There was a pre-meeting of the City Council in Conference Room A at 6:30 p.m. No Council actions were taken at pre-meetings. Pre-meetings are open to the public.


Absent: Councilors Judkins.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

CONSENT AGENDA:

19-048 City Manager (Bureau of City Clerk)
BE IT ORDERED, that the minutes of the City Council Regular Business Meeting held March 21, 2019, submitted by the City Clerk’s office be approved.

19-049 City Manager (Bureau of City Clerk)
BE IT ORDERED, that the minutes of the City Council Special Business Meeting held March 28, 2019, submitted by the City Clerk’s office be approved.

19-050 City Manager (Bureau of Audit)
BE IT ORDERED, that the Roll of Accounts for the month of March 2019 in the amount of $6,329,148.92 be approved.

19-051 City Manager
BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council does hereby grant approval pursuant to Title 15 M.R.S., section 5824(3) & 5826(6) to the transfer of $612.00, or any portion thereof to the Augusta Police Department, on the grounds that the City of Augusta Police Department did make a substantial contribution to the investigation of the criminal case, namely, State of Maine vs. Jason G. Maxim.

Motion for passage of the Consent Agenda orders 19-048 to 19-051.
By: Lind Second by: Alexander
Yeas: 7
Nays: 0
NEW BUSINESS:
PART 1 – ORDERS AND RESOLVES

19-052 City Manager

City Manager

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Manager is hereby authorized to accept the $5,000 offer made through the real estate firm RE/MAX Riverside on the tax acquired property at Orchard Street, Map 21 Lot 31.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the net proceeds from the sale be credited to the reserve for demolition of unsafe structures located in the City.

Motion for passage of order 19-052.
By: Conti Second by: Lind
Yeas: 7
Nays: 0

NEW BUSINESS PART 2 – ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

NO VOTE REQUIRED

19-053 Mayor and Council

WHEREAS, a Moratorium Ordinance regarding Medical Marijuana Storefronts was enacted on May 17, 2018 and extended on October 18, 2018;

WHEREAS, a Moratorium Ordinance regarding Medical Marijuana Caregivers in Certain Residential Zones was enacted on October 18, 2018;

WHEREAS, City officials and staff have been working diligently to discuss and propose zoning, licensing and operational standards for Medical Marijuana Caregivers and Medical Marijuana Storefronts (“the Moratoria”);

Motion to suspend further reading of order 19-053.
By: Wilson Second by: Conti
Yeas: 4 – Councilors Conti, Elliott, Wilson and Alexander
Nays: 3 – Councilors Lind, O’Brien and Day
Motion passed

WHEREAS, since enactment of these Moratoria, the Maine Legislature enacted sweeping changes to the laws regarding medical marijuana establishments, and various agencies of the State are pursuing rulemaking regarding licensure and operation of marijuana related establishments;

WHEREAS, City officials and staff must review the relevant legislation and rules in order to determine the appropriate review and enforcement standards to be included within the City Code; and
WHEREAS, it is the City’s intent that such review be completed and that relevant ordinances enacted before the State begins issuing licenses for Medical Marijuana Caregivers and Medical Marijuana Storefronts;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Augusta, that the Moratorium Ordinance regarding Medical Marijuana Caregivers in Certain Residential Zones and the Moratorium Ordinance regarding Medical Marijuana Storefronts are each hereby extended for an additional 180-day period, unless sooner repealed in whole or in part by the City Council.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, this Ordinance is enacted as an emergency ordinance pursuant to Article 2, Section 9 of the City Charter because a potential lapse in marijuana licensing affects public health and safety. It becomes effective the date of enactment by the City Council.

Motion to waive second reading of order 19-053.
By: O’Brien Second by: Elliott
Yeas: 7
Nays: 0

Motion for passage of order 19-053.
By: O’Brien Second by: Alexander
Yeas: 6
Nays: 1 – Councilor Wilson

COMMUNICATIONS

Committee Reports
City Manager’s Report

19-053 City Manager

Motion to move order 19-053 to enter executive session at 7:27 p.m. for Personnel Matter and Labor Negotiations in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A., §405(6)(A&D).
By: Conti Second by: Alexander
Yeas: 7
Nays: 0

Motion to leave executive session and adjourn at 9:15 p.m.
By: Lind Second by: Day
Yeas: 7
Nays: 0

Respectfully submitted,
Roberta L. Fogg, City Clerk
April 4, 2019

Minutes 04/04/2019