



City of
AUBURN, MAINE

2020 ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE COMMUNITY

City of AUBURN, MAINE *Est. 1869*

“ Vestigia nulla retrorsum.
No backward steps. ”

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City Leadership

M

MAYOR

Mayor Jason J. Levesque
JLevesque@auburnmaine.gov

2

WARD 2

Councilor Timothy B. Macleod
TMacleod@auburnmaine.gov

4

WARD 4

Councilor Brian S. Carrier
BCarrier@auburnmaine.gov

A

AT-LARGE

Councilor Katherine E. Boss
KBoss@auburnmaine.gov

C

CITY MANAGER

Phillip L. Crowell, Jr.
PCrowell@auburnmaine.gov

1

WARD 1

Councilor Holly C. Lasagna
HLasagna@auburnmaine.gov

3

WARD 3

Councilor Stephen G. Milks
SMilks@auburnmaine.gov

5

WARD 5

Councilor Leroy G. Walker, Sr.
LWalker@auburnmaine.gov

A

AT-LARGE

Councilor Belinda A. Gerry
BGerry@auburnmaine.gov

C

ASST. CITY MANAGER

Brian Wood
BWood@auburnmaine.gov

www.auburnmaine.gov

From the City Manager's Office



It is my pleasure to present the 2020 Annual Report for the City of Auburn. This report highlights the City's major accomplishments and initiatives over the past year.

A year ago, a resident of Auburn was the first person in the State of Maine to test positive for COVID-19, which changed the trajectory of every business, school, family, person, and our local government. Our community was forced to contend with a worldwide pandemic and your city staff was able to maintain a high level of municipal services for our community.

No organization, public or private, has been unaffected by COVID-19. The shift to remote working and online meetings, particularly those of the City Council, was an adjustment for many. Auburn's Council was one of the first to meet remotely and we were the first community to safely return to meeting in person, ensuring the public voice and transparency of local government was not forgotten. In a municipal setting, however, many of the services we provide, including law enforcement, fire protection, road and park maintenance, simply cannot be performed remotely.

Consequently, a major focus for much of the past year has been ensuring the safety of our employees in the workplace while still being able to meet the needs of our community and deliver the same high-quality services to which they are accustomed.

Virtually every City department was engaged in the COVID-19 response, providing everything from procurement of personal protective equipment for employees and businesses, to contact tracing of staff members, to enforcement of public health protocols, to providing thousands of meals to our community.

Many Auburn businesses have suffered critical impact from COVID-19, including a threat to their very existence, particularly restaurants. The City has supported local business through a variety of efforts, including a moratorium on specific ordinances; financial grants for small businesses; and conversion of sidewalks to support outdoor dining in accordance with health orders.

In this report, you will see that **your City government was focused throughout the year continuing our mission of delivering excellent municipal services to every citizen and business in our community.** I want to thank the Mayor and City Council for their leadership during one of our generation's most challenging times. I add sincere thanks to the citizens of Auburn for your patience and understanding; and especially to our municipal employees, who were resolved to carry out their work, regardless of the obstacles they faced, in order to meet the needs of our community.

Phil Crowell
City Manager

City Departments

City Clerk

City Manager

Communications & Community Engagement

Economic and Community Development

Economic Development

Business & Community Development

Planning, Permitting & Code

Finance

Assessing

Tax

Fire

Health & Social Services

Human Resources

Information Technology [IT]

Police

Public Works

Parks

Recreation & Sports Tourism

Recreation

Norway Savings Bank Arena

Ingersoll Turf Facility

School

9-1-1

Boards, Committees & Commissions

9-1-1 Committee

Age-Friendly Community Committee

Agriculture Committee

Androscoggin County Budget Committee

Androscoggin Transportation Resource
Center

Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments

Appointment Committee

Auburn Business Development Corp.

Auburn Housing Authority

Auburn & Lewiston Municipal Airport

Auburn Sewer District Board of Trustees

Auburn Water District Board of Trustees

Audit Committee

Board of Assessment Review

Cable TV Advisory Board

Citizens Advisory Committee

City Council

Community Development Loan Committee

Complete Streets Committee

Conservation Commission

Community Forest Subcommittee

Parks Subcommittee

Ethics Panel

Lewiston-Auburn Railroad Company

L/A Transit Committee

L/A Water Pollution Control Authority

Maine Waste-to-Energy

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Planning Board

Public Library Board

Registration Appeals Board

School Committee

Zoning Board of Appeals

SHORT-TERM: Comprehensive Plan Update Committee

Auburn By the Numbers

Interesting city-wide statistics for 2020.

25,763

*Police Department
Calls for Service*

AUBURN POLICE DEPARTMENT:

2,392 offense investigations (310 felonies)
485 arrests 685 criminal summonses
4,172 traffic stops: 3,719 warnings, 430 citations & 18 arrests
Average speeding violation was 18mph over the posted limit

470

*Miles of roadway
plowed by APW*

AUBURN PUBLIC WORKS:

Planted over 3,000 flowers
Planted 29 new trees
Swept 470 miles of road
Cleaned 1,397 catch basins
More than 20 storm events
Plowed 470 miles of roadway
Cleared 50 miles of sidewalk

5,016

*Fire Department
Calls for Service*

AUBURN FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Fire (non-EMS) calls: 1,147 EMS/Rescue calls: 3,869
Total number apparatus responses: 7,668
Structure fires (homes/apartments, schools, industry): 43
Other fires (mobile property/outdoors): 114
Civilian fire deaths: 0 Civilian fire injuries: 3
Estimated property damage from fire: \$430,355
Total EMS patient encounters: 4,057 Transports: 2,973

600

*Average number of
daily visitors*

AUBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY:

Reference questions: 45,000
Items in collection: 87,000
Circulation: 200,000+ items

44,388

*9-1-1 Calls
Received*

LEWISTON-AUBURN 9-1-1 COMMUNICATIONS:

Calls for service generated: 107,018
EMO performed: 8,977
EFD performed: 2,969

208

*Employee
Applications
Received*

HUMAN RESOURCES:

Jobs advertised: 23
Total applicants: 208
Out-of-state applicants: 56

Auburn By the Numbers

Interesting recreation statistics for 2020.

25 Youth sports programs **717** Participants

6 Youth enrichment programs (childcare/summer camp)

401 Youth enrichment participants

2 Adult programs **250** Participants

15 Adult sports leagues **950** Participants

9 Senior Programs

1,064 Senior program participants

11 Special events (New Year's, Winterfest, Farmers' Market)

3 City & regional events (Maine Bicentennial, Balloon Festival)

5,015 Special event participants (pre-COVID)

12 Trail systems (private & public)

17 City parks

11 Playgrounds (city & school)

4 Boat launches

500 Acres of land throughout Auburn

82 Programs offered

37 Programs cancelled due to COVID-19

16 New programs & events created in response to COVID guidelines/restrictions

Caring for Community

Auburn is a caring community; a place where neighbors take care of neighbors and city hall is a place to turn for help. City leadership, council and staff take deep pride in our service to the people of this community.

In 2020, with federal, state and local funding, and together with local businesses, generous corporate partners and incredible community volunteers, the City of Auburn was able to provide support, relief and assistance to those who needed it the most.

Community Development Block Grant

The city provided \$120,000 in Federal CDBG funds in the form of grants to local public service providers, including Promise Early Education, Safe Voices, Tedford Housing, Community Youth Services, Literacy Volunteers, St. Mary's Nutrition Center, Auburn Rec Summer Camp Scholarships, and the *Work with Me* program through the Auburn Police Department.

Sandbuckets for Seniors

Auburn Public Works delivered 275 buckets of sand to Auburn seniors during the winter.

HOME Rehabilitation Funds

The City provided \$154k in Federal HOME rehabilitation loans & grants to six low/moderate income homeowners.

Grant Funding

From January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, the City of Auburn received \$1,201,190.98 in grant funding. This amount includes COVID-19 related grants as well as Police and Fire Department grants.

The Auburn Recreation Department received:

- \$322,961.43 grant via the School Department for our vital childcare program.
- \$10,000 grant via National Parks and Recreation for walk-in cooler at PAL to support the "Grab & Go" feeding program.
- \$4,500 grant via SeniorsPlus for senior programming.

Forgivable Loans

The City provided \$59k in CDBG forgivable loans to four businesses (start-up or affected by the pandemic).

Building Rehabilitation

The City provided \$387k in Federal CDBG funds in loans & grants to rehabilitate 23 rental units located across Auburn.

An Unprecedented Year

Anniversary Park



Despite some challenges, 2020 was an exceptional year in Auburn, filled with highlights, changes, community engagement and exceptional accomplishments. Here are a few of them:

We welcomed 2020 with our 2nd annual **New Year's Auburn** celebration.

2020 saw the completion of the incredible **Anniversary Park** in New Auburn, including the installation and dedication of more than 300 commemorative bricks and the bell tower that is now home to the beloved "Bells of St. Louis Church."

The boy's basketball team at **Edward Little High School** won the gold ball, becoming the 2020 **Class AA State Champions!**

After more than 30 years in public service, **City Manager Peter Crichton** retired in February. In October, Crichton received the 2020 "Linc Stackpole Manager of the Year" Award, an honor bestowed annually by the Maine Town, City and County Management Association (MTCMA).

In March, **Phil Crowell** was named Auburn's new City Manager. **Brian Wood** joined the team as Assistant City Manager in July.

The city installed two **electric vehicle charging stations** in the Mechanic's Row Parking Garage. Soon after, we purchased our first **electric vehicle** to be used by the Assessing Division.

In December, the city's "**Grab & Go**" program was presented with the "**Spirit of America**" Award for outstanding community service.

Elections & Vital Records

It was a busy year for the Auburn City Clerk's Office, with three elections and requests for vital records.



THREE ELECTIONS

March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary & Special Referendum Election

Voter turnout, 5576 or 35% - of those, 704 voted absentee

July 14, 2020 Primary & Special State Referendum & Municipal Election

Voter turnout, 4076 or 25%, of those 2528 voted absentee

November 3, 2020 General & Special Municipal Election

Voter turnout 12,430 or 75%, of those 8466 voted absentee

LICENSES & PERMITS

335 Business licenses issued

67 Garage sale permits issued

93 Notary services

19 Taxi driver permits issued

VOTER REGISTRATION

2,533 New voters registered

2,017 Changed

359 Cancelled

647 Petitions validated

Vital Records:

Birth Certificates issued - 244

Death Certificates issued - 1,437

Marriage Certificates issued - 316

Marriage Licenses issued - 115

Burial Permits issued - 141

Connect with Us!

There are many ways to connect with the City of Auburn.

Visit us at 60 Court Street or visit us online at www.auburnmaine.gov.

You can also get “social” with us:



Facebook: “City of Auburn Maine”



Instagram: “auburnmaine”



Twitter: “AuburnMaineGov”



LinkedIn: “City of Auburn, Maine (Official)”



YouTube: “City of Auburn, Maine”



Great Falls TV: Cable channel 11



Municipal Directory

Auburn Hall

60 Court Street | 207.333.6601

Assessing: X1133

City Clerk's Office: X1100

City Manager's Office: X1222

Community Development: X1159

Communications Dept.: X2070

Economic Development: X1218

Engineering: X1133

Finance Department: X1404

Health & Social Services: X1411

Human Resources: X1414

Information Technology: X1011

Planning, Permitting & Code: X1133

Tax Office: X1178

Fire Department

550 Minot Avenue | 207.333.6633

Police Department

60 Court Street | 207.333.6650

L-A 9-1-1

552 Minot Avenue | 207.786-5380



Public Works

296 Gracelawn | 207.333.6670

Recreation & Sports Tourism

48 Pettengill Park Rd. | 207.333.6611

Ingersoll Turf Facility

48 Pettengill Park Rd. | 207.333.6601
X2100

Norway Savings

Bank Arena

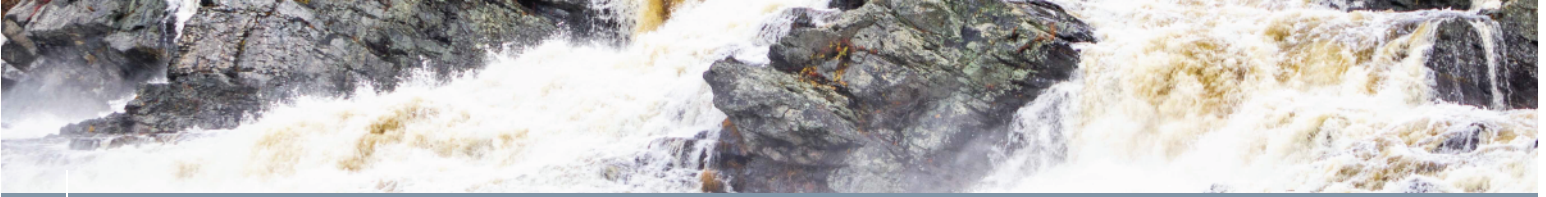
985 Turner Street | 207.333.6688

School Department

60 Court Street | 207.784-6431

Auburn Public Library

49 Spring Street | 207.333-6640



Auburn City Hall

60 Court Street | Auburn, Maine 04210



Call Us

207.333.6601



Web & E-mail

www.auburnmaine.gov | connect@auburnmaine.gov

