



# GARDINER CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET



Meeting Date		Department	
Agenda Item			
Est. Cost			
Background Information			
Requested Action			
City Manager and/or Finance Review			
Council Vote/ Action Taken			
Departmental Follow-Up			

City Clerk Use Only	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading _____	Advertised _____	EFFECTIVE DATE _____
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading _____	Advertised _____ w/in 15 Days	
	Final to Dept _____	Updated Book _____	Online _____

## **City Poet Laureate**

The City Poet Laureate is an honorary position typically created by a resolution passed by the city council that provides the Mayor the authority to appoint a citizen of Gardiner Public Library member municipalities as Poet Laureate. The City Poet Laureate promotes literacy and literature among city residents of all ages.

The City Council may create a City Poet Laureate Committee to recommend a City Poet Laureate for appointment.

**Oversight:** the Gardiner Public Library Trustees will establish a City Poet Laureate Committee of five people that includes: a representative from the City Council, two representatives of the library trustees, a representative of the Gardiner Library Association, and a representative from MSAD 11 schools. The City Poet Laureate Committee will review and vet the applications/nominations and recommend City Poet Laureate nominees to the Mayor and City Council.

**Appointment:** The City Council will appoint the City Poet Laureate.

**Nominations:** Poets can nominate themselves or be nominated by other residents through an online application made available by the library. The application form will include contact information for the poet (mailing address, phone number and email address) and the nominator if the nominator is not the poet. Other required information will be recommended by the Poet Laureate Committee.

### **Requirements/Qualifications:**

- poet must live in one of the Gardiner Public Library member municipalities and continue to live in one of the municipalities throughout the appointment

- poet must have significant publication history including books (excluding self-published and vanity presses), and in a variety of journals and media; have received recognition in the field, and demonstrate literary excellence
- poet must have demonstrated a previous commitment to promoting awareness of poetry
- poet must be 18 years of age and older

**Duties:**

- read poems at ceremonial events (examples could include at the unveiling of a new building or bridge that will benefit the community), at City Council or other public meetings.
- champion the art of poetry and the spoken word in the city in person and on social media
- encourage appreciation of the art form and creative expression by a wide-range of people, including youth
- celebrate the region's cultural heritage
- attend literary and other cultural events in the city as appropriate
- give 5-10 public readings and workshops that are free and open to the public, including visits to schools and/or events for young people
- provide updates as requested

**Length of term:** This is a one-year temporary appointment.

**Resources:**

<https://www.modestogov.com/DocumentCenter/View/3875/Poet-Laureate-Application-2016-2018-PDF?bidId=>

<http://documents.takomaparkmd.gov.s3.amazonaws.com/government/city-council/agendas/2016/council-20160323-5a.pdf>

<https://cityofbostonartsandculture.submittable.com/submit/116155/city-of-boston-poet-laureate-nominations-2018>

[https://www.mpl.org/about/poet\\_laureate.php](https://www.mpl.org/about/poet_laureate.php)