

**REVISED AGENDA FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2014  
7:00 P.M.**

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.

**PROCLAMATION** – City of Augusta to Participate in Earth Hour on March 29, 2014 at 8:30 p.m.

**PRESENTATION** - Camden National Bank

**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.

**14-040      **Manager (Bureau of City Clerk)****

ORDERED, That the minutes of the City Council meetings held February 20, 2014 and February 27, 2014, submitted by the City Clerk be approved.

**14-041      **Manager (Bureau of Audit Accounts)****

ORDERED, That the Roll of Accounts for the month of February 2014 in the amount of \$4,516,969.03 be approved.

**14-042      **City Manager****

ORDERED, That the City Council accept from Alford Center for Health a donation for the Farmers' Market at Mill Park in an amount totaling \$5,000.00.

**OLD BUSINESS AND TABLED MATTERS**

**SECOND READING**

**14-037      **Councilor Grant****

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that temporary, on-site contractor signs help residents understand the reason for activity at a site; and

WHEREAS, international service organizations `have no easy way to reach visiting members; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board has reviewed the issue, held a public hearing, and made a unanimous recommendation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Augusta that the following underlined text be added to the Augusta Land Use Ordinance:

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 place for more than 30 calendar days during any 1 calendar year.

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.

**14-038 Councilors Paradis and O'Brien**

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that Social Services are an important component of the fabric of the city that need to be spread throughout the city to be available to all residents; and

WHEREAS, the topography on Mt. Vernon Ave is challenging and presents unique problems for a maximum setback in certain areas; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board has reviewed the issue, held a public hearing, and made a unanimous recommendation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Augusta that the following amendments to the Augusta Land Use Ordinance be approved:

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.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **14-043 Mayor and Council**

ORDERED, That the City Council approve the attached policy be added to the Bicentennial Nature Park Operating Policies. 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.

### **14-044 Manager**

Ordered, that the City Manager is authorized to accept federal fiscal year 2013 Homeland Security Grant funds in the amount of \$109,256.43 and to appropriate the funds as follows:

- Training and Emergency Planning: \$10,000
- Hazardous Material Exercises: \$3,000
- Traffic Control Supplies: \$4,000
- Tactical Gear, Personal Protective Equipment and Vests: \$12,256
- Emergency Operation Center – Backup Dispatch Center: \$80,000.43

### **14-045 Mayor and Council**

WHEREAS, an emergency bill (LD 1754) has been allowed to be considered during this, the second session of the 126<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature and is currently under consideration by the Joint Committee on Taxation, and

WHEREAS, LD 1754, if adopted would result in a reduction of vehicle excise tax receipts paid by Central Maine Power (CMP) to the City of Augusta estimated to be on the order of \$200,000 per year resulting in a major adverse fiscal impact to the City, and

WHEREAS, those same excise tax receipts would be realized in much smaller amounts in over twenty other Maine communities where CMP has business operations, and

WHEREAS, just three years ago the 125<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature considered and rejected identical legislation and did so at the strong urging of CMP, and

WHEREAS, LD 1754 comes now at the specific request of CMP, and

WHEREAS, nothing related to the technology nor manner in which utility vehicles are registered or excised in Maine has changed in the intervening three years, and

WHEREAS, it is clear to the Mayor and Council of the City of Augusta that CMP's motivation in advancing LD 1754 is to punish the City of Augusta for the manner in which the City procured natural gas supplies from the competitor to CMP's sister corporation Maine Natural Gas as evidenced by, among other things, direct comments during that process from the President of CMP to the Mayor, City Manager and Augusta Parking District Chairman, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of Augusta believe that it is highly improper for CMP to attempt to use the State's legislative process to effect petty retribution for a business disagreement with a single community in the guise of being equitable with other communities and in the process refuting its own testimony of just three years past, and that its actions constitute unreasonable acts and practices by a public utility, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Augusta City Council does hereby condemn the attempt by CMP to misuse the legislative process and in so doing to significantly damage the collaboration and good will that has characterized the century old positive relationship that has existed between CMP and the City of Augusta and does urge the members of the 126<sup>th</sup> Legislature to reject LD 1754 just as it did its predecessor bill in 2011.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Enter into executive session to discuss:

- labor negotiations; 1 M.R.S.A., §405(6)(D)
- pending litigation; 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E)

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Committee Reports  
City Manager's Report

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara E. Wardwell, City Clerk  
March 5, 2014 (revised)