

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

AUGUSTA, MAINE

August 6, 2008

Minutes of the regular City Council meeting held Monday, August 4, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, City Center.

All members of the Council were present; Mayor Katz presided.

Presentation - Lithgow Library Study Committee Report - Dan Wathen,
Chair

Public comments were held on items listed on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

HAS BEEN READ, FIRST READING

133 WHEREAS, the Fire Department of the City of Augusta has requested rapid access be granted to certain types of buildings in the City of Augusta in the event of a fire or medical emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council, having investigated said request, have determined that it would be in the best interest of the City of Augusta and would protect the safety of the people of the City to provide such rapid entry in the event of said emergencies.

THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, By the Mayor and City Council of the City of Augusta that the existing language in Chapter 16, Article III, Section 16-58 be deleted and replaced with the following:

PURPOSE

To establish criteria which provides a method by which the Fire Department may gain rapid entry into specific buildings for lifesaving or fire fighting purposes without forcible entry.

APPLICATION

A. This section shall apply to the following types of buildings:

NEW BUSINESS (Con't)HAS BEEN READ, FIRST READING (Con't)

133 Continued

1. All new or existing buildings that require either a fire alarm or fire suppression system by Maine State Fire or Local Life Safety Code.
2. New residential buildings which contain more than six (6) living units and utilize common corridors to access the living units.
3. All existing residential buildings which contain more than twelve (12) living units and utilize common corridors to access the living units.
4. Buildings containing sensitive materials vital to national security or defense are exempt from the above.

B. An existing building shall be considered a new building when:

1. Alterations or repairs are made within any period of twelve (12) months, costing in excess of fifty (50) percent of the physical value of the building before the repairs are made, as determined by the assessor.
2. If the building is damaged by fire or other cause to an extent in excess of fifty (50) percent of the physical value of the building before the damage was incurred and the building is rebuilt as determined by the assessor.
3. If the building is increased in floor area by twenty-five (25) percent or additional stories added.

C. Every building subject to the requirement of this Ordinance shall be equipped with a rapid entry system. The rapid entry system shall be Knox Company. Exceptions are to be approved by the Fire Chief.

D. The Knox rapid entry system shall consist of a key vault containing, but not limited to, keys necessary for entry into the building and controlling emergency systems. The key vault shall be of a type which utilizes the master key system of the City of Augusta Fire Department.

E. The installation of the system shall be subject to the following criteria:

1. The Fire Department or any employee thereof shall not sell rapid entry system products.

NEW BUSINESS (Con't)HAS BEEN READ, FIRST READING (Con't)

133 Continued

2. All costs associated with the installation of the key vault shall be the responsibility of the building owner.

3. The key vault shall be installed in a location determined by the Fire Chief and/or designee.

4. The key vault shall be installed at an easily accessible location. The bottom of the vault shall be no less than five feet nor more than six feet in height above the finished grade.

5. No key or lock product used in the rapid entry system shall be released from the factory without written authorization of the Fire Chief.

6. For new construction, the key vault location shall be determined during the building plan review by the Fire Chief and/or designee.

F. The building owner and/or occupant shall be responsible for notifying the Fire Department in the event locks or type of occupancy is changed.

COMPLIANCE

All buildings subject to this Ordinance shall be in compliance twelve (12) months after adoption of this Ordinance. The Fire Chief may approve extensions at his discretion.

PENALTY

Any building owner violating the provisions of this Ordinance after receiving due notice from the Fire Department shall be subject to a fine of one hundred (\$100) dollars each month until compliance is achieved.

(FIRST READING, NO VOTE REQUIRED)

HAS BEEN READ AND PASSED

126 ORDERED, That minutes of the City Council meeting held July 21, 2008 submitted by the City Clerk be approved.

Yeas: 8; Byron, Doore, Paradis, O'Brien,
Rollins, Coffin, Munson, Stokes

Nays: 0

NEW BUSINESS (Con't)HAS BEEN READ AND PASSED (Con't)

- 127 ORDERED, That the City Council accept a donation in the amount of \$25,000 from the Maine Community Foundation for historic downtown improvements.
- Yeas: 8; Byron, Doore, Paradis, O'Brien,
Rollins, Coffin, Munson, Stokes
- Nays: 0
- 128 ORDERED, That the City Council authorize the appropriation of \$61,880 from Fund Balance toward the cost of improvements associated with the reconstruction of Cony Circle. Said funds to be reimbursed to the Fund Balance from yet-to-be-established Tax Increment Financing funding.
- Yeas: 8; Byron, Doore, Paradis, O'Brien,
Rollins, Coffin, Munson, Stokes
- Nays: 0
- 129 ORDERED, That the Augusta City Council does hereby accept the report and recommendations of the American Tissue Study Committee to pursue Option 4 as provided in the committee's written report.
- BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That the City Manager is authorized to develop a Request for Proposals for the demolition and clearing of the American Tissue site and to report the results of said RFP process to Council for its further consideration.
- Yeas: 7; Byron, Doore, Paradis,
Rollins, Coffin, Munson, Stokes
- Nays: 0
- 130 ORDERED, That the City Manager is authorized to contract with the Kennebec Valley Community Action Program for a cooperative home weatherization project utilizing the balance in available community development block grant program income (estimated to be \$60,000).
- Yeas: 8, Byron, Doore, Paradis, O'Brien,
Rollins, Coffin, Munson, Stokes
- Nays: 0

NEW BUSINESS (Con't)

HAS BEEN READ AND PASSED (Con't)

131 ORDERED, That the labor contract with the Teamsters Local 340, Civic Center Operations unit (July 2007 - June 2010) be ratified consistent with the agreement with the Union.

Yeas: 8; Byron, Doore, Paradis, O'Brien,
Rollins, Coffin, Munson, Stokes

Nays: 0

132 ORDERED, That the Augusta Charter Review Commission statutory deadline of August 6, 2008 for submission of the interim report to the Augusta City Council is hereby extended until Tuesday, September 2, 2008.

Yeas: 8; Byron, Doore, Paradis, O'Brien,
Rollins, Coffin, Munson, Stokes

Nays: 0

134 ORDERED, That Patrick Paradis be appointed to the Capital Riverfront Improvement District; said term to expire May 5, 2009.

Yeas: 7; Byron, Doore, O'Brien,
Rollins, Coffin, Munson, Stokes

Nays: 0

135 ORDERED, That the City Council enter into executive session to discuss pending litigation; M.R.S.A., Title 1, Sec. 405(6)(E).

Yeas: 8; Byron, Doore, Paradis, O'Brien,
Rollins, Coffin, Munson, Stokes

Nays: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara E. Wardwell
City Clerk