All members of the Council were present; Mayor Stokes presided.

Presentation - Historic building plaque for 107 Winthrop Street (Kennebec Historical Society): Henry Weld Fuller, Jr. House

Presentation - Director of Public Works, Lesley Jones, regarding access to the “FreeCycle” website

Presentation - Chuck Hayes, from MaineGeneral, Farmer’s Market DVD

Public comments were held on items listed on the agenda.

OLD BUSINESS AND TABLED MATTERS

READ AND TABLED

11-146
ORDERED, That the City Manager be authorized to contract for demolition and improvements to Haymarket Square not including the construction of new bathroom facilities and not to exceed $120,000 from the Downtown TIF.

12-047
ORDERED, That the City Manager be authorized to contract with Neokraft signs of Lewiston, Maine to manufacture and install Welcome and Gateway signage additions on existing gateway signage infrastructure that will incorporate the City’s new logo for an amount not to exceed $6,990.00 to be charged to the Council Contingency fund.

(NO MOTION TO REMOVE FROM TABLE)

OLD BUSINESS

READ AND PASSED

12-035
ORDERED, That following a public hearing the application for a Malt and Vinous Liquor License be approved for:

   Judy Li, d/b/a Great Wall Buffet

Motion to remove from table by: O’Brien Second by: Paradis
Yeas: 8: Byron, Grant, Paradis, O’Brien Rollins, Bilodeau, Emery, Munson
Nays: 0:
ORDERED, That following a public hearing the application for a Malt and Vinous Liquor License be approved for:

Lee Kerr of L and B BBQ LLC d/b/a Dickey’s Barbeque Pit

Motion to remove from table by:  Munson  Second by:  Rollins
Yeas:  8:  Byron, Grant, Paradis, O’Brien
        Rollins, Bilodeau, Emery, Munson
Nays:  0:

Motion for passage by:  Rollins  Second by:  Grant
Yeas:  8:  Byron, Grant, Paradis, O’Brien
        Rollins, Bilodeau, Emery, Munson
Nays:  0:

NEW BUSINESS

READ AND PASSED AS AMENDED

12-062
WHEREAS, the Augusta City Council has been favorably impressed with the presentation by supporters and users of the Dog Park located at the City of Augusta Edwards Mill Park; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that creation of the Dog Park Committee could add significantly to the recreational opportunities and quality of life to the residents of the City of Augusta and its environs; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council finds the request of the Dog Park users and supporters to establish a Dog Park Committee to benefit the Augusta community worthy of consideration; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to encourage the proponents of said committee and facilitate their ability to raise funds by establishing a Dog Park Committee,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, That the Mayor and City Council of Augusta do authorize the establishment of the Dog Park Committee with members to be appointed by the Mayor, to include at least one member of the City Council.

Motion to amend, adding the underlined text:  O’Brien  Second by:  Munson
Yeas:  8:  Byron, Grant, Paradis, O’Brien
        Rollins, Bilodeau, Emery, Munson
Nays:  0:
Motion for passage as amended by: Grant  Second by: Paradis  
Yeas: 8: Byron, Grant, Paradis, O’Brien 
Rollins, Bilodeau, Emery, Munson  
Nays: 0: 

NEW BUSINESS (Cont’)

READ AND PASSED

12-056
ORDERED, That the minutes of the City Council meeting held April 12, 2012, submitted by the Deputy City Clerk, be approved.

Motion for passage by: O’Brien  Second by: Grant  
Yeas: 8: Byron, Grant, Paradis, O’Brien 
Rollins, Bilodeau, Emery, Munson  
Nays: 0: 

12-057
ORDERED, That the election clerks listed in the attachments be appointed in accordance with Title 21-A, Section 503(1), said terms to expire May 1, 2014.

Motion for passage by: Paradis  Second by: Byron  
Yeas: 8: Byron, Grant, Paradis, O’Brien 
Rollins, Bilodeau, Emery, Munson  
Nays: 0: 

12-058
WHEREAS, the City Council’s Goals for 2012 included as Goal 2 ‘To Improve Internal and External Communications’ which recognizes the importance of Council communication with the public, its legislators, City staff and each other; and,

WHEREAS, it was noted that many citizens did not know the good news about the performance of Augusta schools and city government; and,

WHEREAS, effective communication must flow both ways, information going out to inform and educate people about what the choices are must be clear, and the opportunity for feedback and advice to come back to the Council at key points in their decision making process; and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Board, Board of Zoning Appeals and the Greater Augusta Utility District impact public policy and are of significant interest to the citizens of the City of Augusta; and,

WHEREAS, other City Boards and Commissions carry out important work for the citizens of the City of Augusta; and,
WHEREAS, the Council identified under Actions, to look into expanding the use of CTV-7 by exploring ways to improve the quality of televised School Board meetings and to potentially televise Planning Board meetings;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ORDERED, That the School Board will be given the option to hold televised meetings in City Council chambers; and the Planning Board, Board of Zoning Appeals and the Greater Augusta Utility District meetings are allowed and strongly encouraged to be televised in City Council chambers. Further, given time and resources available, other City Boards and Commissions may hold televised meetings in City Council chambers. Further, that the City Manager’s office shall be responsible for coordinating the scheduled use of Council Chambers and shall afford first priority for use of the Chambers to Council meetings.

Be it further ORDERED, That the Office of the City Manager shall be responsible for the scheduling of usage of the Council Chambers and in the event of a conflict of usage that cannot be resolved by the City Manager the matter shall be referred to City Council for resolution.

Motion for passage by: Munson Second by: Bilodeau
Yeas: 8: Byron, Grant, Paradis, O’Brien
Rollins, Bilodeau, Emery, Munson
Nays: 0:

12-059
ORDERED, That the City of Augusta does hereby authorize the conveyance of a tax acquired property residential parcel of land, located at 17 Orchard Street, map 21 lot 27, to Habitat for Humanity for $1.00 for the purpose of habitat constructing a new single family residence consistent with their housing program.

Motion for passage by: O’Brien Second by: Byron
Yeas: 8: Byron, Grant, Paradis, O’Brien
Rollins, Bilodeau, Emery, Munson
Nays: 0:

12-060
ORDERED, That the City Manager is authorized to offer for sale by sealed bid a City owned tax acquired property located at 478 Eight Rod Road, map 2 lot 144. City Council reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Motion for passage by: Rollins Second by: Paradis
Yeas: 8: Byron, Grant, Paradis, O’Brien
Rollins, Bilodeau, Emery, Munson
Nays: 0:

12-061
WHEREAS, the City Council finds that multiple freestanding signs at outdoor recreational fields act as a balance, allowing an area without a structure on which to display a wall sign to have more than one freestanding sign;
NOW, THEREFORE, be it ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Augusta, that the Planning Board review and make a recommendation to the Council regarding the allowance of multiple free standing signs at outdoor recreational fields:

Amend Sections 5.1.17.4.1.1, 5.1.17.4.1.2 and 5.1.17.4.1.3 of the Land Use Ordinance to read as follows:

5.1.17.1.1.1 In the CB, CC, CD, GS, IA, KBD2, MED, and PD on each street or highway on which the premises has frontage and two per street frontage for public or private outdoor recreational fields;

5.1.17.1.1.2 Only one ground graphic in the BP, RBV, RC, RD, and RV on one street or highway on which the premises has frontage, and two per street frontage for public or private outdoor recreational fields;

5.1.17.1.1.3 Only one ground graphic in the PD2, RA, RB1, RB2, RPDS, RR, RR2, RRES, and only when no other street graphics are erected, constructed, or placed on the premises, and two per street frontage for public or private outdoor recreational fields when no other street graphics are erected, constructed, or placed on the premises.

Motion for passage by: Paradis
Second by: Byron
Yeas: 8: Byron, Grant, Paradis, O’Brien, Rollins, Bilodeau, Emery, Munson
Nays: 0:

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina M Charest, Deputy City Clerk
April 20, 2012