

CITY OF GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS  
APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING OF JANUARY 6, 2023

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The Appointment Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Council George C. Tyros at 12:00 p.m. Appointment Committee Members Councilor's James Walsh and Judy Mack were present.

Also present Mayor Michael Nicholson; Council President Elizabeth Kazinskas; and City Clerk Titi Siriphan.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPEN MEETING RECORDINGS: 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 and exhibits used or referenced at the meeting must be submitted in duplicate to the City Clerk, as they become part of the Meeting Minutes. This information is also posted on the wall by the door for review.

I. **Appointments:**

**10877 – A Measure Confirming the Mayor's Appointment of Robert Rice, Esq., to the position of Special Act Charter Drafting Committee, for term expiring upon submission to City Council**

Attorney Robert Rice joined the meeting via phone conference.

Mayor Nicholson informed the committee that Attorney Rice has been actively involved in the community in several capacities. From his time at the Gardner Library, to State Representative, Assistant City Solicitor, and knowledgeable with work within city government.

Attorney Rice said it was a great privilege that he was asked to serve on this committee and be the chair of this board.

Councillor James Walsh abstained from participating in this appointment due to a conflict of interest.

On a motion made by Councillor Judy Mack and seconded by Councillor George Tyros, it was voted to recommend to the City Council to confirm *A Measure Confirming the Mayor's Appointment of Robert Rice, Esq., to the position of Special Act Charter Drafting Committee, for term expiring upon submission to City Council.*

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**10872 – A Measure Confirming the Council President’s Appointment of Jennifer Zlotnik Pelavin, Esq., to the position of Special Act Charter Drafting Committee Member, for term expiring upon submission to City Council.**

Council President Elizabeth Kazinskas informed the committee that Mrs. Pelavin is a great pick for this committee. She has been involved with the school committee for 11 years, vice chair since 2018, served as finance officer since elected, on the policy subcommittee for the past 3 years, and has children who attend the schools here.

Attorney Pelavin mentioned that they often deal with the Charter through the policy subcommittee. She is familiar with the Charter and with her legal background she looks over documents on a regular basis.

Councillor Judy Mack mentioned that she is glad to see a member of the school committee on this Charter committee. She has a lot to contribute to this committee.

On a motion made by Councillor James Walsh and seconded by Councillor Judy Mack, it was voted to recommend to the City Council to confirm *A Measure Confirming the Council President’s Appointment of Jennifer Zlotnik Pelavin, Esq., to the position of Special Act Charter Drafting Committee Member, for term expiring upon submission to City Council.*

**10873 – A Measure Confirming the Council President’s Appointment of Alan L. Agnelli, to the position of Special Act Charter Drafting Committee Member, for term expiring upon submission to City Council.**

Council President Elizabeth Kazinskas informed the committee that Mr. Agnelli is the former City Clerk. His 40 plus years in municipal and state government, he is a great asset to this committee. He is thorough, familiar with the Charter, a former Mayor, former Councillor and has a lot of experience.

Mr. Agnelli thanked the President for her kind words. He served as City Clerk for 11 years. He has assisted the council, Mayors, past Mayors with guidance in terms of the Charter, and City Code.

Councillor James Walsh mentioned that with his experience, he brings a unique perspective to this committee. Mr. Agnelli pays attention to detail and has been through this process of Charter review. He spoke in favor and in support of this appointment.

Councillor Judy Mack echoed Councillor Walsh and said the Mr. Agnelli is a wealth of knowledge.

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On a motion made by Councillor Judy Mack and seconded by Councillor James Walsh, it was voted to recommend to the City Council to confirm *A Measure Confirming the Council President's Appointment of Alan L. Agnelli, to the position of Special Act Charter Drafting Committee Member, for term expiring upon submission to City Council.*

**10875 – A Measure Confirming the Mayor's Appointment of Neil Janssens, to the position of Special Act Charter Drafting Committee, for term expiring upon submission to City Council.**

Mayor Nicholson informed the committee that Mr. Janssens comes to this committee with a wealth of knowledge having served on the city council, council president, serves on other capacities within the city.

Mr. Janssens has known the Charter for 13 years. He has no agenda to change much, but there are a couple things that do need to be changed.

On a motion made by Councillor James Walsh and seconded by Councillor Judy Mack, it was voted to recommend to the City Council to confirm *A Measure Confirming the Mayor's Appointment of Neil Janssens, to the position of Special Act Charter Drafting Committee, for term expiring upon submission to City Council.*

**10876 – A Measure Confirming the Mayor's Appointment of Tina Griffin, to the position of Special Act Charter Drafting Committee, for term expiring upon submission to City Council.**

Chairman Tyros mentioned that Mrs. Griffin was not available for this meeting.

Councillor James Walsh would like to meet with Mrs. Griffin whether its via telephone conference or in person, he is willing to accommodate her. He requests more time.

**II. New Business**

There was no new business.

On a motion made by Councilor Walsh and seconded by Councilor Mack, it was voted viva voce to adjourn at 12:32 p.m.