



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	

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



**CITY COUNCIL DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 4, 2026 @ 6:00PM**

1. ROLL CALL / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City Council Present: Mayor Hart, Councilor Cone, Councilor Cusick, Councilor Greenleaf, Councilor Kimball, Councilor Babcock, Councilor Dolley, Councilor Holmes.

City Employees Present: Denise Brown- Finance Director & Interim City Manager, Kathleen Cutler- City Clerk, Alyssa Landes- Deputy City Clerk, Steven Aievoli- Wastewater Superintendent, Rick Sieberg- Fire Chief, John Cameron- Public Works Director, Todd Pilsbury- Police Chief, Kris McNeill- Code Enforcement Officer. Angelia Christopher ~ Planning Coordinator. Melissa Lindley ~ Economic Development Director.

Others Present: Kathryn Carlson, Sophia Carlson, Ryan Sutherburg, Tammy Voisine, Cheryl Clark, Kim Gleason, Katie McAllister, Jennifer Adams, Robert Monniere, Janice Joyce, Karen Motell.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT (anything not on the agenda) **No Public Comment. No Correspondence.**

3. PETITIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS PETITIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS

a) Public Hearing regarding a Medical Cannabis Retail Store License renewal for Medco

Mayor Hart opened the public hearing at 6:03pm. There being no comment, she closed the hearing at 6:03pm.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a) Consideration of approval of a Medical Cannabis Retail Store License renewal for Medco

Councilor Cusick moved to approve the Medical Cannabis Retail Store renewal for Medco. Second by Councilor Cone. No Further Discussion. Unanimously approved.

b) Update from Superintendent Dalton Goldych and Safety Director Dan Davies of Lajoie Brothers regarding Summer Street

Update~ Dalton Goldych presented a slideshow with many updates on why it is important to have Summer Street closed, during the construction of the apartment building on the corner of Bridge and Summer. After viewing the property at many different views including arial drone footage, it is understood that to complete the job and keep everyone safe, workers and residents, Summer Street needs to remain closed. Council appreciated the updates and look forward to having the housing in Gardiner. They also wanted all residents to know that they are listening, and they know Summer Street has been closed for a while. At this moment there is just no possible way to open it up and keep all safe.

- c) Update from Chief Pilsbury regarding Immigration
Update~ Chief Pilsbury ~ Myself and my officers do not enforce federal law. We enforce state law. We have no contracts with the federal government, we as a city receive federal funding but not for anything to do with immigration. In fact, the federal forces and or ICE will not contact us before doing anything, it is almost better because they do not keep us in the loop. We are here to protect our residents and enforce state laws. We will always try our best in any situation. If you call us and ICE is at your doorstep we can try and help but I can't tell you that they will even let us close. I have only run into one situation in my 28 years of being here involving the federal forces, and it was a traffic stop and the person didn't speak English. I have not heard of any instances of ICE being in Gardiner. I unfortunately do not have a lot of answers, and I cannot speak for other towns and cities, what they do and what we do are two different things. I would like to encourage all residents who may have questions and who are concerned to feel like they can talk to myself and or any of my officers I would say we are all very approachable. Come to the city and ask for me. If I am here, I will be more than happy to talk to you. We can also be reached at (207) 582 3211.
There were a few members of the public who spoke and had some questions for the Chief. You can view the full meeting at www.gardinermaine.gov under "watch meetings" and "recorded meeting archive".
- d) Update from Chief Pilsbury regarding people in Gardiner without Shelter
Update~ Chief Pilsbury ~ When my officers and I are dealing with unhoused there are two different seasons in Maine and only a hand full of things we can do. We make sure they are not homicidal or suicidal. Right now, with the cold nights and days we monitor and watch after people regularly. I know of two people in Gardiner right now who we actively check on, we offer rides to warming shelters, we talk to them to make sure they are responsive. There is only so much we can do for them if they do not want help. They are dressed for winter and do not sleep outside overnight; they will not tell us where they sleep but they are not outside and that is fine they do not have to tell us. Members of the public also check on these individuals and offer food, water, and help. The City of Gardiner has General Assistance; you must be willing to apply for it and give the information necessary to complete the application. You can find applications at City Hall ~ 6 Church Street Gardiner, Maine 04345.
- e) Consideration of request for a private road name to Lil Cat Way
Councilor Dolley moved to approve the private road name of Lil Cat Way. Second by Councilor Kimball. No Further Discussion. Unanimously approved.
- f) Consideration of consent authorizing the Interim City Manager to sign obligation documentation for a loan/grant with USDA/Rural Development~ this is a formality allowing me to sign a form
Councilor Greenleaf moved to authorize the Interim City Manager to sign obligation documentation for a loan/grant with USDA/Rural Development. Second by Councilor Babcock. No Further Discussion. Unanimously approved.
- g) Consideration of renewing the 10-year Fuel Depot Agreement with the School District

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Councilor Cusick moved to authorize the Interim City Manager to renew the 10-year Fuel Depot Agreement with the School District from FY27 through FY36. Second by Councilor Greenleaf. No Further Discussion. Unanimously approved.

- h) Consideration of accepting a bid on 83 Blueberry Hill Lane (TAP)
Kathy Cutler & Katie Macalister~ we brought some tax acquired properties before you a while back and asked that we get them sold and back on a positive tax roll. There are three bids for the property located at 83 Blueberry Hill Lane for your consideration tonight, thank you.

Councilor Cone moved to accept the bid of \$59,000 from Adams- Hardt for 83 Blueberry Hill Lane. Second by Councilor Greenleaf. No Further Discussion. Unanimously approved.

- i) Consideration of accepting the City Council meeting minutes from 1/21/26 and 1/29/26
Councilor Babcock moved to accept the City Council meeting minutes for 1/21/26 and 1/29/26. Second by Councilor Kimball. No Further Discussion. Unanimously approved.

5. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS – **Nothing to report.**

6. INTERIM CITY MANAGER REPORT

Densie~ nothing to report tonight, thank you

7. COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE UPDATES

Mayor Hart ~ I do not have any update for this evening

Councilor Cone ~ Climate Resilience Committee is still waiting for the final report. It is being finished by the consultant, should be done soon. First Park has had a change in the Executive Director and will be developing a new strategic plan, hopefully more promotion of the park. Thank you, mayor, for your prior comment stated before the immigration update.

Councilor Greenleaf ~ thank you for your comments on immigration issues, nothing to add.

Councilor Cusick ~ nothing tonight, thank you

Councilor Kimball ~ thank you for all your comments mayor, nothing to add.

Councilor Babcock ~ Nothing to add.

Councilor Dolley ~ I just would like to say it is very nice to be in this room and have a community that wants to be involved and can have a productive group discussion out of concerns. Nothing else to add.

Councilor Holmes ~ Even with the unpleasant weather thank you to our Public Works for keeping the sidewalk plowed down in South Gardiner. People are out walking and it is very appreciated.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action: Councilor Cusick moved to enter Executive Session at 7:01PM. Councilor Kimball seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

- a) Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405(6)(E): Consultation with the City's Attorney and Potential Action

Action: Council exited Executive Session at 7:20PM.

Action: Councilor Holmes moved to enter Executive Session at 7:20PM. Councilor Babcock seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

- b) Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405(6)(C): Regarding Real Estate Matter

Action: Council exited Executive Session at 7:47PM.

Action: Councilor Greenleaf moved to enter Executive Session at 7:47PM. Councilor Cone seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

- c) Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405(6)(A): Regarding Personnel Matter

Action: Council exited Executive Session at 7:57PM.

Action: Councilor Holmes moved to enter Executive Session at 7:57 PM. Councilor Dolley seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

- d) Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405(6)(A): Regarding Personnel Matter

Action: Council exited Executive Session at 8:10PM.

9. ADJOURN

Action: Councilor Dolley moved to adjourn at 8:13PM. Councilor Holmes seconded the motion. No Further Discussion. Unanimously approved.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

February 4, 2026	February 18, 2026
March 4, 2026	March 18, 2026
April 1, 2026	April 15, 2026
May 6, 2026	May 20, 2026
June 3, 2026	June 17, 2026
July 1, 2026	July 15, 2026
August 5, 2026	August 19, 2026
September 2, 2026	September 16, 2026
October 7, 2026	October 21, 2026
November 4, 2026	November 18, 2026
December 2, 2026	December 16, 2026