

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

All members of Council were present except Councilors Paradis and McCormick; Mayor Rollins presided.

Presentation - Downtown Expo (Councilor Emery)

Public comments were held on items listed on the agenda.

OLD BUSINESS AND TABLED MATTERS

HAS BEEN READ AND TABLED

15-141

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).

Motion to table to next business meeting by: Grant  
(Councilor Conti absent from voting)

Second by: Bilodeau

Yeas: 5; Grant, Blodgett,  
Bilodeau, Munson, Emery

Nays: 0

NEW BUSINESS

HAS BEEN READ AND PASSED

15-147

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.

Motion for passage by: Emery            Second by: Munson  
Yeas: 5;       Grant, Blodgett,  
                    Bilodeau, Munson, Emery  
Nays: 1;       Conti

15-148

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

Motion for passage by: Emery            Second by: Munson  
Yeas: 5;       Grant, Blodgett,  
                    Bilodeau, Munson, Emery  
Nays: 1;       Conti

15-149

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

Motion for passage by: Emery            Second by: Munson  
Yeas: 5;       Grant, Blodgett,  
                    Bilodeau, Munson, Emery  
Nays: 1;       Conti

15-150

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

Motion for passage by: Emery            Second by: Munson  
Yeas: 5;       Grant, Blodgett,  
                    Bilodeau, Munson, Emery  
Nays: 1;       Conti

15-151

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

Motion for passage by: Emery            Second by: Munson  
Yeas: 5;       Grant, Blodgett,  
                    Bilodeau, Munson, Emery  
Nays: 1;       Conti

15-152

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.

Motion for passage by: Bilodeau      Second by: Emery  
(Councilor Conti absent from voting)  
Yeas: 5;      Grant, Blodgett,  
                    Bilodeau, Munson, Emery  
Nays: 0

15-153

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.

Motion for passage by: Bilodeau      Second by: Grant  
(Councilor Conti absent from voting)  
Yeas: 5;      Grant, Blodgett,  
                    Bilodeau, Munson, Emery  
Nays: 0

15-154

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.

Motion for passage by: Munson      Second by: Bilodeau

Yeas: 6;      Conti, Grant, Blodgett,  
                    Bilodeau, Munson, Emery

Nays: 0

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara E. Wardwell, City Clerk  
September 22, 2015 Revised