



City Manager's Report

May 14, 2021

Economic Projects

River Front - Powerplants	MEDEP awarded the environmental study of the powerplants to County Environmental. This work should start within 2 weeks and will take a month to complete.
Broadband Initiative	Met with Spectrum to discuss expansion options. Sent them a list of 448 homes that need service. They will get a bid back.
Ogren Dump Solar Project	On current agenda for final approval. Researching a right-of-way issue on Ogren Rd for Versant
2021 CDBG Applications	On current agenda for final approval.
Events and Marketing	Kayak race on Aroostook River will be May 15. Starting at 10am. City-wide yard sale started May 14. Runs through Sunday May 16. June 3 Thursday on Sweden event will be held in the North Mall parking lot.
Landbank	On current agenda as part of the tax acquired property disposal policy for final approval.
Title 13 ReWrite	Major Administrative changes on agenda for introduction. Planning Board now working on Home Occupations and process revisions.
Federal American Rescue Plan Act	Still waiting for final amounts and restrictions. Must be spent by December 2024 or returned to treasury.
Blight Cleanup	Asbestos siding found at 864 Main. Bids were received for demolition of the building. Getting bids to demolish multiple dangerous buildings that failed to demonstrate abatement progress. Sent eviction notices to occupants of tax acquired properties on Hillcrest and North Street.
Birdseye Cleanup	Still waiting final approval from DEP before putting out RFP to do final soils cleanup.
60 Access Highway	No additional communications from developers. Still waiting for finish plans on building.
River Front - Master Plan	Stake holder group will conduct public outreach at kayak race. Continue to work on goals and plan options.
Façade Improvement Program	Modified program details for next spring to include expiration period. 2021 grantees moving forward with their projects.
Hilltop Senior Living	Waiting for open house date from developer.
Sitel Building	No change in status.
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 is now under construction.
River Front - Salmon	No change in status.
Affordable Housing Development	Will create list of potential properties for rehab or development as part of landbank efforts.

Other Administrative Projects

New City Manager Recruitment	Eleven applications submitted. MMA consultant is scheduling first-round interviews.
Union Negotiations.	Will be discussed in executive session during the upcoming meeting.
Tax Acquired Property Policy	Ordinance No. 4 on agenda for public hearing and adoption.
Fire Structural Work	Roof membrane work is ongoing. Painters will be in building next week. Anticipated project completion in 3 weeks.
Teague Park	Splash pad work is moving forward. Footings and rough plumbing is installed.
Public Safety Building	Council Public Safety Committee met with architect consultants on Monday, May 13. Councilor Boma can provide additional details about next steps.
Fire Station Renovations	Waiting for sprinkler system bids before determining next steps on this project.
Investment Policy	Council investment committee met on Tuesday, May 12. Councilor Smith can provide additional details.
Trailer Park Closure	Received \$1,000 in back rent awards from ACAP. Additional applications submitted.
Fish Hatchery Bridge	On the current agenda for discussion.
Cable Franchise Renewal	State legislation being considered to have all franchises regulated by state.
Airport	Hangars full. Received bids for fence repairs.
City Hall Boiler Systems	Ready to send out RFP to have all thermostats and valves replaced. Had two valves stuck open this week.
Chambers AV System	Still waiting on final piece of equipment that will allow the manager to share screen to cable system.
River Road	Survey of Chomka property is progressing. Should be completed by end of May.
New LED Street lights	10 lights repaired. Work order submitted to replace mast arm and light on Bennet Drive by Walgreens.
General Plan Update	Still working on the current land use survey, which is needed for future land use discussions.
Wage Policy	No further action at this time.
COVID-19 Status	Monitoring and implimenting Governor's latest opening dates and regulations.
Personnel Policy	No further action at this time.
Parking Lot Paving	Fire station rear lot and library are slated for this year. Finalizing plans for station retaining wall repairs.
Procurement Policy	Felch & Company has provided feedback on the policy and made some recommendations. Will revise for Council.