

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

AUGUSTA, MAINE

August 2, 2007

Agenda for the regular City Council meeting to be held Monday, August 6, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, City Center.

There will be a pre-meeting of the City Council at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room A. No Council actions are taken at pre-meetings. Pre-meetings are open to the public.

PRESENTATION - Recognition of Current City of Augusta Employees Who Have Served in Iraq or Afghanistan:

Christian Behr - Police Department

Brian Kincaid - Public Works

Edward McQuire - Civic Center

Richard Miller - Fire Department

James Worcester - Fire Department

PRESENTATION - Recognition of the Capital Mainiacs for Winning the American Softball Association (ASA) 10 - U Maine State Championship and New England Regional Championship

PRESENTATION - Update by the Conservation Commission

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA.

CONSENT AGENDA - All matters listed under this item will be considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. If a Councilor wishes to discuss one (or more) item(s), Councilor may ask to have the item(s) removed from the Consent Agenda and considered individually.

154 Manager (Bureau of City Clerk)

ORDERED, That minutes of the City Council meetings held July 16, 2007 and July 30, 2007 submitted by the City Clerk be approved.

155 Manager (Bureau of Audit Accounts)

ORDERED, That Roll of Accounts for the month of July 2007 in the amount of \$4,202,499.21 be approved.

156 Mayor Katz

ORDERED, That Brian Marson, Jr. be reappointed to the Augusta Housing Authority; said term to expire August 3, 2012.

- 157 Mayor Katz
ORDERED, That William McKenna replace Barry Cote as the Planning Board member to the Capital Riverfront Improvement District; said term to expire August 6, 2010.

OLD BUSINESS AND TABLED MATTERS

HAS BEEN READ AND TABLED

- 131 Mayor Katz and Councilor Gomeau
WHEREAS, commercial blasting and use of explosives for purposes of quarrying mineral extraction and the production of construction materials have been occurring frequently in the City of Augusta, and whereas numerous reports of property damage resulting from such blasting have been communicated to the City, and

WHEREAS, current City of Augusta Ordinances are inadequate to effectively regulate and prevent serious public harm and property damage which may occur as a result of blasting in the City, and

WHEREAS, City Staff is aware of planned blasting in the vicinity of residential homes in the City, and

WHEREAS, the City Council has appointed a Committee to draft a new Ordinance regulating blasting, which has not completed its work, and

WHEREAS, the City Council needs additional time to complete the process of enacting a new Ordinance regulating blasting.

NOW THEREFORE, The Council hereby ORDERS that a moratorium be enacted effective as of the date of passage by Council which prohibits all commercial blasting and use of explosives for the purpose of mineral extraction, quarrying or the production of construction materials within 2000 feet of a residence.

This moratorium will expire in one hundred eighty (180) days from the date of passage or upon the effective date of enactment of a new Ordinance regulating blasting, whichever occurs first.

NEW BUSINESS

- 158 Mayor Katz
ORDERED, That the City Council place the following two questions on the November ballot:

NEW BUSINESS (Con't)

158 Continued
 Question 1: "Do you support merging the Augusta Water District and the Augusta Sanitary District to form the Greater Augusta Utility District?"
 Question 2: "Do you support including the sewer functions of the Hallowell Water District in the Greater Augusta Utility District?"

159 Manager (Bureau of Engineering)
 WHEREAS, the City Council has been made aware of a safety deficiency on the Cony Road due to sub-standard site distances at the intersections of Cony Road with two private roads; and
 WHEREAS, the City Engineer has recommended to the City Manager and to the City Council that the speed limit be reduced from 45 miles per hour to 35 miles per hour in order to bring the site distance at the above mentioned intersections above the minimum recommended standard; and

WHEREAS, any change to the posted speed limits on any roads in the City of Augusta requires a letter of request from an official of the City of Augusta be sent to the Maine Department of Transportation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED By the Council of the City of Augusta that the City Engineer is authorized and directed to send a letter of request to the Maine Department of Transportation for a speed limit change on the Cony Road from 45 miles per hour to 35 miles per hour beginning at the Augusta/Chelsea line thence northerly about 0.64 miles to the existing 30 mile per hour zone.

COMMUNICATIONS

Committee Reports

City Manager's Report

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara E. Wardwell
City Clerk