# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**Executive/Legislative Department**
- Augusta City Council .................................................................................................................. 3
- Augusta City Council Goals and Strategies .................................................................................. 4
- Committee Members .................................................................................................................. 6
- Communication and Marketing .................................................................................................. 7

**Development Services Department**
- Development Services Administration ......................................................................................... 8
- Economic Development Bureau .................................................................................................. 9
- Planning Bureau and Historic Preservation Commission ........................................................... 10, 11
- Code Enforcement Bureau ......................................................................................................... 12
- Airport ........................................................................................................................................ 13
- Facilities and Systems Bureau .................................................................................................... 14

**Civic Center** ............................................................................................................................... 15

**Community Services Department**
- Community Services Administration ......................................................................................... 18
- Childcare Bureau ......................................................................................................................... 19
- Health and Welfare Bureau ........................................................................................................ 20
- Old Fort Western ......................................................................................................................... 21
- Parks and Recreation .................................................................................................................. 25
- Lithgow Library ........................................................................................................................... 26

**Finance/Administration**
- Assessing Bureau ....................................................................................................................... 27
- City Clerk/Treasurer ...................................................................................................................... 28
- Information Systems Bureau ....................................................................................................... 30

**Fire** ........................................................................................................................................... 32

**Police** ......................................................................................................................................... 34

**Public Works Department**
- Administration/ Streets .............................................................................................................. 38
- Engineering Bureau ...................................................................................................................... 41
- Central Garage ............................................................................................................................. 42
- Hatch Hill Landfill ......................................................................................................................... 43

**Board of Education** .................................................................................................................. 45

**Kennebec Land Trust Letter** ..................................................................................................... 46

**Maine Legislators and U. S. Congress Town/City Letters** .......................................................... 47

**State and Local Government Phone Directory and Information** ............................................. 49, 50

Cover photos: The Hopeful sign artwork was installed atop a Water Street Building in 2022.
Mayor Mark O’Brien took office on January 6, 2022. Mr. O’Brien is an Augusta native and was serving his fifth term as City Councilor prior to being elected Mayor.

Mayor O’Brien also served six two-year terms on the Augusta Board of Education.

During 2022 the following council members served our City (from left to right):

Ward Councilors:
Linda Conti, Ward 1
Kevin Judkins, Ward 2
Michael Michaud, Ward 3
Eric Lind, Ward 4

At-Large Councilors:
Raegan LaRochelle
Heather Pouliot
Abigail St. Valle
Courtney Gary-Allen

Business Meetings are for establishing City policy by ordinance, order or resolve. They are held on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 7:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers.

Informational Meetings are for the purpose of informal discussions of city issues between the City Council and staff. They are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 6:30 PM

All meetings are open to the public and the public is encouraged to attend. Those persons wishing to address the City Council about a specific topic not on an agenda, who have submitted a formal request in accordance with Section 2-61 of the Code of Ordinances, may do so at an informational meeting only and by contacting the City Manager’s office at 626-2300 or by e-mail to: info@augustamaine.gov.
CITY OF AUGUSTA CITY COUNCIL 2022 GOALS AND ACTIONS

AFFORDABLE HOUSING, CITIZEN HEALTH AND WELFARE

A1. Promote Affordable Housing for all income levels

- Create a housing plan for the unhoused before next winter
- Create a Task Force to hold a forum to solicit the views of housing partners in Augusta and submit a strategy to the City Council for housing available for all levels of income
- Consider a short-term rental ordinance to control the conversion of year-round housing into tourist units.
- Establish and maintain a low-barrier homeless shelter
- Identify and implement zoning changes to make affordable housing less expensive to develop in Augusta. Examples of zoning changes include allowing manufactured housing, tiny housing, accessory dwellings, and other less expensive options in more areas.
- Provide financial incentives for housing development such as TIFs, land bank properties (or Hussey School) at low or no cost, and infrastructure extensions

A2. Make Augusta a Recovery-ready community and use Opioid Settlement funds for the following Substance Use Task Force goals:

- Encourage the display of treatment information in public spaces for and in the business community for employees and their families."
- Celebrate recovery and reduce the stigma of substance use disorder for individuals and families using media (such as CTV-7), social media, and by partnering with the state OPTIONS media campaign."
- Public education/PSAs around what to do when coming across a person who may have overdosed."
- Partner with the police department to identify locations with a need for the installation of accessible community sharp boxes."
- Publicize information on how to find recovery meetings and other resources on CTV-7 and other media outlets."
- Clarify city ordinance around recovery residences."
- Work to create stable, safe housing and adequate inventory for all levels of recovery.
- Hold a Council informational meeting about the proposed crisis center with 130 beds at the old veteran’s home for mental health and substance abuse care. After the meeting, consider a Council resolution in support of the proposal
- Continue to support the efforts of the Substance Use Task Force to attract resources and services from outside funding sources

REVITALIZATION PROJECTS

B1. Support the Revitalization of Sand Hill and Lower Water Street

- Begin to implement the recommendations of the Sand Hill/Lower Water Street Task Force when they present their report this summer
- The Sand Hill/Lower Water Street Task Force was formed in 2021 to study how to revitalize the proud home of Franco-American immigrants to central Maine. The Task Force will report its recommendations to the Council in June. The options under consideration include:
- Identify buildings that are dangerous and not up to code. Either require the owners to rehabilitate or acquire the buildings for the City’s land bank.
- Level the Apgar building on Water Street.
• Provide grants and low-cost loans to bring properties back, through grants like the Community Development Block Grant program.
• Clear out vegetation so residents can see and access the Kennebec River.
• Hire a project manager and facilitator, as the Downtown Alliance has done.

B2. Actively promote economic development
• Arsenal redevelopment
• Redevelopment of strip malls and underused spaces
• River sites
• Residential projects Reach out to investors to promote:

B3. Extend Utilities to the east side—Continue to look for opportunities to extend water, sewer, broadband, road improvements to Riggs Brook and other locations on the east side.

B4. Improve intra-city public transportation—Continue to look for opportunities to connect the hospital, airport, capitol building, downtown, mall, and hotels.

B5. Extend broadband services—Apply for grants to extend service, particularly to the east side and Riggs Brook (see B3, 1)

ROADWAYS AND INFRASTRUCTURE
C1. Improve pedestrian safety—Continue to be proactive in implementing existing plan for street crossing, traffic light, and sidewalk improvement.

C2. Repair the parking garage—Fix the top floor

C3. Solve Hatch Hill issues—Solve issues both long and short term

CITIZEN AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
D1. Improve Citizen Communications
• Enable hybrid meeting participation in meetings
• Review the existing committee structure and be sure citizens are engaged

D2. Engage with Nonprofit Organizations—Partner with nonprofits to achieve City Goals

HIRING AND EMPLOYEE SUPPORT PROJECTS
E1. Conduct a staff audit of three departments/bureaus—Include Development services, community services and code enforcement

E2. Help public-facing staff deal with mental health issues.
• Train staff in suicide prevention
• Train staff in behavioral health issues

COUNCIL POLICY INITIATIVES
F1. Raise the education level of residents - Support School Board efforts to improve education.

F2. Work with School Board on Hussey School replacement - Consider consolidating schools as part of process. Look at the reuse of the buildings and land for housing.

OTHER ITEMS TO FINISH/CONTINUE
Adopt Comprehensive Plan Build New Police Station Complete Facilities Masterplan
THE CITY OF AUGUSTA WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR CITIZENS FOR SERVING ON THE FOLLOWING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES.

ALTHOUGH STAFF MEMBERS ARE NOT LISTED HERE, YOUR SERVICE IS GREATLY APPRECIATED BY ALL!

**Assessment Review Board**
- Scott Benson
- Paul Castonguay
- Scott Emery
- Maurice Fortin
- Bruce Holmes

**Community Development Advisory Committee**
- Mae L’Heureux
- Luc Pepin
- Katie Smith

**Fort Western Trustees**
- David Cheever
- Janet Doerr
- Thomas Doore
- Michael Hall
- Cheryl Swift
- Terrance McCabe
- Daniel Mitchell

**General Assistance Fair Hearing**
- Sherry Emmons

**Greater Augusta Utility District Board of Trustees**
- Kenneth Knight, Chair
- Kristen Hebert
- Bradley Sawyer
- Charlotte Warren
- Robert Corey
- Cecil Munson
- Pat Paradis
- Cary Colwell

**Historic District Review Board**
- Gerald Bumford
- Lorie Mastemaker
- Jesse Patkus
- Amanda Taylor
- Cheryl Clukey
- Ashley Quirion
- Walter F. McKee

**Historic Preservation**
- Chuck Mahaleris
- Janet Doerr
- Stephen Arbour
- Gerald Bumford
- Sara Squires
- Michael Hall

**Housing Authority**
- Nate Cotoir
- Martha Currier
- Leah Estey
- Nancy ‘Fritz
- Amanda Frost
- Sarah Sachs
- Dawn Stiles

**Joint Audit Committee**
- Michael McKenney

**Lithgow Library Trustees**
- Jennifer Bechard
- Sara Bangs
- Dennis Curtis
- Diane Doyon
- Ami Bass
- Carol Saunders
- Gary Lapierre
- Michael Tardiff

**Planning Board**
- Catherine Cobb
- Robert Corey
- Steve Dumont
- Katie McAllister
- Dorean Maines
- William McKenna
- Alison K.B. Nichols
- A. Delaine Nye
- Peter Pare
- Robert Trask

**Registration Board of Appeals**
- Thomas Doore
- Linda Hadley-Roed
- Louise Lerley
- Dr. Ansley Sawyer

**Tipping Point Loan Review**
- Michael Hall
- Meredith Schalk
- Bob Corey

**Zoning Board of Appeals**
- James Bass
- Deborah Caldwell
- Peter Fortunato, Chair
- Hancock Fenton
- Gregory Jolda
- Cecil Munson
- Patrick Paradis

**Active Ad-Hoc Committees**
- Martha Ballard Recognition Committee
- North Water Street/Sand Hill Neighborhood Improvement Committee
- Other Real Estate Owned Committee
**Purpose and Mission Statement:** The Bureau of Communications & Marketing’s principal responsibility is to support, guide, and manage communication functions in the City organization. The primary focus of the Bureau is to foster and support a high level of trust in Augusta’s city government among residents, businesses, visitors, and other key stakeholders via communication.

**Goals and Objectives:** Lead strategic communications efforts; Create opportunity for stakeholder participation and collaboration; Provide open and timely communications; Reconstruction of web services (e.g. website, alert system, and newsletter); Reinforce our brand identify “A Capital Opportunity”; and Provide measurements of progress and success.

The following is a summary highlighting the work and efforts of the first operational year of the Bureau of Communications & Marketing.

**Social Media:** In response to the over saturated media marketplace, our social media strategy was to post at least three to five times a week with easily digestible and branded information. Examples of this strategy being implemented are sharing Public Service Announcements, City Council agenda’s, and livestream/on-demand meeting links, which resulted in increases in the key metrics provided below:

New Followers – 729  
Reach – 128,174 (increase of 32.1%)  
Likes/Reactions/Shares – 12,385

The highest engagement numbers came from: Browntail Moth Campaign (130,000), Ironman Press Release (47,104), and February Warming Shelter PSA (39,188).

**Website:** Existing Website – The Bureau saw significant gains in ‘link clicks’ or referrals from our social platforms and organic searches via google. We had 130,180 website users, an increase of 511.5%. The trends of our users are as follows:

Quarterly Average – 15,020  
Monthly Average – 17,340  
Weekly Average – 4,046  
Daily Average – 578

Website Redesign – An RFP process for the Website Redesign and Hosting Services was executed. The City of Augusta received 10 proposals from qualified vendors. Four semi-finalists were selected for a second round – oral presentation. The bid was awarded unanimously to Jesse James Creative (JJC).

We’ve been diligently working with the staff at JJC on the website redesign and are on track for the June deadline. With the increased number of users being directed towards the city website – this website redesign could not come at a better time.

**Media Relations:** The Bureau has seen an exponential increase of earned media. The City has been featured and/or mentioned in the Kennebec Journal (168), Portland Press Herald (44), Lewiston Sun Journal (46) Bangor Daily News (74), Maine Public, MSNBC, WABI5, WSCH6, WMTW8, WGME13, and WPFOFOX23. Coverage included: USS Augusta, Cooling/Warming Centers, Election/Voter Information, 12 Days of Augusta, Mill Park Concert Series, Economic Development, Goal Setting, etc.
The Department of Development Services includes the Economic Development, Planning, Code Enforcement, Facilities Management, and Airport bureaus. Their individual reports reflect the daily efforts of their operations. But as a department, the individuals in the bureaus function as a larger unit aiding in the development of good jobs, safe housing, vibrant businesses, and a functional, livable city that residents and visitors can be proud to call Maine’s capitol city.

As the director of the department for the last decade, I have had the pleasure of seeing the city grow and improve in ways that were hoped for, but not guaranteed. And as we exit the COVID-19 pandemic, there’s still more to do. With the completion of the updated Comprehensive Plan, the most pressing need that moved to the forefront was the housing crisis. It was an all-hand-on-deck effort this last year with several large housing proposals put forward for all income levels. Economic Development worked to assist in the financing efforts for these projects. The Planning Bureau helped guide developers and the public through the process of creating a plan that benefits everyone. Code Enforcement made sure that new and existing housing stock remained safe for residents. All of these efforts will undoubtedly be critical in the coming year as well.

The Facilities Management Bureau will continue to focus on ensuring that the buildings that serve the public are maintained in good condition. And in the case of new facilities, such as the under-construction police station at 7 Willow Street which is a project being managed by the Director of Development Services, we will be good stewards of taxpayer dollars during construction and ensure that the building that is constructed will serve the public for decades to come.

The Augusta State Airport, owned by the state but managed by the city, continues to be an economic asset to the city and a vital transportation link to Boston. Ensuring that the economic activity that it brings to the city through the businesses and pilot training that occur has been and will be a priority for the department. Having scheduled air service in Maine’s capital provides unique economic development opportunities that we value.
Despite facing the challenges of inflation and a shortage of available workers, our City has emerged from the pandemic and continued to move forward with resilience and determination.

The City's economic recovery has been strong. One of the most notable accomplishments was the reduction of the downtown commercial vacancy rate, which dipped below 20% for the first time in a generation. Ten restaurants, coffee shops and a new bakery have combined to create a thriving new downtown neighborhood.

Housing, particularly affordable housing, has remained a top priority for the city council. In 2022, we approved two affordable housing TIFs, including Sturgeon Landing and 99 Western Avenue. We also initiated the second phase of the Hodgins School affordable housing project at Malta Street.

Revitalization efforts for Sand Hill took an important step forward with the sale of the city's Powerhouse building at Mill Park. The renovation project has progressed quickly, and the Sand Hill Bagel Company is set to open in the spring of 2023.

Extending the City's commitment to becoming a "Recovery Ready Community", we initiated Project Recovery. Kennebec Behavioral Health received a contract to administer the city's Congressional Direct Funding award to provide outreach counseling and addiction recovery services to individuals living in the city with substance abuse disorder.

The City also received ARPA awards through Kennebec County for the Webster Center ($275,425) to replace damaged sewer lines and also replace outdated windows and make other facility improvements to the Head Start facility. A second ARPA award from the County will help cover the replacement cost of the roof at the Augusta Civic Center ($1,250,000).

The office administered an $18,000 Certified Local Government grant from the Maine Historic Preservation office for engineering-related work on the Colonial Theater.

We amended the Western Avenue TIF to provide additional funding for repairs to the city's Dickman Street Parking garage, cover a portion of the cost of the new police station, and continue providing economic development services.

Lastly, the bureau continued to administer the city's tax-acquired property portfolio, closing sales on properties at Mud Mill and Outlet Roads and Bridge and Orchard streets. We submitted an application to the US EPA Brownfield program, and are underway with cleanup work on tax-acquired property at 1210 South Belfast Avenue.

We remain dedicated to serving our community and continuing to make Augusta a vibrant and thriving city for years to come.
The Planning Bureau primarily works with applicants to navigate the standards of the Land Use Ordinance for development of new projects, alterations to sites, and changes to land uses at properties within the City. The Bureau also facilitates changes to the Land Use Ordinance and Zoning Maps which are reviewed for adoption by the City Council. The Bureau oversees project review and other activities of the Planning Board and the Augusta Historic Preservation Commission. The Bureau oversaw the Historic District Review Board for the first half of the year and this duty transitioned to the Code Enforcement Bureau. The Planning Bureau consists of the City Planner, Betsy Poulin.

**Planning Board:** The Planning Board consists of up to nine (9) members, all of whom are residents of the City. In 2022, the Chair of the Board was Alison Nichols and the Board had full membership. The Planning Board met 20 times in 2022 for a variety of project reviews (45), zoning map changes (5), land use ordinance text amendments (6), extensions of approvals (2), and mineral extraction license renewals/amendments (3).

- Some new developments which were reviewed included the Augusta Police Station, State Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Kennebec Valley Humane Society, Woodland’s Senior Living Office, Sunbelt Rentals, Hancock Lumber expansion, Starbucks, two Aroma Joe’s coffee shops, two solar farms, and two self-service storage facilities.
- Some of the Conditional Uses reviewed included the Overnight Warming Center/Shelter at the South Parish Congregational Church, the Maine Arts Academy, Kennebec Clay Works, two medical marijuana retail stores, and two events for exceeding the noise ordinance: Franco American Heritage Days and the Ironman Triathlon.
- Nearly 140 new dwelling units were approved, which includes 66 dwellings for the Augusta Housing Authority on Park Street and Malta Street; 38 dwelling units at 99 Western Avenue; and 29 units on Water Street. The first phase of the Timber Highlands subdivision on Eight Rod Road was approved. Initial review occurred for the Calumet Apartments, 260 dwellings proposed east of Old Belgrade Road, which will be completed in 2023.
- Two previously approved projects required approval extensions due to the COVID pandemic, and those were the Kennebec Historical Society addition and Kevin’s Auto Repair.
- Land Use Ordinance changes included subdivision standards to match State law, which transitioned dwelling unit review within buildings from subdivision review to a conditional use review. Other ordinance changes included permitting manufactured housing in the Rural Residential District and addition of new land uses to other zoning districts in the City.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Board Applications</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conditional Use/Special Exceptions (new/)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rezonings (zoning map changes)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rezoning Petition/Waiver Requests/Contract</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Use Ordinance Text Amendments</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Subdivisions (final)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subdivisions (amended)/Resubdivisions</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Developments (new/amended)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Developments (new/amended)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral Extraction (Inc. Relicensing)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoreland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Augusta Historic Preservation Commission: The Commission works to maintain an awareness of Augusta’s past as an effort to enrich its future, which includes the Museum in the Streets program and Historic Building Plaques. Jerry Bumford served as the Chair and there were six (6) active members for the first half of the year and five (5) at the end of the year. The Commission met twice in 2022 and was also able to complete delegated reviews for the Demolition Delay Ordinance without convening. The Commission was staffed by Betsy Poulin, City Planner.

During 2022, the Commission:

1. Continued administering the Demolition Delay ordinance and reviewed nine (9) proposed demolitions of buildings more than 50 years old;
2. Reviewed and approved two (2) historic building plaque applications; and

Augusta Historic District Review Board: The Review Board oversees the design of new construction, demolitions and alterations to the exterior of buildings and properties within Augusta’s four historic districts: Winthrop Street, Water Street, Bond Street and Crosby Street. Amanda Taylor served as the Chair. The Board was staffed by Betsy Poulin, City Planner during the first half of the year and this transitioned fully to the Code Enforcement Bureau for remainder of the year. The Board consists of up to seven (7) members and had full membership and/or one vacancy for the year. The Board must include one member of the Historic Preservation Commission, two residents within historic districts, and two business owners or representatives of business owners in the historic districts.

Seventeen (17) applications were reviewed over the course of eight (8) meetings, which are held on the third Tuesday of the month. All the projects reviewed were located in either the Winthrop Street or Water Street Historic Districts. Projects reviewed included signage, windows, siding, a sunroom, and heat pumps.

An annual report was submitted by the City Planner to the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to maintain the City of Augusta’s Certified Local Government status, which is fulfilled by the Historic District Review Board.
The Code Enforcement Bureau is currently staffed by Robert Overton, Jr, Director of Code Enforcement, and Keegen Ballard and Devin McGuire, Code Enforcement Officers. These positions are responsible for enforcing various codes, including building, fire, and life safety, plumbing, HVAC, and energy conservation, along with laws and ordinances related to floodplain management, zoning, environmental protection, property maintenance, historic preservation, shoreland zoning, and public nuisances. Many of these codes, laws, and ordinances require permits for work and projects. After issuing a permit, we then conduct inspections to verify that the work is in compliance with all relevant codes. In 2022, the Code Enforcement Bureau issued 462 building permits and 167 plumbing permits, 13 wrecking and demolition permits. These permits included the construction of 62 new one- and two-family dwellings of which 30 were new mobile homes, 26 were one-family homes and 3 were two-family homes. Overall, the number of permits issued was slightly less than previous years. We conducted approximately 4000 inspections in order to confirm that all work associated with these permits and permits issued in previous years was compliant with all relevant codes, laws, ordinances, and standards.

The Code Enforcement Bureau spent more time than in previous years responding to unsafe housing complaints. While the number of housing related complaint was less than pre-pandemic years, the conditions we found were more serious and complex than we have experienced at any time in the past. In several instances, we found buildings that were in satisfactory condition within the last ten years to now be unfit for occupancy. In too many cases, we were unable to compel the property owner to make the required repairs and were also unable to close the building which would have resulted in the occupants potentially experiencing homelessness due to the current housing crisis. In late 2022, this ongoing problem resulted in our recommendation for a city wide rental licensing ordinance.

The Code Enforcement Bureau also continued to assist with staffing the Board of Zoning Appeals, the Historic District Review Board, and with the review of various projects being reviewed by the Planning Board.

Pictured Right: Recent single-family home construction.
The Augusta State Airport is operated and maintained by the City of Augusta under terms of a management agreement entered into by the City and the State. The airport recognizes its role as a critical element in the physical infrastructure of the City of Augusta and its role as a tool for economic development. As such, the airport will encourage and promote usage of its facilities and of the services offered by its commercial tenants.

- The Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) finished reconstructing taxiways C and E.
- A new rubber roof was completed on the Airport snow removal / equipment maintenance building.
- The Airport hired a qualified full time airport worker. He has extensive airport knowledge and heavy equipment experience.
- New state regulations required us to do environmental upgrades to the 4 underground oil water separators. That project was completed and certified by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).
- The Airport’s Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and the Spill Prevention and Counter Control Plan (SPCC) were updated and approved by the DEP. A consultant was hired by the MDOT and will work with airport staff to update both plans. The airport is now in compliance with new state regulations.
- Maintenance personnel successfully completed several required trainings: They are now up to date with, FAA winter plowing and movement area training, required USDA SWPPP training and required SPCC training.

Passenger counts for Cape Air are back to normal annual counts. Their 2022 passenger count was 5695 passengers from Augusta to Boston.
The Facilities Bureau has the responsibility to maintain the facilities at the highest level of maintenance possible. The Bureau continually evaluates the process by which vendors and contractors are hired to ensure that the best practices of maintenance of all the facilities and infrastructure systems are being addressed. Safety of the general public, employees, and vendors and contractors is top priority. The Bureau continues to ensure that all the facilities are: laws and rules compliant, can capture as much energy efficiency as possible, keep the existing building equipment maintained and operating properly, and keep the city’s systems maintained and functional.

The Facilities Bureau is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the facilities’ Life Safety systems, mechanical systems, electrical systems and equipment, plumbing systems, elevator equipment, roof and structure, and general building maintenance, as well as the street lighting, traffic signal systems, and the traffic signal communication infrastructure throughout the City.

Accomplishments:

- On boarded a new Facilities Manager to replace Bob LaBreck after his retirement.
- Awarded Siemens to replace/upgrade the city and school HVAC control system with ARPA funds.
- Will receive sealed bids on February 10, 2023 for the Dickman Parking Garage Renovation Project which will kick off in the spring of 2023.
- Completed installation of gas detection equipment in buildings.
- Completed fiber relocation, out of traffic control cabinets, of fiber communication line that connects City Center to the Civic Center building and City Center to Water St.
- Worked with sprinkler system contractor to address 5 year testing to sprinkler system in several buildings.
- Awarded Facilities Master Plan project to Harriman Associates.
- Completed re-keying of north wing at Bucker Center for the move-in of the school department Adult Education Program.
- Installed underground service which fed power to the boathouse at the public landing behind City Center. We also added additional street lights to improve lighting for the boat launch.
- Replaced all parking lot lights for City Center.
- Installed underground electrical service for Mill Park after the sale of the Mill Park building.
Built in 1973, the Augusta Civic Center is a convention, exhibition and special high impact event venue owned and operated by the City of Augusta. The specific purpose of the Augusta Civic Center is to promote and facilitate various events that will enhance area trade and commerce and help foster the image of the City as a high quality destination. Our mission is to provide quality service in a safe, clean environment to all patrons and tenants of the building while continuing to remain financially solvent.

As COVID-19 variants continued to result in canceled events through February 2022, March brought increased bookings as the crisis passed, though attendance was down about 35%. With the continued uncertainty of COVID-19, some events still required masks and some did not. Due to the diligent work of the staff and its following of CDC protocols, we are happy to report that the Augusta Civic Center was not associated with any super spreader events. As COVID-19 restrictions were slowly lifted, the bookings picked up significantly. We started to ramp up our staffing levels again. Unfortunately, we were, and still are, short-staffed.

In September, we were able to finally fill the Major Events Coordinator position and welcome Melanie Baillargeon in this role. If you don’t already know Melanie from her 27-year stint at the Maine State Chamber of Commerce as the Marketing and Communications Director, she is a wonderful addition to our team. Melanie has been heavily involved in our community not only as part of the Maine Chamber, but as an active citizen! She was born and raised in Augusta, attended and graduated from Cony High School, and has served on many local boards such as the Augusta Downtown Alliance, Friends of the Lithgow Library, and the Calumet Educational Foundation. She also spent 20 years serving as a youth minister for St. Michael’s Parish. Since Melanie joined us, she has helped us improve our marketing strategy and communications activities with our clients and fans and has been learning the ropes as quickly as possible. She has fit right in to our team!
We accomplished the following goals in 2022: Introduced credit cards as a form of payment; redesigned and launched our new website; formed a 50th Anniversary Committee and created a series of events and activities to enjoy in 2023; fixed the south-side stairs to prevent damage to our electrical room.

Business did not really start to mirror pre-COVID levels until about October 2022, so it wasn’t until the 4th quarter that we started to recognize normal business patterns. Unfortunately, the effects from COVID-19 business interruptions remain and are a daily challenge.

The three primary ongoing issues that are causing business disruptions are: below average staffing levels, cost of goods, and availability of goods. Due to increased costs across the board from utilities, food and beverage, equipment, and chemicals, and labor, we were forced to increase prices for the first time in seven years. Our pricing is still very competitive and in many cases, lower than our competitors. These unprecedented times have not only shown us how something so unpredictable can have such a direct impact on the business, but it has shown us that we are doing a lot of things right because our clients aren’t forgetting us and they want to come back as soon as they can!

While COVID-19 is still impacting the population, most clients have moved forward and have begun to return to normal with regard to in-person meetings and events. The Augusta Civic Center still remains a staple in the community as THE place to hold an event, a place where the community can come together and do great things, and a place that our community counts on to support area events and activities!
## 2022 Major Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northeast Motorsports Show</td>
<td>KVAC Regional Cheering</td>
<td>MWUA Annual Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KVAC Wrestling/MELNA</td>
<td>Harlem Globetrotters</td>
<td>MPA Basketball Tournaments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine State Cheer Challenge</td>
<td>Pike Industries Annual Safety Mtg</td>
<td>Atlantic Youth Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camper/RV Show</td>
<td>Father/Daughter Dance</td>
<td>Plumbers Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Water Conference</td>
<td>Sportsman’s Show</td>
<td>Dodgeball Tournament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Republican Convention</td>
<td>Maine Bankers Expo</td>
<td>Hammond Lumber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFG Food Show</td>
<td>Texas Hill Dinner Show</td>
<td>UMA Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KVCC Graduation</td>
<td>HOPE Conference</td>
<td>Oak Hill HS Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maranacook HS Graduation</td>
<td>Messalonskee HS Graduation</td>
<td>Erskine Academy Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardiner Area HS Graduation</td>
<td>Cony HS Graduation</td>
<td>CAMRA Annual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governor’s Conference on Climate Change</td>
<td>Pine Tree Quilters Guild Quilt Show</td>
<td>Bulldog Strong Basketball Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Education Conf</td>
<td>Hire-A-Vet Hiring Fair</td>
<td>Hot Tub Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Emergency Mgmt. Agency</td>
<td>Maine’s Odd &amp; Unusual Show</td>
<td>Coaches Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Price is Right Live!</td>
<td>Day of Hope</td>
<td>Trace Adkins Concert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACTEM Conference</td>
<td>Gold Ball Basketball Tournament</td>
<td>Maine Safety Council Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Technology Conf</td>
<td>Maine School Mgmt. Assn Conf</td>
<td>Tracy Byrd Concert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UMA Men’s &amp; Women’s B-Ball</td>
<td>Maine State Bar Association</td>
<td>Capital City Tip Off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Made Crafts Holiday Show</td>
<td>Maine Better Transportation Conf</td>
<td>Hammond Lumber Holiday Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital City Tip Off</td>
<td>Legislative Banquet</td>
<td>Maine Education Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingdom Life Church Banquet</td>
<td>Forest Hills vs. Northhaven</td>
<td>G&amp;E Roofing Holiday Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East West B-Ball Conference</td>
<td>Central Church Christmas Services</td>
<td>Capital City Hoop Classic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above events account for 178 rental days, down from 220 from before the pandemic. By December 2022, we have recovered 80% of our auditorium rentals and are still booking!
Augusta Community Services Department believes recreational, educational, childcare, historical, health, welfare, cultural, and leisure time activities enhance the quality of life for citizens of this community. We are dedicated to protecting, preserving, and improving our park system and natural resources. We meet the community's demands by effectively using financial and human resources. Our professional staff and volunteers design and deliver quality activities and services to everyone. The team is committed to sound fiscal policies.

The Community Services Department is responsible for overseeing seven bureaus and their respective boards as well as the Conservation Commission. The Department provides oversight and management of the Cable TV Franchise Agreement with Spectrum.

While not inclusive of all the community service the administration does; below are some of the highlights of events that brought a record number of visitors to Augusta and had a significant economic impact on the region;

**The Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce Kenney Awards** – The Kenney’s recognize six awardees; Business Person of the Year, Large Business of the Year, Small Business of the Year, President’s Circle Award, Community Service, and the CYNERGY Professional Award. This event is the premier opportunity for the Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce to highlight and celebrate the success of our community.

**Franco American Days** — This two-day festival hosted by the Calumet Club and the Augusta Downtown Alliance was held to celebrate the rich Franco-American heritage that still thrives in Augusta.

**Family Fun Days**—This annual event focuses on family and creates excitement for the community with food, games for kids and families, local businesses, music, etc. Designed to get outside and enjoy your friends and family and all the region has to offer.

**Concerts in the Park** — Wednesday nights in June, July, and August create excitement and entertainment for the community.

**IronMan Competition**—This was the first year of a three-year commitment the IronMan organization has planned to be hosted by the city. This event brought over 1200 athletes from across the globe to compete in a grueling 70.3-mile course that consists of a 1.2-mile swim in the Kennebec, 56-mile bike course involving three counties, and a 13.1-mile run along the Kennebec River Rail Trail.

**Major work planned for 2023 includes:**

- Repair the east side boat landing
- Replace/improve west side docks
- Create access and restore Doe Farm/Lawson cemetery
- Complete the Parks and Recreation Master plan
- Repair and resurface the Melendy tennis courts.
Through early 2022, childcare continued its collaboration with the Greater Augusta Back to School Program and its literacy incentive, which provided free books to each classroom. Guest “readers” would come and read the story with our children and every child got to leave with a hardcover book to keep!

School year wrapped up and sent Childcare straight into Summer Camp with 115 campers each day for nine weeks of the summer. We were able to expand our field trips this summer to include trips to local pools or Bicentennial Nature Park, Lake St. George and bowling. The children especially enjoyed the magic show and the traveling planetarium that childcare brought to Buker.

Before we knew it, summer was over and school year was upon us. Many families participated in the backpack giveaway with GABTSP at the Civic Center in August. By the end of September Aftercare was back to weekly average enrollment of 110 children daily split between the 6 rooms. The children continue to love and nurture the 8 raised garden beds they plant and had further experiences at a local apple orchard to learn about the perks of harvesting!

October through December is a busy time for the Childcare Bureau as it is heavily involved with the community around Halloween, Tree Lighting & annual holiday events! Childcare participated in a haunted house at Buker, the Water St trick or treating, Santa stroll & tree lighting event plus a few holiday themed family craft nights.

The Childcare Bureau looks forward to its continued collaborations with the Parks & Rec Department to bring many rewarding experiences to the children of Augusta!
The Bureau of Health and Welfare is established by legislation contained in M.R.S.A. Title 22, Part 5, Chapter 1161, §4301-4325, entitled Municipal General Assistance. The legislation requires each municipality to administer a service known as the General Assistance Program for the immediate aid of persons who are unable to provide the basic necessities essential to maintain themselves or their families.

Our MISSION is therefore to administer a program of general assistance available to all persons who are eligible to receive assistance in accordance with the City of Augusta General Assistance Ordinance and in compliance with the State Statute 22 M.R.S.A., Title 22, §4301.

Health and Welfare is located at Augusta City Center. General Assistance is a service the Health and Welfare bureau provides to assist eligible Augusta residents who are in need such as rent, fuel, electricity, food, and medication. Services are available by walk in and appointments. Health and Welfare staff collaborate with service providers within the community to address the varied individual needs. The goal of Health and Welfare is to see applicants achieve stability and independence.

The Bureau has been working collaboratively with local organizations who have come together to establish a Low Barrier Overnight Warming Center for the winter months. With a lot of efforts, help and support from local agencies, and support for the community, the Overnight Warming Center was able to open its doors November 2022. The Warming Center will be open until April 2023, which allows time for the weather to warm up. The Bureau will continue to work diligently with the Overnight Warming Center committee to ensure the facility can continue to provide a safe environment for those who are unhoused during the cold winter months.

The financial assistance being provided to eligible Augusta residents in need has decreased from FY 2021 as compared to FY 2022. Some of the factors include Stimulus funds, ERA (emergency rent assistance), which has resulted in less need for General Assistance. The expenditures of client service [line items below] are the needs requested for assistance for FY 2021 and FY 2022. General Assistance is a state mandated program. The City of Augusta is reimbursed 70% of expenditures by the State of Maine, and the taxpayers of Augusta pay the other 30% through taxation.

### EXPENDITURES OF CLIENT SERVICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line Item</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
<th>FY 2022</th>
<th>Decreased Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>$3,521.00</td>
<td>$1,400.16</td>
<td>$2,120.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>$144,510.00</td>
<td>$45,506.15</td>
<td>$99,003.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room</td>
<td>$524,444.00</td>
<td>$181,030.61</td>
<td>$343,413.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burials</td>
<td>$13,920.00</td>
<td>$6,100.00</td>
<td>$7,820.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel Oil</td>
<td>$3,608.00</td>
<td>$2,215.59</td>
<td>$1,392.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food/groceries</td>
<td>$17,725.00</td>
<td>$3,646.32</td>
<td>$14,078.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal/Household</td>
<td>$9,729.00</td>
<td>$3,872.15</td>
<td>$5,856.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RX</td>
<td>$3,748.00</td>
<td>$95.96</td>
<td>$3,652.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$721,205.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$243,866.94</strong></td>
<td><strong>$477,338.06</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In December 2021, Mayor David Rollins proclaimed “2022 The Year of the Fort.” It was in 1919 that the City of Augusta took ownership of the “Fort” through eminent domain. At the time, only the garrison had survived. The City turned the fort garrison over to Guy P. and William H. Gannett for renovations. The Gannets were direct descendants of Captain James Howard, the original Captain. Renovation of the garrison took place between 1920 and 1921. After renovating the 1754 garrison, building two block houses modeled from the standing 1754 block house at Fort Halifax, and building a partial stockade fence, the Gannets returned the Fort complex to the City of Augusta. On July 4th, 1922, Fort Western opened its doors as a museum; 2022 marked the 100th anniversary of the Fort Western Museum.

Despite the continuing challenges imposed by Covid-19, mainly the shortage of trained staff, the Fort thrived and grew with another banner year in terms of visitation. We were able to create another memorable year with upgraded annual events and the addition of new events.

Everything we do incorporates Old Fort Western’s mission to protect, preserve, and interpret this National Historic Landmark Fort, Store, House, and Tenement.

To Protect, Preserve, and Maintain the Buildings and Grounds  Preservation and maintenance work continued on the garrison and its surrounding outbuildings. However, due to the Covid-19 staff shortage, staff focused on tours and programs and limited maintenance to critical repairs and yearly maintenance. Some work, however, was done on special projects, i.e., work continued on the five worst windows in the garrison, the blacksmith forge became operational and has proven itself invaluable for school programming and tour demonstrations, and the structural analysis report was completed by Resurgence Engineers highlighting the structural insufficiencies and project suggestions.

To Interpret the History of the Fort and Educate the Public

Fort Programming. In a typical year, most of our energy goes towards public education through tour admissions, special events, and scheduled educational programming. From 2019 to 2021, Covid-19 decimated our children and adult outreach programs; however, they now show signs of returning. The chart shows that school programming has a long way to go to get back to pre-Covid levels. The regrowth of school programming also is directly affected by the shortage of qualified, trained staff. During 2022, 32 Maine Schools and homeschools brought 1,412 students to participate in one of our seven programs. Our summer youth program returned to former numbers. Thirty-two children participated in the Apprenticeship and Junior Interpreter programs in three one-week sessions.

Tour Admissions. Fort Western opened for the 2022 Visitation season with a pre-Covid-19 schedule. Visitation to the Fort during 2021 remains the highest count on record; however, the 2022 season has the highest revenue totals. Even though the visitor count is lower than the previous year, it did reach the 2019 pre-Covid-19 visitation count. The reason for this is an increase in the fee schedule to keep up with wage increases and changes in visitation from Augusta. Last year visitation from Augusta rose to 28% of all Maine visitation. This year Augusta visitation dropped to 23% of Maine visitation. Since Augusta residents do not pay admission to the Fort, the revenue totals were unaffected by the lack of Augusta visitors. The increased admission fees pushed the numbers higher than in previous years.
Visitors were predominately from the US (94%), with the vast majority from the Northeast United States (64%). Guest came from every state in the union except Montana. Visitation from foreign origins rose from 1% to 6% this year. Foreign guests came from twenty-two foreign countries are represented, including Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Columbia, Croatia, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Scotland, Slovakia, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine, and Wales.

**The Year of the Fort Event Schedule:** We created a full and vigorous schedule to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Fort Western Museum. Because the public well received these events, modified versions of them will be placed on our annual event schedule.

**Martha Ballard’s World: Wife, Mother, Healer, Botanist**

A Day in the Life of a Colonial Woman in Hallowell, Maine, Offered May 15th, 2022. This program centered on rotating stations based on activities that Martha herself wrote about in her diary during May: making butter at the kitchen hearth and learning about where products came from; textiles working: carding and spinning wool, weaving on different types of looms; making candles; working in the garden teaching the various herbs and plants Martha grew or used for consumption and healing. The afternoon ended with an 18th-century tea in the south parlor of the Garrison, where Martha actually came and often partook tea with Susanna Cony Howard (Judge James Howard’s 2nd wife). Descendants of Martha, Glee, and Ruth Ballard, hosted the tea. Working with Oliver Pluff, Co. of South Carolina, we created a new line of tea based on entries from Martha Ballard’s Diary.

**The Pilgrims at Cushnoc Opening Day,** May 28th, 2022

Fort Western devoted its efforts this day to teaching about Pilgrim’s presence on the Kennebec and the strategic significance of the location of Cushnoc in the history of the Kennebec River and Maine. Leon Cranmer, a retired Historic Archaeologist from MHPC, gave a tour of the archaeological site with the footprint of the trading post staked out and artifacts on display for viewing. Lee’s newly reprinted book, “Cushnoc: The History and Archaeology of Plymouth Colony Traders on the Kennebec,” was available for sale. Jonathon Yellowbear, a living history historian, was here to give the 17th-century Abenaki perspective. Dr. Bruce Bourque, Emeritus Curator of Archaeology at the Maine State Museum
and Emeritus Senior Lecturer in Anthropology at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, was on hand to discuss the current *Merrymeeting Bay Pioneers Project Tracing the Lives of the Area’s First European Settlers*. Old Fort Western Staff talked about the History of Cushnoc and its importance to Fort Western and demonstrated trade among the Pilgrims and the Native Abenaki using reproduced items. This event was also the launching of the Cushnoc Reconstruction Project. Staff was on hand with the Cushnoc model and reconstruction plans. Gabriel Norward from Plymouth-Pawtuxet Museum gave a presentation on Colonial First Families and the Pilgrims’ Trade Industry.

**The Fort to Fort Archaeological Bus Tour**, June 11th, 2022

This archaeological bus tour visited the four historic fort sites on the central Kennebec River. At each fort, the archaeologist who led the excavation gave a tour of that site. The tour began in Richmond, where Dr. Leith Smith, MHPC Historical Archaeologist, gave a tour of the Fort Richmond (1721-1755) archaeological site. The next stop was Pownalborough Court House in Dresden, where Leon Cranmer, retired MHPC Historical Archaeologist, gave a tour of the Fort Frankfort/Shirley (1752-1759) archaeological site. The bus then headed to Augusta, where Emerson Baker, History Professor at Salem University, shared information on Fort Western’s (1754-1767) archaeological excavations. The last stop was in Winslow, where Leon Cranmer gave a tour of the Fort Halifax (1754-1766) archaeological site. Dr. Bruce Bourque, Emeritus Curator of Archaeology at the Maine State Museum and Emeritus Senior Lecturer in Anthropology at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, also shared his knowledge of Fort Shirley and Fort Western. The tour coincided and ended with Fort Halifax Day in Winslow.

**Fun, Frivolity, and Libations at the S & W Howard Store & Tavern**, August 20th, 2022

Forty-five individuals joined us for a tavern night celebrating the S & W Howard Store. The attendees of this ticketed event received a one-of-a-kind S & W Howard Tankard, hand-made by Sprinkle Pottery in Texas, which reflects archaeological examples found in the Fort Western Archaeological Collection. They also received 1 shilling and 12 pence (facsimile) to use in purchasing a drink as reflected in the S & W Howard account books, i.e., Old Salem Smash, hard cider, or sweet cider. Guests could also use their shillings and pence to pay entry into 18th-century games of chance: dice, card, and board games. Every winner placed their name on prize baskets drawn hourly. The Holdfasts (Bobby & Jennifer LoRusso) provided period entertainment. Fort Staff served a light repast of cheese, bread, sweetmeats, and seasonal fruits.

These successful events will be modified and added to the 2023 Event Schedule. Thank you to everybody who helped put on these events.

**Fort Specials.** These are events put on by the Fort to promote community and goodwill. This year we were able to expand our annual “July 4th at the Fort Celebration” to not only include the reading of the *Declaration of Independence* and cannonade for the 13 original colonies but also to toast the past, present, and future of the Fort and end the evening with fantastic duel fireworks located over the Fort and the other over Mill Park. Our Annual “Victorian Christmas at the Fort” was one of the most successful events of the year. An estimated 500 visitors came to make ornaments, listened to Father Christmas read “The Night Before Christmas,” watched as traditional gingerbread cookies were baked over the open fire, and drank hot cocoa around a bonfire. It was a solid ending to the “2022 Year of the Fort” event schedule celebrating the Fort Western Museum’s 100th anniversary.
Bicentennial Events and Specials. The Fort Western Bicentennial Lecture Series, funded in part by the Maine Bicentennial Commission ($5000), filmed ten lectures chronicling Maine’s early history. These lectures received 3248 view hits during 2020. They continue to be viewed and are now at 4000 views. The direct link to all these lectures is [http://www.vimeo.com/showcase/oldfortwestern](http://www.vimeo.com/showcase/oldfortwestern). They can also be reached through the City of Augusta/Old Fort Western Web Page by clicking the Bicentennial Lecture Series button on the left navigation panel.

Thank You!

Fort Western’s greatest strength is its staff and volunteers. These individuals tirelessly promoted the Fort and taught the public the importance of the Fort in Maine and New England History. With the staff shortage, more responsibility has fallen on fewer people. To all Historical Interpretive Staff who helped keep Old Fort Western open for tours: Cindy Arnold, Andrew Askins, Robin Beck, Cathy Chapman, Roger Collins, Gregory Edwards, Thomas Fisher, Dorothy Ives, Stan Novak, Hunter Scholz, William Sheirer, Sage Viets-Aughton, Huzzah, and Thank You!

Many of the Historical Interpretive Staff also donate time on behalf of the Fort to work on building projects, social media projects, and administrative assistance. To Cindy Arnold, Cathy Chapman, Roger Collins, Stan Novak, Huzzah, and Thank You! Fort Western is also lucky to have the devotion of other individuals who donate time, helping to keep the Fort at its best. To Lance Brown, Jed Chapman, Jackie Fournier, Maria Sirois, Emmett Logsdon, Sierra Williams, Huzzah, and Thank You!

To all the Trustees, the Board of Directors, the Mayor and City Council, Friends of the Fort, and all City of Augusta residents who faithfully support Old Fort Western, Huzzah, and Thank You!
The Bureau is responsible for the management and maintenance of seventeen cemeteries, eighteen parks and playgrounds including three swimming pools, four softball fields, tennis courts, track, athletic fields, twenty-six flower gardens, a river front, community forest areas, city street trees, nature trails and Bicentennial Nature Park, along with the Buker Community Center. We’re also under contract with the School Department to maintain their grounds and athletic fields. Approximately 200+/- acres are mowed weekly.

**Bureau Accomplishments for 2022**

- Maintained the two ice rinks at Mill Park and Williams Park until the first of March
- Groomed trails at Bond Brook Recreation Area for skiing and snowshoeing
- Assisted Public Works in winter snow operations
- Began the opening of Fuller Field with grooming of the turf and painting of athletic field lines.
- Assisted the Civic Center Staff in the assembly and take down of the basketball court for the high school tournament
- Continued the eradication of Brown Tail Moth on city property
- Athletic Paint Crews out getting fields ready for spring sports
- No Mow May was attempted this year, will reevaluate for next spring
- Drained and clean the 3 city pools to open in June
- Hosted the 2022 High School Regional Track Meets at Fuller Field
- We hosted the 2022 High School Regional and State Softball Championships
- Planted flowers donated by Longfellow’s Greenhouse
- Wednesday Night Summer Concerts began in June at Mill Park
- We mowed and prepared our 17 cemeteries for Memorial Weekend.
- Parks staff attended the New England Turf Conference in New Hampshire in June
- Our annual 4th of July Events went great
- Kennebec Valley Chamber Kenny’s Awards at Mill Park
- Ironman Event
- Chamber Brewfest
- Franco-American Days
- Assisted in the ADA Halloween event in October
- Holiday Tree Lighting events in November and December
- Prepared Bicentennial Nature Park for winter outdoor events

All of us who work for the Bureau of Parks and Recreation have a deep appreciation of the beauty that is so unique to the City of Augusta, “Where Community Explores Fun”.
The Library returned to pre-Covid activity in 2022, in its 126th year of operation. Over 67,000 people visited the library last year. Our membership stands at over 9000 people, primarily Augusta residents. 116,000 items were borrowed and 12,470 e-books, e-audios and streaming content were downloaded on Cloud Library and hoopla.

Over 1000 people used our study rooms for a variety of purposes (tutoring, counseling, virtual meetings, etc.), and our Wi-Fi was used daily by an average of 58 clients. Public computers were used for 2679 hours. 289 passes for the Friends of Lithgow Library Museum and Park Pass Program were reserved by Library members.

We phased virtual and hybrid programming out, and moved to in-person programming for all ages. We began offering free job search sessions with the assistance of a Career Center counselor, and introduced our Boutique Book Bag program. We offered a houseplant swap, informative Medicare sessions, partnered with Healthy Communities of the Capital Area, who provided a nutrition class, and began a weekly cribbage club. All Youth Services story times returned, and Teen Services offered multiple programs for teens weekly. Concerts returned in November and December, and were well attended. We partnered with the Capital Area League of Women Voters and hosted a meet and greet of Augusta area candidates. We joined the other bureaus in Community Services for festivities on the day of the Downtown Tree Lighting. Our craft activity that Saturday afternoon was attended by over 100.

The Friends of Lithgow Library held their most successful book sale ever, and have begun selling 125th anniversary commemorative tree ornaments and postcards of the library featuring Florence Daly’s watercolor. They hosted the Kennebec Valley Garden Club at the library for their “Art in Bloom” event. They also partnered again with the KV YMCA and hosted a fundraiser concert at Snow Pond Center for the Arts.
During the 2022 calendar year, this office processed 1,383 deeds and mortgages. The majority of the sales were single-family homes with an average sale price of $180,400. There were 376 residential sales during 2022. Based on the last ratio study for residential property, the average assessment ratio, conducted by the State, is 70% of market value.

This was the 23rd year for the Maine Resident Homestead Property Tax Exemption. The amount of the exemption for FY2023 in Augusta is $22,500. The total number of exemptions for this program was 4,038. The total valuation of all tax exemptions including veterans, blinds, parsonages, solar, and homesteads was $93,920,800.

New this year was LD290, Property Tax Stabilization for Senior Citizens. The total number of applications submitted by qualified taxpayers was 1,153. By applying for this program, a taxpayer’s FY2023 taxes are frozen (stabilized) for FY2024. An application will need to be submitted annually by the taxpayer to continue to qualify for the program.

This office oversees 8,402 taxable real estate accounts with a total taxable value of $1,627,973,800 (after exemptions) and 1,011 taxable personal property accounts with a total value of $275,715,500. In addition, $43,786,400 in personal property qualifies under the Maine Business Equipment Tax Exemption Program. We also have 471 real estate accounts, which are exempt from real estate taxation with an assessed value of $644,588,100.
Clerk/Treasury Office consists of a combined staff performing customer service activities for the City Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurer. The office of the City Clerk is the official keeper of city records. The clerk’s position is required by state statutes and by the city Charter and Code of Ordinances. The office of the Tax Collector/Treasurer receives all payments for taxes and other various revenues for the city. The City Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurers offices were merged years ago, providing streamlined customer service and cost savings to the citizens of Augusta.

This Bureau collects revenues and provides services for vehicle registrations, excise, real estate and personal property taxes, land fill permits as well as other general billing fees. We are agents for various state agencies such as Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (hunting, fishing, snowmobile, ATV and boat licenses); Animal Welfare (dog licenses); Vital Statistics (birth, death, marriage certificates, issuing marriage licenses and burial permits); Bureau of Motor Vehicle (vehicle registrations); Secretary of State, Corporation and Elections (state and federal elections and voter registration). These services are provided as to the citizens of Augusta following strict rules and regulations of each agency.

The Bureau is staffed by the City Clerk, as well as six full-time clerks all dedicated to provide excellent customer services. In 2018 increased the available online services to include tax payments, in addition to online dog licenses, which are available online from October 15th to January 31st each year and vital records, which are available year round. Both services are provided in partnership with InforMe.gov.

The Bureau is the first point of contact if you are interested in starting or operating a business in Augusta. We issue licenses for food, liquor, entertainment, taxicab companies and drivers, pawnbrokers and door to door sales, as well as certificates of proprietorship. Please contact our office we will be happy to help you determine what state and city business licenses are necessary for your business.

Have you had a life event within the last year, did you get married/divorced or move to a new home. You will need to update your voter and/or vehicle registration, stop by or give us a call and we will be happy to help.

**STATISTICS FOR JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vital Records Statistics</th>
<th>Issued</th>
<th>Revenue $</th>
<th>Filed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Births Certificates Issued</td>
<td>747</td>
<td>8,468</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths Certificates Issued</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>1,725</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage Certificates Issued</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>2,683</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burial Permits Filed</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>5,488</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage Licenses Issued</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>4,932</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Vital Record Orders</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>582</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Registered Voters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Registered Voters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>5,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>4,308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unenrolled (registered but not in party)</td>
<td>4,751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Independent</td>
<td>669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libertarian</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dog Licenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dogs Registered</td>
<td>1,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Dog License</td>
<td>327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exempt Dog Licenses</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog Kennel Licenses</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Fees</td>
<td>$6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total City Revenue</td>
<td>$3,273</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Business Licenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food and Beverage</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Mobile</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coin-operated Device</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dancing</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pawnbroker</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billiards/Bowling</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tattoo/Body Piercing</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transient</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana Business License</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Treasurer's /Tax Collector's Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boat Excise Tax</td>
<td>$12,667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agent Fees Inland Fisheries and Wildlife</td>
<td>$1,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Excise Tax</td>
<td>$6,803,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agent Fees Bureau of Motor Vehicles</td>
<td>$46,112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft Excise Tax</td>
<td>$18,624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Taxes Assessed April 1, 2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2023 Real Estate</td>
<td>8,402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2023 Real Estate</td>
<td>$35,685,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2023 Personal Property</td>
<td>1,011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2023 Personal Property</td>
<td>$5,083,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2022 Tax Liens Filed</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Information Systems Bureau services all City departments. Services include end user support, keeping hardware and software repaired and up to date, maintaining network infrastructure and planning for the future.

During 2022, the IS Bureau handled 5,830 support tickets. Ticket issues ranged from simple fixes to more in depth projects, repairs, and upgrades.

Ticket Breakdown
Devices supported (approximate):

- 600 Windows end user computers/laptops
- 32 Physical Servers
- 41 Virtual Servers
- 3064 Chromebooks
- 103 Switches
- 285 Access Points
- 3 Firewalls
- 8 Routers
- 14 PTP Radios
- 100+ Mobile and Portable Radios
- 100+ TV’s and casting devices
- 150 Security cameras

2022 Notable Projects:

- Upgraded 218 new access points throughout all schools buildings
- Upgraded City and School terminal servers and secure gateways to a new Operating System (OS)
- Moved all city phones to new carrier
- Migrated or decommissioned servers running Server 2012 OS
- Setup Police Department server to interface with 60+ agencies for records sharing between departments
- Continued end user training and phishing testing
- Assisted with network and technology setup for Adult Education move to Buker
- Setup all room paging system at Buker for security purposes
- Networked all new traffic light controllers back to city hall
- Began the process of identifying and planning technology needs for the new police station
- Student Chromebook distributed. Grades 8th, 10th, 11th and 12th day one of school. Incoming 7th and 9th grade student Chromebooks delivered once the list became available.
- Two IT personnel assisted the Audit Bureau with payroll starting mid October 2022 and running through 2023. This required several days a week devoted to payroll in addition to assisting with city/school requests for IT services.

We look forward to another year of innovation, change and challenge. The entire IT staff is always looking for ways to do more with less while improving service. Fortunately, the Information Technology field creates an environment that promotes this ability. We are anxious to see what next year has in store.
Chief’s Message: The members of the Augusta Fire Department have been steadfast in our mission to protect the citizens of our City and its visitors. We have responded to our cities emergencies, as well as assisted our neighboring communities through fire and EMS support. Our 7500 plus call volume from 2022 continues to show an incline from previous years.

Our organization strives to meet all standards presented us through Maine Bureau of Labor and Maine EMS but faces a struggle with our staffing levels. With the help of the Council and Administration we are making great steps in the direction of proper staffing.

We wish to thank everyone for the support given our organization from the Citizen’s and Businesses of Augusta to the Administration and Council.

Staffing: We have gone the past year with no new hires and worked diligently with the union to build a contract to allow us the ability to hire a different license level. Through pay increases and a lower license level ability we have hired 4 new members in the orientation process now and several applications in the waiting for the next process. Hoping to have everyone on board and operational by March.

Call Volume for Fire:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Call Volume</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>1406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>1587</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Calls by Category: 2021

- (100 Series) Fire/explosions: 152
- (200 Series) Over pressure/rupture: 2
- (300 Series) Rescue/EMS: 602
- (400 Series) Hazardous Condition: 105
- (500 Series) Good intent Call: 212
- (600 Series) Severe Weather: 3
- (700 Series) False Call: 358
- (900 Series) Special Type/Complaint: 26

The City’s property loss for buildings and structures was $518,704 dollars. The total for all fires within the City of Augusta was $751,388.

Call Volume for EMS:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Call Volume</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>5099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>5707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>6058</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The top five classifications of EMS call types are:

- Falls: 918
- General Illness: 890
- Breathing: 517
- Psychiatric: 349
- Chest Pain: 355
The three primary rescues (ambulances) responded to the following calls:

- Rescue 1 (Hartford Station) 2370 calls
- Rescue 2 (Wells Station) 2046 calls
- Rescue 3 (North Station) 1580 calls

**COVID-19 Review:**

In April of 2022 members concluded the vaccinations with a total for the first quarter being 134 we also in December concluded our testing due to termination of supplies to the Department, however we completed 177 test for City employees in that time frame.

COVID still remains in our focus as it is still around and our EMS protocols have not lessened, PPE requirements still exist along with decontamination of vehicles which is a time consuming and costly process.

Stay healthy my Friends.

[Image: Former Atlantic Hose Company Cony Street - Now owned by Rich Beaudoin of Augusta Fire.]
Augusta Police Department – 2022 Annual Report

Message from the Chief: The Augusta Police Department continues to seek ways to build positive relationships with all of our community members while providing the highest level of service to keep our citizens safe. As the Chief of Police, I will continue to foster a culture within our police department that is one of fair and equitable service delivery. Our team has worked extremely hard to keep everyone safe during this time but, like many other professions, we are seeing an increase in retirements and a decrease in qualified applicants to replace our tenured staff. We continue to study our call volumes so that we do not burn our existing staff out while searching for the best future employees in places we have not traditionally solicited. The Augusta Police Department is dedicated to reaching the highest standards of professionalism through policies, procedures, hiring, training and technology and we will be laser focused on hiring, retaining and officer wellness in the year to come.

Crime Statistics 2022

The crime statistic below are not all inclusive of crimes handled by the Augusta Police Department, rather they are crimes that are required to be reported to the FBI. * Denotes calls that are not required to be reported to FBI. These numbers are drawn from the Augusta Police Department record management system and may not reflect the final totals reported by the State of Maine.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>Homicide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>Rape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>Assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>Burglary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft</td>
<td>Theft</td>
<td>Theft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Violence</td>
<td>Domestic Violence</td>
<td>Domestic Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Drug Offenses</td>
<td>*Drug Offenses</td>
<td>*Drug Offenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Vehicle Stops</td>
<td>*Vehicle Stops</td>
<td>*Vehicle Stops</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2020 Reports</th>
<th>2021 Reports</th>
<th>2022 Reports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investigative</td>
<td>Investigative</td>
<td>Investigative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrest</td>
<td>Arrest</td>
<td>Arrest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crash</td>
<td>Crash</td>
<td>Crash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Summons</td>
<td>Traffic Summons</td>
<td>Traffic Summons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Communications Center: The Augusta Police Department communication center services Augusta Police and Fire/EMS as well as Hallowell Police and Fire. “Calls for service” only reflect the calls where a call entry is made and do not reflect the total calls coming into the communications center that do not generate a call entry. Phone calls and calls for service are received through our Communications Center, and it is staffed 24/7 by not less than two Dispatchers at any given time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020 Calls</th>
<th>2021 Calls</th>
<th>2022 Calls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calls for service:</td>
<td>35,528+</td>
<td>37,090+</td>
<td>36,321+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augusta Police:</td>
<td>29,843+</td>
<td>30,474+</td>
<td>29,580+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augusta Fire/EMS:</td>
<td>5,685+</td>
<td>6,616+</td>
<td>6,741+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Augusta Police Calls for service does not reflect all the work of the Augusta Police Department.

Grants Awarded to the Police Department:

- 2021 Bulletproof Vest Partnership $6,398.00
- 2022 Justice Assistance Grant $21,073.20
- 2021 Justice Assistance Grant $17,566.22
- 2020 Justice Assistance Grant - COVID $77,591.00
- 2023 IF&W Spring ATV Enforcement $850.00
- 2023 IF&W Fall ATV Enforcement $500.00
- 2023 BHS-Impaired Driving $6,000.00
- 2023 BHS-Seatbelt $5,000.00
- 2023 BHS-Speed $6,000.00
- 2023 BHS-Distracted Driving $4,000.00
- 2023 BHS-Pedestrian $4,000.00
- 2023 BHS-DRE $6,830.00
- 2023 Dirigo Safety Underage Drinking Grant $12,000.00
- 2022 Homeland Security Grant (police portion) $22,324.00
- 2022-23 Walmart Community Service $4,000.00
Community Events and Participation
Ride to School in a Police Car Certificate Program
Crisis and Counseling 1 and 5K
Sexual Assault and Crisis Celebrity Dinner
National Drug Takeback Day
Chat with the Chief on YouTube
No Shave and pink line flags for charity
Color Guard Events
Wanderers Program
Fallen Officer Vigil
Capitol Clubhouse
Car Seat Checks and Installations
Wreath Laying at Mount Hope Cemetery
Clear Paths Program
Salvation Army Christmas Adopt-a-Family
Law v. Saints basketball game
Thanksgiving / Holiday Celebration Fireworks
Home Heating oil Council
Cop Camp
Bigs and Badges Mentoring
YMCA community cookout
Sexual Assault Celebrity Dinner
Cyclist And Pedestrians Invigorating The Augusta Life
Augusta Civic Center 50th Anniversary Celebration
Maine Criminal Justice Academy Advisory Board
Ironman Triathlon
Wreaths Across America

Vo-Tech Advisory Board LE
Cony Active Shooter Training with Staff
Save Your Breath 5K
Turkey give away we were part of times 2
KCJ Knitting/Crocheting with Inmates
Cops on Top Hike
Blue Lives Matter Tournament
Corporal Cole Memorial Run
107.9 & B98.5 Live Radio Coffee with a Cop
Civilian Police Academy
Augusta Age Friendly Partnership
Lobby e-commerce zone
Virtual Cony Middle School tour of APD
Halloween Downtown
Food Giveaway @ Civic Center
Backpack Giveaway @ Civic Center
Fishing Derby—Cony High Project Graduation
Dare and Dare Graduations
Special Olympics Awards Ceremony
Hot Spot in downtown area (August)
Corporal Cole Softball Tournament
Alfond Center For Health Workplace Safety
Hopeful Artwork Dedication On Water Street
Walk For Hope
Trek Across Maine
Firearm Recovery & Disposal Program

Awards and Commendations 2022

Officer David Adams
Officer Seth Johnson
Officer Jeff Gotreau

Life Saving Award
Life Saving Award
Life Saving Commendatory Letter
We continue our work on the following important goals:

- A focus on safety and reducing workplace injuries. In addition to ongoing training, we do weekly “Tool Box Talks” on safety and other related subjects. This has helped raise awareness for safety and other important aspects of our work, leading to a safer and better trained workforce. On November 5, 2022 we celebrated two years with no lost-time injuries.
- Recruitment and retention of a competent and well trained work force.
- Focus on improvements for pedestrian safety.

**Year-Round Services**

**Rubbish and Recycling**

Curbside rubbish collection continues to be a popular, efficient and valuable service provided to our citizens. In 2022 we picked up 5,275 tons of curbside rubbish which is slightly less than the 5,352 tons we picked up in 2021.

The single stream recycling drop-off locations at Public Works and Hatch Hill provide recycling opportunities for our residents. We recycled 151 tons of single stream at Public Works, 156 tons at Hatch Hill, along with 133 tons of old corrugated cardboard. The recycling container at Public Works has extended hours for residents on Wednesdays until 6 p.m. Residents can also use Hatch Hill for their recycling. Hours at Hatch Hill are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday to Saturday. Single stream recyclables and cardboard are transported to ecomaine for recycling. Recycling tipping fees have risen to $106.25 from $99.30 per ton last year not including transportation. This tipping fee is potentially reduced as a result of revenue sharing by ecomaine from the sale of recycled material. Revenue sharing last year was higher than normal at $86.48 per ton due to very strong markets.

This year our regional spring Household Hazardous Waste (HHHW) Drop-off Day was held on May 21. The communities of Chelsea, Farmingdale, Gardiner, Hallowell and Randolph joined with us for this event. The following table lists the highlights of this collection:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Waste Units Received</th>
<th>Items Collected</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Augusta</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>Paint</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pallet Boxes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chelsea</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Pounds of Paper</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmingdale</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>E-waste</td>
<td>2,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardiner</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Batteries</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hallowell</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Fluorescent Bulbs</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randolph</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Propane Tanks - Small</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fire Extinguishers</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Metal / E-waste</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lead Acid Batteries</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mercury Thermometers</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Drugs</td>
<td>Approx. 100 pounds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total units: 124
This spring we offered a curbside Bulky Waste collection to our residents. We picked up materials at 104 homes and collected 121 units of bulky waste, metal or wood items.

A four week fall leaf collection program collected 84.61 tons of leaves for composting, the spring leaf collection and resident drop off at Public Works collected an additional 44.96 tons.

In addition to the special projects listed below, Public Works is responsible for year-round maintenance of our streets and sidewalks. Routine tasks include:

- Street and sidewalk sweeping
- Street sign upgrades, repair and replacement
- Roadside ditching and culvert repairs
- Brush cutting and roadside mowing
- Respond to emergencies, such as summer and winter storms, that cause damage to our roads and sidewalks

**Paving**

Our paving program was done later than usual this year due to the price per ton for the different paving products which resulted in the need to cut approximately $150,000 from our original paving list. The following table is a list of roads to be paved with money allocated to the FY 2022 paving program. It should be noted that this list was not completed with chip sealing and some surface paving remaining to be completed in 2023.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2022 City of Augusta Public Works Pavement Preservation Program Final List</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SURFACE PAVEMENT</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cushing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green (Repairs near Johnson &amp; Drew)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hitchborn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Julianne (Spot Repairs by PW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxford (north of Monroe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverton (Repairs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SHIM (SURFACE IN 2023)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Elm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Pleasant (North of Oak)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Road added from original 2019-2021 paving list.
Special Projects

- We completed needed repairs and the new pedestrian landings on South Belfast Avenue where the sidewalk crosses another street.
- We focused on filling wheel ruts and other heavy patching (due to a smaller paving program than usual on the following roads: Bog Road, Church Hill Road, Whitten Road, Cony Hill and a portion of South Belfast Avenue, Gas House Hill (section of State Street), a section of Capitol Street near Ridge Road, Caswell Street and part of the intersection of State and Winthrop Streets.
- We replaced culverts on Burns Road and Bolton Hill Road.
- We spent a lot of time fixing the country roads that have gravel shoulders instead of paved shoulders. With the more intense storms we have been getting recently, the heavy rains increase the erosion to the gravel shoulders. When we grade them we make an effort to recover the soil and silt that erodes into the ditches and grade it back into the shoulders.
- We reconstructed and paved a small turnaround on Orchard Street that had previously been a badly constructed gravel turnaround.

Winter Highlights

Mother Nature was kind to us again in the winter of 2021/2022 with the exception of several icing events. A few statistics of the past several winters are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Snowfall</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>99.5</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>63.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of events</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snow events</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice events</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snow/Ice events</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening snow haul</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>18.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand/Salt material</td>
<td>2720</td>
<td>5709</td>
<td>7774</td>
<td>6756</td>
<td>4483</td>
<td>3476</td>
<td>5302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Brine - Gallons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>57537</td>
<td>59058</td>
<td>35412</td>
<td>48294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tons of salt</td>
<td>2669</td>
<td>4513</td>
<td>6194</td>
<td>5860</td>
<td>4031</td>
<td>3586</td>
<td>5496</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Engineering Bureau provides design and management for construction and other City projects that benefit residents, visitors, and business owners in the City of Augusta. The Bureau also provides engineering support to other city departments.

Projects that were started, continued or finished in 2022 include the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cushnoc Drive Reconstruction</th>
<th>Highland Avenue Reconstruction was bid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Townsend and Northern Avenue Intersection Improvements Report and Presentation</td>
<td>Continued progress, including public involvement, on the Pedestrian Demo. Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coney Road Sidewalk Design</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Projects that involved pedestrian safety included the installation of the delineators from 2021 and painting the shoulder area of the crosswalks red along Water Street. There was also green paint added in the shoulder areas of the crosswalks along Sewall Street. There was a substantial amount of utility work taking place in City Streets by outside entities that required monitoring to ensure the City’s roads were restored properly, work zones were safe and traffic was flowing efficiently, and pedestrians were being accommodated. Lastly, some private road development took place in 2022 that required inspections to verify the construction met City standards for future acceptance.

The following projects are in the design phase, planned for construction starting in 2023, or part of the five year work plan:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bog Road Rehabilitation</th>
<th>State Street Mill and Fill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City-Wide Pedestrian Safety Improvements</td>
<td>Brooks &amp; St. Catherine Reconstruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Street Crosswalk improvements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Bureau will continue to work with the Maine Department of Transportation to identify areas and projects to improve our roads, sidewalks and pedestrian safety. Additionally, the Engineering Bureau continues to provide guidance to the Planning Board on developer projects via plan review, approve all new driveway locations, advocate for City interests in State projects, and assist any interested parties with issues pertaining to the public right-of-way.
The Central Garage operation is an Internal Service Fund. The majority of revenues come from rental of the fleet-owned vehicles to various city departments, vehicle maintenance to vehicles owned by other departments, and the sale of fuel to City Departments. These revenues are used to cover operating costs of Central Garage and vehicle maintenance & repairs. Monthly depreciation, which is factored into the rental rates, pays for vehicle replacements when they reach the end of their useful life.

The Fleet Service Manager is responsible for all aspects of the Central Garage which includes the fleet, and buildings and grounds maintenance at the Public Works Facility. Other Central Garage personnel include a working Chief Mechanic, four (4) Garage Mechanics, a Parts Support Clerk and an Administrative Assistant who is also shared equally with the Streets and Solid Waste Bureaus.

Central Garage is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of approximately 120 pieces of their own equipment, plus equipment owned by Solid Waste and Parks & Cemetery Bureaus. Decisions on what vehicles will be purchased are based on an equipment replacement schedule which is used as a guide. This schedule evaluates which vehicles are due for replacement based on the actual condition of the vehicle and the needs of the various departments which can change depending on the services being provided to our citizens.

Central Garage took delivery of a new Freightliner Class 8 dump truck with a plow and wing for snow removal in April 2023 that was ordered under the fiscal year 2021 budget for $149,325 ($159,325 less $10,000 for a trade-in).

Central Garage took delivery of a new Freightliner Rubbish truck in November of 2023 that was ordered under the fiscal year 2022 budget for $167,425 ($192,425 less $25,000 trade in of an old rubbish truck).
Hatch Hill is the City owned solid waste disposal and recycling facility that operates as an enterprise fund. It is a regional facility that provides waste disposal and recycling services to Augusta and eight surrounding communities as well as the State and Federal agencies that operate in the region. All users pay to use Hatch Hill and revenues pay for day-to-day operations, provide reserve accounts for capital equipment (vehicles and future solid waste disposal) and post closure monitoring and maintenance of the facility once waste is no longer accepted.

Tonnages and Revenues

The graph below shows that tonnages have increased over the past few years but are still within the annual projections when the landfill was originally built in 2001 with an anticipated life of 20 years. At this time, it is projected that Hatch Hill has approximately 4 years of life remaining.
Budgeted revenues for FY23 are $3.588 million with expenses budgeted at $3.775 million. Tonnages increased slightly in calendar year 2022 compared with the previous two years. Tons of waste received increased even though a rate increase was passed in July 2022 along with fee increases required from new State legislation. Revenues in excess of expenses are held in the fund balance to be used for future unanticipated expenses as well as providing the “savings account” for post closure monitoring and maintenance which needs to be done for at least 30 years after the facility stops accepting waste for landfilling. We need to save a total of $11.9 million dollars before the landfill reaches capacity and is closed. At this time, we have $8.1 million and will save the rest over the remaining years that the landfill accepts waste.

In addition to the landfill, Hatch Hill also operates a recycling program. The table below summarizes the materials brought into Hatch Hill for disposal in the landfill or for recycling.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Materials recycled</th>
<th>Materials being landfilled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single stream recycling</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>Rubbish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrap metal</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>Rubbish- mixed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Paint</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Special wastes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old corrugated cardboard</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Total tons into landfill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old propane tanks</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old asphalt shingles</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Auto shredder residue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Tires</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>Ground wood chips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal waste (old TV's and e-waste)</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>(used as alternate daily cover)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Wood chips for energy</td>
<td>730</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demolition Wood chips for energy</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Total into landfill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compost and wood chips given to residents</td>
<td>248</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Recycling</strong></td>
<td><strong>1587</strong></td>
<td><strong>Recycling rate at Hatch Hill</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recycling rate at Hatch Hill 3.0%
2022 Augusta Board of Education members: pictured at top - Chair; Amanda Olson Board Members: Ward 1-Staci Fortunato; Ward 2, Martha Witham; Ward-3 Heidi Wardwell (not pictured) Ward 4, Kati McCormick and At-Large Board Members (row 3): Kevin Lamoreau, Kimberly Martin, Rita Pello and Pia Holmes.
Dear Friends:

It is an honor to represent Maine in the U.S. Senate. I am grateful for the trust that Mainers have placed in me and welcome this opportunity to share some key accomplishments for our state.

Last year, I secured more than $500 million for 285 projects from Aroostook County to York County that will promote job creation, workforce training, and economic development; expand access to health care; improve public safety, infrastructure, and community resources; and protect our environment. To address the crisis of soaring inflation and high energy prices, I led efforts to provide $2 billion in supplemental funds to the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. In the new Congress that begins in 2023, I expect to be the Vice Chairman of the Appropriations Committee and will continue to champion investments to support Maine’s communities and families.

Strengthening our economy and supporting good jobs remain a top priority. Along with the Governor and the rest of the Maine Delegation and the associations representing the lobster industry, I worked to protect our hardworking lobstermen and women by pushing for six years the onerous federal regulations that jeopardize our lobster fishery’s very existence. Another ongoing threat to Maine’s small businesses is the shortage of workers. That’s why I led an effort to push the Administration to nearly double the number of H-2B visas that are critical to our hospitality industry. Additionally, when the Administration proposed to cut the construction of a destroyer to be built by Bath Iron Works, I restored this funding to protect Maine jobs and our national security.

When Maine Veterans’ Homes announced last year that it planned to close its facilities in Caribou and Machias, I opposed that decision which would have had such a devastating effect on rural veterans and their families. I am glad that the decision was reversed, and I have secured $3 million to help with upgrades to these facilities. My AUTO for Vets Act also became law, which will help disabled veterans maintain their independence by supporting the purchase of a new adaptive vehicle once a decade.

This past year, Congress demonstrated how effective it can be on behalf of the American people when both parties work together. A few of the bipartisan achievements that I was involved in include the Respect for Marriage Act, which will provide certainty to millions of loving couples in same-sex marriages while protecting religious liberties, and the Electoral Count Reform Act, which establishes clear guidelines for our system of certifying and counting electoral votes for President and Vice President.

No one works harder than the people of Maine, and I have honored that work ethic by showing up for every vote. During my Senate service, I have cast more than 8,500 consecutive votes, never having missed one. I remain committed to doing all that I can to address your community’s concerns in 2023. If I may be of assistance to you in any way, I encourage you to contact one of my six state offices.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Collins
United States Senator
Dear Friends,

I’ve often thought that Maine is just one big small town connected by long roads. Well, in the past year or two, those roads have gotten steeper and bumpier as we dealt with an unprecedented pandemic and the resulting economic troubles.

As we faced the historic challenges, something impressive happened. We came together and lent a hand to our neighbors wherever we could to keep things running and spirits high.

Down in Washington, Congress tried to help Maine communities get through this struggle, so that our state would come out stronger. To do that, we put in the work and set some things into motion that are already helping Maine people. That’s why you hired us, after all.

The pandemic made something we’d known for a while clear: those roads and networks that connect our big town needed repair, improvements, and expansion – from bridges to broadband. So, while Maine was unifying towards a common purpose, Congress came together to pass the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law – legislation that makes generational investments in physical infrastructure, broadband connections, harbors, and the energy grid. These efforts will lay the foundation for Maine’s 21st century economy and make sure even the most rural areas aren’t left behind.

Over the last two years, as we drove up and down our state, you couldn’t help but see storefronts in trouble and prices rising as the economy struggled through a global recession. And again, while you focused your efforts on getting through the difficult times, Congress took meaningful action. We passed the American Rescue Plan in 2021, which enabled Governor Mills and the state of Maine to better meet the health and economic difficulties of the pandemic. At a critical moment it expanded healthcare efforts to confront COVID and invested in the state to keep the economy in far better shape than most others nationwide.

Congress didn’t stop there. This year, we took even more concrete steps to cut costs, create jobs, and provide more affordable, cleaner energy. The bipartisan CHIPS Act will bring home the manufacturing of the technical components known as “chips” that are used in everything these days – from smartphones to microwaves to cars – and in doing so reduce prices and create good American jobs. We also passed the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to lower healthcare costs, allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices, and cut energy bills with new rebates for things like heat pumps and solar panels.

Beyond these major investments, we also passed vital legislation to improve the day-to-day lives of Maine people and Americans nationwide. On a bipartisan basis, we expanded health care for veterans exposed to toxins, strengthened protections for marriage equality, supported Ukraine as it fought off a bloody Russian invasion, secured our elections and the peaceful transfer of power, and delivered millions in federal investments to projects up and down our state.

So, as Maine worked to get through hard times, Congress took steps to support our state – and we’re already starting to see brighter days ahead. I’m proud to have played a small part down here; it’s a true privilege to listen to you, work with you, and build a brighter future for all the incredible people up and down the roads that connect our big small town. Mary and I wish you a happy, and safe 2023.

Best Regards,

ANGUS S. KING, JR.
United States Senator
January 2023

Dear Augusta Residents,

This year we will celebrate the 35th anniversary of the Kennebec Land Trust (KLT). With generous support from community members, we have worked to conserve important lands; provide public access for hiking, paddling, skiing, blueberry picking, and hunting; and promote land stewardship, conservation education, and partnerships.

KLT has an impressive list of accomplishments: 100 properties, with 7,584 acres under permanent conservation throughout our 413,000-acre service area; 57 miles of trails to explore; over 20 miles of conserved shoreline; and 1,100 household and business partner members.

As we look to the future, we will continue to conserve high value land and protect important wildlife habitat, and we’re also offering programs to promote and expand conservation in ways that better serve our communities.

During the summer of 2022, volunteers worked to maintain the trails and remove invasive plants at Howard Hill, where KLT holds a conservation easement. As the owner of the Jody Kane Preserve, KLT also contributes to Augusta’s local tax base through the open space tax program.

KLT offers a great selection of outings and educational programs for the public, and we collaborate with schools and other organizations to engage youth and share our conservation message with the community. Please call our office for information about our 2023 field trips and programs. We will be hosting our 35th Anniversary Trail Challenge this summer for community members and visitors.

KLT 2022 summer intern Naomi Lynch organized discussions and interviews with new immigrants involved in the Capital Area New Mainer’s Project which focused on their relationships to nature in their home countries and in Maine. Listen to the podcast she created at www.tlt.org/nanami-audio.

We welcome this opportunity to communicate with Augusta residents and the Select Board about our conservation work. Everyone is welcome to visit our properties and trails and to attend our public programs.

If you have questions about our community conservation work, please don’t hesitate to contact us at 207-377-2848 or info@tlt.org. You can also visit our website, www.tlt.org, for trail maps, directions, and more information about our organization. Thank you to all those in Augusta who have chosen to support KLT as members or volunteers.

Sincerely,

Janet Sawyer
President

Theresa Kerchner
Executive Director

Marie Ring
Director of Membership and Programming
**District 59**

Representative: Honorable Raegan LaRochelle  
Home Address: 102 Hemlock Terrace  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Telephone: 207-624-2668  
E-Mail: raegan.larochelle@legislature.maine.gov  
Capitol Address: House of Representatives, 2 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0002

Representative: Honorable William Bridgeo  
Home Address: 100 Fairview Avenue  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Telephone: 207-458-2939  
E-Mail: william.bridgeo@legislature.maine.gov  
Capitol Address: House of Representatives, 2 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0002

**District 60**

Senator: Honorable Matthew G. Pouliot  
Home Address: 66 Hemlock Terrace  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Telephone: 207-441-9418  
E-Mail address: matt.pouliot@legislature.maine.gov  
Capitol Address: Senate Office, 3 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0003  
Capitol Phone: 207-287-1505 (Voice) - 207-287-1583 (TTY)

Year-Round Toll Free House of Representatives Message Center: 1-800-423-2900  
Maine legislative website: https://legislature.maine.gov/

**MAINE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION**

**Senator Angus S. King, Jr. (I)**  
Term Expires: January, 2025  
133 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Tel: 202-224-5344  
Augusta Office: 4 Gabriel Drive  
Augusta, ME 04101  
Tel: 207-622-8292

**Senator Susan M. Collins (R)**  
Term Expires: January, 2027  
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-1904  
Tel: 202-224-2523  
Augusta Office: 68 Sewall St.  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Tel: 207-622-8414  
Fax: 207-622-5884

**Representative Chellie Pingree (D-1st District)**  
Term Expires: January, 2025  
2162 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
Tel: 202-225-6116  
Waterville Office: 1 Silver Street  
Waterville, ME 04901  
Tel: 207-873-5713

**Representative Jared Golden (R-2nd District)**  
Term Expires: January, 2025  
12232 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
Tel: 202-225-6306  
Lewiston Office: 179 Lisbon Street  
Lewiston, ME 04401  
Tel: 207-241-6767