



## City Manager's Report

June 12, 2020

### Economic Projects

<b>60 Access Highway</b>	The closing date was moved to June 19. Working through environmental questionnaires from the financing institution.
<b>Porvair CDBG program</b>	Porvair has submitted their final reimbursement request. We are holding funds until final CDBG required documents are provided.
<b>Events and Marketing</b>	There will be a marathon meeting on Friday, June 19 with organizers and sponsors to discuss options in light of regulatory constraints and funding. Registrations are down.
<b>Blight Cleanup</b>	Demolished properties on York and Liberty have been seeded and are ready for resale. Will now focus on 32 Fenderson property. Starting work on a popup junkyard along access highway. Property involved in recent police action tied to robbery at Par & Grill construction site.
<b>Hilltop Senior Living</b>	Working on an opening date and ribbon cutting ceremony
<b>Birdseye Cleanup</b>	McGillian is completing final touches of the Birdseye site clean up. Need to begin reaching out with community meetings and discussions about next steps for the EPA grant this fall.
<b>Title 13 ReWrite</b>	Planning Board reviewed latest changes in their meeting June 11. No concerns yet with direction taking place.
<b>COVID-19 Support</b>	Most businesses have reopened in compliance with state mandates. Those who did not file for PPP funding earlier are now being told the money has run out.
<b>Sitel Building</b>	No additional informaiton at this itme. Will place on backburner.
<b>River Front - Powerplants</b>	Merlin One is working with the state to demonstrate insolvency and thus enable use of state funds to conduct environmental study of the site. Anticipate incorporating information into a River front Area Master Plan.
<b>River Front - DOT Lands</b>	No additional informaiton at this itme. Will place on backburner.
<b>River Front - Salmon</b>	Anticipate incorporating information into a River front Area Master Plan. Waiting to see how Merlin One process shakes out with state.
<b>Caribou Shopping Center</b>	Mr. Dana Cassidy met with Christina this week and indicates he has a couple business ideas to fill tenant spaces. Christina will continue working with him as needed.

## Other Administrative & Department Projects

<b>COVID-19 Status</b>	<p>City hall is now open. We will keep screens and sanitation stations in place for customers. Social distancing indicators are in place within office areas.</p> <p>Library circulation is up. Still not open to patrons.</p> <p>Recreation Center will be open on Monday, June 15 for walking and gym use only. Limit of 45 patrons. Patrons will need to bring their own equipment.</p>
<b>Blight Commission</b>	The blight toolkit narrative is 75% complete. Still awaiting blight survey data to polish off the report.
<b>Public Safety Building</b>	This project is on hold until July. City staff have prepared some alternative designs for discussion with the Council before circling back to the architect.
<b>Union Negotiations.</b>	<p>PW union mediation date has been set for June 24 &amp; 25th. It will be conducted at the recreation center starting at 9am.</p> <p>Several grievances with the police officer union are outstanding and may come to the Council in the near future.</p>
<b>Procurement Policy</b>	Auditors have provided verbal feedback on the procurement policy. They will provide supplementary information in writing. The indication is that best practices for private business with fewer than 100 employees is to narrow the spending authority and not bury transactions in paperwork. The city's current transaction review process is consistent with those guidelines.
<b>Charter Revisions</b>	The public hearing for charter revision Ordinance #1 has been set for the June 15 Council meeting.
<b>Capital Facility Maintenance Plans</b>	Criterion Brown has inspected buildings in the Public Works complex and will prepare their report on those before moving on to the next facilities.
<b>Fire Structural Study</b>	Sewall engineers have reported that structural work on the station trusses will be needed regardless of roof membrane and insulation repairs. They estimate that the city will see a cost savings of nearly \$2,400/year on heating costs. I'm coordinating with Maine Municipal Trust on the project and the financial/liability implications of the project. Should have an answer from the Trust before Council meeting Monday.
<b>North Main Street</b>	Project is moving forward smoothly. Should be completed on time and on budget.
<b>Snow Plowing RFP</b>	2nd draft of RFP is complete and available for Council input. Tentative publication date being the last week of June.
<b>Wage Policy</b>	Information provided to Council last year, has been updated with the most current data from the Maine Municipal salary survey and Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Policy narrative still needs to be refined.
<b>Cable Franchise Renewal</b>	On hold per Council direction
<b>General Plan Update</b>	On hold until Blight Committee work is done.
<b>River Road</b>	No changes since last report. Continue to monitor latest failures. Need to discuss real estate options pertaining to Dr. Chomka property.
<b>High Street</b>	Awaiting final decision of completion from DOT.

<b>Teague Park</b>	RSU Crews continue to work on the park. Lighting is installed. Playground equipment from Teague Park Elementary was moved by Parks Department to the rec center. It will be reinstalled when RSU turns over the park property to the city.
<b>Sitel Reimbursements</b>	No additional word from Sitel. Will follow up.
<b>Parking Lot Paving</b>	Soderberg Construction is willing to hold their price for the fire station parking lot. Work on the north mall parking lot should take place after the North Main project is completed.