INFORMATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, April 9, 2015
CITY HALL (COUNCIL CHAMBERS)
Immediately Following Budget Review Meeting

A. Items for discussion submitted by the City Council and/or the City Manager:
   1. Zoning ordinance amendment for museums – City Manager

B. Persons wishing to address the City Council who have submitted a formal request in accordance with Section 2-61 of the Code of Ordinances:

C. Open comment period for any persons wishing to address the City Council.
Memo

To: City Council
    William Bridgeo, City Manager

From: Matt Nazar, Director of Development Services

Date: April 6, 2015

Re: Museums

At its March 28, 2015, meeting the Planning Board voted to unanimously recommend a change to the Land Use Ordinance that would create a new use called “Museums” with the following definition:

The proposed definition of a museum is:

Museum: a non-profit, permanent institution in the service of society and its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purposes of education, study and enjoyment.

They further recommended that the use “museums” be removed from the definition of a “service” to avoid overlapping definitions in the ordinance.

And finally, the Board recommends including museums as conditional uses in the BP, CC, KBD1, and KBD2 zones.

These changes would both accommodate a proposed new First Amendment museum at the Gannett House next door to the Blaine House, and would ensure that all of the existing museums in the city (Maine State Museum, Children’s Museum, and Old Fort Western) remain or become conforming uses where they are located.
TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: City Manager Bill Bridgeo
RE: Administrative Report
DATE: April 6, 2015

Meetings:

The City Council will meet on Thursday, April 9, 2015 for a Budget Review and Informational Meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers. The agenda and budget review schedule are enclosed in council packets.

A ground-breaking ceremony for the Lithgow Library project has been scheduled for 5:00 pm Thursday, May 7th. I look forward to seeing all who receive this report at the Library grounds at that time.

Other Items:

The informational meeting agenda for this Thursday is light so hopefully we can get a good head start on reviewing the proposed budget. Please feel free to contact me before then if you have specific budget-related questions I can assist with.

Once again last weekend, our public safety crews were called upon to respond to a major fire in the City. Janice and I were dining downtown when the trucks went by. We spent an hour or so watching the firefighting efforts from a bird’s eye vantage point at the end of Crosby Street. The effective efforts to save the abutting building were pretty impressive. Adding to the intensity of the situation, several hundred rounds of ammunition that were in one of the apartment units went off as the firefighters were battling the blaze.

C: Department and Bureau Directors
Augusta Legislative Delegation