

TOWN OF GARDNER
Resolution No. 01-2024

Authorize Borrowing for and Construction of Broadband Internet Infrastructure

WHEREAS, The Town residents completed a town-wide survey on Broadband which supported an initiative for the Town Board of Supervisors to proceed with the Construction and Installation of a town-wide Broadband Internet Infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS the Town Board of Supervisors has pursued bids and options for such project and has reached an agreement with Connect Holding II LLC d/b/a/ Brightspeed for the implementation of Broadband Internet Infrastructure to residence and business locations.

AND WHEREAS the Broadband Internet Infrastructure project will involve a commitment to the Town to borrow money to pay approximately 25% of the total project cost, with the remainder anticipated to be paid by Brightspeed and grant providers;

AND WHEREAS the Town Board of Supervisors is committed to assuring that the residents of the Town are in favor of proceeding with this project;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Board of Supervisors of the Town of Gardner do hereby resolve to submit the following referendum question to appear on the ballot to the electors of the Town in the Spring election of 2024:

Do you support the Town of Gardner borrowing money in an amount not to exceed \$1,242,686 to fund capital improvements for development of a new High-Speed Broadband Internet Fiber Optic Infrastructure throughout the Town in partnership with Connect Holding II, LLC, d/b/a/ Brightspeed?

The Town of Gardner has applied for a Capital Project Fund Grant which, if awarded, may reduce the total funds that the Town needs to contribute to the project. The referendum is not a binding referendum, and the Town Board may or may not proceed with the project.

A vote of "yes" will express to the Town Board your support to have the Town borrow money for the Broadband Infrastructure Project.

A vote of "no" will express to the Town Board that you do not approve of the borrowing of money for the Broadband Infrastructure Project.

Adopted at a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Gardner this
22nd day of January 2023.

Attest:



Town Clerk