



THE CITY OF AUGUSTA

WILLIAM R. STOKES, MAYOR

WILLIAM R. BRIDGEO, CITY MANAGER

CITY COUNCIL

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TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: City Manager Bill Bridgeo
RE: Administrative Report
DATE: April 22, 2013

Meetings:

On Thursday, April 25, the City Council will hold an Informational Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers. The agenda is enclosed. Budget review (Community Services) will continue immediately afterward.

Other Items:

I have placed an item on the informational agenda allowing for discussion of a request by Maine Natural Gas for a standard utility easement across City owned property at the East Side Boat Landing and Waterfront Park (near the gazebo). If granted by Council, this would permit the utility to install a gas main across our property and under the Kennebec River. On the face of it (and after discussion with staff), I see no reason to deny this request. We are researching what an appropriate fair market value of the easement rights would be and that would be the recommended compensation.

This afternoon, I have been asked to testify in favor of Senator Katz's bill (LD 1378) to allow the State to sell the former Gannett mansion abutting the Blaine House to a non-profit for restoration to a museum focused on our American First Amendment freedoms. I think it is a terrific proposal and I have enclosed a copy of my testimony for your information.

WRB/pec

Enclosure

cc: Department and Bureau Directors
Legislative Delegation