Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bureau or Subject</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership on City Boards/Commissions/Committees</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayor's Message and City Council Members</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schedule of Public Meetings</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Manager's Report</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augusta State Airport Report</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Development Report</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Clerk's Report</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessor's Report</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Department Report</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit Reports</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire and Rescue Department Report</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Center Report</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering Report</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Board Report</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solid Waste Report</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Works Report</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Codes Report</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Services Department Report</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithgow Library Report</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Welfare Report</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Fort Western Report</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Report</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicentennial Events</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 Committee Report</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Commission Report</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable Television Committee Report</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTV-7 Augusta Report</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree Board Report</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Legislators/U.S. Congress Listing</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Front cover photo provided by Kennebec Journal (Joe Phelan, Photographer)
Boards, Commissions, and Committees

Citizens Who Served During 1997

Assessment Review Board
James R. Chase
John O. Clark, Sr.
Maurice G. Fortin
William B. Leet
Anthony Pavone

BOCA Board of Appeals
Julian F. Beale
Herbert R. Doten
Edward W. Millett
Stephen J. Roberge
Paul J. Rodrigue
Jeff Shostak

Cable TV Advisory Committee
Edwin J. Charles
Ellerbe P. Cole
Alisa K. Cross
Mark Houdlette
Frank A. Johnson
Paul D. Lessard
Roger G. Levesque
Walter T. Ruark

Civil Service Commission
Anne Gardiner
Thomas A. Sotir
Roger H. Willette

Community Development Advisory Committee/Housing Alliance Committee
Valerie Arbour
Lawrence Dutil
Dale E. Gilbert
David Gingras
Aline L. Lachance
Gloria Morrissette
Roger R. Pomerleau
David A. White

Conservation Commission
Sandra Faucher
Mary M. Gingrow-Shaw
David E. Hassen
Andrea Lord
Robert F. Record
John Harvey Versteeg

Fort Western Trustees
Richard W. Billings
Linnette A. Burns
Jane Coryell
Vicki Crawford
Patsy Crockett
John V. Finnegan
Karen D. Foster
Dale E. Gilbert
Richard Godfrey
Beverly Miner Hatheway
Edward I. Heath
Kim E. Leupold
Mary McCarthy
Andrew E. Silsby
Karen Stebbins
Brian Whitney
Marjorie Wright

Historic Preservation Commission
David Paul Barnard
Patsy Crockett
David R. Dennett
Anthony J. Douin
Mary Maher McCarthy

Housing Authority
Gregory DeWitt
Jean Marshall Dulac
Raymond Randall Foster
Brian Marson, Jr.
Daniel A. Nichols
Raymond Paquette
Elizabeth Ann Trask

Lithgow Library Trustees
Joan Callahan
Donald J. Gasink
Gabriella Howard
Susan LaCasse
James A. McKenna, III
Paul Riese
Elizabeth A. Soares
Patten Williams

Registration Appeals Board
Lucille Cloutier
Patsy A. Crockett
Linda Hadley-Rood
Frank A. Johnson
Sylvia M. Ladd
Joseph Scott Tardiff

Sanitary District
Jack R. Brown
John Dudley
John B. Forster
Robert G. Redman

Tree Board
W. Joan Bartlett
Norman S. Elvin
David L. Gomeau
Diane Hastings
Brian Marson, III
Mitchell Michaud
Robert L. Nazlian
James Nichols
Ramona Pace
Rita K. Wheelock

Water District
Frederick M. Bartlett
Beverly W. Beaucage
Bruce E. Berger

Zoning Board of Appeals
Marion Hylan Barr
Chris Belanger
Nancy B. Birch
Paul Harris
Gautrey J. Musk
Jane Orbeton
John W. Royce
Thomas E. Simpson

2 1997 Annual Report
Mayor's Message

Dear Fellow Citizens:

Nineteen ninety-seven was both a year of celebration and transition. First, Augusta celebrated its 200th birthday, and what a year of special events it was! In addition to those mentioned in last year's annual report, the Boston Pops highlighted our year with a December 9 concert before a full house at the Civic Center. A great big thank you to the spirited committee, headed by Mary McCarthy and Roger Katz.

Secondly, five of seven City Councilors were new, with only three of us returning. With the City Manager leaving in November, you can sense that the year was one of adjusting to change. Conversely, in 1998 the City leadership team (Mayor, Council and Manager) will be positioned to focus on stability and progress through the planning process.

The local level of government is best because we feel close to you the "owners." As a result, we are very careful with your tax dollars. The tax rate remained almost the same: 22.66 vs. 22.24 mils.

Other evidence of a close-knit community is the long list of wonderful volunteers shown on the preceding page. By filling out an application, you, too, can help your city by becoming involved.

Please read this Annual Report and feel with me the pride in our wonderful City of Augusta.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Mayor.

— John Bridge
Mayor

1997 City Council

Ronald W. Bourget
Ward 3
William D. Burney, Jr.
At-Large
William E. Dowling
Ward 2
Richard J. Dumont
At-Large
Kenneth R. Knight
Ward 4
A. Delaine Nye
At-Large
Daniel W. Pomerleau
Ward 1

City of Augusta
Schedule of Public Meetings

Assessment Review Board
When needed

BOCA Board of Appeals
When needed

Cable TV Advisory Committee
2nd Thursday, 6:30 p.m. – Capital Area Technical Center

City Council Business Meeting
1st & 3rd Monday, 7:00 p.m. – City Center

City Council Informational Meeting
2nd & 4th Monday, 7:00 p.m. – City Center

Community Development Advisory Comm./Augusta Affordable Housing Alliance
1st Wednesday, 5:10 p.m. – City Center

Conservation Commission
2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m. – City Center

Fort Western Board of Trustees
Last Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. – City Center

Historic Preservation
1st Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. – City Center

Housing Authority
1st Monday, 7:00 p.m. – City Center

Lithgow Library Board of Trustees
2nd Tuesday, 6:45 p.m. – Lithgow Library
Except – July, August

Parking District
3rd Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – City Center

Planning Board
2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. – City Center

Recreation Advisory Board
3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m. – City Center

Registration Appeals Board
When needed

Sanitary District Trustees
2nd Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. – Sanitary District

Tree Board
1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. – City Center

Water District Trustees
3rd Monday, 8:00 a.m. – Water District
Holiday – Tuesday

Zoning Board of Appeals
1st Thursday, 7:00 p.m. – City Center

OFFICE HOURS

City Center: Monday–Friday – 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Civic Center: Monday–Friday–8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Hatch Hill Sanitary Landfill: Tuesday–Saturday – 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Lithgow Library: Monday–Thursday – 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday–Saturday – 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Children’s Room open same hours
(July & August – Close at 12:00 on Saturdays)
City Manager's Report

The City of Augusta celebrated its bicentennial year as an incorporated city in 1977. What a celebration it was! With thanks to co-chairs Mary McCarthy and Roger Katz, the year was replete with activity from a New Year’s Day display of fireworks to a New Year’s Eve fireworks display and gala party.

For City Government directly, it was a year of change. The effect of Charter term limits, adopted with the new Charter in 1988, fully kicked in. The four-year two-term limit was counted from the date of the charter adoption, and that meant that five of the seven Councilors, and the Mayor, could not run again. The Mayor could run for a council seat, and he did. Two Councilors ran for the Mayor’s position, and one was elected. Ward 2 Councilor William Dowling ran for re-election, but the rest were new or had returned from having served in prior years.

Long-time City Clerk Madeline Cyr, who had been planning for years to retire when she reached eligibility, kept her promise—despite efforts to encourage her to stay on. She will be missed by the City, both for her presence at the Council meetings and in the running of the City’s elections. Her successor, however, Cheryl Frith, offered poise and style and the expectation to continue the Clerk’s duties seamlessly.

After serving more than five years, Finance Director Constance Packard left to take employment with a private, non-profit, research firm. Ms. Packard was instrumental in improving the financial reporting, planning, and forecasting of the city, and in bringing the enterprise accounts into strengthened financial stability. Ms. Packard also significantly improved the financial management as evidenced by “clean” audit reports (no findings of inadequate financial measures) in the past two years. A replacement finance director was being sought into 1998.

Fire Chief Norman Arbour who took over the reins of the Fire Department totally with the voter-approved dissolution of the Public Safety Department, also took advantage of his retirement eligibility. At year’s end, the search for a replacement Fire Chief was continuing with the Department being ably led by Interim Fire Chief Bill Cusick.

City Planner Kathy Fuller, who assisted in the development of the Growth Management Plan and was a principal in the development of the Capital Action Plan, moved on to different challenges by joining the planning office of the State Department of Transportation. The recruitment of a new city planner was put on hold until the supervisory position of Director of City Services could be filled. In the meantime, the city contracted planning services from the Kennebec Valley Council of Governments.

The City continued its arrangement with the School Department in jointly employing a Human Resources Director even after Diana Fogarty left to become the HR Director of Portsmouth, N.H. to be closer to her home town. The City and the School jointly hired Lisa Boucher, who brought tremendous experience from the private sector, to replace Ms. Fogarty.

After a long and national search, the city hired Bob McGee to be the City’s first Airport Manager. Mr. McGee had extensive experience with airports and air lines, mostly in Canada, and offered the requisite skills to oversee the airport during the experimental transition from state oversight to city airport management. Except for Augusta and a small strip in Washington County, all other Maine airports are owned and operated by local and county governments. The State agreed to hold the City financially harmless for a period of time, while the City, which clearly has more interest in the utilization and development of the airport, would take over the management to explore what progress it could make.

City of Augusta
On the labor front, the City completed all of its collective bargaining agreements, with the exception of one three-person unit, in 1997. The long, sometimes contentious, process placed the City back in control of its labor costs and put the union membership's pay and benefits more in line with that of other municipalities. Unfortunately, the City's tax base remained stagnant in recent years, and labor-cost control was an important ingredient to maintaining an affordable tax rate.

Progress was made in the long-running effort to find a solution to the need for a modern, efficient police station and the disposition of the 100-year-old City Hall, which housed the police headquarters. Temporary arrangements were made to locate the police in the so-called Naval Reserve building, which the federal government turned over to the City in 1997. The City will still have to come up with resources to provide a decent, state-of-the-art police facility, whether it stays in the “naval reserve” building or elsewhere. It is hoped that the Old City Hall can be converted into an elderly housing complex.

Channel 7, the Public-Education-Government (PEG) channel went on the air fully in 1997, adding a new dimension in public communication while serving as a learning laboratory for students. There were a number of other new developments, such as expansion of computers and an entree into a Geographic Information System (GIS), and public works improvements, such as the Community-Development-Block-Grant funded Bridge Street reconstruction, that occurred in 1997. Further, the City embarked on a major licensing effort to construct an extended Hatch Hill Sanitary Landfill in 1997, which will extend the City's solid waste disposal program well into the 21st century.

The City has maintained a steady tax rate, avoiding rate increases. The City ended the 1997 fiscal year in strong financial condition, although there remained continuing financial challenges and a soft local economy.

Finally, as City Manager since early 1991, I submitted my resignation near the end of 1997. While these were very challenging, and sometimes contentious years, I believe I have made a contribution to the advancement and financial stability of the state’s Capital City. I wish to thank all the very dedicated employees of the City who contributed to providing strong service and forward movement for the City. I also wish to thank the various City Councilors for whom I worked over the past seven years who made my work here pleasurable and satisfying.

— Terry St. Peter
City Manager
Augusta State Airport

The year 1997 was the first full year of operation and management of the Augusta State Airport by the City of Augusta. Under the terms of an Agreement of Lease entered into between the City of Augusta and the State of Maine on December 1, 1996, the City assumed complete operational responsibility for the Airport for a five-year period with an option to renew for an additional five years. The agreement includes the provision of financial support by the State which ensures that throughout the duration of the lease, the costs of operating the Airport will not be a burden to the City of Augusta.

Until his retirement in March 1997, Phil Simpson was the Airport Manager, a position he had held for many years while the Maine Department of Transportation had operational responsibility for the Airport. Upon Mr. Simpson's retirement, Mr. Charles Roundy accepted the position on an interim basis until August, 1997 when I was appointed permanent Airport Manager.

Airline traffic at the Airport, both arrivals and departures, totaled 6,406 passengers in 1997, which represented a 6.7% decline from the level of traffic in 1996. Notwithstanding the year-over-year decline, a significant resurgent in traffic occurred during the period September to December, 1997 when total passengers grew by over twenty-seven percent from the same period a year earlier. General and corporate aviation activity at the Airport, as measured by the movement of landing fee-eligible aircraft, increased by 11.2% in 1997 compared to 1996, with all of this increase being accounted for by corporate jet arrivals.

Significant events or developments which occurred during the year include:

- Colgan Air, which provides the Airport’s primary air service link to Boston, entered into a marketing and code-share alliance with Continental Airlines in July and now operates as Continental Connection.
- In June, the Airport entered into an agreement with CTV-7 for the production and local broadcast of up to seven informational videos highlighting the Airport and its tenants. The first of the series was aired on Channel 7 in November.
- The Federal Aviation Administration conducted a safety and compliance inspection of the Airport in September. While several minor deficiencies were noted, and quickly corrected by the Airport maintenance staff, the inspection team agreed that the Airport is “... very well operated and maintained...”
- In November, the restaurant in the Airport Terminal Building became the Hill Top Family Restaurant with the purchase and subsequent renaming of Ardito’s by Ron and Bevley McNaughton.
- The Airport’s “corporate family” increased by one in December when New England Wing Waxers entered into a long-term lease of a hangar, thereby making the Augusta State Airport their permanent base of operations.
- On December 10, the Maine Department of Transportation opened sealed bids for the construction of a new FBO hangar/office building, which will replace the hangar and office facility now occupied by Maine Instrument Flight. Construction is expected to commence during the second quarter of 1998 with the new building ready for occupancy by the end of the year.
- In October, the Mayor and City Council created an Airport Advisory Committee and appointed the following persons to the Committee:
  
  Bennett Katz (Chair)  |  Jean Belair  |  Robert Johnson  |  William Perry
  Ken Burrill (Vice-Chair) | William Dowling  | David Jowdry  | Thomas Sotir
  Fred Bartlett (Secretary)  | Richard Dumont  | Jim Linker  | Peter Thompson

The Committee meets monthly to consider issues respecting the current use and future development of the Airport.

— Robert McGee
  Airport Manager

City of Augusta
Economic Development

Nineteen hundred ninety-seven was a year of change, growth, and resurgence for Augusta’s economy.

During the year, the long awaited relicensing order for the Edwards Dam was issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The order, to the surprise of many, stipulated that the dam be removed and the river restored for the passage of various fish species. Prior to the issuance of the order, and in anticipation of a negative finding, the City of Augusta’s Dam Committee recommended to the City Council that Augusta engage the services of an outside consultant to make recommendations regarding this project. After a competitive bid process, the firm of Rivers Engineering Corporation was chosen to assist the City. Other stakeholders with an interest in the relicensing, including Edwards Manufacturing, have appealed the FERC decision asking for a re-hearing. The City of Augusta, as co-licensee for the dam project, has joined in the appeal process and will continue to use the services of outside consultants in order to obtain the best possible outcome for the citizens of the community.

The Heart of Augusta Team, our community revitalization organization with a focus on the downtown area continued to seek new investment in downtown properties, work with the Parking District and the City on a variety of customer services improvements, and employed an outside consultant to act as an Interim Executive Director. The firm of Roberts and Company was contracted to provide management, marketing, and fundraising services to the organization. Under the leadership of President Jeff Williams, the Heart of Augusta Team Board of Directors strengthened working relationships with the City Council, Mayor, and municipal staff.

The Sea Dog Brewery, a regional micro-brewery with facilities in Camden and Bangor, has shown interest in an Augusta location. Working with the Economic Development Office and the Heart of Augusta Team, the company has executed an option on Water Street property. The firm also obtained approval from the Zoning Board of Appeals for a variety of renovations to the property necessary to accommodate a restaurant/brew pub overlooking the Kennebec River. The Sea Dog investment is expected to be complete by June of 1998 with a grand opening during the summer season. This people generator further enhances the efforts undertaking by the Heart of Augusta Team to revitalize the Central Business District.

Augusta’s efforts to insure that a new Kennebec River bridge is constructed continued successfully during the year. Based upon the MDOT’s strong support and leadership, community activists, working in conjunction with MDOT staff, supported a series of public hearings and public informational sessions designed to elicit comments about possible river crossing study corridors. At year end, the MDOT, working in conjunction with the City of Augusta and other interested parties, had prepared a proposed Augusta river crossing study corridor map with a variety of locations identified. During the first six months of 1998, the corridors will be analyzed and meetings held with the general public to discuss findings and obtain further information. Augusta’s goal is to see that a new “third bridge” is constructed and open to the public by 2003.

Redevelopment planning for the Kennebec Arsenal, spearheaded by the City Council, has proceeded during the year. A committee composed of State officials, City officials, other stakeholders and interested parties continued to refine and develop a practical redevelopment plan for the property. Essentially, the group has agreed that the Arsenal should be developed for tourists and consumer based uses including restaurants, boutique shops, marina development, and other ancillary services including museums and recreation facilities. The Arsenal redevelopment program also ties into the city’s greenway projects and supports...
further development at the Fort Western site. During 1998, the City and State hope to create a non-profit development corporation with the responsibility and authority to undertake physical restoration and redevelopment of the property.

The Mayor and Council, in cooperation with our Senator and Representatives have begun working with the State of Maine’s Department of Administrative Services and Department of Transportation on possible redevelopment of the AMHI campus. The State has an interest in redeveloping the campus as an eastside office park to permit continued consolidations of state-wide services in Augusta. The State’s long-term planning incorporates development of the State House Capital Complex and redevelopment of the AMHI complex as an east/west access for governmental functions. The City of Augusta has an acute interest in this development and is a full working partner with the State in the creation of long-term redevelopment programs.

Tree Free Fiber, successor to Statler Tissue, was unsuccessful in its efforts to revitalize its mill on the banks of the Kennebec River. Despite a massive infusion of capital, the market conditions for paper goods weakened during the year while costs of recycled fiber increased. Accordingly, the Tree Free operations closed in November with a layoff of over 100 staff. The City of Augusta provided a Tax Increment Financing to the mill in an effort to assist in their modernization and upgrades. Despite the City’s efforts, economic conditions surrounding the tissue industry continued to decline and the mill was forced into bankruptcy. There is a reasonable expectation that an additional owner/operator can be found with the expertise and financial capacity to operate the mill. FAME officials, and the primary lender, are continuing to work with potentially interested parties in an effort to fashion a financial package that is acceptable to the community, the State, and employees.

Tenants and occupants of the Marketplace at Augusta had a good year. Both Wal-Mart and Sam’s Club reported sales in excess of budget goals. Additionally, Hoyts Cinemas, Michael Crafts, Barnes & Noble, and Staples all reported sales that met or exceeded 1997 expectations. Thus, the existing retailers gave further support to mall developers that Augusta is a practical and profitable location for additional development. During the year, several national retail chains visited the community, met with local officials, and have indicated an interest in an Augusta site. Based upon current information, it is likely that a groundbreaking in the spring of 1998 will occur and that several new national retail chains will establish a presence in Augusta.

During the year, Wishcamper Properties contracted for the purchase of a property in the Augusta Civic Center Office Park owned by the Augusta Board of Trade. The Wishcamper organization will begin construction in the spring of 1998 on a medical office facility. This new medical operation is expected to employ between 25 and 30 people and generate over $12,000 per year in property taxes.

The City Council established a Super Park Committee chaired by Councilor Dumont. The goal of the Committee is to develop a practical and reasonable plan for the development of a major commercial office and technology park in Augusta. During the year, the Committee composed of Councilors Dumont, Bourget, Dowling and Burney crafted a plan to develop approximately 600 acres in North Augusta for the establishment of new businesses. This park, to be built around the existing SCI facility, would provide an opportunity for approximately 20 new businesses to locate in our community. The project is designed for modern Class A office use, research and development facilities and technology based manufacturing. In general, park design calls for a quality level not found elsewhere in the State and is targeted at national and international concerns. Initial funding of $1 million may be available from the State’s CDBG program. Augusta intends to apply for these funds during the application period in 1998.

The City of Augusta’s Board of Zoning Appeals approved a rezoning of property owned by the Kennebec Journal for development of the Augusta Travel Plaza adjacent to I-95. The City’s continued commitment to the project has encouraged Congressman Tom Allen to commit $250,000 to the project—when available—from a federal highway fund allocation. In addition, Senator Olympia Snowe’s office has been extremely supportive during the year assisting with alternative funding sources for the project, including the EDA and identifying a variety of other federal funding options.

City of Augusta
The Francophone Forum des Affaires, an international chamber of commerce for French speaking countries, was interested in establishing a U.S. headquarters in Maine. During the year, a Council committee, chaired by Councilor Bourget, packaged a proposal which called for the establishment of the national headquarters in Augusta adjacent to Capital Park. Our proposal was extremely well received by the Selection Committee. However, the economics of a proposal offered by Lewiston were considered more desirable and the Francophone national headquarters was established in that community.

A variety of business growth continued to occur in Augusta during 1997. SCI Systems, Inc., successor to the Digital Equipment Corporation at the Augusta location, continued to grow and expand its employment base. During the latter part of 1997, the firm aggressively increased employment, and as of year end, was employing over 1,000 at the Augusta facility.

Similarly, NorthCenter Foodservice continued to grow and add employees. As of year end, the company employed over 205 at its Dalton Road facility with another 31 company employees located in Portsmouth and Manchester, New Hampshire.

Pine State Trading Company added a $2,500,000 warehouse addition at the company’s State Street location. Additionally, the firm renovated and modernized the former Davis Automobile property purchased a year ago and continue to make significant capital investments in the Augusta facilities. At this time, Pine State employs over 3,400 persons at its State Street property.

State Cable Systems completed its consolidation and expansion by occupying a new 20,500 s.f. facility in the Augusta Business Park. This expansion enables the company to operate systems throughout New England from its Augusta facility.

J.S. McCarthy Printers expanded its manufacturing facility in the Augusta Business Park by adding over 10,000 s.f. of high-tech computer oriented printing capacity.

During the year, our Associate Developer left city employment to join Maine’s Department of Economic and Community Development. However, a selection panel and interview team selected a new Associate Developer from among the many applications received for the position. Our new Associate Developer will join the staff shortly after the first of the year. With the addition of our Association Developer, the Economic Development Office now has three full-time employees.

The Northeast & Maritimes Gas Pipeline, which is to be constructed just east of Augusta, offers an opportunity to the community. Central Maine Power, in conjunction with New York State Electric & Gas Company (NYSE&G), has applied to the Public Utilities Commission for authority to operate a local distribution company providing gas service to the City of Augusta and surrounding communities. When gas service is made available, it will provide an alternative lower cost fuel to the community and foster continued growth and development. The gas pipeline is expected to be operational by the year 2000 although the local distribution company does not expect to have gas service in our community until after the turn of the century.

Under Mayor John Bridge’s leadership, the City Council created the Mayor’s Economic Development Advisory Committee to work in conjunction with the local business community on the development of economic development programming. This effort resulted in the development of a list of goals and objectives for the community which were shared with the entire Council. The Mayor’s Economic Development Advisory Committee concluded its work and prepared materials for Council consideration in October.

The City of Augusta, suffering from economic distress tied to state employment downsizing and the loss of Stater/Tree Free employment will benefit from a $100,000 federal grant to study these issues and develop a strategy for restoring economic vitality to our community. During the year, our office was an active participant in the Sudden and Severe Economic Development effort working in conjunction with staff from the Kennebec Valley Council of Governments (grant administrators) and consultant. Mt. Auburn Associates, a Massachusetts
consulting firm, has prepared a draft report recommending a series of economic development initiatives for the community designed to increase the entrepreneurial climate and reduce reliance on governmental employment sectors.

The City continued its outreach efforts to the Canadian business community during 1997 by continuing participation in Co-Enterprise ’97 and Partnerships ’97. The Co-Enterprise Program, held at the Samoset Resort, was attended by several hundred Canadians from Quebec Province. The City provided leadership and staff to enable the People of the Kennebec to have a booth at the trade show. In addition, Mayor Bridge and several Councilors attended the Partnerships Conference held in Moncton, New Brunswick, in October. During the visit to Canada, our delegation was hosted by Fredericton, our sister city, and was able to partner with Fredericton in a variety of activities at the conference.

The People of the Kennebec, our effort to link the strengths of the Augusta marketplace and the Waterville marketplace, continued to develop during 1997 as reflected in support for development of a regional super park. In addition, several committees continue to investigate other elements that could assist in developing stronger relations between our two communities. During the year, Central Maine Newspapers published a telephone book with the telephone numbers for both Augusta and Waterville conveniently located in one volume. This is considered a major effort in establishing a singular economic identify for the Central Maine region.

— Jean Belair
Director
# City Clerk’s Report

## 1997 Statistics

### Vital Statistics

<table>
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<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tr>
<td>Births Recorded</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deaths Recorded</td>
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<td>Delayed Birth</td>
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<td>Dog Licenses:</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3-Day Exchanges – Fish/Combo</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address Transfer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automobile Graveyard Permit</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beano Permits</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billiard Rooms</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottle Club License</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling Alley</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burial Permits</td>
<td>486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnival License</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coin-operated Amusement Dev. Lic.</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dancing Licenses</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Seller’s Permits</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Games of Chance – Blanket Letters</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Games of Chance – Single</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junkyard Permits</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquor License Amendments (Decks)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunchmobile Licenses</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malt Liquor Licenses</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass Outdoor Gatherings</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-Premise Catering</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pawnbroker’s Licenses</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roller Skating Rink License</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Amusement Permits</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spirit. &amp; Vinous Liquor Licenses</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxi Driver’s Licenses</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxi Operator’s Licenses</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transient Seller</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victualer’s Licenses</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vinous Liquor Licenses</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Miscellaneous Permits/Licenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archery Licenses</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery/Expanded Season</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery/Fish Combo</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Salmon Licenses</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bear Permits</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duck Stamps</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplicate Licenses</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jr. Atlantic Salmon Lic.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muzzleloading</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pheasant Stamps</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Res. Combo Licenses</td>
<td>847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Res. Fish Licenses</td>
<td>1,293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Res. Hunt Licenses</td>
<td>749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Res. Jr. Hunt Licenses</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Res. Small Game Licenses</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Supersport Certificates</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Augusta Residents – 163  
** Augusta Residents – 227  
Augusta Residents born out of town – 44  
Augusta Residents died out of town – 41
## Voter Registration
### Report of Registered Voters – November 14, 1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Democrat</th>
<th>Republican</th>
<th>Unenrolled</th>
<th>Independent</th>
<th>Green</th>
<th>Reform</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1,244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>881</td>
<td>745</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2,347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>1,128</td>
<td>993</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>3,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>1,634</td>
<td>1,013</td>
<td>1,203</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>3,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>1,180</td>
<td>1,121</td>
<td>1,086</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>3,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>5,657</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,668</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,634</strong></td>
<td><strong>105</strong></td>
<td><strong>38</strong></td>
<td><strong>193</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,295</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

## Report of Registered Voters – November 5, 1996

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Democrat</th>
<th>Republican</th>
<th>Unenrolled</th>
<th>Independent</th>
<th>Green</th>
<th>Reform</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1,244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>895</td>
<td>771</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>2,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>1,173</td>
<td>1,029</td>
<td>999</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>3,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>1,701</td>
<td>1,037</td>
<td>1,291</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>4,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>1,195</td>
<td>1,171</td>
<td>1,114</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>3,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>5,818</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,825</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,698</strong></td>
<td><strong>74</strong></td>
<td><strong>36</strong></td>
<td><strong>206</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,657</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Cherie Frith  
*City Clerk*

City of Augusta
Assessor’s Report

During the 1997 calendar year, 618 deeds and 683 mortgages were processed by this office. The majority of the sales were single-family homes with an average sale price of $67,000; there were 212 residential sales and 37 commercial sales during 1997. Based on the current ratio study for residential property, the average assessment ratio is 104% of market value.

To satisfy current State requirements, exterior inspections of one-quarter of the properties in the city are done yearly. For 1997, the inspections were done in the northeasterly quarter of the city, which comprises about 2,000 properties. In addition, approximately 500 properties were inspected due to building permits that have been issued.

For 1997, there was an overall decrease in taxable valuation of $2,129,400 as compared to the previous year’s decrease of $7,217,200. A summary of valuation changes by category for the year is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Increases</th>
<th>Decreases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Property</td>
<td>$ 5,230,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Remodeling</td>
<td>1,179,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Single-Family Homes</td>
<td>1,213,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mobile Homes</td>
<td>902,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. Increases</td>
<td>1,075,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Property</td>
<td>8,964,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Increases</td>
<td><strong>$18,566,200</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Property</td>
<td>$ 7,190,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>2,699,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demolitions/Fires</td>
<td>630,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxable to Exempt</td>
<td>1,001,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. Decreases</td>
<td>1,044,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Property</td>
<td>9,129,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Decreases</td>
<td><strong>$20,695,600</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

— Donald Cadwell
Assessor

Taxpayer by Category in Augusta
1997-98 Fiscal Year

[Diagram showing percentage distribution: Residential 53.1%, Commercial 30.9%, Industrial 4.6%, Personal Property 11.4%]
Police Department

Message from the Chief: As our State Capital, we continue to be fortunate that we are not faced with the levels of crime that other state capitals or cities are experiencing across the country. Our citizens are continuing to take an active role in assisting the police to address crime. We refuse to let our streets, neighborhoods, and the city as a whole to be taken away from us and our way of life. Augusta continues to be a fine place to live and bring up our families. I am proud to be a part of our City as both a family man and as your Police Chief.

During 1997, the Police Department experienced changes in personnel and assignments. There were three retirements: Lieutenant Wayne Michaud, Sergeants Allen Johnston and Wallace Corbin. Promotions were Lieutenant Dennis Latendresse and William Hayward, along with Sergeants Robert Gregoire, Keith Brann and J. Chris Read. Additionally, four new patrol officers were hired to continue the department at full complement. Patrol Officers Armand Choate, Bradley Rogers, Jay Languet and Marc Hamelin joined the department to serve our community. With the availability of grant funds, Kate Faragher was hired as a Data Analyst.

Crime Prevention Officer Ron Henderson, with the assistance of department employees, continued to provide crime prevention programs. We presented two Civilian Police Academies that were well received by the community.

Training of department personnel continues to be a priority within the Police Department. As the only department accessible to the public twenty-four hours a day, three hundred sixty-five days a year, we are committed to provide the best possible assistance to our citizens and the public at large.

The Police Department received three grants in 1997. Once again the department received a grant of $20,000 from the State Bureau of Highway Safety for O.U.I. enforcement, which funded numerous O.U.I. roadblocks and patrols. The department received a grant of $19,402 from the Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance that was used to purchase and upgrade computer equipment. Thirdly, the department received a one-year grant of $35,545 from the Maine Justice Assistance Council to hire a Data Analyst to study domestic violence and violence against women in Southern Kennebec County.

The following figures show a comparison of crimes reported for national statistics, by number.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crimes</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>1996</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft</td>
<td>1,056</td>
<td>1,013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arson</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td>1,321</td>
<td>1,390</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of the above crimes reported, the Police Department cleared 48% for 1997, compared to 46% for 1996.
The Police Department response time for handling 78% of your requests for service was four minutes or less. We do so with safety ever on our minds and with the intent to provide you with the best possible service.

The following are excerpts from various letters of appreciation citing compassion, sensitivity and professionalism shown by employees of the Augusta Police Department.

Dear Chief McCamish:

"Although his presence took me by surprise (we usually only see police on a bad occasion), it also made an impression of what good dedicated people are working for our Police Dept."

"Last Saturday, in the early hours of the morning, I was notified that a close relative had died suddenly in Rockland of a heart attack. I wanted to write to you to tell you that her conduct was exemplary, the notification was done with compassion and with concern for me. I couldn't have asked for a more gentle way to be told."

"I wish to call to your attention the fine efforts of several of your officers in a case involving our teenage daughter. Again, the thanks of my family for the support of your department at a critical time."

In closing, I want to express my appreciation to the citizens who continued to support the activities of the Police Department throughout the past year. I especially thank all the other city departments that have cooperated and provided support to the Police Department that assist in enabling us to deliver quality service to our community.

— Wayne McCamish
Chief of Police
# Audit Reports

## Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

**Budget and Actual - Budgetary Basis**  
**General Fund**  
**Year ended June 30, 1997**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Variance favorable (unfavorable)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenues:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>$22,201,512</td>
<td>21,845,648</td>
<td>(355,864)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licenses and permits</td>
<td>136,050</td>
<td>124,856</td>
<td>(11,194)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intergovernmental</td>
<td>8,609,448</td>
<td>8,663,614</td>
<td>(54,166)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and other charges for services-education</td>
<td>1,777,697</td>
<td>1,535,545</td>
<td>242,152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chargers for services-City</td>
<td>510,200</td>
<td>596,685</td>
<td>86,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees and fines</td>
<td>20,200</td>
<td>19,813</td>
<td>(387)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unclassified</td>
<td>470,972</td>
<td>497,645</td>
<td>26,673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment earnings</td>
<td>394,615</td>
<td>505,694</td>
<td>111,079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating transfer</td>
<td>275,000</td>
<td>275,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budgeted use of surplus</td>
<td>950,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(950,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td>35,345,694</td>
<td>34,064,500</td>
<td>(1,281,194)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                      |          |          |                                  |
| **Expenditures:**    |          |          |                                  |
| **Current:**         |          |          |                                  |
| General government   | 1,109,343 | 1,093,285 | 16,058                           |
| Finance and administration | 586,278 | 578,432  | 7,846                            |
| City services        | 2,842,947 | 2,797,878 | 45,069                           |
| Community services   | 1,516,529 | 1,468,807 | 47,722                           |
| Public safety        | 4,621,317 | 4,619,294 | 2,023                            |
| Education            | 18,872,267 | 18,841,881 | 30,386                          |
| Insurance and fringe benefits | 675,515 | 555,179  | 120,336                          |
| Other fixed charges  | 1,862,400 | 1,866,824 | (4,424)                          |
| Unclassified         | 1,634,795 | 1,452,577 | 182,218                          |
| Capital improvements | 398,900  | 258,044  | 140,856                          |
| Debt service (excluding education) | 1,225,403 | 1,223,131 | 2,272                            |
| **Total expenditures** | 35,345,694 | 34,755,352 | 590,362                         |

| Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures | $ | - | (690,832) | (690,832) |

**NOTE:** Copies of the entire financial report are available for review in the City Manager's Office.
# Audit Reports

## Combined Balance Sheet

All Fund Types and Account Groups  
June 30, 1997 (with comparative totals for June 30, 1996)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>Government Fund Types</th>
<th>General</th>
<th>Special Revenue</th>
<th>Capital Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$ 1,970,331</td>
<td>147,744</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>6,203,837</td>
<td>149,223</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes receivable</td>
<td>1,326,184</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax liens</td>
<td>380,120</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable, net of allowance</td>
<td>137,721</td>
<td>73,113</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from other governments</td>
<td>773,834</td>
<td>162,342</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes receivable</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>777,136</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued interest receivable</td>
<td>46,121</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interfund loans receivable</td>
<td>302,222</td>
<td>232,276</td>
<td>642,784</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>1,178,800</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>5,886</td>
<td>39,972</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets (net, where applicable, of accumulated depreciation)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount to be provided for retirement of general long-term debt</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount to be provided for accrued compensated absences</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount to be provided for retirement of capital leases</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td>$ 11,298,056</td>
<td>1,582,796</td>
<td>642,784</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Liabilities and Fund Equity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities:</th>
<th>Government Fund Types</th>
<th>General</th>
<th>Special Revenue</th>
<th>Capital Projects</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>931,837</td>
<td>50,045</td>
<td>1,703</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accrued wages and benefits payable</td>
<td>1,680,433</td>
<td>88,113</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accrued compensated absences</td>
<td>789,062</td>
<td>4,922</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Escrow payable</td>
<td>5,085</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refundable deposits</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued liability for landfill closure and postclosure costs</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>1,688,775</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes received in advance</td>
<td>15,040</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interfund loans payable</td>
<td>2,714,804</td>
<td>68,358</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other liabilities</td>
<td>14,583</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to student groups</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred compensation benefits payable</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonds and notes payable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital leases payable</td>
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<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td>7,239,619</td>
<td>211,438</td>
<td>1,703</td>
<td>-</td>
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</table>

| Fund equity:                    |                       |         |                 |                 |
| Contributed capital             | -                     | -       | -               | -               |
| Investment in general fixed assets | -             | -       | -               | -               |
| Retained earnings:              | -                     | -       | -               | -               |
| Unreserved                      | -                     | -       | -               | -               |
| Fund balances:                  |                       |         |                 |                 |
| Reserved for noncurrent receivables | -             | 777,136 | -               | -               |
| Reserved for endowments         | -                     | -       | -               | -               |
| Reserved for inventory          | -                     | 39,972  | -               | -               |
| Reserved for encumbrances       | 235,800               | 15,668  | 387             | -               |
| Reserved for noncurrent interfund advance | 105,000       | -       | -               | -               |
| Unreserved:                     |                       |         |                 |                 |
| Designated                      | 941,615               | -       | -               | -               |
| Undesignated-School             | 248,822               | 270,435 | -               | -               |
| Undesignated-City               | 2,527,200             | 268,147 | 640,694         | -               |
| **Total fund equity**           | 4,058,437             | 1,371,358 | 641,081         | -               |
| **Total liabilities and fund equity** | $ 11,298,056         | 1,582,796 | 642,784         | -               |

*NOTE: Copies of the entire financial report are available for review in the City Manager's Office.*
# Audit Reports

## Combined Balance Sheet

All Fund Types and Account Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proprietary Fund Types</th>
<th>Fiduciary Funds Trust and Agency</th>
<th>General Long-term Debt</th>
<th>General Fixed Assets</th>
<th>Totals (Memorandum Only)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>370,074</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>450,403</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,918,552</td>
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<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
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<td>387,450</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,840,530</td>
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<td>273,873</td>
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<td>19,840</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>380,120</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,355</td>
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<td>450,782</td>
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<td>1,673,954</td>
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<td>620,436</td>
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<td>3,436,041</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1,054,315</td>
<td>818,041</td>
<td>12,564,085</td>
<td>39,049,529</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: Copies of the entire financial report are available for review in the City Manager's Office.

City of Augusta
Fire and Rescue Department

As calendar year 1997 comes to an end, the Augusta Fire Department is proud to present its annual report.

During the past year, the Fire Department’s suppression forces responded to 698 calls. This volume has remained constant over the past few years. Even though the total fire calls have not decreased dramatically in recent years, the amount of monetary loss due to major fires has decreased. A combination of stronger building codes, improved apparatus, early notification through the 911 system, and the efforts of the firefighters are all factors that have contributed to minimizing property damage. Although it may be premature to draw any conclusions from these numbers, we are optimistic that our fire prevention efforts are beginning to pay off. Due to the efforts of our Fire Prevention Officer Bob Patnaude, we received a grant to purchase a Sparky the Dog costume, which has been utilized to spread the fire prevention message to youngsters throughout our community.

The Fire Department’s paramedics responded to slightly over 3,000 calls in 1997. This represents a 29% increase in volume from the previous year. In July, the department expanded its operations to include inter-facility medical transfers. This change is necessary in order to adapt to the constant changes in health care. With this change, we hope to better serve the community by using our resources more efficiently.

There are two new, exciting pieces of equipment that the department began using over the past year: (1) A twelve-lead cardiac monitor allows us to transmit a diagnostic quality cardiogram to a receiver station, providing the hospital’s emergency department crucial information prior to the patient’s arrival; and (2) The hazardous environment monitor is capable of detecting carbon monoxide, low oxygen levels and flammable gases. This device, which has been utilized numerous times, detects levels that are dangerous to the public, as well as warning firefighters of possible hazardous conditions.

Two senior officers retired from the Fire Department in 1997. Fire Chief Norman Arbour directed the department for several years and should be commended for his accomplishments. Chief Arbour significantly upgraded both the fire stations and apparatus in a cost-effective manner. Platoon Chief Jack Crommett was a valued member of the department. He served the community for more than 30 years. The department would like to thank both of these men for their dedication and service to our community.

In closing, I would like to thank the community for all the support you have given to the Fire Department over the past year.

—William T. Cusick
Interim Fire Chief

1997 Annual Report
Augusta Civic Center

Calendar year 1997 was once again extremely successful for the Augusta Civic Center. For the 5th consecutive year, revenues exceeded expenses while millions of dollars poured into the local economy.

During the summer of 1997, the Kennebec and Penobscot theaters were converted into one large meeting and dining room (approximately 2,000 square feet). A project we are all very proud of, usage of the room has increased tremendously. Piscataquis and Sagadahoc rooms were also renovated with new heating units, wallpaper and carpet. Honeywell installed an Energy Management System as lights were replaced in all meeting rooms. Plans for a new sprinkler system were developed and the system is currently being installed throughout the main building and north wing.

The Augusta Civic Center is the most versatile facility in the State of Maine. With 23 meeting rooms able to accommodate groups of 12 to 800 and an auditorium which can host 8,000 people for a general admission concert, the center continues to attract a variety of shows and events. Concerts, trade shows, conventions, sporting events, banquets, graduations and family events comprised a year in which the auditorium was used 246 days, including move-in and set-up days. This is up from 217 days in 1996—a 13% increase in the main hall’s usage as the number of civic center patrons continues to grow each year.

Of the many events which took place in the Augusta Civic Center’s main auditorium, a few are highlighted below:

- Boston Pops Concert
- Country Concert: Little Texas/Black Hawk
  - Michael Peterson
- Country Concert: Alabama
- Rock Concert: ZZ Top and Cheap Trick
- Rock Concert: CCR
- Stars of Lawrence Welk Show
- Marine Corp. Band
- U.S. Army Ground Forces Band
- Kora Temple Shrine Circus
- Bicentennial/ACC New Year’s Eve Party
- Western Maine High School Basketball Tournament
- Educational Learning Conference
- Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce Banquet
- Bicentennial Dinner
- UMO Women’s Basketball Team Practice and Reception
- Maine General Medical Center Christmas Party
- Maine State Police Graduation

— David Jowdry
  Director

AUGUSTA CIVIC CENTER

City of Augusta
The Engineering Bureau provides professional/technical services to the City concerning the physical aspects of the City such as buildings, streets, and drainage. Presently, the Bureau consists of two Civil Engineers, an Administrative Coordinator and a Clerk that is shared between three bureaus.

Much has been accomplished during fiscal year 1997. The Engineering Bureau was responsible for the design and management of several City projects. Engineering plays a large role in the evaluation and approval of other private projects, such as residential and commercial developments, which are being designed and built throughout the City. Some of the major City projects which took place over the past year are:

**Design and Construction Management Projects**
- Stevens Road Reconstruction
- Greenway Pedestrian/Bicycle Trail
- Cony Street/Willow Street Traffic Lights
- Bridge Street Improvements
- Aerial Topo Mapping
- Energy/Conservation Reduction
- LED Traffic Lights Retrofit

**Future Project Planning**
- Kennebec River Bicycle Trail - Preliminary Design Phase
- Geographic Information System
- Meadow Road Reconstruction
- Mt. Vernon Avenue Gateway

Along with these projects throughout the City, the Engineering Bureau also provided technical assistance and public support in the following areas:

**Technical Assistance / Public Support**
- Computerized Mapping
- Assignment of Street Numbers
- Review of Commercial Site Plans
- Driveway Location, Curb Cuts
- Tax Map Information
- Review of Subdivision Plans
- Coordination with Local Utilities for Projects
- Review, Address and Assist in the Resolution of Citizen Complaints Regarding City Infrastructure

**Maintain Records of City Public Buildings and Streets**
- Topographic Information
- Right-of-Way Locations
- 1939 WPA Maps
- Street Descriptions
- Horizontal and Vertical Datum

— Lionel Cayer, P.E.
*Director*

1997 Annual Report
Augusta Planning Board

An Annual Report of Planning Board meetings and activities is required by the City Revised Code of Ordinances Section 6-119. The Section specifies that the report shall be made no later than the third Monday of January each year.

The following report includes a summary of the Board’s activities during 1997, as well as activities of the Planning Bureau staff.

Membership and Staffing:

By ordinance, the membership of the Planning Board is set at nine persons, with no provision for associate or alternate membership. There was approximately a one-third turnover in membership, as must be expected, during 1997. A comparison of the year’s change in membership follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December, 1996</th>
<th>December, 1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Radsky, Chair</td>
<td>Thomas Radsky, Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ron Dutil, Vice Chair</td>
<td>David Smith, Vice Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Smith</td>
<td>Ron Dutil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaughan Stevens, III</td>
<td>Vaughan Stevens, III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Zabrocki</td>
<td>Patricia Zabrocki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirley Ezzy</td>
<td>Cathy Morris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Hastings</td>
<td>Paul Harris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Siwinski</td>
<td>Robert W. Corey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 vacancy/Secretary</td>
<td>1 vacancy/Secretary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the majority of the year, the Board was superbly served by veteran City Planner Kathy Fuller, as well a staff from the Code Enforcement and Engineering Bureaus. Ms. Fuller resigned to take another position in October, 1997. Pending the expected hiring of a new full-time City Planner, Planning Board support is being provided by staff from the Kennebec Valley Council of Governments. Clerical support is provided by Madeleine Daniels, Anita Whitehouse, and Ruth Tondreau within the Department of City Services.

Board Meetings

The Board held eleven regular meetings during 1997, the scheduled meeting during December being cancelled for lack of business.

Planning and Ordinance Work:

The Planning Board reviewed the status of the 1988 Comprehensive Plan. The Board acknowledged the need to perform a review and revision of the plan. This activity should take place during 1998.

The Planning Board took under advisement several suggestions with regard to changes in the zoning ordinance. The Board is actively working on amendments to the performance standards regarding signs.

Other Activities of the Planning Bureau:

The City Planner engaged in the following additional activities during 1997:

1. Provided staff support for the Historic Preservation Commission.
2. Provided staff support to the Community Services Department and Conservation Commission in planning for acquisition and development of Bicentennial Park — Nelson property at Three-Cornered Pond.
3. Participated with the Economic Development Office working groups engaged in the following projects: Arsenal Redevelopment, Third Bridge Coordination, Super Park development.

4. Implementation of Comprehensive Public Signage Program.

5. Served on Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (DOT).

6. Coordinated Capital Improvement Plan requests for Department’s FY 1998 Budget, including assistance to Finance Director in developing City’s CIP in conformance with and implementing the City’s Growth Management and Capital Action Plans.

7. Assisted and coordinated City and Public Interests in Bangor Street Reconstruction.

8. Coordinated development of Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan.

9. Managed development of the City’s Geographic Information System, including needs assessment and implementation. Partnered with School Department, Sanitary District, Water District, CMP, and Bell Atlantic.


11. Participated with DOT and consultant on implementation of Transportation Demand Management within City and Region.


13. Day-to-day administrative activities, including calls and correspondence from citizens, developers, realtors, and appraisers, regarding planning, zoning, subdivision, and related issues. Prepared minutes and agendas of planning board meetings, and conducted staff reviews of development applications.

— Chris Huck

*Interim City Planner*
Solid Waste

In 1997, Hatch Hill received 28,690 tons of landfillable and recyclable material. Of this total, 25,638 tons of municipal solid waste and 145 tons of special waste were landfilled. The remaining 2,907 tons were recycled, composted or used as a substitute fuel or construction material. Recycling still remains an important part of the City’s solid waste management program. The support of the community is evident by the continued high participation rate of our citizens and the strong commitment of the City, the region and commercial establishments to recycling. The State Planning Office calculated our regional recycling rate at 40.5% for the year 1996. This exceeds their goal of 35% and meets their “reasonable progress” requirements. Our program continues to be successful despite the difficulty in locating markets for some materials and not adding many new items to the recycling program recently.

Solid Waste Management Committee/Expansion III Update

Nineteen hundred ninety-seven was a busy year for this committee, as the planning and permitting process to build Expansion III at Hatch Hill continued. In March, a Preliminary Information Report was submitted to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection to determine the feasibility of the project with respect to the State regulations. The DEP reviewed this information and found the proposed Expansion III site to be environmentally suitable.

In September, the City Council approved a contract with the engineering firm of Dames and Moore to prepare an application for submission to the MDEP for an 18-acre landfill expansion at Hatch Hill. This application will be submitted in the spring of 1998 and the DEP has up to 18 months to review it. If the application is approved, we plan to start construction in the year 1999 or 2000. This project will be funded through revenues generated from the landfill operation. There will be a bond question to finance the landfill project on the November 1998 ballot. Hopefully the importance of providing a cost-effective solid waste disposal option will encourage citizens to support this bond issue.

As the application is being prepared, we are participating in a highly interactive “Milestone Process” with the MDEP to answer as many questions and resolve as many issues as possible prior to submitting the complete application to them for review. Working with the DEP in this manner should help shorten the review time.

The remaining life in the existing Expansion II Landfill is into the year 2000. The regulatory and construction process can take up to two years. Capacity of Expansion II will be watched carefully to insure that the City can provide adequate disposal capacity for the region until the new landfill is ready.

Current members of the Solid Waste Management Committee are:

Chairperson: Carolyn Burns
Council Members: Mayor John Bridge and Councilor Kenneth Knight
Citizens: Richard Breton, William Garside, Jody Harris and William Vogt

Forestry Management at Hatch Hill

The City is starting to manage large municipal tracts of forested land. Working with the Augusta Conservation Commission, we completed a pilot tree-harvesting program at Hatch Hill in October, using the services of a community forester to determine the best way to utilize and manage our renewable forests.

The project consisted of walking the Hatch Hill property to re-establish known boundaries and completing an inventory of the various tree growths. Based on this information, a forestry management plan was recommended to thin the forest to keep it healthy, enhance wildlife habitat, provide the potential for recreational use and provide some income from the harvested trees. Of the 400 acres on the Hatch Hill property, about ten acres in the Northwest corner was included in this project, which took about five weeks to complete.

Glassphalt Project

In an effort to close another recycling loop, the Augusta Recycling Team collected your clear glass bottles and jars and added them to asphalt pavement. The glassphalt project was a combined project with Public Works, Hatch Hill, and two paving companies—Commercial Paving of Scarborough and Williams Construction
of Gardiner. Over a two-year period, 100 cubic yards or 60 tons of glass were stockpiled. The glass was transported to Commercial Paving where it was crushed and treated; it was then returned to Williams Hot Top Plant in Gardiner where it was added to regular asphalt and made into hot glassphalt. The mixture consisted of 7% glass producing 858 tons of glassphalt that was placed in the driveway entrance of Public Works on North Street and the Recycling Area at Hatch Hill. This project did several things: it served as a perfect example of the reuse of recyclable products in construction, it complied with the State’s goal of waste reduction and it saved 100 cubic yards of gravel material from a pit.

**Office Paper Recycling Discontinued**

In the past, we have recycled a grade of paper where office paper and unwanted mail could be recycled with the newspapers/magazines/catalog mix. The mill will no longer accept unwanted mail and office paper mixed in the “news mix” because too many contaminants were being included. Until a reasonable market for office paper and unwanted mail is located, the City will no longer be recycling these materials.

**Financial**

The auditors closed the fiscal year with the Hatch Hill Enterprise Fund showing a net loss of $67,412. This reduced the Retained Earnings of this account from $640,705 to $572,293.

**Miscellaneous**

This was a quiet year for the landfill operation. Due to an average rainfall year, only 4,512,000 gallons of landfill leachate was hauled to the Augusta Sanitary District for treatment. This was the smallest annual amount since Expansion II went on line in 1992 and is in sharp contrast to the record year we had in 1996.

Cash customers can now purchase Hatch Hill vehicle permits at the scale house upon showing a current valid vehicle registration. This saves customers an extra trip to City Center if they get to Hatch Hill without realizing they need a vehicle permit. This also works well on Saturdays when Hatch Hill is open.

The success of our leaf composting program continues. The University of Maine and the Cooperative Extension formed the Maine Compost School, which tours four sites in Maine with active compost programs. The composting operation at Hatch Hill is part of this tour as it represents an effective “low tech” operation where existing resources are used to enhance the naturally occurring composting process.

— Lesley Jones

_Director_

1997 Annual Report
Public Works

Winter of 1996-1997

The winter season started slowly. By January 1, it had snowed a total of only 7-1/2". From January 1 to April 13, we received an additional 58", for a total of 65-1/2" for the season. Some other statistics for the winter are:

10,221 cu. yds. of salt/sand mixture were used
All streets and roads were plowed a total of 13 times
Snow was hauled a total of 25 nights.

The 1996-1997 winter proved to be a below-average season. For the last 20 years, the average snowfall has been 78" and the average sand/salt used was 10,340 cu. yds. The biggest storm of this season was on January 28, when we received 7-1/2" of snow.

Spring

Street sweeping of all city streets is one of the major accomplishments in the spring. In 1997, sweeping started in April and was completed on June 3. As always, the eight-week schedule is rotated each year.

During this time, a number of other activities are also completed:

- Winter Plow Damage — This consists of repairing lawn and pavement damage and fixing stairs, fences and various other damage from the winter.
- Spring Clean-Up — The weeks of May 5, 12, and 19 were the City’s Annual Spring Cleanup Weeks. Again this year, the fee was $20.00 per week for anyone wishing to participate. We sold 141 stickers to 117 participating households. A total of 31.48 tons of material was picked up.
- Spring Leaf Pickup — A special Service-For-A-Fee Spring Leaf Pickup was again offered this year. The fee was $5.00 for up to ten (10) bags of leaves. We sold 80 stickers and 708 bags of leaves were collected, which equalled 16.34 tons. These leaves are composted with the fall leaves.
- Street Striping — Street striping started in May. This year, the center lines and edge lines were contracted out and also most of the 250+ crosswalks which had previously been done in-house. A new style of crosswalks (piano style) was tried this year. The contractor was able to paint most of them by working six consecutive nights. These new crosswalks are popular because they are more visible to both pedestrians and drivers. We received a lot of positive feedback on these new crosswalks.

As occurs every spring, potholes are abundant when the 4' of frost comes out of the ground, the snow melts and the spring rains arrive. Two crews are dedicated to using cold patch to temporarily patch these holes until the hot top plants open in May and a permanent patch can be placed.

Summer

This is the street paving, construction and maintenance season. The summer of 1997 was another good productive season. Construction projects were: reconstruction of the Stevens Road; a new parking lot for the Parking District on the railroad tracks north of Bridge Street; a 400' section of the Dalton Road was rebuilt; a joint venture with the Augusta Sanitary District to replace a failed culvert on lower Sewall Street at the Whitney Brook crossing; and the Bridge Street reconstruction project which consisted of new waterlines, sewer lines, storm drains, improved CMP, Bell Atlantic and State Cable pole and lines, and street and sidewalk regrading/reconstruction work. This project was made possible with a Community Development Block Grant.

The annual paving program had another good year. We had 5.5 miles of streets and roads paved or reclaimed. A list of those streets and roads are as follows:

Allen Street
Bangor Street
Commercial Street
Cross Street
Eastern Avenue (lower)

Edgewood Road
Hillside Circle
Leavitt Road
Locke Street
Mayflower Road

Orchard Street
Prince Street
Sherbrook Street
South Grove Street
Tailwood Road

Vaughn Street
Westwood Road
*Mt. Vernon Road
*Church Hill Road

*denotes reclamation projects.

City of Augusta
New sidewalks were overlaid or reconstructed on lower Eastern Avenue, Sherbrook Street, Mayflower Road and many repairs and small overlays were done in other areas. In November, the citizens passed a $900,000 bond issue to supplement the paving program. It will take approximately three years to complete this extra paving project. Paving of additional streets will begin in the 1998 season.

**Fall**

Last fall was no different from other years. Paving projects were finished up and construction projects, if not finished, were closed up to the best of our ability so winter plowing could be done. Two sweepers worked steadily during the months of October and November to keep streets clean of the fall foliage drop. A six-week leaf pickup was held and was a record year with 160 tons of bagged leaves picked up curbside in five weeks (the sixth week was canceled due to snow). We had 12,000 cu. yds. of sand/salt mixed for the winter season. By November 1, all sand and plow equipment was readied for the upcoming winter.

Rubbish/recycling is still a necessary and appreciated year-round service. The Augusta Recycling Team is still going strong, thanks to you, the residents. We regret that office paper and unwanted mail had to be dropped at the beginning of 1998 due to the loss of a market. Hopefully, this can be resumed in the future.

**Central Garage**

New equipment purchased in 1997:

(1) All Wheel Drive Grader
(1) Industrial Wheeled Backhoe
(1) 4x4 3/4 ton Pickup w/plow
(1) Class 8 Dump Truck w/plow, wing, and inbody sander.

1997 was a busy and productive year, and I am sure 1998 will be the same.

— John H. Charest  
Director

1997 Annual Report
City Code personnel are licensed LPI’s Master Level Building Officials and Certified Advanced Level Code Enforcement Officers with the State of Maine. The Bureau issues building permits, provides technical assistance, performs license inspection, processes variances/appeals, investigates complaints, maintains computerized building permits and plan databases, and acts as staff for both the Zoning Board and the BOCA Appeals Board.

Board of Zoning Appeals and the BOCA Building Code Board of Appeals are summarized as follows:

The Board of Zoning Appeals received ten requests for variances, granting nine and denying one.

**Building Permits Issued January 1, 1997 – December 31, 1997**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>$ Value</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>$ Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Single Family/ Residences</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>$1,103,460</td>
<td>Change of Use</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apartments</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,866,768</td>
<td>Pools</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>53,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Homes</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>897,295</td>
<td>Home Occupations</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Additions and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Signs</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>215,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alterations</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>625,601</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garages/Sheds/ Barns/Carports</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>284,899</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Commercial Structures</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12,499,822</td>
<td>Retaining Walls</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Sheds/ Storage</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>677,000</td>
<td>Foundations/Frost Walls</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>50,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buildings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Church Alteration</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>110,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relocate Houses</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Additions and</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>9,342,267</td>
<td>Amended Permits</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>18,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alterations</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>161,000</td>
<td>Demolitions</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking Lots</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>$28,976,527</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Fees Collected          | $56,133.74 | 236 Plumbing Permits | $6,291.75 |

— Richard Dolby

*Director*

*City of Augusta*
Community Services Department

Parks & Cemeteries Bureau

The Parks crew continued to be responsible for the maintenance and operation of 17 cemeteries covering 63 acres; 15 neighborhood parks, public grounds, greenspaces and flowerbeds, comprising approximately 100 acres; six playgrounds; City fields at the CARA complex; grounds and athletic fields at eight school sites; a community garden (soil was improved again this year by adding sand and compost); tree/shrub nursery; three swimming, two wading and one sprinkler pools; 11 tennis courts at three sites; four basketball courts, two seasonal skating rinks (located on Northern Avenue and Bangor Street, and City holiday decorations. Areas that were decorated for Christmas: Banners and garland were placed on Water Street, Bangor Street, Stone Street, Bond Street, Cony Hill, State Street, Lower Winthrop Street, and Grove Street. Other decorations included lighted lamp posts on Water Street, and lighted Christmas trees at Lithgow Library, City Center, Northern Avenue and six at each rotary.

The Cemeteries crew had a very busy and productive year. During 1997, the crew was very busy with the following:

- Twenty-one lots were sold, and there were 77 burials in the City’s 17 cemeteries.
- Approximately 100 stones were recemented and reset. Other areas were reseeded and maintained.
- Townsend Cemetery (also known as the Ballard Cemetery) by the entrance to the mall on Townsend Road was restored. All the stones were reset and cleaned to put this cemetery in mint condition.
- Purchased abutting property in the back of Riverside Cemetery on Bangor Street. This area will be excavated in the spring of 1998 to accommodate approximately 200-300 new gravesites.
- Initiated a project with the State for a combined effort to restore and maintain the Blaine Memorial, adjacent to Forest Grove Cemetery, under a contract agreement. During 1998, this project will come to fruition.
- During the coming year, the Bureau will continue to reset and restore stones, mend fences, and improve roadways in all the cemeteries.

1997 was a banner year for Augusta Recreation. Attendance was up in a number of programs. Close to 100 skiers participated in the Lost Valley learn-to-ski program. Thirty-eight youth and adult basketball teams were busy in our school gyms, which hosted other sports, including volleyball, floor hockey, kickball, soccer and basketball tournaments. Recreation childcare programs were offered at Farrington, Lincoln and Gilbert Schools and were very successful.

Senior citizen activities were popular with two exercise classes being offered at the City Center and the number of senior excursions doubling. The response was tremendous as these programs proved to be very popular.

We also had one of the best summers ever, thanks to the cooperation of the weather and the great staff we had. The playground pools were so popular that we added an extra week at the end of the summer. Daycamps attracted a number of children with weekly excursions to state parks and amusement centers proving to be a big hit.
Two state championship softball tournaments were held on our fields along with a New England championship. We hosted one of the biggest adult state tournaments ever—49 teams competed here in July. Along with softball, we offered three outdoor basketball leagues, two soccer travel teams, a number of youth sports clinics and hosted the State Youth Track and Field Championships. Over 2,000 athletes and spectators were at Alumni Field for that event.

Seventeen noontime and afternoon live performances were offered as well. A nighttime Big Band concert drew over 400 people and was co-sponsored by the Bicentennial Committee. This event was telecast on CTV-7, as were the noontime concerts.

During the fall, we offered competition in field hockey, soccer and three age groups of contact football. We have the biggest adult fall softball program in the state with men's and co-rec leagues playing until October. City Center was chosen as the new location of the annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, co-sponsored by the Bicentennial Committee, Heart of Augusta, and Old Fort Western.

A variety of activities are offered throughout the year with thanks going out to the Augusta School Department for sharing facilities with us.

— Jeff Zimmerman
Director
Lithgow Library

"...The Trustees therefore accept this building with a deep sense of gratitude, but with a deeper sense of the responsibility it imposes. They accept it as trustees for the people, pledging to transmit it to their successors richer, stronger and more potent. They accept it too, with the confident hope that as the past has brought forth friends to found, erect and equip, so the future shall rise up other benefactors to enlarge, to increase and to advance."

— Leslie Cornish, Lithgow Library Trustee, 1896

In its 102nd year of service to the Augusta community, the Lithgow Public Library

* Circulated 131,085 books, periodicals and audiovisual materials, a 9.4% increase over the previous year.

* Answered over 9,000 reference questions, 1/3 of those by telephone.

* Sponsored 39 adult events, including concerts, book discussion groups, author visits, and programs on health, bicycle maintenance, gardening, college applications and local Franco-American history.

* Offered "a program a day" in the Children’s Department, including activities for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and school age kids.

* Conducted a highly successful Summer Reading Program for all ages, with 580 people participating.

* Invited longtime residents and library users to share their recollections of the library, which were videotaped by CATC multimedia students for the production of an oral history.

* Participated in the Augusta Bicentennial celebration as part of the Parade, and by hosting five Maine Governors for a Maine Public Broadcasting special.

* Provided public access to the Internet through a high-speed direct connection, as part of the Maine School and Library Network.

* Publicized our unique historic building with a double-page pictorial in Down East magazine and a Bicentennial promotional spot on Channel 13.

* Collaborated with the Augusta School Department to link the school libraries to Lithgow’s automated system, widening access to resources for all members of the community.

* Conducted a Needs Assessment of the current facility and services, a first step in planning for an anticipated library expansion on the adjacent city-owned land.

* Formed a Development Committee to explore public and private funding for an expanded library.

— Betsy Long
Director

1997 Annual Report
Health and Welfare

The General Assistance Program in Maine is administered at the local level by each municipality with supervision from the State through the Department of Human Services. The State reimburses municipalities on a monthly basis for at least 50% of the municipalities’ costs for general assistance expenditures for necessities furnished to eligible applicants including food, clothing, personal items, housing, utilities and medications. The municipalities share these costs and furnish the total administrative costs of the program.

Each municipality is required to adopt a General Assistance Ordinance that establishes the maximum levels of assistance it will grant to eligible applicants for housing, food, etc. and also to establish other program regulations that expand on or define how the municipality will implement the state general assistance laws. The local ordinance and the state general assistance laws are always available at the general assistance office for public review.

The levels of assistance adopted by municipalities must be reasonable and adequate to allow applicants to maintain health and decency. The Department of Human Services in its supervisory role requires that municipalities use the Federal Food Stamp Plan and the HUD Fair Market Housing Values to establish our municipal general assistance maximum levels of assistance. These figures are adjusted each October 1 by the federal agencies and our general assistance levels are adjusted on the same data to correspond.

The levels of maximum assistance for the City of Augusta as of 10/1/97 are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. People/Per Month</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall Maximum</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal/Household</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing/Per Month</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Bedroom</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Utilities Included</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>617</td>
<td>695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unheated</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heated</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lights/Cooking</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric Hot Water</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Other needs such as medications, clothing, etc. are not included above as they are evaluated on an individual basis.

The overall maximum included in the chart above is a legislative imposed “CAP” on the amount of assistance that can be furnished to a household each month. The overall maximum was enacted by the State Legislature in 1991 as a temporary state budget reducing measure and is still in effect. The overall maximum requirement substantially limits and reduces the amount of assistance municipalities can provide to a household even when a far greater need is obvious. In these situations, our staff diligently explores and utilizes every possible additional avenue of help or resources in any form to help these households find the means to survive and become self-reliant. Networking is a vital component of the general assistance program, greatly expanding our ability to provide adequate services to those we serve.

It should be noted that we cannot locally change the limitations imposed by the overall maximum requirement. A legislative change would be necessary to remove or amend the 1991 “temporary” enactment.
Local General Assistance Expenditures
As Reported to D.H.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURES</th>
<th>FY 1997</th>
<th>FY 1996</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing, Energy, Fuel</td>
<td>$68,846</td>
<td>$77,372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food, Clothing, Etc.</td>
<td>8,744</td>
<td>11,126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical, RX, Burials</td>
<td>12,178</td>
<td>12,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$89,768</td>
<td>$101,021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUNDING SOURCES</th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State of Maine, DHS</td>
<td>$44,884</td>
<td>$50,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSI-IA Reimbursement</td>
<td>9,954</td>
<td>16,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recipient Repayments</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Cost to Augusta</td>
<td>34,740</td>
<td>33,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$89,768</td>
<td>$101,021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Data

During FY 1996, 2,744 applicants signed in for services and we processed 1,115 written applications requiring individual interviews; 663 of those were unduplicated households. We financially assisted 222 unduplicated households consisting of families or couples and single-person households. Many other applicants were assisted through contacts and referrals to other agencies. SSI Interim Assistance agreements filed resulted in reimbursement from 31 SSI cases. One Hundred Eighty-five recipients (of 240 assigned) completed 5,500 hours of workfare at various sites including public works, the schools, city center and the library. Other recipients participated in various educational, vocational and rehabilitative classes and programs as appropriate.

The direct expenditures for general assistance for the entire state totaled $8,063,212 in 1997. The Department of Human Services reimbursed municipalities for $5,275,244 of that cost (65-1.2%).

Guides to Access General Assistance

1. Anyone physically present in Augusta with the intent to remain here to live can apply for general assistance if without means to provide basic necessities essential to maintain their household. There are no age limits or durational residency requirements.

2. A written application in person is required. Walk-in service is provided at the Augusta City Center in the Health and Welfare Office, Monday through Friday from 7:45 am to 12:00 noon and from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm. Telephone 626-2325.

3. A decision will be made within 24 hours after the application is completed and assistance in the form of purchase orders will be promptly furnished for applicants found eligible.

— Mary Frances Bartlett
Director
Old Fort Western

Old Fort Western was proud to help support Augusta’s bicentennial celebration throughout 1997 by providing special history programming at the Fort and at City Hall and by participating in the community dinner, the bicentennial parade, the June 9th birthday festivities, and September’s day in the park. The Trustees congratulate the Bicentennial Steering Committee on a job well done.

The Fort also observed its 75th anniversary as a City-owned historic site during 1997. The Trustees thank all Augusta residents who attended special anniversary events, became members or renewed memberships during the year, and/or provided additional financial support for operations and endowment.

The year was a good one by conventional standards, too. Record attendance numbers were set for summer visitation, school program visitation, and lecture series participation. Major strides were made regarding archaeological collections research, artifact acquisition, and main house preservation.

Augusta resident Dale Gilbert completed a term of Trustee service during the year. David Madore was named to the Board, joining Patsy Crockett, Ed Heath, Mary McCarthy, Andrew Silsby, Jane Coryell, Kim Leupold, Beverly Bustin Hathaway, Richard Billings, John Finnegan, Brian Whitney, and Karen Foster as Augusta Trustees.

Fort admission is free to all Augusta residents.

"Old Fort Western’s contingent in the Bicentennial Parade, led by 3rd graders from Gilbert School.

—Jay Adams
Director & Curator

Superintendent of Schools

The past year has been a productive one for the Augusta Schools. Work has continued in each of the focus areas which were discussed in last year’s report. By the time this report is published, the Augusta Board of Education will have completed their review of the district’s facilities needs and will have developed a detailed Capital Improvement Plan. Technology is still in the forefront of our plans, both as part of the CIP and in the improvement of instruction and services. The completion of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges Accreditation Report, and the continued focus of our curriculum on matching the Maine Learning Results, has and will continue to provide positive direction as to how we can increase student learning.

The Board of Education has spent the last six months reviewing the status of Augusta school facilities. It is our intent to present a comprehensive plan to the community which will provide facilities that will meet Augusta’s educational needs for at least the next 50 years. The major complicating factor is the current lack of State funds for construction and the continued lack of State funds for renovation. The Legislature is currently studying these areas and it is expected that they will act on them this session. As has been reviewed in the press, the condition of Cony High School, particularly the exterior walls and the ventilation system, must be addressed immediately. In addition, Hussey, Hodgkins, and Boker Schools, which were built in the 1950s, need work to upgrade heating, wiring, and ventilation. It is important that the community fund the continued upkeep and improvement of facilities to protect its investment.

The issue of technology and its place in education is an intriguing one. Why do students need to have access to technology; weren’t the old paper and pencil exercises all right for us; didn’t we turn out well? Yes, we did turn out well, but we have also gradually picked up skills and use technology in jobs. Where can you go today without seeing the use of computers to manage and control all aspects of life. From the auto parts store to State government to industry, every job requires the use of technology. In order to be prepared to enter the work force, students will need to have a high level skill in the technology area. As students, much of the information available to learn about science, geography, government, etc. is available on the Internet. Responsible use of technology is another area to which students need exposure. We even access old information through the new technology in most libraries. All this said, there is a price to pay for technology and the constant updating of technology. A set of books for an entire grade might cost $4,000 ..., one computer, fully equipped, costs that. That same set of books might be used for five to eight years with the replacement of a few lost or damaged books. The one computer will be outdated and almost useless in five years. The Augusta schools have updated computer labs in each of our schools, but teachers do not have access to computers in most classrooms. Each school is wired so that we can communicate between schools and on the Internet, but classrooms are not wired for this same use. The Augusta Schools, through the constant investment of small amounts of money in technology, have been able to make all libraries interconnected and received $80,000 from the November bond issue. This will be combined with monies freed up by the new federal communications legislation, which provides rebates to communications companies, to complete the wiring of our schools. As was mentioned last year, the

Seated left to right: Janet L. Radsky (Ward 4), Mark S. O'Brien (Chairperson), Donna R. Doore (Ward 2). Standing: Jon Ryder (At Large), Matthew E. Dyer (At Large), Gary G. Veilleux (Ward 3). Missing: Marc H. Guimont (At Large) and Frank A. Johnson (Ward 1).
Augusta Schools and Lithgow Library have worked together to automate all libraries so that the entire collection is available to all residents. This has saved a large amount of money because of the shared use of software and equipment.

Technology’s ability to provide information for all citizens is demonstrated by the use by the City and the schools of the Internet. The City of Augusta provides a web page which was developed by Cony High School students. This advertises the city all over the world and is easily accessed. You can access that at http://www.ci.augusta.me.us. The Augusta Schools have developed a web site which allows citizens to contact Augusta school employees, learn more about the schools and programs, look at Board agendas, look at student work, and learn about job openings. The address for the school web page is http://www.convhs.augusta.k12.me.us. The other major communications resource available to the community is CTV-7, Channel 7, the government and education cable channel. CTV-7 both educates students in multimedia production and provides information, access to public meetings, entertainment, and promotion of local activities. Augusta is very fortunate to have this available. The creative use of technology will help to market Augusta and can act to assist economic development.

Included with this report are the testing results for the Maine Educational Assessment Test, which tests all grade 4, 8, and 11 students; and the Scholastic Aptitude Test, which test all those grade 11 students wishing to go on for further education. These results show continued improvement in Augusta students.

The Augusta Board of Education has set Wednesday as their meeting night. Regular monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month on a rotating schedule in our schools. Four times a year, the Board televisions its meetings on Channel 7. For further information or a full agenda, please call the Superintendent’s Office (626-2468). The public is always welcome at all meetings of the Board.

A special note of thanks to the Augusta Board of Education for the many hours spent in negotiations, workshops, and committee meetings. My thanks to all of them and to all the great staff members and citizens who have contributed so much to the youth of Augusta.

— H. Graham Nye
Superintendent of Schools

City of Augusta
### Augusta School Department Test Results
Scholastic Aptitude Test Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National</td>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>Cony</td>
<td>National</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT Verbal</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT Math</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>511</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Augusta students taking the SAT Achievement Tests in advanced mathematics, foreign language, science and social studies score well above the National average.

### Maine Educational Assessment Test Results

#### Grade 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Soc. St.</th>
<th>Human.</th>
<th>Health</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1985-86</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>260</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>265</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>265</td>
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Bicentennial Events


Nicole Adams and Judy Sample (background) participating in Fort Western demonstrations at Our Town Dinner—March 23, 1997.

March 23, 1997—Our Town Dinner—Fort Western Singing School.

First night event — Water Street Wagon Ride, January 1, 1997.

Whereas, the "head of tide" on the river known as the Kennebec was early occupied by natives who spoke an Abenaki tongue and was, in 1607, visited by English settlers from the Popham Colony, and representatives from the Plymouth Colony seeking "a fit trading place" in 1628 chose the east shore as their "house at Kennebec," later called Cushing Trading Post; and

Whereas, the French Jesuit, Father Gabriel Dequillemet met with Pilgrim traders and in 1646 established a mission among the Abenaki people and in the mid-17th century proprietors of Plymouth Company began efforts to settle the Kennebec region by erecting, in 1754, a fort at Cushing, which was named Fort Western and placed under the command of James Howard; and

Whereas, Fort Western, a National Historic Landmark, continued its existence, first as a fort, then as a trading store and a residence and, after a period of decline, underwent a series of restorations and is, this year, celebrating its 75th year as a museum; and

Whereas, Augusta, then known as the "Fort" settlement, was a part of the town incorporated as Hallowell in 1771 and, on February 8, 1796, the Massachusetts Legislature passed an act to build the Kennebec Bridge at the "Fort" location; and

Whereas, on February 20, 1797, an act was passed by the Massachusetts Legislature to divide the Town of Hallowell incorporating the northerly part into a town that was named Harrington and, on June 9, 1797, the name of the Town of Harrington was changed to Augusta by order of the Massachusetts Legislature; and

Whereas, in 1799, Augusta became the shire town of the new County of Kennebec, in 1827 was chosen as the capital and in 1831 it became the seat of government of the State of Maine and in 1849 was incorporated as a city; and

Whereas, Augusta has been, through the years, a trading post, an inland shipbuilding and shipping port, a center for publishing, manufacturing, education and governmental activity and has evolved into a community of varied neighborhoods and diverse occupational and cultural identities connected by civic pride just as the east and west shores were joined by that 1797 Kennebec Bridge; now, therefore, be it

Resolved: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Eighteenth Legislature, now assembled in this First Special Session, take this opportunity to honor the city and good citizens of Augusta on the very special occasion of the bicentennial celebration of the City of Augusta and extend our congratulations and best wishes; and be it further

Resolved: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the City of Augusta on behalf of the people of the State of Maine.

[Signature of Clerk of the House]

[Signature of Secretary of the Senate]

[Signature of Secretary of State]
State of Maine
In the Year of Our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Seven

JOINT RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE CITY OF AUGUSTA ON ITS BICENTENNIAL

Whereas, the "head of tide" on the river known as the Kennebec was early occupied by natives who spoke an Abenaki tongue and was, in 1607, visited by English settlers from the Popham Colony, and representatives from the Plymouth Colony seeking "a fit trading place" in 1628 chose the east shore as their "house at Kennebec," later called Cushman Trading Post; and

Whereas, the French Jesuit, Father Gabriel Deuillette met with Pilgrim traders and in 1646 established a mission among the Abenaki people and in the mid-17th century proprietors of Plymouth Company began efforts to settle the Kennebec region by erecting, in 1754, a fort at Cushnoe, which was named Fort Western and placed under the command of James Howard; and

Whereas, Fort Western, a National Historic Landmark, continued its existence, first as a fort, then as a trading store and a residence and, after a period of decline, underwent a series of restorations and is, this year, celebrating its 25th year as a museum; and

Whereas, Augusta, then known as the "Fort" settlement, was a part of the town incorporated as Hallowell in 1771 and, on February 8, 1796, the Massachusetts Legislature passed an act to build the Kennebec Bridge at the "Fort" location; and

Whereas, on February 20, 1797, an act was passed by the Massachusetts Legislature to divide the Town of Hallowell incorporating the northerly part into a town that was named Harrington and, on June 9, 1797, the name of the Town of Harrington was changed to Augusta by order of the Massachusetts Legislature; and

Whereas, in 1799, Augusta became the shire town of the new County of Kennebec; in 1827 was chosen as the capital and in 1831 it became the seat of government of the State of Maine and in 1849 was incorporated as a city; and

Whereas, Augusta has been, through the years, a trading post, an inland shipbuilding and shipping port, a center for publishing, manufacturing, education and governing activity and has evolved into a community of varied neighborhoods and diverse occupational and cultural identities connected by civic pride just as the east and west shores were joined by that 1797 Kennebec Bridge; now, therefore, be it

Resolved: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Eighteenth Legislature, now assembled in this First Special Session, take this opportunity to honor the city and good citizens of Augusta on the very special occasion of the bicentennial celebration of the City of Augusta and extend our congratulations and best wishes; and be it further

Resolved: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the City of Augusta on behalf of the people of the State of Maine.

H.P. 1152

ATTEST: ELIZABETH H. MITCHELL
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sponsored By:
of Augusta

Cosponsored By:
Rep. David R. Madore
of Augusta
Speaker Elizabeth H. Mitchell
of Vassalboro
Sen. Beverly C. Duggett
of Kennebec County

In Senate Chamber
Read and Adopted
May 20, 1997
In Concurrence

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

ATTEST:
MARK W. LAWRENCE
President of the Senate

In Testimony Whereof, I have caused the seal of the State to be hereunto affixed. GIVEN under my hand at Augusta, this fourth day of June, in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven.

DAN A. ORNOSKY
Secretary of State

1997 Annual Report
Augusta 200 Committee

Augustans observed the Capital City’s 200th anniversary with a year-long series of ceremonial and entertainment events which celebrated a rich heritage and proud sense of community. Coordinated by the AUGUSTA 200 volunteer citizen committee, the schedule of activities was designed to provide “something for everyone.”

Thousands braved the cold on New Year’s Day for the bicentennial kick-off: an afternoon of musical performances, waterfront bonfire, Water Street wagon rides, and various food treats—all climaxed by a brilliant fireworks display.

On March 23, a sold-out crowd filled the Civic Center for “Our Town.” They participated in 18th and 19th century children’s games and watched demonstrations of traditional skills and crafts, as well as a continuous stage show of music and dance. A buffet supper was followed by a “history lesson” taught by narrator David Dennett with slides of old Augusta images and live scenes depicting highlights from the city’s past.

May 31 was Bicentennial Parade Day...and it was Augusta’s biggest ever. Hundreds of units from all over New England joined in the spectacle. Led by Grand Marshal Dan Hickey were historical reenactment groups, local organizations exhibiting their own and their city’s heritage, clowns, musical and dance performers, military units and scouts, antique cars, horses, and many marching bands. The high point for most spectators was undoubtedly the sight of the proud Cony High School Band as the red-clad musicians marched and played their way down Western Avenue through downtown, and across the Kennebec.

A week later, on June 7, Augusta was host to the Portland Sea Dogs baseball team, who delighted 350 youthful baseball players during a morning clinic. That evening the Sea Dogs honored Augusta with a “Bicentennial Night” at Hadlock Field.

Augusta’s actual birthday was observed on June 9, marking the day in 1797 on which the town received its name. In the morning, all 3,400 of Augusta’s schoolchildren formed a circle around the heart of the city. Commemorating the riverside “birthplace” of their hometown and symbolizing its unity, the circle lined the east and west Kennebec shores and both bridges. At noon the children were treated to a barbecue luncheon at Capitol Park. Then, with the State House as a background, the official ceremony included a reenacted portion of the 1897 centennial (by Cony High actors), music, and brief speeches by costumed legislators, Mayor Bridge, Chief Justice Daniel Wathen, and Governor Angus King.

AUGUSTA 200 returned to Capitol Park on September 6. This time the agenda was a gala family “Day in the Park.” Twelve hours of fun—food, stage entertainment, and such varied activities as wagon and pony rides, face painting, old-fashioned stilt walking, and hot air balloon rides—were enjoyed by more than 5,000 adults and children. The special day ended with an evening Beatlemania concert.

The bicentennial steering committee joined the Cony Alumni Association in October to sponsor “A Picture of Augusta History,” two nights of slides and narration by David and Vivian Dennett in the old (flatiron) Cony High Alumni Auditorium.

On December 9, the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra helped celebrate the bicentennial in its first appearance in Maine in nearly 20 years. Under the baton of Keith Lockhart, the orchestra thrilled the Civic Center audience with its only New England holiday program outside Boston.

The year ended as it had begun with a fireworks spectacle high above the Kennebec. New Year’s Eve’s schedule opened with the dedication of an AUGUSTA 200 time capsule in front of City Center. After the fireworks, Augusta said farewell to 1997 at the Civic Center. A festive dance also served to launch the Civic Center’s 25th anniversary.

A review of Augusta’s 200th birthday year is incomplete without mention of the community’s groups which organized related events and projects. Fort Western’s old time baseball game was played June 7 on an adjacent field to that of the Sea Dogs clinic. The Fort also held Memorial Day exercises, Fourth of July activities, and a winter/spring lecture series, which highlighted the historic site’s 75th year as a museum. The Calumet Club, also celebrating 75 years, chose its Festival de la Bastille for a “Salute to the Bicentennial.” A Sunday afternoon Cecilia Club program celebrated “200 Years of Music.” Cony High’s 1997 Chizzle Wizzle was staged with a bicentennial theme. The University of Maine at Augusta Foundation sponsored a formal ball reminiscent of those of past decades. Miss Greater Augusta contest events includes a historical essay, a costume fashion show, and a tea at the Blaine House. Kennebec Valley Garden Club entertained at a springtime garden party. Pine Tree State Arboretum incorporated historical topics in its lecture series and planted a bicentennial tree (after displaying it on the arboretum’s parade float). Kennebec Valley Humane Society dedicated its Songbird Sanctuary.
Lithgow Library combined a tea with an oral history recording session. (The library’s reading room was also the setting for a Maine Public Television panel discussion of the state’s present and former governors). Kennebec Historical Society offered visits through 200 years of Augusta living with its open house tour in October. Koussinoc Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, observed its own centennial year as well as the bicentennial at a December Blaine House tea.

The Augusta Clergy Association hosted an ecumenical service and published a comprehensive book, Faith Communities of Augusta, Maine: Past and Present. Kennebec Leadership Institute constructed a bicentennial gazebo on the west side waterfront. A Capital Area Technical Center carpentry class fashioned red and white "posts" on the Curran bridge as a representation of the 1797 first Kennebec Bridge. Cony High School art students produced the official bicentennial 1997 calendar and the design for AUGUSTA 200 license plates. Members of the Capital Camera Club and students from CTV-7 were among those who provided documentation of several events. Many more groups helped make city-wide observances successful or called attention to the bicentennial in their own activities. In all, Augusta’s 200th anniversary was celebrated on more than 100 days.

— Mary Maher McCarthy and Roger Katz
Co-Chairs

City of Augusta
Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission began implementation of the Open Space, Public Access, and Outdoor Recreation Plan. The priorities as stated in the plan are:

- Swimming area and water access
- Active recreation
- Trails and linkages
- Waterfront activities; i.e., marina
- Nature education and beautification.

Based on the stated priorities, the Conservation Commission’s main focus this year was the acquisition, development planning and fund raising for the Bicentennial Park (Nelson Property on Three Cornered Pond). The goal is to create a full season public park that includes: a fully accessible swimming area carry-in boat launch, picnic areas, nature paths, summer camp facilities designed in harmony with its natural surroundings. Fund raising and development planning are ongoing and will continue to be the number one priority for 1998.

Other major activities include:

- Developing a forestry management plan for city-owned land—completed Pilot Program at Hatch Hill.
- Recreation trails on public land—Eastside Greenway and Savage Park.
- Reviewing city tax acquired properties and making recommendations to the City Council.
- Developing policies for public use of lands controlled by Augusta Conservation Commission.

Members of the Conservation Commission are David Hassen, Chair; Mary Gingrow-Shaw, Secretary; Roberta Record, Harvey Versteeg, Andrea Lord, Associate and Sandra Faucher, Associate.

— David Hassen
Chair
Augusta Cable Television Committee

The Augusta Cable Television Committee has two major responsibilities: (1) monitoring the City's cable television franchise with State Cable, Inc.; and (2) overseeing CTV-7 Augusta, the City's education and government cable channel.

In fulfilling the first responsibility, committee representatives have met twice with Mike Angelakis, President of State Cable, and his staff to discuss various aspects of the franchise and State Cable's regional development of cable service. The committee appreciates Mr. Angelakis' continued support for and interest in local education and government programming.

The committee has been extremely involved in the development of programming and financial support for CTV-7 Augusta, meeting monthly with Station Manager Chris Davis and General Manager Bill Dunn. With the contractual assistance of Don Roberts of Roberts & Co., the committee has attempted to raise $20,000 of its 1997 budget through underwriting of CTV-7 Augusta operations from local businesses and individuals. Unfortunately, the committee fell well short of that goal.

In the fall, the committee reviewed the first year of operation of the channel, centering its attention on two specific issues:

1. The nature of education and government programming, concentrating on the airing of regular programs of public interest (such as City Council and Board of Education meetings, Fire and Police Department programs, school athletic and co-curricular events, and the community bulletin board).

2. The costs associated with the production of additional programming for CTV-7 Augusta. The staff and committee established rates for both production and editing costs.

CTV-7 Augusta is operated in conjunction with the Multi-Media Program at the Capital Area Technical Center. Each fall new students learn the art and science of television production through the real-life experiences of studio and remote broadcasting: an excellent example of technology education ("learning while doing"). In 1997, the station's remote broadcasting capabilities were increased by the donation of a van, which was retrofitted with broadcast and production equipment. With this new equipment, CTV-7 began its regular airing of City Council meetings and Cony athletic events (including an extensive winter sports package of basketball, wrestling, swimming, and ice hockey). Throughout the year, CTV-7 covered the major Augusta Bicentennial events, making the City's 200th anniversary available to residents throughout the region.

The committee would like to express its thanks to Bill Dunn and Chris Davis for their dual commitment to quality education and government programming and the education of C.A.T.C. students. A sincere thanks also to Jeff Zimmerman, whose expertise and assistance has made the past year both enjoyable and possible.

— Walter T. Ruark  
Chair

City of Augusta
CTV-7 Augusta is proud to have completed its first full year of operation with an overwhelmingly successful outcome. What was hoped to be a four hour a week Education/Government cable access channel has exploded into a twenty-four hour a day fully operational television station. The key to the station’s success has been the students of the Capital Area Technical Center’s Multimedia program. Their hard work and dedication has enabled CTV-7 Augusta’s Station Manager, Chris Davis, and General Manager, William J. Dunn, to produce a wealth of programs.

Highlights for FY 1997:

- Installation of CTV-7 Augusta’s mobile production van, enabling live coverage of the City of Augusta’s City Council Meetings, Augusta Board of Education Meetings, Cony H.S. athletic events and Augusta Bicentennial events.

- Over 100 educational programs produced including City of Augusta Police and Fire Department Safety shows, What’s Growing In the Valley, the KVMC Medical Report, CTV-7 News, Teen Talk, Computer Time, Macintosh Magazine and Augusta School Department plays and concerts.

- Amber Dostie and Sarah Duplessis, Students of CATC’s Multimedia class, placed sixth in the nation at the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America’s Skills USA competition in Television Production.

We here at CTV-7 Augusta would like to thank you for your continued confidence and support as we work diligently to enhance and develop both the programming and the station to meet the community needs of the City of Augusta. With your support, we hope to exceed our recent phenomenal growth in the next year.

— Chris Davis  
Station Manager

— William J. Dunn  
General Manager

1997 Annual Report
Augusta Tree Board

On May 2, 1997, the Augusta Tree Board began its fifth year of maintaining and nurturing the community forest of Augusta.

The mission of the nine-member Augusta Tree Board is to act as an advisory group to the City Tree Warden, Jeff Zimmerman, and City Arborist, David L. Gomeau in the planning and maintenance of the City's community forest.

The Tree Board depends on grants and donations for their operating income. This year the board received a $5,000 grant from the Maine Community Forestry Council and the Maine Forest Service to implement a computerized public street tree inventory. The inventory will allow the tree warden to carry out a sound community forest management plan for the city's future.

One of the board's highlights this year was to enter into a partnership with city government, private business, and the Maine Department of Transportation to address the issue of beautifying and maintaining the six major arterial gateways into the City of Augusta.

Other projects overseen by the Augusta Tree Board in 1997 were:

- Pruning and planing clinics for city residents free of charge.
- Planting of a friendship tree donated to the City of Hallowell.
- The creation of the very successful TV show “What’s Growing in Our Valley”.
- The continuation of the fund-raising TV show “The Tree Bole.”
- A shrub pruning project on the Airport Road carried out by members of the Tree Board.
- Planting of approximately 25 new trees throughout the city.
- Creation of a new shrub planter in front of the Cony flatiron building.
- Maintaining the status of the City of Augusta as a “Tree City USA.”
- Successfully petitioned the Mayor and City Council to declare the month of May as “Arbor Month” for the third year in a row.

The Augusta Tree Board is looking forward to another very successful year in 1998 of enthusiastically carrying out the responsibilities vested in them by the Augusta City Council.

Augusta Tree Board members are: Bob Nazlian, Joan Bartlett, Romona Pace, Brian Marson, Art Lincoln, Jerry Gaboury, Sharon Cusson, and Councilor Ken Knight.

— Norman Elvin
Chairperson
### Members of the 118th Legislature

**District 94**

State Representative: Elizabeth H. Mitchell  
Speaker of the House  
Home Address: RR 3, Box 6520  
Vassalboro, ME 04989  
Telephone: 207-622-2629

**District 95**

State Representative:  
David R. Madore  
Home Address:  
197 Northern Avenue  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Telephone: 207-626-0982

Year-Round Toll Free House of Representatives Message Center: 1-800-423-2900

### District 15

Senator: Beverly C. Daggett  
Home Address:  
16 Pine Street  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Telephone: 207-622-9053

Year-Round Toll Free Senate Message Center: 1-800-423-6900

### Representatives to U.S. Congress

**Senator Olympia J. Snowe (R)**  
250 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Tel: 202-224-5344

**Senator Susan M. Collins (R)**  
40 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Suite 4  
Washington, DC 20510  
Tel: 202-224-2523

**Representative Thomas H. Allen (D)**  
1630 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
Tel: 202-225-6116

**Representative John E. Baldacci (D)**  
1740 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
Tel: 202-225-6306

**District 96**

State Representative: Julie Ann O'Brien  
Home Address:  
12 Myrtle Street  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Telephone: 207-623-2930

Capital Address: House of Representatives  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0002  
Telephone: 207-287-1500 (Voice)  
207-287-4469 (TTY)

**District 15**

Senator Office:  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0003  
Telephone: 207-287-1540 (Voice)  
207-287-1583 (TTY)
City of Augusta Telephone Numbers

POLICE AND FIRE EMERGENCIES ............. 911

CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
  Codes ........................................ 626-2368
  Engineering ................................ 626-2365
  Hatch Hill Facility ......................... 626-2440
  Planning .................................... 626-2366
  Public Works ................................ 626-2435
  Solid Waste ................................ 626-2435

CIVIC CENTER
  Administration ............................. 626-2405
  Ticket Office ................................ 626-2400

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
  Administration ............................. 626-2350
  Buildings/Grounds /Cemeteries .......... 626-2350
  Fort Western Museum ....................... 626-2385
  Health and Welfare ....................... 626-2325
  Lithgow Library ............................ 626-2415
  Parks and Recreation ..................... 626-2350

EDUCATION & GOVERNMENT
CHANNEL (CHANNEL 7) ......................... 626-2475

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
  City Manager’s Office ..................... 626-2300
  Mayor & City Council Office .............. 626-2300
  City Clerk’s Office ....................... 626-2310
  Community Development .................... 626-2355
  Economic Development ...................... 626-2336
  Human Resources .......................... 626-2300
  Tax Assessor .............................. 626-2320
  Voter Registration ....................... 626-2360

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT
  Auditor ...................................... 626-2340
  Information Systems ...................... 626-2345
  Treasurer/Tax Collector ................... 626-2314

FIRE DEPARTMENT
  Non-Emergency Business ................... 626-2422
  Civil Emergency Preparedness ............ 626-2422

HOUSING AUTHORITY ......................... 626-2357

PARKING DISTRICT ............................ 626-2362

POLICE DEPARTMENT
  Non-Emergency Business ................... 626-2370

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
  Adult Education ........................... 626-2470
  Buker School ................................ 626-2450
  Cony Alternative School ................... 626-2445
  Cony High School ........................... 626-2460
  Farrington School .......................... 626-2480
  Gilbert School ............................. 626-2491
  Hodgkins School ............................ 626-2490
  Human Resources .......................... 626-2527
  Hussey School .............................. 626-2461
  Kennebec Learning Center ................... 287-3209
  Lincoln School ............................ 626-2483
  School Transportation ...................... 622-3650
  Superintendent’s Office .................... 626-2468
  Technical Center .......................... 626-2475