All members of Council were present except Councilor McCormick; Mayor Rollins presided.

Proclamation – Saturday, November 28, 2015 as Small Business Saturday

Presentation – WWI Plaques Ceremony at Cony

Presentation – Historic Building Plaque to Steven & Maryanne Prince, owners of the William Pillsbury House, circa. 1832, 18 South Chestnut Street, by Andrew Loman, Historic Preservation Commission Member.

Public comments were held on items listed on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

HAS BEEN READ AND PASSED

15-178
ORDERED, That the minutes of the City Council meeting held November 5, 2015; submitted by the City Clerk be approved.

Motion for passage by: Bilodeau Second by: Munson
Y eas:  7;  Conti, Grant, Paradis, Blodgett,
Munson, Bilodeau, Emery
Nays:  0

15-179
ORDERED, That Scott Benson be reappointed to the Assessment Review Board, said term to expire December 20, 2018.

Motion for passage by: Bilodeau Second by: Munson
Y eas:  7;  Conti, Grant, Paradis, Blodgett,
Munson, Bilodeau, Emery
Nays:  0

15-181
WHEREAS, the Augusta City Council commits to being a military friendly community and to providing support to the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces, Reserves and National Guard; and,

WHEREAS, the Augusta City Council does hereby recognize the importance of working cooperatively with our community partners to honor the commitment Service Members, Veterans and their families make every day; and,

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WHEREAS, the Augusta City Council recognizes that the strength of Service Members and veterans comes from the strength of their family and that the family is supported by the strength of the community and the strength of the community comes from the support of faith groups, employers, businesses, educators, civic leaders and it’s citizens.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That Mayor David Rollins is authorized on behalf of the City of Augusta to enter into a Community Covenant wherein the Augusta City Council and the military community are committed to building and maintaining partnerships in our community that support the strength, resilience and readiness of Service Members, Veterans and their families.

Motion for passage by: Bilodeau    Second by: Munson
Yeas: 7;    Conti, Grant, Paradis, Blodgett,
Munson, Bilodeau, Emery
Nays: 0

15-182
ORDERED, That the City Manager is authorized to offer for sale by sealed bid the City owned tax acquired properties located at:

- 36 Oak Street, Map 34, Lot 124
- 110 Northern Avenue, Map 35 Lot 289
- 44 State Street, Map 34 Lot 206
- 4 Chase Avenue, Map 34 Lot 270

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That the City reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

Motion for passage by: Bilodeau    Second by: Blodgett
Yeas: 7;    Conti, Grant, Paradis, Blodgett,
Munson, Bilodeau, Emery
Nays: 0

15-183
BE IT ORDERED, That the City Manager is authorized to enter into an agreement lasting not longer than 6 months with a real estate agent of his choosing for the purposes of establishing the sale price, listing, marketing and selling the following properties located at:

- Lone Indian Trail, Map 4A, Lot 72B
- 323 Bolton Hill Road, Map 11, Lot 53

Motion for passage by: Bilodeau    Second by: Emery
Yeas: 7;    Conti, Grant, Paradis, Blodgett,
Munson, Bilodeau, Emery
Nays: 0
15-184
BE IT ORDERED, That the City Manager is authorized to enter into a purchase and sales agreement with Eric Fitzsimmons, 11 Patterson Street, Augusta, Maine for the purchase of 9 Patterson Street, Augusta, Maine in the amount of $1.00 and other valuable consideration, under the condition that Mr. Fitzsimmons demolish the structure within 90 days of any delay imposed under the Demolition Delay Ordinance. Failure to comply will result in the property ownership reverting back to the City.

Motion for passage by: Blodgett    Second by: Bilodeau
Yeas:  7;  Conti, Grant, Paradis, Blodgett, Munson, Bilodeau, Emery
Nays:  0

15-185
ORDERED, That the City Council accept a grant from Maine Municipal Association’s Safety Enhancement Program in the amount of $1,446.46. The funds will be used to purchase ice and water rescue safety equipment. Said grant requires a local match of $723.12. The local match is contained within the Fire Department’s FY 2016 operating budget.

Motion for passage by: Emery    Second by: Munson
Yeas:  7;  Conti, Grant, Paradis, Blodgett, Munson, Bilodeau, Emery
Nays:  0

Councilor McCormick joined the meeting.

15-180
WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Augusta finds that demolition of historically significant buildings during the adoption process of the Augusta Historic District Ordinance may result in the loss of buildings that could otherwise be saved; and

WHEREAS, a temporary moratorium will ensure that demolitions of historically significant buildings within the proposed historic district happen in an orderly and efficient manner in accordance with a set of standards that are anticipated to be part of the new Historic District Ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, That a temporary moratorium lasting 180 days, in accordance with Title 30-A, Section 4356, of the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, shall be in place for the issuance of all demolition permits for buildings within the proposed Augusta Historic District and deemed historically significant by the Augusta Historic Preservation Commission in accordance with its administration of the Demolition Delay ordinance. Demolition permits may be issued for buildings deemed not to be historically significant or for buildings that, in the opinion of the Code Enforcement Office, pose a public safety hazard.
Motion for passage by: Conti Second by: McCormick
Yeas: 6; Conti, Grant, Paradis, Blodgett,
Munson, McCormick
Nays: 2; Bilodeau, Emery

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara E. Wardwell, City Clerk
November 23, 2015