



***Waltham City Council  
Public Works and Public Safety Committee  
Minutes  
Monday, December 7, 2020  
Waltham Government Center  
119 School Street Waltham, MA***

Chairman LeBlanc called them meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**Attendance**

**Present:**

Councillor Harris  
Councillor LaFauci  
Councillor Mackin  
Councillor O'Brien  
Councillor LeBlanc  
**Absent:** None

Councillor Harris moved approval of minutes from 10/5/2020.

***Resolution Concerning Garden Crest***

Councillor LaFauci moved to hear from Police Chief MacPherson, Asst. Director of Health Creonte and Building Inspector Forte. The motion was approved on a voice vote. Councillor Durkee spoke about a number of issues at Garden Crest Apartments, including the recent assaults, overcrowding and trash overflowing from dumpsters. Councillor Durkee reviewed the steps he has taken to date.

Councillor Harris asked a number of questions of the Police Chief. Chief MacPherson said that the issue is that the more people you have in a location the more problems that the police have to respond to. He indicated that police are there more often because it appears that there are more people living there than in the past.

Councillor Harris asked a number of questions of Building Inspector Forte. Mr. Forte responded that they had found illegal basement units at Garden Crest. That there have been 12 violations since 2014. Mr. Forte said that since management has been responsive he has not issue fines. Chairman LeBlanc asked about overflowing trash. Mr. Forte said the Health Department usually handles those complaints.

Councillor LaFauci asked if the City sees more complaints at Garden Crest than at similar complexes such as Charles Bank. Assistant Director Creonte said yes there are more problems there. Councillor Harris asked questions of Mr. Creonte. He said the Health Department is at Garden Crest bi-weekly due to violations of the sanitary code. Assistant Director Creonte was limited in how much he could say due to active litigation regarding the violations. Questions were asked about rodent and other activity. Councillor Harris moved to lay the matter on the table. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Councillor LaFauci moved to adjourn at 7:09 pm. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph W. Vizard, Assistant City Clerk