

CITY OF GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS
CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF APRIL 11, 2022

The Appointment Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Council George C. Tyros at 4:30 p.m. Appointment Committee Members Councilor's James Walsh and Judy Mack were present. Also present was Mayor Nicholson by way of phone and Assistant City Clerk Faith Glover.

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. Reading and Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting.

On a motion by Councilor James Walsh and Seconded by Councilor Judy Mack, it was voted to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of January 31, 2022, as printed.

II. Appointments:

10631 Casey Bashaw to the position of Alternate Plumbing & Gas Inspector, for a term expiring March 9, 2025. *(In the City council and referred to Appointments Committee 3/21/2022).*

Casey Bashaw: (New-Appointment)

Casey as well as Commission Roland Jean were not able to attend the meeting.

Councilor Walsh asked the mayor if it would be problematic if they differed Casey Bashaw appointment to the next appointment meeting.

Mayor (by phone), No it would not be.

Mayor's Statement:

Mr. Bradshaw is the current full time Plumbing Inspector for the Town of Orange. He has all his certifications from the Commonwealth and has been performing work in this field for quite some time. This is an as needed position but per the Commonwealth's Building Code, must still have an active appointment to have the authority to issue citations or inspection certifications. This came following the resignation of or previous Alternate Inspector Edward Tonet. This appointment comes at the recommendation of Commission Jean who would be the Department Head overseeing this work. This is an hourly paid, Unbenefited position.

Motion on Recommendation:

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On a motion by Councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack, it was voted to defer Casey's appointment until the next Appointment Committee meeting.

*Councilor Tyros Asked that 10632, 10633, 10634, and 10635 be voted on at the same time since they are all re-appointments to the Airport Commission.
Councilor Walsh and Councilor Mack agreed.*

10632 Philip Morrissey to the position or Airport Commission Member, for a term expiring March 4, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 3/21/2022).*

Philip Morrissey: (Re-Appointment)

Philip was not able to attend the meeting.

Mayor's statement:

Philip has served as Airport Commissioner for a few decades. Philip has continued to have interests in seeing the airport succeed, particularly with the new several million dollar grant the airport just received from the FAA as part of the Infrastructure Bill competitive funding.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a motion by Councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack, since this is a re-appointment, it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment of Philip Morrissey to the position of Airport Commission Member for a term expiring March 4, 2025.

10633 James Morrissey to the position of Airport Commission Member, for a term expiring March 4, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 3/21/2022).*

James Morrissey: (Re-Appointment)

James was not able to attend the meeting.

Mayor's statement:

James has served as Airport Commissioner for a few decades. James has continued to have interests in seeing the airport succeed, particularly with the new several million dollar grant the airport just received from the FAA as part of the Infrastructure Bill competitive funding.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a motion by Councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack, since this is a re-appointment, it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment of James Morrissey to the position of Airport Commission Member for a term expiring March 4, 2025.

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10634 John Lavoie to the position of Airport Commission Member for a term expiring March 4, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 3/21/2022).*

John Lavoie: (Re-Appointment)

John was not able to attend the meeting.

Mayor's statement:

John has served as Airport Commissioner for a few decades. John has continued to have interests in seeing the airport succeed, particularly with the new several million dollar grant the airport just received from the FAA as part of the Infrastructure Bill competitive funding.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a motion by Councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack, since this is a re-appointment, it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment of John Lavoie to the position of Airport Commission Member for a term expiring March 4, 2025.

10635 Andre Guertin to the position of Airport Commission Member for a term expiring March 3, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 3/21/2022).*

Andre Guertin: (Re-Appointment)

Andre was not able to attend the meeting

Mayor's statement:

Andre has served as Airport Commissioner for a few decades. Andre has continued to have interests in seeing the airport succeed, particularly with the new several million dollar grant the airport just received from the FAA as part of the Infrastructure Bill competitive funding.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a motion by Councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack, since this is a re-appointment, it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment of Andre Guertin to the position of Airport Commission Member for a term expiring March 3, 2025.

10636 Stephen Hirons to the position of Sealer of Weights and Measures for a term Expiring March 23, 2023. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

Stephen Hirons: (Re-Appointment)

Stephen was not able to attend the meeting.

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Mayor's statement:

Mr. Hirons has worked in this position for over a decade and his father held the position prior to him. This position goes around annually to all stores that have scales and ensures that they are all accurately calibrated. This includes everything from gallons of gas at a gas pump or a vegetable scale at a grocery store. He has done quite well in this position. Per the General Laws, this is an annual appointment. This is a stipend position.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a motion by Councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack, since this is a re-appointment, it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment of Stephen Hirons to the position of Sealer of Weights and Measures for a term expiring March 23, 2023. All Councilors feel that Stephen has held this position for a few years.

10637 Ronald G. Darmetka to the position of Council on Aging Member, for term expiring March 22, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

Ronald Darmetka statement: (Re-Appointment)

Ronald has held the Chairman position since September of last year. Before that he was vice Chairman from March of 2021. Has been on Council on Aging for many years.

Councilor James walsh: you were on the committee and then went to Vice Chairman in March. Now you are Chairman, has there been any issues?

Ronald: There have been no issues to address. But Ronald also knows if he needs to, he can talk with Mayor Mike Nicolson regarding an issue.

Councilor James Walsh: I have heard great things for various programs and opportunities.

Councilor Judy Mack. Thank you for your time giving to the city at the Senior Center.

Mayor's statement:

Mr. Darmetka currently serves as the Chair of the Council on Aging and has for approximately a year now. He has been very active in the Senior Center and has helped coordinate many events that the Center has put on. This is a volunteer, unpaid position.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a motion by Councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack, it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment of Ronald Darmetka to the position of Council on Aging Member for a term expiring March 22, 2025.

10638 David Orwig to the position of Conservation Commission Member, for term

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expiring March 22, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

David Orwig: (Re-Appointment)

David was not able to attend the meeting.

Mayor's statement:

Mr. Orwig has served on the Conservation Commission for quite some time. He comes highly recommended by Chairman Dumas and has been an active member in the Commission's meetings. This position receives an annual stipend of \$750. David is very familiar with Conservation Commission and very active.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a motion by Councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack, since this is a re-appointment, it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment of David Orwig to the position of Conservation Commission Member for a term expiring March 22, 2025.

Councilor Tyros Asked that 10639, 10640, 10641 and 10642 be voted on at the same time since they are all re-appointments to the Golf Commission

Councilor Walsh and Councilor Mack agreed.

Councilor Mack would like to verbally say what the Mayor wrote in his statement. "the Golf Commission Members is an unpaid and compensated by an annual free family membership to the Golf Course, subject to taxation under the Internal Revenue Code.

10639 Aleksander Dernalowicz to the position of Golf Commission Member, for term expiring March 22, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

Aleksander Dernalowicz: (Re-Appointment)

Aleksander was not able to attend the meeting.

Mayor's statement:

Aleksander Dernalowicz is interested in continuing his service on the Commission. The current chair is Mr. Jeffrey Gallant. Per §152-2(B) of the Code of the City of Gardner, this position is unpaid and compensated by an annual free family membership to the Golf Course, subject to taxation under the Internal Revenue Code.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor Judy Mack and seconded by Councilor James Walsh since this is a re-appointment, it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to Aleksander Dernalowicz to the position of Golf Commission Member, for term March 22, 2025.

10640 David Noyes to the position of Golf Commission Member, for term

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expiring March 22, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

David Noyes: (Re-Appointment):

David was not able to attend the meeting.

Mayor's statement:

David Noyes is interested in continuing his service on the Golf Commission. The current chair is Mr. Jeffrey Gallant. Per §152-2(B) of the Code of the City of Gardner, this position is unpaid and compensated by an annual free family membership to the Golf Course, subject to taxation under the Internal Revenue Code."

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor Judy Mack and seconded by Councilor James Walsh since this is a re-appointment, it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to Aleksander Dernalowicz to the position of Golf Commission Member, for term March 22, 2025.

10641 Jeffrey Gallant to the position of Golf Commission Member, for term expiring March 22, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

Jeffrey Gallant: (Re-Appointment):

Jeffrey was not able to attend the meeting.

Councilor Mack would like to say verbally what the Mayor has written "Golf Commission Is compensated by an annual free family membership to the Golf Course, subject to taxation under the internal revenue code.

Mayor's statement:

Jeffrey Gallant is interested in continuing his service on the Commission. Jeffrey Gallant is the current chair. Per §152-2(B) of the Code of the City of Gardner, this position is unpaid and compensated by an annual free family membership to the Golf Course, subject to taxation under the Internal Revenue Code.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor Judy Mack and seconded by Councilor James Walsh since this is a re-appointment, it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to Jeffrey Gallant to the position of Golf Commission Member, for term March 22, 2025.

10642 Michael Budwick to the position of Golf Commission Member, for term expiring March 22, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

Michael Budwick: (Re-Appointment):

Michael was not able to attend the meeting.

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Mayor's statement:

Michael is interested in continuing his service on the Commission. The current chair is Mr Jeffrey Gallant. Per §152-2(B) of the Code of the City of Gardner, this position is unpaid and compensated by an annual free family membership to the Golf Course, subject to taxation under the Internal Revenue Code.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor Judy Mack and seconded by Councilor James Walsh since this is a re-appointment, it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to Aleksander Dernalowicz to the position of Golf Commission Member, for term March 22, 2025.

10643 Tina Sbrega to the position of Williams-Rockwell Educational Gift Fund Trustee, for Term expiring March 22, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

Tina Sbrega: (New appointment)

Tina graduated from Gardner High School; and she has a financial background. Tina is very proud how the trustees are handling the Williams-Rockwell Education Gift Fund. She would be glad to be a part of the committee.

Councilor James Walsh advised Tina they meet four times a year to review applications for funding and financial reports.

Councilor Mack Thanked Tina for the charitable work she is doing. Councilor Mack feels that Tina has a wonderful business assessment. Judy has seen the school department end and very glad Tina will be on the Trustee.

Mayor's statement:

This is a new appointment to fill the vacancy created following the passing of Mr. Andrew Boucher. Ms Sbrega is no stranger to the City of Gardner, having worked as the President and CEO of GFA Federal Credit Union for quite some time. She has a substantial background in business and financial matters and would be an excellent addition to this board. Under Tina's leadership at GFA, she created a Student Advisory Council for the Credit Union in which she was able to hear firsthand from our students what they believed the needs of their generation and our schools are. This is an unpaid, volunteer position.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor Judy Mack and seconded by Councilor James Walsh, it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to Tina Sbrega to the position of Williams-Rockwell Educational Gift Fund Trustee for term March 22, 2025.

10644 Mark Monahan to the position of Bandstand committee Member for term expiring March 22, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

Mark Monahan: (New appointment)

Mark was not able to attend the meeting.

Councilor Walsh and Councilor Mack agree that Mark is young and has a lot of enthusiasm!

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Mayor's statement:

Mr. Monahan has worked as a Financial Advisor for Advent Financial Planners since 2015. Following the birth of his son last year, Mr. Monahan was looking at ways to give back to the city to help make it a good home for his new family. This is an unpaid position and the volunteers on this board help create the concert schedule and obtain sponsors for the annual Concerts in the Park series.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack since this is a new appointment it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to Mark Monahan to the position of Bandstand Committee Member, for term March 22, 2025.

10645 George Ouellet to the position of Housing Authority Member, for term expiring March 22, 2027. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

George Ouellet: (Re-Appointment):

George was not able to attend the meeting.

Councilors feel that George is well known with his many terms and glad that he will be there to help with the transition.

Mayor's statement:

Mr. Ouellet has served for several years on the Board of the Gardner Housing Authority. He come highly recommended by Ms. Sandy Mullins, former director of the GHA, and George's background and experiences on the Board will certainly be helpful during the transition with the new Executive Director who will be starting at the facility imminently. These are unpaid, volunteer positions.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack since this is a re-appointment it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to George Ouellet to the position of Housing Authority Member, for term March 22, 2027.

10646 Stephen Hancock to the position of Housing Authority Member, for term expiring March 22, 2027. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

Stephen Hancock (Re-Appointment):

Stephen was not able to attend the meeting.

Mayor's statement:

Mr. Hancock has served for several years on the Board of the Gardner Housing Authority. He come highly recommended by Ms. Sandy Mullins, former director of the GHA, and Stephen's background and experiences on the Board will certainly be helpful during the transition with the new Executive Director who will be starting at the facility imminently. The fact that Stephen is bilingual will be a great asset to this committee. These are unpaid, volunteer positions.

Motion on Recommendation:

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On a Motion by councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack since this is a re-appointment it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to Stephen Hancock to the position of Housing Authority Member, for term March 22, 2027.

10647 Mario Guay to the position of Board of Registrars Member, for term expiring March 24, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

Mario Guay statement: (Re-Appointment):

Mario has been a Registrars for over 10 years. He feels that it is an enjoyable and important committee. The Councilors agree that it is an important committee and thanked Mario for working on the committee.

Mayor's statement:

Per the General Laws, the number of Registrars on the Board of Registrars of Voters is set by population and must be an equal number of Democrats and Republicans in it's make up. The City Clerk serves as an ex officio member of the Board and votes in instances of a tie. Mr. Guay has served for just over a decade in this position and is one of the Republican members of the Board. This position receives an annual stipend of \$750.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack since this is a re-appointment it was voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to Mario Guay to the position of Board of Registrars for term March 24, 2025.

*Councilor Tyros Asked that 10648, 10649, and 10650, be voted on at the same time since they are all re-appointments to the Cemetery Commission.
Councilor Walsh and Councilor Mack agreed.*

10648 Brian LaRoche to the position of Cemetery Commission Member, for term expiring March 29, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

Brian LaRoche:

Brian was not able to attend the meeting.

Mayor's statement:

Brian has served about 15 years. This commission advises the Director of Public Works in the financial aspects and operations regarding City owned lands and the cemeteries and both commissions are required for us to have per our City Ordinances. members of the Municipal Grounds Committee receive an annual stipend of \$750 positions on the Cemetery Commission are unpaid, volunteer positions.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to Brian LaRoche to the position of Cemetery Commission for term March 29, 2025.

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10649 Denise Merriam to the position of Cemetery Commission Member, for term expiring March 30, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

Denise Merriam:

Denise was not able to attend the meeting.

Mayor's statement:

Denise was appointed following the passing of Commissioner Ludger Robichaud.

This commission advises the Director of Public Works in the financial aspects and operations regarding City owned lands and the cemeteries and both commissions are required for us to have per our City Ordinances. Positions on the Cemetery Commission are unpaid, volunteer positions.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to Denise Merriam to the position of Cemetery Commission for term March 30, 2025.

10650 John Awdyeki to the position of Cemetery Commission Member, for term expiring March 30, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

John Awdyeki:

John was not able to attend the meeting.

Mayor's statement:

John has served about 15 years in this role. This commission advises the Director of Public Works in the financial aspects and operations regarding City owned lands and the cemeteries and both commissions are required for us to have per our City Ordinances. Positions on the Cemetery Commission are unpaid, volunteer positions.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to John Awdyeki to the position of Cemetery Commission for term March 30, 2025.

Councilor Tyros Asked that 10651, 10652, and 10653, be voted on at the same time since they are all re-appointments to the Municipal Grounds.

Councilor Walsh and Councilor Mack agreed.

10651 Brian LaRoche to the position of Municipal Grounds, for term expiring March 29, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

Brian LaRoche:

Brian was not able to attend the meeting.

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Mayor's statement:

This commission advises the Director of Public Works in the financial aspects and operations regarding City owned lands and the cemeteries and both commissions are required for us to have per our City Ordinances. Members of the Municipal Grounds Committee receive an annual stipend of \$750.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to Brian LaRoche to the position of Municipal Ground for term March 30, 2025.

10652 John Awdyeki to the position of Municipal Grounds, for term expiring March 30, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

John Awdyeki:

John was not able to attend the meeting.

Mayor's statement:

John has served about 15 years in this role. This commission advises the Director of Public Works in the financial aspects and operations regarding City owned lands and the cemeteries and both commissions are required for us to have per our City Ordinances. Members of the Municipal Grounds Committee receive an annual stipend of \$750.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to John Awdyeki to the position of Municipal Grounds for term March 30, 2025.

10653 Denise Merriam to the position of Cemetery Municipal Grounds, for term expiring March 30, 2025. *(In the City Council and Referred to Appointments Committee 4/4/2022).*

Denise Merriam:

Denise was not able to attend the meeting.

Mayor's statement:

This commission advises the Director of Public Works in the financial aspects and operations regarding City owned lands and the cemeteries and both commissions are required for us to have per our City Ordinances. Members of the Municipal Grounds Committee receive an annual stipend of \$750.

Motion on Recommendation:

On a Motion by councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack voted to recommend that the City Council confirm the Mayor's Appointment to Denise Merriam to the position of Municipal Grounds for term March 30, 2025

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III. New Business:

Fire Chief Gregory R. Lagoy has notified the Mayor that they have two newly hired Firefighters at the Gardner fire Department. Probationary Firefighter Patrick Swensen was hired in August of 2021, and Probationary Firefighter Stenio Pereira was hired in October of 2021. Both recently successfully completed the Massachusetts Fire Academy Career Recruit Training Program, they graduated on March 4, 2022.

They completed in-house training prior to attending the Academy, and immediately after graduation began working as full-fledged Members of the City's firefighting Force. Firefighter Swensen has been assigned to Group 4 and Firefighter Pereira has been assigned to Group 3.

Councilor James Walsh: Nothing to add.

Councilor Judy Mack: Thank you to the members for coming.

Councilor George Tyros: Thank you to the members and the mayor for coming out today.

Mayor: Via Phone, Thank you!

On a motion by Councilor James Walsh and seconded by Councilor Judy Mack,
all agree to adjourned.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:56 pm.