



THE CITY OF AUGUSTA

WILLIAM R. STOKES, MAYOR

WILLIAM R. BRIDGEO, CITY MANAGER

CITY COUNCIL

JEFFREY M. BILODEAU CECIL E. MUNSON
MICHAEL G. BYRON MARK S. O'BRIEN
DALE McCORMICK PATRICK E. PARADIS
DAREK M. GRANT DAVID M. ROLLINS

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: City Manager Bill Bridgeo
RE: Administrative Report
DATE: February 10, 2014

Meetings:

There will be a meeting of the Planning Board on Tuesday, February 11th beginning at 7pm. An agenda is included in Council Packets.

An Informational Meeting of the City Council will be held in Council Chambers beginning at 6:30pm on Thursday, February 13, 2014. An agenda is included in Council Packets.

Monday, February 17, 2014 is a City Holiday; City Center will be closed that day.

Other Items:

You will note an agenda item for Thursday dealing with the realignment of the City's four voting wards. The intention here is to brief Council on the required process (as determined by City Charter and State law) and to recommend that a committee comprised of the four ward councilors be appointed by Mayor Stokes to work with City staff and craft a final recommendation for the full Council to adopt.

Also note the item on the agenda related to the Mount Vernon Avenue reconstruction project. Senator Katz and Representative Pouliot have formally requested of MDOT Commissioner David Bernhardt that he attend the meeting and discuss the latest projected schedule for the project (which we were disappointed to learn last week has been pushed off effectively until 2015) and related considerations of importance to the City.

I had a chance to do some snow-shoeing at the Bond Brook recreation area on Saturday. I continue to marvel at the terrific asset we have there and the continued dedication of the cadre of volunteers that (in conjunction with our Parks staff) do so much to keep it maintained. It's always hard to fathom that such a pristine resource is right here in the heart of the City.

Finally, in your packet is a summary of all City bond issuances for the past 25 years as well as a detailed breakdown. Councilor O'Brien requested this material for reference as you deliberate on issues related to capital projects.

C: Department and Bureau Directors
Augusta Legislative Delegation



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INFORMATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2014

CITY HALL (COUNCIL CHAMBERS)

6:30 p.m.

A. Items for discussion submitted by the City Council and/or the City Manager:

1. Update on warming shelter
2. Update on MDOT Mount Vernon Avenue reconstruction project
3. Bicentennial Nature Park Funding
4. School Board request for municipal ballot question regarding superintendent residency requirement
5. Discuss draft Goal Setting Report
6. Reapportionment of ward boundaries
7. Mount Vernon Avenue rezoning
8. Proposed zoning amendment regarding portable signs

B. Persons wishing to address the City Council who have submitted a formal request in accordance with Section 2-61 of the Code of Ordinances:

C. Open comment period for any persons wishing to address the City Council.



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CITY MANAGER

February 6, 2014

David Bernhardt, MDOT Commissioner
State of Maine, Dept. of Transportation
16 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0016

RE: Upcoming Augusta MDOT road projects

Dear Dave,

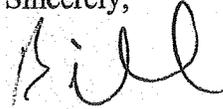
As you are aware, several MDOT paving projects scheduled to be completed last year were delayed due to the installation of natural gas pipelines, primarily the major transmission lines from the Maritimes Northeast pipe line. Although it was economically sensible to do this in order to get natural gas to the region, the roads that were slated for repair sorely needed it and the city's Public Works Department is spending a lot of time and money trying to patch these roads to keep them passable. A number of motorists have actually had vehicle damage due to the poor condition of these roads during the recent freeze-thaw, especially Riverside Drive.

It has been brought to my attention that some MDOT staff are under the impression that either the city or the gas companies have requested that some of these projects be further delayed to allow for the installation of more natural gas pipelines. Please know that neither the City nor the gas companies are requesting the delay of any of the projects currently scheduled for this construction season. In fact the City is requesting that all projects currently scheduled for completion this year proceed and any projects that may have been pushed into 2015 be brought back into this construction season. The natural gas companies have been apprised of both MDOT's and the city's construction plans for 2014 and been asked to plan accordingly if they want to expand into any of these construction areas in the near future. Absent a schedule to install a pipe prior to the start of your (and our) projects, we will hold both companies to the requirements of the paving moratorium, with the exception of directional drilling and any "pot holes" and/or small pits associated with this type of construction.

From our prior discussions, I know that you and your staff are committed to a partnership with us, especially given that most people expect their capital city to have up-to-standard infrastructure, and your cooperation is appreciated. I also know that you are working with very limited budget resources and the challenges that presents. In this instance, my request is not related to more funding for Augusta, only that those projects already provided for not be delayed over a misunderstanding about the future work of the gas utilities.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please feel free to contact me at 626-2300.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill", written in a cursive style.

William Bridgeo
City Manager

cc: Augusta City Council
Augusta legislative delegation
All Department Heads
Jerry Dostie, Street Superintendent
Lionel Cayer, City Engineer
Brian Tarbuck, General Manager GAUD
Jamie Garland, Maine Natural Gas
Bryan Foster, Summit Natural Gas

BONDS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION OF BOND</u>
10/7/1987	3,500,000.00	1.3M City Center/2M Schools
7/1/1989	7,670,000.00	Farrington & Lincoln
8/15/1989	7,610,000.00	4.075M City Center/ Capital Imp
12/15/1990	1,015,000.00	Capital Improvements
10/30/1996	460,000.00	Capital Improvements
10/30/1997	498,000.00	Capital Improvements
5/28/1998	980,000.00	Classroom wiring & Road Imp
10/9/1991	4,190,000.00	Hatch Hill
10/1/1993	695,000.00	Capital Improvements
10/28/1999	497,500.00	Capital Improvements
5/25/2000	922,500.00	Capital Improvements
5/25/2000	9,700,000.00	Hatch Hill Expansion
5/24/2001	325,000.00	School Architectural Fees (Cony)
5/24/2001	495,000.00	Capital Improvements
5/24/2001	4,300,000.00	Civic Center Expansion & Imp
10/24/2002	179,000.00	Capital Improvements
10/24/2002	500,000.00	Capital Improvements
2/1/2003	13,150,000.00	Pension
12/23/2004	3,495,000.00	Capital Improvements
5/31/2006	28,450,000.00	27.95M Cony Highschool & Capital Imp
5/24/2007	500,000.00	Capital Improvements
6/30/2009	1,040,000.00	Capital Improvements
5/26/2011	1,250,000.00	Capital Improvements
6/14/2011	440,058.58	School Revolving Renovation(Gilbert)
12/30/2011	355,980.00	Gilbert School Repairs
1/17/2013	2,610,000.00	Capital Improvements

LEASES

1/4/2013	2,028,655.00	Equipment Lease
3/28/2013	731,700.00	Cony High School/CATC

BOND DETAIL

10/7/1987	3,500,000.00
Farrington/Lincoln	2,000,000.00
City Center	1,300,000.00
City Wide Equalization	200,000.00
7/1/1989	7,670,000.00
Farrington & Lincoln	
8/15/1989	7,610,000.00
Energy	100,000.00
Paving	850,000.00
Equipment	845,000.00
Public Imp	750,000.00
Roadways	670,000.00
City Center	4,075,000.00
Roadways	320,000.00
12/15/1990	1,015,000.00
Capital Imp projects	450,000.00
Public Safety Equipment	300,000.00
Paving	140,000.00
School (building maintenance)	125,000.00
10/30/1996	460,000.00
First Ave Turn Lane	15,000.00
Storage Building	40,000.00
Civic Center small Auditorium	60,000.00
Stevens Road Reconstuction	210,000.00
Signalization	115,000.00
Pedestrian/Parking Imp	60,000.00
10/30/1997	498,000.00
First Ave Turn Lane	15,000.00
Storage Building	40,000.00
Civic Center small Auditorium	60,000.00
Stevens Road Reconstuction	210,000.00
Signalization	115,000.00
Pedestrian/Parking Imp	60,000.00
5/28/1998	980,000.00
Class room wiring	80,000.00
Road Improvements	900,000.00

10/1/1993	695,000.00
Reconstruction Armory St	375,000.00
Gilbert School Roof	125,000.00
Fire Truck Replacement	120,000.00
Cony Road	75,000.00
10/28/1999	497,500.00
Riverside Drive Reconconstruction	200,000.00
Curtis Bridge Reconstruction	70,000.00
School Dept Equip	120,000.00
GIS (Geographic Information System)	60,000.00
Self Containing Breathing	40,000.00
WM Playground Fencing	7,500.00
5/25/2000	922,500.00
Hartford	120,000.00
Wells Fires Station Improvements	60,000.00
Lithgow Library Roof	90,000.00
Willims Playground	60,000.00
Alumni Field resurfacing	12,500.00
City Center Roof & Building	60,000.00
Melendy Tennis Court Improvement	70,000.00
Navla Reserve BLDG Imp	200,000.00
Public Works Imp & Generator	250,000.00
5/25/2000	9,700,000.00
Hatch Hill Expansion	
5/24/2001	325,000.00
School Architectural Fees (Cony)	
5/24/2001	4,300,000.00
Civic Center Expansion	
5/24/2001	495,000.00
North Water St Imp	125,000.00
Cony St Ext Reconstruction	125,000.00
Forest Ave Drainage	70,000.00
Eastern Ave Sidewalk	25,000.00
Bangor St Lighting	35,000.00
Replacement Phone System	65,000.00
Bicentennial Park	50,000.00

10/24/2002	179,000.00
Paving Projects	50,000.00
West Side Neighborhood Imp	50,000.00
Basketball/Tennis Court Renovations	29,000.00
Northern Water Street	50,000.00
10/24/2002	500,000.00
Dickman St Parking Facility	250,000.00
Gingras Lot Parking Facility	250,000.00
2/1/2003	13,150,000.00
Pension	
12/23/2004	3,495,000.00
Parking Garage	2,500,000.00
Building Imp	188,000.00
Property Imp	115,000.00
Boat & Rescue Unit	60,000.00
Streets and Sidewalks	137,000.00
Building Imp	255,000.00
Property Imp	20,000.00
Streets and Sidewalks	225,000.00
5/31/2006	28,450,000.00
Cony High School	27,950,000.00
Fire Apparatus	250,000.00
Street Improvements	250,000.00
5/24/2007	500,000.00
Pearl St Imp	250,000.00
Imp of City Streets	80,000.00
Construction of Recreational Facilities	60,000.00
Reonovation & Imp of City Buildings	110,000.00
6/30/2009	1,040,000.00
Construction of Sand and Salt	275,000.00
Renovation of Buker	46,000.00
Renovation of Police Station	89,000.00
Imp of streets and facilities	100,000.00
Repair and Imp of City Center	30,000.00
Reconstruction of Capital Area Technical Center Track	160,000.00
Imp of streets and facilities	133,000.00
Purchase of Animal Control Vehicle	27,000.00
Repairs and imop to municipal facilities & purchase traffic signals	180,000.00

5/26/2011	1,250,000.00
Imp of City Streets	150,000.00
Replacement of the Blair Road Bridge (local share)	150,000.00
Repair and Imp of Municipal facilities	200,000.00
Imp of City Streets	550,000.00
Repair and Imp of Municipal facilities	200,000.00

6/14/2011	440,058.58
School Revolving Renovation(Gilbert)	

12/30/2011	355,980.00
Gilbert School Repairs	

1/17/2013	2,610,000.00
Imp of City Streets	119,000.00
Repair and Imp of Municipal facilities	576,000.00
Acquisiton of Fire Apparatus	40,000.00
Imp of City Streets (Cony Circle)	1,125,000.00
Imp of City Streets	100,000.00
Acquisiton of Fire Apparatus	650,000.00

LEASES

1/4/2013	2,028,655.00
Energy Efficiency for Civic Center, Buker & City Center	

3/28/2013	731,700.00
Cony High School/CATC	

To: City Council

Re: Bicentennial Nature Park Proposed Non-Resident Policy Change

From: Friends of BNP

Date: February 13, 2014

Present Non-Resident Policy at Bicentennial Nature Park:

The current city policy precludes non-residents from using the park unless they are with an Augusta resident and pay the daily admission fee.

Proposed Policy Addition:

Augusta tax paying businesses who for every \$100.00 of donation to the park shall receive a transferable season pass for their employees to use regardless of residential status.

Purpose of Proposed Policy:

1. To enhance fundraising opportunities for the Friends of BNP.
2. To provide direct benefit to tax paying businesses and their employees.
 - a. Could fit nicely into a business's "wellness" program
 - b. Improves employee morale.
 - c. A nice benefit for employees
3. Helps reduce a General Fund appropriation.
4. Potentially provides a long term funding mechanism once fully implemented.
5. Increases the use and attendance of BNP. There is plenty of capacity that warrants looking at ways to get more use of the park.
6. Controls access to the park by non-residents. Does not open the non-resident flood gate.

Park Operation Impact:

1. Staff – There will be NO need for additional staffing resources. Present staffing levels will be able to handle the impacts.
2. O & M Budget will not be increased.
3. May help grow the use of the park by introducing the park to residential users who previously had not used the park.
4. Additional revenue may be realized by those residents who benefit from the employer provided pass and purchase their own pass the next season.
5. Carrying capacity of park does not change. No more than 150 people and 54 cars.
6. Increased attendance and utilization helps justify the park staying open.
7. Three Corner Pond residents will not be adversely impacted.

City of Augusta, Maine
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

AUGUSTA STATE AIRPORT
CODE ENFORCEMENT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



ENGINEERING
FACILITIES & SYSTEMS
PLANNING

Memo

To: City Council
William Bridgeo, City Manager

From: Matt Nazar, Director of Development Services

Date: February 10, 2014

Re: Social Services on Mt. Vernon Ave

The Planning Board held a public hearing in December regarding allowing a new use in the Resource Development (RD) zoning district. That zoning district exists in only one place in the city, along Mt. Vernon Ave. The reason for the hearing was to discuss the possibility of the Augusta Food Bank constructing a new facility in the district. Food banks are regulated by the Augusta Land Use Ordinance as Social Services.

In addition to the new use, the Planning Board looked at the maximum setback that the RD district has due to it being an impediment to the possible development of the food bank.

At the public hearing the Planning Board discussed the issue thoroughly, asked for public input and only had input from individuals associated with the food bank, who were in favor of the rezoning, and voted to recommend the following changes to the Augusta Land Use ordinance.

Amend the RD zoning district such that Social Services is added to the district in the Table of Uses, Table 3.6.A.1 as a conditional use.

Amend the Section 3.6.1.1.4.b, the subsection on Dimensional Requirements and Performance Standards, to eliminate the maximum setback of 25 feet from the north side of Mt. Vernon Ave.