

**MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2015
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY CENTER
7:00 p.m.**

All members of Council were present except Councilors Grant and Blodgett; Mayor Rollins presided.

Presentation - Recognition of Retiring Augusta Civic Center Director, Dana Colwill

Public comments were held on items listed on the agenda.

OLD BUSINESS AND TABLED MATTERS

HAS BEEN READ AND PASSED, FINAL READING

15-109

BE IT ORDAINED, By the City Council of the City of Augusta, as follows:

That Chapter 18, section 73 Schedule of no parking, restricted parking areas, of the Revised Code of Ordinances 1990, as amended, be further amended by adding the following:

Water Street:

No parking on the westerly side beginning at Green Street southerly for a distance of 140 feet.

No parking on the east side from West Side Circle to Gage Street.

Chamberlain Street:

No parking on the west side from Capitol Street to Chapel Street.

Chamberlain Street (Seasonal):

No parking on the east side from a point 173 feet north of Capitol Street northerly to the intersection of Higgins Street, from October 15 to April 15.

That Chapter 18, section 73 Schedule of no parking, restricted parking areas, of the Revised Code of Ordinances 1990, as amended, be further amended by deleting the following:

~~Grove Street:~~

~~No parking on the west side from Capitol Street to Chapel Street.~~

~~No parking on the east side from West Side Circle to Gage Street.~~

~~Grove Street (Seasonal):~~

~~No parking on the east side from a point 173 feet north of Capitol Street northerly to the intersection of Higgins Street, from October 15 to April 15.~~

Motion for passage by: Bilodeau Second by: Emery
Yeas: 6; Conti, Paradis,
 Munson, Bilodeau, McCormick, Emery
Nays: 0

NEW BUSINESS

READ AND PASSED

15-111

ORDERED, That the minutes of the City Council meeting held June 18, 2015; submitted by the City Clerk be approved.

Motion for passage by: Munson Second by: Bilodeau
Yeas: 6; Conti, Paradis,
 Munson, Bilodeau, McCormick, Emery
Nays: 0

15-112

ORDERED, That the Roll of Accounts for the month of June, 2015 in the amount of \$4,981,979.75 be approved.

Motion for passage by: Munson Second by: Bilodeau
Yeas: 6; Conti, Paradis,
 Munson, Bilodeau, McCormick, Emery
Nays: 0

15-113

BE IT ORDERED, That the City Council accept a donation in the amount of \$72,834 from the Friends of Lithgow Library Inc. for the restoration and installation of stained glass windows at Lithgow Library.

Motion for passage by: Munson Second by: Bilodeau
Yeas: 6; Conti, Paradis,
 Munson, Bilodeau, McCormick, Emery
Nays: 0

15-114

ORDERED, That the City Council accept a donation for the Bicentennial Nature Park in an amount totaling \$5,000 from the Friends of Bicentennial Nature Park and the Augusta Rotary Foundation.

Motion for passage by: Munson Second by: Bilodeau
Yeas: 6; Conti, Paradis,
 Munson, Bilodeau, McCormick, Emery
Nays: 0

15-119

BE IT ORDERED, That the City Manager is authorized to enter into a Management and Operating Agreement with the State of Maine for the operation of the Augusta State Airport. The term of said agreement will be July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2020.

Motion for passage by: Munson Second by: Bilodeau
Yeas: 6; Conti, Paradis,
 Munson, Bilodeau, McCormick, Emery
Nays: 0

15-120

WHEREAS, the Augusta Downtown Alliance has as one of their goals the enhancement of downtown's curb appeal; and

WHEREAS, the Augusta Downtown Alliance has proposed to work with the City of Augusta in developing a public art display program; and

WHEREAS, the Augusta Downtown Alliance has offered to work with city staff in developing a landscape design plan for the open space at the corner of Green and Water streets and place a piece of public art therein; and

WHEREAS, the Augusta Downtown Alliance proposes to raise the funding necessary to pay for the public art to be placed at said location; and

WHEREAS, the Augusta Downtown Alliance as a long-term goal seeks to place other pieces of public art in various locations in the downtown; and

WHEREAS, the proposed work of the Augusta Downtown Alliance is consistent with the City Council's beautification goal,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED That the Augusta Downtown Alliance is authorized to work with City staff in the design and placement of public art in the Green and Water Streets open space, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, The Mayor, after consultation with the Augusta Downtown Alliance, will establish a public art committee for the purpose of developing policies, procedures and selection methodology for public art that will be placed in downtown Augusta.

Motion for passage by: Conti Second by: McCormick
Yeas: 6; Conti, Paradis,
 Munson, Bilodeau, McCormick, Emery
Nays: 0

15-121

ORDERED, That the City Manager is authorized to offer by sealed bid with a reserve price of \$5,000 the sale of the city owned property at 97 Bog Road.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That the proceeds from the sale of the property be allocated to the city fund for the demolition of unsafe structures.

Motion for passage by: Bilodeau Second by: McCormick

Yeas: 6; Conti, Paradis,
 Munson, Bilodeau, McCormick, Emery

Nays: 0

15-122

ORDERED, That the City Manager is authorized to contract with Keenan Auction Company for the sale, with restrictive covenants, of the city owned properties at 9 Patterson Street and 110 Northern Avenue.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That the following buyer's criteria shall be required as conditions for sale:

- No additional paving to be allowed on property
- The renovations to the building must begin within 6 months of transfer of ownership
- A Certificate of Occupancy must be issued no longer than 18 months from the date of transfer of ownership
- Successful bidder must provide to the City of Augusta verification of the financial ability for her/him to complete the project and meet sales criteria
- Should expected performance criteria not be met, property ownership will revert back to the City of Augusta

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That the proceeds from the sale of these properties be allocated to the city fund for the demolition of unsafe structures.

Motion to table by: McCormick Second by: none

Motion for passage by: Bilodeau Second by: Emery

Yeas: 6; Conti, Paradis,
 Munson, Bilodeau, McCormick, Emery

Nays: 0

15-123

ORDERED, That the City Manager is authorized to list for sale the city owned properties at 323 Bolton Hill Road and Lone Indian Trail through a real estate agent to be retained through an RFP process.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That the proceeds from the sale of these properties be allocated to the city fund for the demolition of unsafe structures.

Motion for passage by: Munson Second by: Bilodeau
Yeas: 6; Conti, Paradis,
 Munson, Bilodeau, McCormick, Emery
Nays: 0

15-124

ORDERED ,That the City Council enter into executive session to discuss:

- a personnel matter; 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A)
- potential litigation; 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E)

Motion for passage by: Conti Second by: Emery
Yeas: 6; Conti, Paradis,
 Munson, Bilodeau, McCormick, Emery
Nays: 0

The Meeting reconvened at 9:35 p.m. in Conference Room A.

Motion to suspend rules to add an item to the agenda by: Conti Second by: McCormick
Yeas: 6; Conti, Paradis,
 Munson, Bilodeau, McCormick, Emery
Nays: 0

15-125

ORDERED, That the city attorney is authorized to file a motion to intervene in a Maine Natural Gas proposed rate case (docket No. 2015-00005).

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That this authorization is limited to the filing of the motion and reviewing the filings and any further action shall require additional authority from the city council.

Motion for passage by:Conti Second by: McCormick
Yeas: 6; Conti, Paradis,
 Munson, Bilodeau, McCormick, Emery
Nays: 0

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara E. Wardwell, City Clerk
July 20, 2015