

**AGENDA FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2015
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY CENTER
7:00 p.m.**

There will be a pre-meeting of the City Council at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room A. No Council actions are taken at pre-meetings. Pre-meetings are open to the public.

PRESENTATION - Downtown Expo (Councilor Emery)

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under this item will be considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. If a Councilor wishes to discuss one (or more) item(s), Councilor may ask to have the item(s) removed from the Consent Agenda and considered individually.

15-147 Manager (Bureau of City Clerk)

ORDERED, That the minutes of the City Council meetings held August 20, 2015, August 27, 2015(rev) and September 10, 2015; submitted by the City Clerk be approved.

15-148 Manager (Bureau of Audit Accounts)

ORDERED, That the Roll of Accounts for the month of August, 2015 in the amount of \$4,490,249.03 be approved.

15-149 Mayor Rollins

ORDERED, That Joseph Umer be appointed to the Augusta Housing Authority; said term to expire July 17, 2019.

15-150 Mayor Rollins

ORDERED, That Justin Poirier be reappointed to the Planning Board; said term to expire September 20, 2018.

15-151 Mayor Rollins

ORDERED, that Sara Bangs be appointed to the Lithgow Library Board of Trustees, said term to expire September 17, 2018.

OLD BUSINESS AND TABLED MATTERS

SECOND READING

15-141 Councilors Grant, McCormick and Munson

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that vacant and abandoned properties pose a significant public safety risk and that such properties should be identified, and a responsible ownership entity established, the City of Augusta Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to establish a vacant building and property registry.

WHEREAS, a Vacant and Abandoned Property registry that will provide a just, equitable and practicable method for identifying, managing and responding to the numerous issues associated with vacant buildings throughout the City of Augusta.

WHEREAS, This ordinance is intended to prevent or mitigate dangers to health, safety and welfare, promote responsible management, provide a safe neighborhood for residents, safeguard property values, expedite housing repairs, and provide for prompt contact with owners or managers by Police, Fire, and Code Enforcement when issues or emergencies develop.

BE IT ORDAINED, By the City Council of the City of Augusta that Chapter 6, Article I, § 6-92 through 6-99, Property Maintenance – Vacant Building Registration ordinance be enacted (full ordinance language attached).

NEW BUSINESS

15-152 Mayor and Council

ORDERED, That the City Manager is authorized to accept an annual Homeland Security Grant for 2015 Metro Funds in the amount of \$81,481.14 for State Homeland Security Grant Program and \$30,857.13 for Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program. No local match required.

15-153 Mayor and Council

WHEREAS, the State of Maine, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Land require local snowmobile club grant funds to be administered through their municipality, and

WHEREAS, the City of Augusta has two snowmobile clubs who can benefit from said grant funds to help offset their operating and trail grooming expenses, and

WHEREAS, the North Augusta Trail Blazers and Fox Glen Snowmobile Clubs directly benefit from the state funds generated through snowmobile registrations, and

WHEREAS, the local match is generated by each club through their trail maintenance and grooming efforts and no local cash match is otherwise required.

BE IT ORDERED, That City Council on behalf of the North Augusta Trail Blazers and Fox Glen Snowmobile Clubs authorize the City Manager to submit a grant application in an amount up to \$12,000.00 to help offset the club's annual operating expenses and said funds will be proportionally distributed to clubs once funds have been received by the City and fund distribution will be based upon the final expenses submitted by each club.

15-154 Mayor and Council

ORDERED, That the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute the following agreements between the City of Augusta and the Kennebec Land Trust all associated with the acquisition and conservation of the Howard Hill property, said agreements appended to and by reference made part of this order:

- A.) Agreement between the Kennebec Land Trust and the City of Augusta Regarding the Acquisition and Conservation of Howard Hill;

- B.) The Agreement of Stewardship Funds Provision for City-Kennebec Land Trust Contract re Howard Hill;
- C.) The Howard Hill Conservation easement between the City of Augusta and the Kennebec Land Trust

Said agreements having been the subject of City Council review and discussion at its Informational Meeting of September 10, 2015 and to be subject to approval as to form by Corporation Counsel prior to execution.

COMMUNICATIONS

Committee Reports
City Manager's Report

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara E. Wardwell, City Clerk
September 14, 2015