



THE CITY OF AUGUSTA

WILLIAM R. STOKES, MAYOR

WILLIAM R. BRIDGEO, CITY MANAGER

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TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: City Manager Bill Bridgeo
RE: Administrative Report
DATE: October 7, 2013

Meetings:

On Thursday, October 10, the City Council will hold its Informational Council Meeting at 6:30pm in Council Chambers. The agenda is enclosed with your packet.

There is also a REX Committee Meeting at 5pm in Conference Room A on October 10th. There will be a Planning Board Meeting in Council Chambers on Tuesday, October 8th at 7pm and the meeting agenda is enclosed in your packets.

Other Items:

There is an item on the agenda for Thursday evening (under Part "B" – written requests submitted by the public) submitted by the engineering consultants for the company that sought approval from the Planning Board in August for a rezoning of residential property on Davenport Street to commercial to accommodate the development of a Dunkin Donuts. The Planning Board unanimously voted against that proposal after strong opposition was expressed by residents of the affected neighborhood. Nonetheless, the applicants do have the right to seek a zone change directly from Council and apparently it is their intention to do so. They have requested that materials related to this request be included in this Council packet.

The race between Mother Nature and the natural gas utilities is on to see how much more underground pipe can be installed before cold weather shuts things down. DPW Director Lesley Jones is being vigilant about ensuring that all street openings are closed up with proper asphalt applications (not temporary cold patch) before the plants close. We do not want to deal with maintaining closed sites that are not ready for a long Maine winter. (On the other hand, we are working closely with both companies to ensure that those customers depending on gas for this winter (including a number of important City buildings) will have it. (On Friday, Summit Utilities delivered their \$750,000 performance bond to us – a key requirement of their contract award).

Last week, the Maine Municipal Association held its annual convention at the Augusta Civic center. They asked Mayor Stokes to welcome the attendees the first morning of the convention. In this packet, I've included Bill's remarks to the full assembly. He did a terrific job and I heard many very positive comments from elected and appointed officials over the next two days.

It will be another couple of weeks before the City Attorney and senior staff will have completed a review and mark-up of the draft general assistance housing inspection ordinance so further Council discussion of it will be scheduled for the informational meeting of October 24th.

C: Department and Bureau Directors
Augusta Legislative Delegation