MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 16, 2012
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY CENTER
7:00 P.M.

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

Public comments were held on items listed on the agenda.

OLD BUSINESS AND TABLED MATTERS

READ AND TABLED

12-111
WHEREAS, the City Council finds that increasing the likelihood of preserving Augusta’s historic buildings contributes positively to Augusta’s sense of place and is supported by the 2007 Comprehensive Plan (Volume I, Page 29);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, By the City Council of the City of Augusta, that:

Section 6-35 of the Augusta Code of Ordinances be repealed in its entirety and replaced with the attached language.

(NO MOTION TO REMOVE FROM TABLE)

NEW BUSINESS

READ AND PASSED

12-122
ORDERED, That the minutes of the City Council meeting held August 2, 2012, submitted by the City Clerk be approved.

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

12-123
ORDERED, That the City Council accept a donation of $20.00 from Raymond Bonsant of Augusta, Maine for fire prevention materials.

Motion for passage by: Munson Second by: Grant
Yeas: 8; Byron, Grant, Paradis, O’Brien
Rollins, Bilodeau, Emery, Munson
Nays: 0
12-124
ORDERED, That Martha Muetzel be appointed to the Conservation Commission; said term to expire on August 16, 2015.

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

12-125
BE IT ORDERED. That the City Manager is authorized to accept grant funding in the amount not to exceed $2,000.00 from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife for the 2012 ATV Enforcement Grant. Grant funding will be utilized to provide directed ATV enforcement in Augusta.

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

12-126
BE IT ORDERED, That the following sums be and hereby appropriated for the following capital improvement projects:

- City Wide Paving $350,000
- Rescue 3 Ambulance Replacement $195,000
- Equipment Storage Building-Public Works $130,000
- City Wide Sidewalks $20,000
- Installation of 3 Traffic Pre-Emption Equipment $20,000
- Replace Roof Storage Garage-Police Station $15,000
- Replacement Mowers $15,000
- City Center Parking Lot Drainage $12,000
- Cunningham Park-Fencing $11,700
- Cunningham Park-Water Element $11,500
- City Wide Street Signage Improvement $10,000
- City Wide Swimming Pool Improvements $6,000
- Replacement Water Heater-Hartford Station $5,000

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That the following sum be and hereby appropriated from the City’s Unassigned Fund Balance, $516,200.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That the following sum be and hereby be appropriated from surplus cash capital improvement funds, $285,000.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That the following sum be and hereby authorized for the following capital improvement projects:
CENTRAL GARAGE

Power Washer $7,000
Replacement 4 Wheel Drive SUV $22,000
Replacement ¾ Ton Pickup & Plow $28,000
Replacement ¾ Ton Pickup W/Utility Body $30,000
Replacement Sidewalk Tractor $130,000
Replacement CLASS 8 Dump Truck $135,000

HATCH HILL

Two New Roll Off Containers $10,000
Pump Station Upgrade $60,000
Temporary Closure North Side of Expansion III $150,000

CIVIC CENTER

Carpet Extractor $4,000
Pipe and Drape $10,000
16” Stage Sections $10,000
Stack Ovens for Kitchen $10,000
Banquet Chairs $12,000
Pneumatics Upgrades $12,000
North Wing Entry Doors $15,000
Replace Lobby Heaters $18,000
Caulking of Doors/Windows $18,500
Auditorium Destratification $25,000
Roof Repair Main Auditorium/Misc Areas $30,000
Upgrade North Wing 2nd Level Décor $30,000
Repair/Replace Restroom Plumbing $50,000

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

12-127
WHEREAS, the City of Augusta has been a responsible partner with the State of Maine for the almost two centuries that the State’s primary mental health treatment facilities have been centered in Augusta, and

WHEREAS, with the advent of modern medications and community-based care therapies, the City of Augusta has absorbed as residents thousands of current and former patients of the State mental health treatment system, and

WHEREAS, the City of Augusta recognizes and supports the concepts of community-based treatment of mental illness, and its ongoing responsibilities as host community thereof, and
WHEREAS, the housing and treatment of potentially dangerous forensic mentally ill patients is accepted as a necessary component of the State’s treatment facilities, and

WHEREAS, to be fair to the residents of the City of Augusta and to make the partnership between the City and the State effective, full and open communication and cooperation must exist between the two entities,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Augusta City Council does hereby express its disappointment and concern at the recent lack of advance communication by State authorities regarding their decision to close their three on-campus forensic group homes and relocate those patients into homes in residential neighborhoods.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council does hereby request that the State of Maine and/or Motivational Services, Inc. reinstate the recently discontinued Intensive Case Manager position within the Augusta Police department and does ask that Motivational Services establish a modest payment-in-lieu-of-taxes plan to provide funds to offset some of the direct costs incurred annually by the City of Augusta, most particularly police, fire and EMS services, associated with Motivational Services Augusta-based clients and facilities.

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

12-128
ORDERED, That the City Council enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter: 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A).

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara E. Wardwell, City Clerk
August 17, 2012