



THE CITY OF AUGUSTA

WILLIAM R. STOKES, MAYOR

WILLIAM R. BRIDGEO, CITY MANAGER

CITY COUNCIL

JEFFREY M. BILODEAU CECIL E. MUNSON
MICHAEL G. BYRON MARK S. O'BRIEN
DANIEL M. EMERY PATRICK E. PARADIS
DAREK M. GRANT DAVID M. ROLLINS

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: City Manager Bill Bridgeo
RE: Administrative Report
DATE: September 9, 2013

Meetings:

On Thursday, September 12, the City Council will hold its Informational Council Meeting at 6:30 pm in Council Chambers. The agenda is enclosed with your packet. There will be a Planning Board Meeting in Council Chambers on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 beginning at 7 pm. Updated notices are also included in your packets.

Other Items:

Last week, I was asked by the Augusta Downtown Alliance to provide formal City support for a grant application that they were submitting to fund wellness initiatives in a "green downtown". It involved certifying that the City would commit \$11,300 in matching funds for park benches, landscaping, site preparation and plantings and it would leverage a like amount in grant funds (administered through the Maine Development Foundation). Because our match will be funds that Council has already approved in last year's CIP for these exact items, I went ahead and issued the support letter. Thanks go out to Phyllis vonHerrlich for her significant volunteer efforts writing the grant application and coordinating the effort. The improvements are in the area of the Rail Trail and nearby Water Street locales.

Last week, I authorized our General Assistance Office to provide staff assistance to the City of Gardiner one afternoon a week – in Gardiner City Hall – with their GA caseload. This was at the request of City Manager Scott Morelli and due to the fact that we have just hired away Gardiner's longstanding Police Department administrative assistant, Dolores Steverman-Daoust, to be Our Police Chief's administrative assistant. Part of Dolores' job duties included handling Gardiner's limited GA caseload and it will take Scott a couple of months to find and perhaps train someone to handle those duties. We are being reimbursed for all of our costs.

I'm happy to report that our ongoing efforts to contain workplace injuries and maintain safe workplace practices has resulted in a continued downward trend in our experience ratings and a recent dividend check in the amount of \$41,808 to the City from the MMA Workers Compensation Fund (our insurance provider). Hats off to HR Director Kristy Gould and our workforce for the seriousness of purpose with which they approach this important issue.

C: Department and Bureau Directors
 Augusta Legislative Delegation