City of Augusta, Maine

Bureaus/Departments Phone Fax
Airport........................................................................... 626-2306 626-2309
Assessing........................................................................... 626-2302 626-2304
Auditing........................................................................... 626-2340 620-8161
Bicentennial Nature Park (summer).......................... 626-7010
City Manager's Office............................................. 626-2300
City Services Administration.............................. 626-2365 626-2520
Chief's Office................................................................... 626-2310 620-8127
Civic Center Administration................................. 626-2405 626-5968
Civic Center Box Office........................................ 626-2400 626-8800
Childcare........................................................................... 626-2350 620-8800
Codes................................................................................. 626-2368 626-2520
Community Services....................................................... 626-2305 626-2354
Development Services....................................................... 626-2336 626-2338
Economic Development.............................................. 626-2336 626-2338
Engineering........................................................................ 626-2365 626-2520
Facilities & Systems....................................................... 626-2365 626-2520
Finance/Administration............................................. 626-2300 620-8174
Fire Department............................................................ 626-2421 626-2424
Fort Western................................................................... 626-2440 626-2440
Health & Welfare............................................................. 626-2325 620-8153
Health Director................................................................. 620-8107 620-8174
Housing Authority.......................................................... 626-2357 626-2359
Human Resources.............................................................. 626-2353 620-8174
Information Systems....................................................... 626-2345 626-2304
Lithgow Library.............................................................. 626-2415 626-2419
Planning............................................................................. 626-2366 626-2520
Parking District (fee-call first)............................... 626-2382 626-2382
Parks/Cemeteries/Trees..................................................... 626-2352 626-2354
Police Department......................................................... 626-2370 623-2512
Public Works................................................................. 626-2435 626-2437
Recreation....................................................................... 626-2350 620-8800
School Department.................................................. 626-2448 626-2444
Solid Waste...................................................................... 626-2435 626-2437
Treasury/Tax Collection............................................ 626-2314 620-8127
Voter Registration.......................................................... 626-2360 620-8127

We're on the Web!
www.augustamaine.gov

City of Augusta, Maine

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Mail: Complete an Absentee Ballot Application. Forward your completed, signed application to: City of Augusta, City Clerk’s Office, 16 Cony Street, Augusta, ME 04330.

Phone: Call our office 207-626-2306 to request a ballot over the phone. We must speak with the voter.

Immediate Family Member: Complete an Application for Absentee Ballot for the voter as an immediate family member and sign your name in place of the voter’s. Where do I vote on Election Day?

Ward 1: Augusta Armory
Ward 2: City Center
Ward 3: Civic Center
Ward 4: St Andrews Hall

Poll hours
7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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Mayor's Notes

This is the first installment of what I hope will be a regular feature of the City of Augusta’s newsletter, which is intended to inform the City’s residents of on-going issues and important developments in our community.

Before I discuss some of the important issues that our city is working on, I want to personally express my gratitude to the members of the Augusta City Council who work so hard on behalf of the City’s residents. I believe it is no exaggeration to say that Augusta has one of the best city councils in the State of Maine. Both the mayor and the council are fortunate to have an extraordinarily competent and professional administration led by City Manager Bill RDiges, as well as a dedicated and hard working complement of city employees.

So what has been going on in the city of Augusta over the past two or three months? If you have noticed a lot of activity in our city it is not your imagination. It is, in fact, growth within our city.

Downtown Augusta

On Friday, August 19, 2011, the Augusta Downtown Alliance celebrated the fact that at least 15 new businesses and organizations have opened in the downtown area in the past 12-24 months. This is an incredible accomplishment. The signs of a revitalized downtown are clearly apparent. The Downtown Diner has opened to rave reviews. There is activity at the buildings by Richard Parkhurst and son, Tobias, as well as the building belonging to UMA. I believe there is a new excitement about Downtown Augusta and the momentum has just begun.

MaineGeneral Hospital

Construction has begun on the new MaineGeneral Hospital and the official groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for September 23, 2011 at 11:30 a.m. In another piece of good news, U.S. Senator Susan Collins was in Augusta on August 12, 2011 to announce that the federal government will contribute $1.2 million dollars towards the re-construction of Exit 113, a critical piece for the hospital as well as to relieve traffic congestion at Exit 112.

Monthly Building Permit Report

An examination of building permits issued by the city over the past four months is very encouraging. For the month of April, the estimated costs associated with building permits issued during that month was almost $580,000. For the month of May it was under $790,000. For the month of June, it was more than $2.1 million and for the month of July, it was more than $6.8 million. This includes 12 new single family residences. This is a very positive trend. It will be interesting to see if it continues over the next few months.

Recycling in Augusta

While I was campaigning for Mayor, several residents asked me what Augusta was doing to increase the amount of material we can re-cycle. The city, led by Public Works Director, Lesley Jones, has been actively exploiting a new regional re-cycling plan. The City Council received its first overview of that plan at a recent informational meeting. The plan, as proposed, would involve a “pay as you throw” system that is designed to encourage greater re-cycling and the disposal of less waste. The council will be receiving more detail about this proposal in the coming months and I urge all citizens of Augusta to let us know your views on this important issue.

Mayor’s Notes is continued on Page 3

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It is an ongoing goal of the Augusta City Council and a campaign pledge of our new Mayor, Bill Stokes, to make every effort practical to keep our citizenry informed about city government. This initial edition of our municipal newsletter is one more effort to do just that.

In future editions, you can expect to read features about different departments and bureaus of your local government, get a head’s up regarding upcoming City-sponsored events of interest, and hopefully learn more about our community and what services and resources are available to you. Newsletter editor, Phillis Curry (my executive assistant) welcomes your observations and suggestions as we go forward. She can be reached by phone at 626-2300 or by e-mail at philly.curry@augustamaine.gov.

I have had the privilege of serving as Augusta’s city manager for over thirteen years now. My wife, Janice, and I thoroughly enjoy our home, our neighborhood and our City. We were both raised in Maine and feel very fortunate that our careers have given us the opportunity to live in part of our country where the natural beauty is exceptional, the climate is devoid of the extremes we see troubling other areas, where crime and social problems are modest, where the cultural and recreational and retail and dining venues are satisfying and where, in time, we can plan an enjoyable retirement. I’ve travelled quite a bit, especially in my thirty-five year career in city government and I can assure you that the attributes I mention above are not to be found everywhere. For that matter, it’s the rare locale that can boast the combination of assets we enjoy.

This month, MaineGeneral Medical Center broke ground on its new $150 million campus. We congratulate M GMC on their initiative. When it is complete, Augusta will boast of one more world-class reason to appreciate where we live. Later this year, watch for ground breaking for a $50 million downtown state courthouse complex that preserves the historic County Courthouse and expands to meet the pressing needs now being experienced by the court system.

Phillis told me I had a half-page to say my piece and I’m just getting warmed up, but the beauty of a newsletter, I suppose, is there’s always next month to pick up where I leave off.

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We welcome your comments and ideas!