to approve pole petition. Motion made by Councilor Alek Dernalowicz second by Councilor George C. Tyros, all in favor motion carries.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

Dane Arnold:

Packet was provided regarding sump pump issue on Cross Street at dental office. Letter was sent on 11/28/22 to owner of property at 49 Cross Street. States issue with sump pumps occurs approximately 10 x's a year in city.

Councilor Walsh mentions same issue with Car Wash on end of Elm Street. Dane states DPW treats that area in particular a bit heavier in the winter.

Councilor Walsh inquires on salt shed. Dane, currently working with Mayor.

Dane, currently in Robillard area paving. Sidewalks have been base coated. Driveways & walks will be finished. Sidewalks will be completed in the spring.

Also, visited landfill in Bellow Falls VT yesterday. Their WWTF facility is about a 1/10 the size of ours. We observed their processing of sludge. They burn it down to 85-90% dry for placement at landfill, also giving it to farmers at this point. Looking into possibility of utilizing this process.

Rob Oliva:

To begin installation of skating rink in a day or two. Will erect string LED lights to run off a generator.

Finance approved funding yesterday for new lights at Timpany, Main, Willow & Dyer. Will operate off sensors now rather than timers. This action was prompted by Darrell Sweeney, Inspector of Wires, to update systems. Timers will remain in place as backup.

Met with Chris Coughlin and Mayor regarding possibility of solar panels at city facilities. Seems our cold storage building would be prime candidate with that of a south facing roof. A goal would be to have solar at WWTF. In early stages of reviewing possibilities.

Sophie Dorow:

Conservation Commission voted in favor of sludge landfill expansion. No appeals received at this time.

REPORTS AND REQUESTS FROM COUNCILORS

Councilor George C. Tyros: No requests today.

Councilor Alek Dernalowicz: No requests today.

Councilor James Walsh: Inquiry of culvert on Temple Street. Dane informs is issue with beaver deceiver, work in progress.

Motion to adjourn, Motion made by Councilor Alek Dernalowicz, second by Councilor George Tyros to Adjourn the meeting at 8:26 am. Roll Call vote: Councilor Alek Dernalowicz yes, Councilor George C. Tyros yes, Councilor James Walsh yes. Motion Passes.

Next meeting scheduled as needed.

All documents submitted at this meeting are stored in the office of the DPW, 50 Manca Drive, for any review.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine M. Harty, Administrative Assistant

REGULAR MEETING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE of December 15, 2022

Meeting of the Public Service Committee was held in the office of the DPW, 50 Manca Drive at 7:45 AM on December 15, 2022.

Members Present: Councilor James M. Walsh, Chairman; Councilor Alek Dernalowicz; Councilor George C. Tyros; Administrative Assistant Christine Harty

Attendees: Dane E. Arnold, DPW Director; Rob Oliva, City Engineer; Sophie Dorow, Conservation and Planning Agent

CALL TO ORDER

Councilor James M. Walsh called the meeting to order at 7:45 am.

OPEN MEETING RECORDING

ANNOUNCEMENT – any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting, or may transmit the meeting through any medium, subject to reasonable requirements of the chair as to the number, placement and operation of equipment used so as not to interfere with the conduct of the meeting. Any person intending to make such recording shall notify the chair forthwith. All documents referenced or used during the meeting must be submitted in duplicate to Secretary of the Committee, pursuant to the Open Meeting and Public Records Law. All documents shall become part of the official record of the meeting.

ABATEMENTS WATER/SEWER

53 Vaughn Street: Melissa Swenson, owner is present for appeal of water/sewer bill. Property had high water usage for billing period of November 2022. States she had a toilet leak but was not at property during that period due to lack of heat. Toilet has been repaired. Would like adjustment to bill based on average charges.

Councilor Tyros, normally a payment plan is offered for a 1-year period. Would consider a \$150.00 reduction of the bill with a one-year payment plan.

Councilor Walsh explains the water was used by property and processed by the City.

Motion made by Councilor Alek Dernalowicz, second by Councilor George Tyros to allow abatement of \$150.00 and a one-year payment plan with no interest accrual, provided account remains current with subsequent billings, all in favor, motion passes.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion to accept the minutes of the meeting dated November 2, 2022, as written. Motion made to accept minutes by Councilor George C. Tyros, second by Councilor Alek Dernalowicz, all in favor motion carries.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

Dane Arnold:

All sidewalks in Coleman/Robillard area are completed. Berm work will be completed in spring.

The DPW has been out three times treating roads up to this point, winter has arrived.

Rob Oliva:

Sludge landfill was approved by the Conservation Commission. Was then appealed by an abutter. Appeal off to DEP. Next the DEP will issue a superseding order of conditions which will affirm, offer ideas, or deny. The MEPA filing has been submitted. A sight scoping session will occur in next 30 days. MEPA must complete process before DEP can move forward on permit. Timeline appears to be six months to have final answers from state and move forward.

Councilor Walsh asks if reasons for appeal must be stated with appeal. Rob states yes.

Rob, National Grid has been on Lawrence Street replacing 5 or 6 poles. Noticed they had installed new guide wires and one pole where there were at existing locations but did not exist. National Grid did not petition to City Council. Seeking advice/approval to go to National Grid and advise them of petition guidelines?

Councilor Walsh, yes, explain to National Grid petition guidelines.

Motion to approve inquiry to National Grid on reason for not requesting approval, remind of petition guidelines, and to inform expectation to do so after fact of recent pole work. Motion made by Councilor Alek Dernalowicz, second by Councilor George Tyros, all in favor motion carries.

Sophie Dorow:

States no update beyond the information Rob provided regarding the sludge landfill.

REPORTS AND REQUESTS FROM COUNCILORS

Councilor Alek Dernalowicz: No requests today.

Councilor George C. Tyros: No requests today.

Councilor James Walsh: Inquires on pothole patrol. Dane, crew has been out and working.

Motion to adjourn, Motion made by Councilor Alek Dernalowicz, second by Councilor George Tyros to Adjourn the meeting at 8:08 am. Roll Call vote: Councilor Alek Dernalowicz yes, Councilor George C. Tyros yes, Councilor James Walsh yes. Motion Passes.

Next meeting scheduled as needed.

All documents submitted at this meeting are stored in the office of the DPW, 50 Manca Drive, for any review.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine M. Harty, Administrative Assistant