



THE CITY OF AUGUSTA

WILLIAM R. STOKES, MAYOR

CITY COUNCIL

JEFFREY M. BILODEAU
MICHAEL G. BYRON
DALE McCORMICK
DAREK M. GRANT

CECIL E. MUNSON
MARK S. O'BRIEN
PATRICK E. PARADIS
DAVID M. ROLLINS

WILLIAM R. BRIDGEO
CITY MANAGER

INFORMATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2014

CITY HALL (COUNCIL CHAMBERS)

5:30 p.m.

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

1. Update on warming shelter
2. School Board request for municipal ballot question regarding superintendent residency requirement
3. Reapportionment of ward boundaries
4. Mount Vernon Avenue rezoning
5. Proposed zoning amendment regarding portable signs
6. Discuss items 2-6 of draft Goal Setting Report

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.

RESOLUTION OF THE AUGUSTA SCHOOL COMMITTEE
JANUARY 8, 2014

The Augusta School Committee ("School Committee"), having convened at its regularly scheduled meeting on January 8, 2014, and having considered the following in public session, with due notice of this Resolution on the regularly published public Agenda, does hereby resolve and find as follows:

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 7 of the Charter of the City of Augusta, Maine (the "Charter") requires that the Superintendent of Schools for the Augusta School Department (the "Superintendent") be a resident of the City of Augusta within six (6) months of his or her appointment, and further requires that the Superintendent shall remain a resident during his or her tenure in office (the "Residency Requirement");

WHEREAS, in recent years the availability of highly qualified candidates for Superintendent of Schools has become scarcer, and the School Committee believes that the Residency Requirement is an impediment now, and will be in the future, for hiring the best qualified Superintendent of Schools;

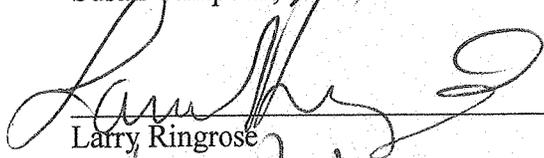
WHEREAS, the City of Augusta is one of just a handful of school districts in Maine that has maintained the Residency Requirement;

WHEREAS, in light of changes since the Residency Requirement was enacted, the School Committee believes that removing the Residency Requirement from the Charter will be in the best interests of the education and public welfare of the students of Augusta.

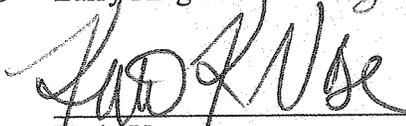
NOW, THEREFORE, the School Committee hereby resolves to request that the City of Augusta put to vote at referendum the proposal that Article IV, Section 7 of the Charter of the City of Augusta be amended by removing the requirement that the Superintendent be a resident of the City of Augusta during his or her service as Superintendent



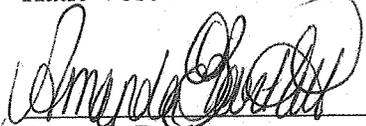
Susan Campbell, Chair



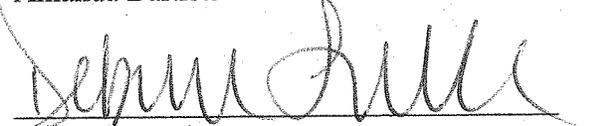
Larry Ringrose



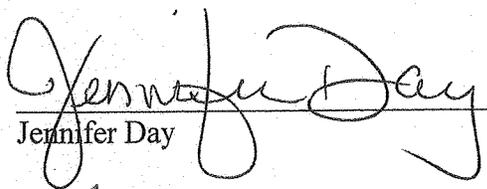
Katie Vose



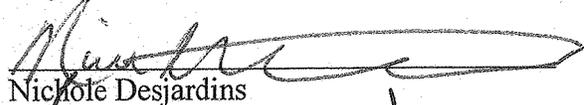
Amanda Bartlett



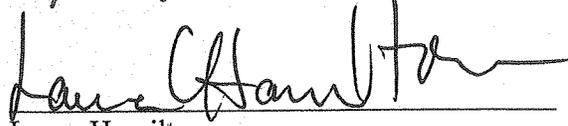
Deborah Towle



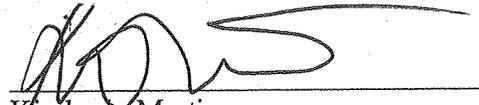
Jennifer Day



Nichole Desjardins



Laura Hamilton



Kimberly Martin

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.

City of Augusta, Maine
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

AUGUSTA STATE AIRPORT
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Memo

To: City Council
William Bridgeo, City Manager

From: Matt Nazar, Director of Development Services

Date: February 11, 2014

Re: Contactor signage and signage for service organizations

The Planning Board held a public hearing on February 11 and voted unanimously to recommend the following changes to the land use ordinance regarding signs.

The previous sign ordinance allowed contractor signs on properties where projects were under construction. Only contractors that required a building permit were allowed to place signs and that was a method of managing these signs within the city. The current ordinance does not allow contractor signs at all. The reality of enforcement is that these types of signs are nearly impossible to manage and enforce. Even when we had three code enforcement officers and were less strict about these signs, we couldn't keep up with it. Contractors for all sorts of jobs are all over the city and many of them use lawn signs during their jobs.

The lawn signs serve two functions, the obvious is advertising for their business based on the job they are doing at the property where the sign is located. The second is simply information for the neighbors, so neighbors understand why a bunch of guys in a truck pulled up next door.

City staff recommends that the sign ordinance be modified to enable contractors doing work at a property be allowed to place lawn signs at properties where they are conducting work in the following manner:

5.1.17.8.7 **Temporary Street Graphics.** Temporary street graphics shall be allowed in the following manner:

5.1.17.8.7.1 Contractor. One sign placed at a property where a contractor(s) is performing work may be installed without a permit as follows:

5.1.17.8.7.1.1 Sign shall not be larger than 24" x 18", unless multiple contractors are working on the job and will create a common sign for all contractors. A project with multiple contractors displayed on a single sign shall not be larger than 48" x 96".

5.1.17.8.7.1.2 Signs shall not be placed more than 7 calendar days prior to the start of a contractor's job and shall be removed within 7 calendar days of the completion of the job. Signs for jobs that require a building permit are considered to start on the date the building permit is issued and end on the date a certificate of occupancy is issued. Signs for jobs that do not require a building permit shall not be placed for more than 30 calendar days during any 1 calendar year.

International Service Organizations such as Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, and others have traditionally been allowed to have signs at the entrances to the city for their organization that typically includes a meeting time and place on the sign. These types of signs are common throughout the country, and staff recommends that our sign ordinance specifically allow them to be located in the public right of way on city managed and maintained posts. The following language should be added to the ordinance:

5.1.17.8.9 **Service Organization Signs.** The city shall allow official signs within the public right of way for international service organizations that have chapters and organized meetings within the city, but don't own or rent permanent space, as follows:

5.1.17.8.9.1 Signs dimensions shall meet Maine DOT Official Business Directory Sign dimensions and specifications; or

5.1.17.8.9.2 Round signs shall not exceed 18" in diameter.

5.1.17.8.9.3 All signs shall be installed in locations and a manner approved by the city Public Works Director, who may require that signs be installed only by the Public Works Department.