

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

AUGUSTA, MAINE

August 9, 2007

Minutes of the regular City Council meeting held Monday, August 6, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, City Center.

All members of the Council were present except Councilors Byron, O'Brien and Lund; Mayor Katz presided.

Presentation - Recognition of Current City of Augusta Employees Who Have Served in Iraq or Afghanistan:

Christian Behr - Police Department

Brian Kincaid - Public Works

Edward McGuire - Civic Center

Richard Miller - Fire Department

James Worcester - Fire Department

Presentation - Recognition of the Capital Mainiacs for Winning the American Softball Association (ASA) 10 - U Maine State Championship and New England Regional Championship

Presentation - Update by the Conservation Commission

Public comments were held on items listed on the agenda.

OLD BUSINESS AND TABLED MATTERS

HAS BEEN READ AND TABLED

131 WHEREAS, commercial blasting and use of explosives for purposes of quarrying mineral extraction and the production of construction materials have been occurring frequently in the City of Augusta, and whereas numerous reports of property damage resulting from such blasting have been communicated to the City, and

WHEREAS, current City of Augusta Ordinances are inadequate to effectively regulate and prevent serious public harm and property damage which may occur as a result of blasting in the City, and

WHEREAS, City Staff is aware of planned blasting in the vicinity of residential homes in the City, and

WHEREAS, the City Council has appointed a Committee to draft a new Ordinance regulating blasting, which has not completed its work, and

OLD BUSINESS AND TABLED MATTERS (Con't)HAS BEEN READ AND TABLED (Con't)

131 Continued

WHEREAS, the City Council needs additional time to complete the process of enacting a new Ordinance regulating blasting.

NOW THEREFORE, The Council hereby ORDERS that a moratorium be enacted effective as of the date of passage by Council which prohibits all commercial blasting and use of explosives for the purpose of mineral extraction, quarrying or the production of construction materials within 2000 feet of a residence.

This moratorium will expire in one hundred eighty (180) days from the date of passage or upon the effective date of enactment of a new Ordinance regulating blasting, whichever occurs first.

(NO MOTION TO REMOVE FROM TABLE)

NEW BUSINESSHAS BEEN READ AND PASSED, AS AMENDED

158 ORDERED, That the City Council place the following two questions on the November ballot:

Question 1: "Do you support favor merging the Augusta Water District and the Augusta Sanitary District to form the Greater Augusta Utility District?"

Question 2: "Do you support favor including the sewer functions of the Hallowell Water District in the Greater Augusta Utility District?"

Yeas: 5; Doore, Gomeau,  
Rollins, Coffin, Koski

Nays: 0

159 WHEREAS, the City Council has been made aware of a safety deficiency on the Cony Road due to sub-standard site sight distances at the intersections of Cony Road with two private roads; and

WHEREAS, the City Engineer has recommended to the City Manager and to the City Council that the speed limit be reduced from 45 miles per hour to 35 miles per hour in order to bring the site sight distance at the above mentioned intersections above the minimum recommended standard; and

NEW BUSINESS (Con't)HAS BEEN READ AND PASSED, AS AMENDED (Con't)

159 Continued

WHEREAS, any change to the posted speed limits on any roads in the City of Augusta requires a letter of request from an official of the City of Augusta be sent to the Maine Department of Transportation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED By the Council of the City of Augusta that the City Engineer is authorized and directed to send a letter of request to the Maine Department of Transportation for a speed limit change on the Cony Road from 45 miles per hour to 35 miles per hour beginning at the Augusta/Chelsea line thence northerly about 0.64 miles to the existing 30 mile per hour zone.

Yeas: 5; Doore, Gomeau,  
Rollins, Coffin, Koski

Nays: 0

HAS BEEN READ AND PASSED

154 ORDERED, That minutes of the City Council meetings held July 16, 2007 and July 30, 2007 submitted by the City Clerk be approved.

Yeas: 5; Doore, Gomeau,  
Rollins, Coffin, Koski

Nays: 0

155 ORDERED, That Roll of Accounts for the month of July 2007 in the amount of \$4,202,499.21 be approved.

Yeas: 5; Doore, Gomeau,  
Rollins, Coffin, Koski

Nays: 0

156 ORDERED, That Brian Marson, Jr. be reappointed to the Augusta Housing Authority; said term to expire August 3, 2012.

Yeas: 5; Doore, Gomeau,  
Rollins, Coffin, Koski

Nays: 0

157 ORDERED, That William McKenna replace Barry Cote as the Planning Board member to the Capital Riverfront Improvement District; said term to expire August 6, 2010.

Yeas: 5; Doore, Gomeau,  
Rollins, Coffin, Koski

Nays: 0

NEW BUSINESS (Con't)

HAS BEEN READ AND PASSED (Con't)

160 ORDERED, That the City Manager is authorized to execute a purchase and sale agreement between the City of Augusta and D & R Development, Inc. for approximately 86.6 acres of land, City Assessor's Map 9, Lot 64, and for approximately 80 acres of land, City Assessor's Map 10, Lot 7, for a total of 166.6 acres in the amount of \$160,000.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That the city attorney shall review and approve as to form all necessary documents required for this transaction.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That \$100,000 be re-appropriated from the City's Designated Fund Balance-Reserve for Cemetery Land and \$60,000 be appropriated from the City's Undesignated Fund Balance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That \$160,000 be appropriated for Land Acquisition (Map 9, Lot 64 and Map 10, Lot 7).

Yeas: 5; Doore, Gomeau,  
Rollins, Coffin, Koski

Nays: 0

161 ORDERED, That \$128,550 be appropriated from Team Cony Donations (Fund 6001) for:

Completion of new softball field	\$ 33,000
Bleachers for Cony High Gymnasium	20,000
Cony High Theater speakers and lighting	17,200
Cony High soundproofing chorus and band rooms	5,000
Cony High sign at Route 105 entrance	43,800
Base for Cony High School Ram	7,950
Bronze plaque for Team Cony Member recognition	1,600
Total:	\$128,550

Yeas: 5; Doore, Gomeau,  
Rollins, Coffin, Koski

Nays: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara E. Wardwell  
City Clerk