



THE CITY OF AUGUSTA

WILLIAM R. BRIDGEO
CITY MANAGER

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Bill Bridgeo
RE: Administrative Report
DATE: February 29, 2016

Meetings:

There will be a City Council Business Meeting on Thursday, March 3, 2016 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Agendas are enclosed in your Council Packets. A pre-meeting will take place in Conference Room A.

A Senior Staff Meeting will take place March 4th at the Police Department beginning at 9:15 a.m.

Other Items:

I am pleased to announce that following an extensive search process, I am appointing Barbara Gabri of Monmouth, Maine as the City's next Director of Human Resources. We received forty applications for the position and Ralph St. Pierre (to whom, as a bureau director in the Department of Finance and Administration, the HR Director reports) and I narrowed the field to four (originally six but two later dropped out) finalists for interviews. I appointed a review panel chaired by Ralph and including Police Chief Gregoire, Fire Chief Audette, DPW Director Jones and Development Services Director Nazar. The group felt that two of the candidates were especially well suited to the position so Ralph and I conducted second interviews with them and consequently chose Barbara. As her (enclosed) resume indicates, she has over twenty years of experience as an HR professional, the last eleven as HR Director for Motivational Services here in Augusta – a large and complex organization with a comparable number of full-time employees (250-300). The review panel (and Ralph and I) were impressed with Barbara's relevant experience, her poise, demeanor and maturity and her passion for human resources. We expect Barbara to start with us in mid-April. The salary range for this position is \$68,245 to \$85,176 and Barbara will start at \$79,144. (As an interesting coincidence, our highly regarded HR Director from the years 2000 to 2011, Ellen Blair, also came to us from Motivational Services.) Barbara was encouraged to apply for the position by our outgoing HR Director Kristy Gould as the two of them have worked together in their professional associations. We very much look forward to once again having the vital position of HR Director filled.

I call your attention to last Friday's Maine Municipal Association Legislative Bulletin and the article on the good work that Mayor Rollins (with able assistance from Deputy Police Chief Mills) is doing with the Legislature in the area of comprehensive solutions to combatting the drug abuse epidemic in Maine. Dave continues to invest significant time and effort, including as an active member of the Mayors' Coalition, on this and other issues of importance to our City.

C: Department and Bureau Directors
Augusta Legislative Delegation