



City Manager's Report

April 2, 2021

Economic Projects

Façade Improvement Program	The city received 10 applications for façade improvements. Awards will be announced during the April 5 Council meeting.
River Front - Powerplants	Preparing MEDEP grant application to evaluation environmental needs at the plant. Met with Versant and Algonquin representatives. They indicate that the steam plant can be demolished without damaging their infrastructure. The diesel plant still contains some Algonquin equipment. Additional coordination will be needed before demolition can occur.
Events and Marketing	Kayak race on Aroostook River will be May 15. Starting at 10am.
Ogren Dump Solar Project	Still working through contract language. Plan to have on April 20 meeting. Must be adopted by ordinance.
Landbank	Legal counsel is reviewing word changes to the city's tax acquired disposal policy to allow private non-profits to act as the city's landbank. Should be on April 20 agenda for review.
2021 CDBG Applications	The state has approved the submitted application for a final submittal opportunity. This is due the end of April.
60 Access Highway	Owner is now working with an architectural firm to finalize construction drawings to submit for additional permits.
Title 13 ReWrite	Planning Board will act on Administrative amendment on April 8. Hearing on new home occupation standards will be in May.
Federal American Rescue Plan Act	Unknown how much money will come to the city at this time. Grant funds can be used to support local businesses, restaurants, build infrastructure such as water, sewer, or broadband, and affordable housing needs. Still waiting for final numbers and restrictions. Funds provided over 2 years. Must be spent by December 2024 or returned to treasury.
Birdseye Cleanup	Have submitted response to EPA questions about remediation plan. Awaiting final approval before putting out RFP.
Blight Cleanup	Dangerous building notices have been filed.
River Front - Master Plan	Stake holder group will conduct public outreach at kayak race. Continue to work on goals and plan options.
Hilltop Senior Living	Owners waiting until late spring/summer before conducting public open houses and tour for Council.
Sitel Building	No change since last meeting. Sent invoice to Sitel for return of \$5,000 for TIF funds received based on non-performance of Credit Enhancement Agreement terms. No word from Mr. Cassidy about his development plans for the building.
Aldrich ATV/Snowmobile Storage	Property is purchased from CEGC. Owner waiting to see how Jarosz Storage on Limestone works before moving ahead.
Jarosz Storage - Limestone St	This project will break ground in May.
River Front - Salmon	Owners currently working to fund raise over \$1M. Moving project to backburner.
Affordable Housing Development	No additional communications from developers. Will backburner this project.

Other Administrative Projects

New City Manager Recruitment	Position has been advertised. Already fielded an inquiry from within the state.
Spirit of America Recognition	The month of April is volunteer recognition month. Would the Council like to recognize a person, project, or group to receive the 2021 Spirit of America Foundation Tribute for outstanding community service?
Trailer Park Closure	Three tenants have submitted applications for ACAP rental housing assistance funding. Waiting for ACAP response.
Airport	Hangars continue to be full. Receiving inquires about availability.
Union Negotiations.	Met with Fire Union on May 31. Waiting on some language proposals. Police Officers Union. Waiting for response from Union about latest negotiation points. Sergeants. Met with new Teamsters reps. waiting for counter offer about latest terms. Public Works. Waiting for response from Union about latest negotiation points.
Chambers AV System	Waiting on one final piece of equipment that will allow the manager to share screen to cable system if not in a zoom mtg.
Tax Acquired Property Policy	Major revisions have been submitted to legal for review. Plan to have available for April 20 meeting.
River Road	Additional failure occurring in previous locations and along more southern elements. Barricades were moved. One lane road.
City Hall Boiler Systems	Need to draft RFP for City Hall valve and thermostat replacement work.
Fire Structural Study	No further action at this time. Waiting for thaw to start.
Cable Franchise Renewal	Monitoring latest legisltave bills that will affect franchise terms. Need to bring Council up to date on latest issues and state laws on this matter. Currently working under expired agreement.
Teague Park	No further action at this time. Waiting for thaw to start.
General Plan Update	Still working on the current land use survey, which is needed for future land use discussions.
60 Access Highway	No further action at this time.
New LED Street lights	Still finalyzing lights from last year. Will prioritize additional locations with public works committee and public safety.
Wage Policy	No further action at this time.
COVID-19 Status	Monitoring and implimenting Governor's latest opening dates and regulations.
Investment Policy	No further action at this time.
Personnel Policy	No further action at this time.
Parking Lot Paving	No further action at this time.
Procurement Policy	Felch & Company has provided feedback on the policy and made some recommendations. Will revise for Council.