



# THE CITY OF AUGUSTA

WILLIAM R. BRIDGEO  
CITY MANAGER

TO: Mayor and City Council  
FROM: City Manager Bill Bridgeo  
RE: Administrative Report  
DATE: October 27, 2014

## Meetings:

There will be a Planning Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 28, 2014 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

The Historic District Subcommittee will meet on Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room A.

There is no scheduled meeting of the city council this week as it will be the fifth Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be a business meeting on Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Other Items:

Please note the enclosed memorandum from Fire Chief Audette advising us that this week is national Fire Prevention Week. My compliments to Roger and the Department for their extensive prevention related activities. The Chief references correspondence from a city resident who had a scary (not the Halloween type) experience at his home that illustrated the importance of prevention education and the response capabilities of our department. It is appended to the Chief's memorandum.

Street Superintendent Jerry Dostie reports that the Patterson Street reconstruction project is proceeding on time and within budget. This is a collaborative project with the utility district. See Jerry's enclosed memorandum for more detail.

At noon today, I attended a very nice UMA building dedication ceremony at the school's architecture building on Water Street. Henceforth, the building will be called Handley Hall in recognition of the significant contributions made by outgoing President Allyson Handley. In her years at the helm of UMA, Dr. Handley emphasized the importance of collaboration between the University and the City. That in turn led to UMA's vital engagement in downtown Augusta, including negotiating the donation of the building (by former owner Dick McGoldrick) that now bears her name. Allyson became good friend of many in our community (including me, for sure) and set a high bar for her successor. Interim President Glenn Cummings emphasized that the commitment that Dr. Handley held for City/UMA collaboration would be sustained under his administration.

C: Department and Bureau Directors  
Augusta Legislative Delegation



# CITY OF AUGUSTA FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Roger J. Audette 1 Hartford Square Augusta, ME 04330-5220 ♦ (207) 626-2421 ♦ (207) 626-2424 Fax

## MEMO

DATE: October 26, 2014  
TO: William Bridgeo  
FROM: Roger Audette  
RE: Fire Prevention Week 2014

This week the fire department is winding down a successful month of fire prevention and educational activities. October is Fire Prevention month and our goals for the month were to reach out to as many people as possible to promote the National Fire Protection Association theme "Working smoke detectors save lives".

We started the month off with a fire department open house held at Hartford Fire Station. Over 300 people attended the event. The weather was perfect for all of the trucks and equipment on display especially the live Jaws of Life extrication demonstration. We performed presentations in all of the City's schools including St. Michaels. We presented programs at the YMCA, Lithgow and Children's Discovery Museum as well as "Touch a Truck" events at 7 local businesses. There were 7-fire station tours. In all we were able to come in contact with over 1200 people. To close out the week we will be working to remind people to change their batteries this coming weekend when they set their clocks back and test their smoke detectors.

I am in hopes that we can share the resident incident attached as an example of how important fire prevention and educational efforts are to our community. Every year we see examples of citizens that made sure their detectors were working because of our educational efforts. Every year we can say we stopped a serious fire because a family had working smoke detectors when they really needed them and avoided injury or significant damage to their home.

It is our belief that the more people we can come in contact with in a non-emergent public educational role the safer we are as a community.

Daylight savings time Sunday November 2, 2014 - Please remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors this weekend and test them to make sure they are working.

Hi Chief,

My boy came home from school yesterday talking all about the firemen that paid his class a visit. One thing he said is the fire chief told him that we needed to test our fire alarms and change the batteries. So that's exactly what we did last night. Little did I know they would be going off the very next day!!

This afternoon my daughter frantically called me at work, trying to shout above the fire alarm which I could hear blaring in the background, to tell me something was wrong and she could smell the smoke. I can't describe the fear that came over me thinking that she was alone and in trouble. I jumped in my car and dialed 911 while driving from City Hall. I am still not sure how the ladder truck beat me to the Wade Road but he did, with the fleet just behind him. WOW what a response time. Just amazing!

Luckily it was a false alarm and just a malfunctioning pellet stove. But I wanted to express to you the superb job your department did. I have always had a great deal of respect for public safety but to see them up close, doing what they do, is awesome. True professionals!

I feel bad for the false alarm but your men never even hinted that I made the wrong decision to call 911. They ruled out a fire and found the cause very fast. However they did not stop there. They stayed to air the house out, pulled the excessive hot pellets from the stove, explained the cause and showed a flaw in the way the contractors installed the chimney. So even though I feel bad for creating a false alarm, I am glad I made that call. The contractors have already been called to come out and work on the stove as well as make the adjustments to the chimney that Art True suggested.

Please relay my thanks to your whole crew. It's a comforting feeling to live in a city where you know your public safety is top notch!

Thank you.

-Mike



*City of Augusta, Maine*  
*Department of Public Works*

MEMORANDUM

TO: William R. Bridgeo, City Manager

FROM: Jerry Dostie, Street Superintendent

DATE: October 27, 2014

RE: Patterson Street Reconstruction Update

This street reconstruction is a joint project between the City and the GAUD. The utilities were replaced by the GAUD's contractor earlier this season and Public Works crews moved onto the street in mid-September. To date, PW crews have completed the excavation of the old inadequate & contaminated road gravel base and replaced it with new gravel. We had anticipated fine grading and paving of the street last week but were delayed due to the several days of rain. We will complete the fine grading and install the base layer of pavement this week. Once this is done, catch basins will need to be brought up to grade, new curbing installed, a new sidewalk built, and driveway matches to the new road completed. The road, sidewalk, and driveways will have the base layer of pavement installed and any exposed soil will be mulched for erosion purposes prior to Thanksgiving. The lawn areas will be loamed and seeded and the final layer of pavement will be installed in the spring of 2015.

Funding for the City's portion of the project is approximately \$300,000 and was allocated from the Cony Circle Tiff. We expect these funds to be more than adequate to complete the project. Additionally, the GAUD portion of this project is \$360,000.

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