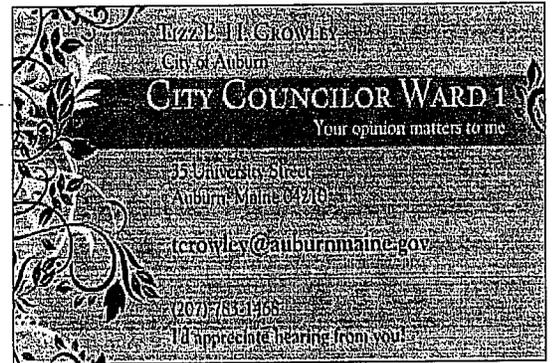


Committee Reports for Meeting Monday 2014.10.06

Prepared: Monday 2014.10.06
TO: Residents of Auburn and the Auburn City Council
FROM: Tizz E. H. Crowley- Auburn City Council Ward 1



Recreation and Special Events Advisory Board: The Recreation Advisory Meeting will be held this coming Wednesday, October 8th starting at 6:30pm here at City Hall. The public is welcome to attend.

The Recreation and Special Events Advisory Board met on September 10th. Much of the meeting centered on the repurposing of Ingersoll arena. To be successful and meet the requirement the facility be self supporting, it will be imperative programming begin no later than April 2015.

The Committee recommended a workgroup be established to focus on Special Events in Auburn. The first need is a comprehensive calendar of events and work schedule. It was felt that the Recreation Department is to be a resource for such programs, but not be the driving force.

Ravi reported there is a special events form to be completed for all City of Auburn special events. In follow up- he shared that the form is the same as the Mass Gathering Permit form.

While there was a great deal of discussion about Winter Fest, no decision regarding the event for the coming season was made.

Open session residents spoke on meditation as a valuable activity for our community. A resident would like to see an Earth Day event planned for Auburn. There is a strong interest in community gardens in Auburn. And there is excitement by many indoor sports teams to use Ingersoll and save a tremendous amount of travel.

Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission: The Lake Auburn Watershed Commission will be meeting this Wednesday, October 8th at the AVCOG building on Manley Road. The public is welcome. The Commission will review the draft 2015 budget. The overall annual contribution from Auburn would be reduced by 21.20%, primarily due to a significant reduction in land acquisitions.

One topic of interest on the agenda will be a report on the forestry workshop that was held here at City Hall this past Friday. I was unable to attend, but heard the discussion was lively and the event well planned. Watch for future announcements regarding forest management activities here in Auburn.

At the August meeting, it was reported the intergovernmental revenues were \$4250 more than anticipated. These funds will be used for Lake Remediation and boat inspections.

Auburn Sewerage District: Met Tuesday, September 16th. The trustees are finalizing a proposed rate increase expected to take effect December 1st. The rate change is expected to generate 9%

additional revenue to meet the infrastructure needs to provide consistent service. Watch for an announcement of a public meeting on November 18th where the Board of Trustees will hear your comments and concerns.

October's sewer tip: Fall is here and with it comes cooler weather, leaf raking, and crisp nights. Be sure to get your septic tank ready for winter. A few annual fall chores will help keep it functioning with minimal problems in the year to come.

First, if you haven't already done so, schedule your annual inspection and pump out. A regular pump out schedule for your septic tank helps keep the waste water tank from becoming too full. An annual inspection will help identify any small problems before they become major issues, including minor leaks or cracks in the structure.

And as much as we all hate to do it, don't forget to rake those leaves! Standing leaves that cover your lawn oftentimes will mask underlying septic tank problems. It makes it more difficult to determine if standing water is present, or if any sinking or settling of the ground has occurred.

While you are raking, look for signs of trouble with your septic field. Bright green strips of grass can be an indication that your septic field is not working properly. These indications may go unnoticed in the summer months when the whole lawn is lush and green, but can appear in fall when your lawn goes dormant. *Source: www.findlocal-sewerseptic.com*

Auburn Water District: I gave most of my Water District report at the last meeting when I reported on the risk to our intake pipe at the Lake. It was my understanding the Lewiston City Council would take up the issue of payment for the needed service at their meeting tomorrow night, but I do not see this on their agenda.

Hopefully, we will not experience any serious issues with our only in-take line and Lewiston will authorize their share of the funds so work can begin.

The condition of the actual Lake is fine currently- although we likely have a few weeks left before we're out of the woods for this year. We do not expect a repeat of last year's taste and odor issue in our drinking water. The Maine Drinking Water Program inspection has been completed.

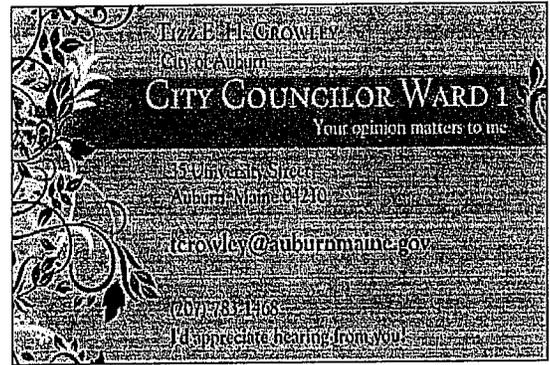
The Water and Sewer District Trustees approved the purchase of a front end loader. Neither District has a formal procurement policy. The purchased vehicle has been used by crew prior to purchase and after trying two other manufacturers' machines.

I have submitted my reports in writing to be included in the supplemental meeting materials. As always, Mr. Mayor, thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Auburn Ward 1 Report for Meeting Monday 2014.10.06

TO: Residents of Auburn and the Auburn City Council
FROM: Tizz E. H. Crowley- Auburn City Council Ward 1

“Thank you”- to the **United New Auburn Association** for hosting a very successful candidate forum last month. It was well organized, informative and most courteous. The packed house appreciated hearing from our local candidates for State office.



Thank you to the **local campaign offices** who graciously gave us space at the September Art Walk for our Pink Prelude to Auburn’s Breast Cancer Awareness Month. I’ll tell you more about other events in just a moment.

Congratulations to the Lewiston-Auburn Railroad Company for the successful completion of your project. It was nice to hear David Bernhardt, Commissioner, Maine Department of Transportation speak about our region.

Dates to watch- In addition to the Recreation Advisory and the LAWPC meetings I mentioned earlier, I invite you to fully participate in Auburn’s recognition of **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**. Many local businesses and organizations are displaying pink ribbons and repeating the important message- Early Detection is the Best Cure. Here are just few-

Auburn Public Works Department- All vehicles have a pink ribbon decal and the crew wears special pink shirts on Fridays.

Auburn Fire Department- Has pink shirt uniforms as well.

Auburn Sewerage and Auburn Water Districts will use pink paper for the Trustee materials this month.

Central Maine Orthopedics has pink planned at their practice.

Maine Chocolate Gourmet not only has pink ribbon chocolates but will be displaying pink ribbons during the month.

The **Lake Auburn Community Center (LACC)** has the pink ribbon bridge for all to cross and pick up information. Any donations will be given for Breast Cancer patient care.

As Elaine R. Hemenway of **Payroll Management, Inc.** said “Wearing Pink is not difficult”. Her company will be providing education materials to staff encouraging good breast health.

Several groups are combining the Pink Ribbon message with other good works:

Alan Manioan, **Auburn’s Economic Development Specialist**, will be giving talks on the St. Louis Bells history and acquisition at Pink Ribbon Talks. Mark your calendar for October 30th.

Lynne Richard, **Outreach Education Coordinator for LAWPC**, will present at a Pink Ribbon Social here at Auburn City Hall on October 22nd.

4 Seasons Farm Stand has a unique display of Pink Ribbon items which can be yours for a donation to the Marshall Popcorn Restoration project. Be sure to stop by and pick up some educational materials as well.

If your organization is spreading the Pink Ribbon Message- I’d like to share this news, so please email me with the details.

Visiting Hours- My visiting hours for October will be Tuesday, October 14th from 2-4pm and Thursday, October 23rd from 5-7pm. Visiting hours are held at the Auburn Public Library. Please stop by so I may give you a pink ribbon reminder.

Remember to Vote Tuesday November 4th- and to help you the Secretary of State is continuing the Vote in Honor of a Veteran. A signature part of the Vote in Honor of a Veteran program includes a free button that citizens can order from the Office of the Secretary of State that can be personalized with the name of the veteran they wish to honor. Maine voters can order a button on the Secretary of State's website at http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/voter_info/veteran/order.html or they can call (207) 626-8400 for more information. I've been proudly wearing one honoring my Dad each voting day for several years.

Public Health Committee- has asked me to share a notice of The Marijuana Educational Forum scheduled for October 28th at 6:30 p.m. at the Lewiston Middle School Auditorium. The Public is encouraged to attend.

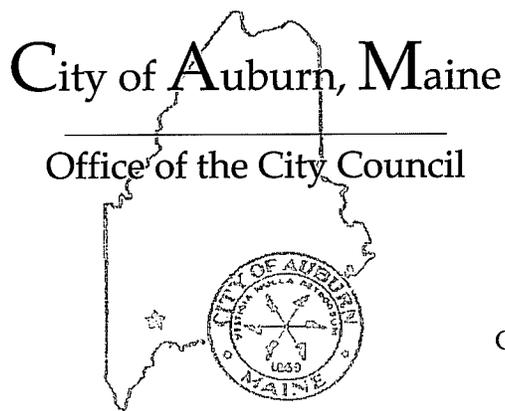
In just a couple months we will be back in budget process. We cannot create financial stability by focusing on expenses. Every business knows it's best to increase revenue by a small percent than to try and cut costs in double digits. Let's take time, before we begin, to decide how we are going to increase revenue- it cannot be from property taxes. We need to grow our tax base. To accomplish this goal, we have to have a plan. I believe we need to focus on small businesses- help them grow and add a couple new jobs. We need to improve our neighborhoods and demonstrate our community is a great place to live and play. We need a plan. We need action steps and measurable results. If not, we will not have a stable financial forecast.



National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM) celebrated its 30th anniversary. Since its inception, NBCAM has been at the forefront of promoting awareness of breast cancer issues and has evolved along with the national dialogue on breast cancer. Today, NBCAM recognizes that although many great strides have been made in breast cancer awareness and treatment, there remains much to be accomplished. As Auburn residents, who care about the people in our community, we must remain dedicated to educating and empowering women to take charge of their own breast health by practicing regular self-breast exams to identify any changes, scheduling regular visits and annual mammograms with their healthcare provider, adhering to prescribed treatment and knowing the facts about recurrence.

Thank you for your attention.

I'm requesting a copy of this report be included in the supplemental materials for this meeting



October 6, 2014

Paul Gosselin
Executive Director
United Ambulance Service
192 Russell Street
Lewiston, ME 04240

Susan Keiler
Chief Operating Officer
St. Mary's Regional Medical Center
93 Campus Avenue
Lewiston, ME 04240

Tina Legere
President
Central Maine Medical Center
300 Main Street
Lewiston, ME 04240

Dear Paul, Susan and Tina:

The Auburn City Council has reviewed Paul Gosselin's September 16 correspondence to Auburn City Manager Clint Deschene, and has unanimously voted to communicate its strong opposition to United Ambulance Service's refusal to transfer calls for emergency medical services (EMS) in the City of Auburn to LA 9-1-1. Despite Paul's suggestion that this position is motivated by concerns related to patient care, the City believes that UAS's refusal to transfer EMS calls within the City of Auburn to 9-1-1 presents a substantial threat to public safety and patient care in the City of Auburn. We request that you meet with representatives of the City as soon as possible to discuss these concerns.

When the Auburn Fire Department's EMS transport service is launched within the next several weeks, at the direction of the Auburn City Council, the Auburn Fire Department will be responsible for providing EMS transport service within the City of Auburn. For this reason, the City has requested UAS to channel all Auburn EMS calls through LA 9-1-1 so that these calls will be routed according to protocols determined by the Auburn Fire Department. L-A 9-1-1 is the established Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for the City of Auburn under Maine law. The protocols will provide that EMS calls within the City of Auburn are to be dispatched for emergency response by the Auburn Fire Department, unless Auburn Fire

Department ambulances are committed to other responses. If Auburn Fire Department ambulances are committed to other responses, then LA 911 will dispatch those calls for response by UAS or another EMS provider.¹

UAS's refusal to route Auburn EMS calls to LA 9-1-1 creates significant risks to public health and safety. Under current practice, UAS forwards all emergency medical calls received through UAS's 10-digit number to LA 9-1-1, so that LA 9-1-1 can process the calls and also dispatch the Auburn Fire Department for non-transporting emergency response. In many cases, Auburn Fire Department paramedics currently are the first emergency medical responders on the scene, as they often arrive before UAS vehicles and immediately begin to initiate medical assistance.

The City understands that UAS will no longer be forwarding emergency medical calls within the City of Auburn to LA 9-1-1, in order to prevent the City of Auburn from dispatching its own EMS responders to the scene. This break from current practice will prevent the Auburn Fire Department from responding to many calls that it currently sends first responders to. The inevitable result will be a decline in the effectiveness and timeliness of the emergency response. This will have a negative impact on public safety and patient care.

The City also understands that UAS is actively promoting its own 10-digit telephone number as an emergency number in order to prevent these emergency medical calls from going through LA 9-1-1 and being dispatched to the Auburn Fire Department for response. On the UAS website and in UAS advertisements, a UAS 10-digit number is listed before 9-1-1 as the proper emergency number to use. The City believes this practice is irresponsible and inconsistent with the federal Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999, which formally acknowledged 9-1-1 as the universal emergency telephone number for wireless and 'wireline' telephones across the United States. This practice also is contrary to Maine law, which states, "The primary telephone number to be used in a telephone exchange to request emergency services following the activation of E-9-1-1 services for that exchange, including the number for telecommunications devices for communication for the deaf, hard-of-hearing and speech-impaired, is 9-1-1." 25 M.R.S. §2932.

UAS's actions in promoting and using its own 10-digit number as an emergency number compromise public safety because a caller who calls a ten-digit number unknowingly forfeits his or her right to be found and possibly saved. Calls to 9-1-1 carry with them vital location information that displays the caller's telephone number, name, and either the location of a cellular device from which the call generated or the physical address associated with a 'wireline' (a traditional phone plugged into a phone jack). That embedded information is only delivered to designated 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points, of which there are 26 in Maine, including LA 9-1-1. Because UAS is not one of the 26 PSAP's in Maine, that vital location

¹Maine law specifically grants municipalities authority to operate a public ambulance service to provide emergency medical services to its residents. 30-A M.R.S. §5725 ("A municipality may raise or appropriate money to...[p]rovide for public ambulances and garages for them, or support an ambulance service serving its residents"); see Ace Ambulance Service, Inc. v. City of Augusta, 337 A.2d 661, 664 (Me. 1975) ("furnishing of ambulance service is a proper public purpose," and "in view of its critical nature and the uncertainties of the future, municipalities [are] free to decide whether their particular circumstances make it appropriate for them to assume a responsibility for furnishing it.") Consistent with this statute, the City of Auburn has provided by ordinance that its "fire department or its designee shall be responsible for providing emergency medical services" within the City of Auburn. Auburn Code of Ordinances, at §20-31. In regard to Paul's assertion that the City's decision to use its own Fire Department to provide EMS response within the City of Auburn would represent an unlawful restraint of trade, the City understands that similar claims have been rejected by courts in other jurisdictions. The City also believes that there is no basis for Paul's assertion that Medicare patients are entitled to a free choice of EMS providers when placing emergency calls.

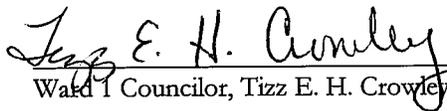
information is not delivered to or received by UAS call takers when callers dial the ten-digit number promoted by UAS.

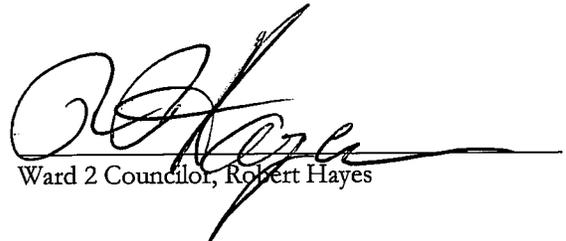
It is common that individuals placing calls for emergency medical response become increasingly incapacitated as they decide whether or not to call for assistance. As they come to terms with the idea that they are indeed in distress, a person who has been advised to call a ten-digit number may misdial that number (which is the very reason that a simple three-digit number was created in the first place) and once answered be incapable of verbally communicating. Victims suffering from strokes, heart attacks, seizures and asthma often are unable to speak, and patients with memory-based disorders often are unable to remember their current address. In addition, callers who use someone's pre-programmed 'emergency' speed dial button may not know their exact address. Simply put, callers to the UAS-promoted 10-digit number are far less likely to be located and saved than callers to 9-1-1.

Despite UAS's claims that its actions are motivated by patient care concerns, the exact opposite is true. By refusing to channel EMS calls within the City of Auburn to 9-1-1 to allow the Auburn Fire Department to respond to those calls, and by actively promoting a 10-digit telephone number as an emergency number in order to encourage residents to bypass 9-1-1, UAS is threatening both patient care and public safety. This is especially troubling because UAS is a non-profit corporation that is exempt from taxation under state, federal and local law. The actions of UAS are not consistent with the values that the public has the right to expect from a tax-exempt charitable organization.

The City of Auburn is hopeful that UAS, and the hospitals that control it, will reconsider these ill-advised actions and work cooperatively with the City to ensure and protect the public safety of the citizens of Auburn. The City requests that the three of you meet as soon as possible with City representatives, including City Manager Deschene and Fire Chief Frank Roma, to address these critically important concerns.

Sincerely,


Ward 1 Councilor, Tizz E. H. Crowley

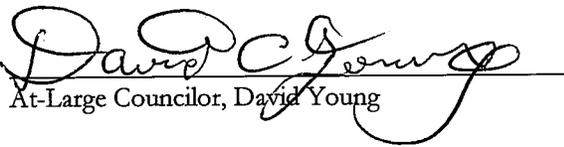

Ward 2 Councilor, Robert Hayes

Ward 3 Councilor, Mary LaFontaine

Ward 4 Councilor, Adam Lee

Ward 5 Councilor, Leroy Walker


At-Large Councilor, Belinda Gerry


At-Large Councilor, David Young


Mayor Jonathan LaBonte

cc: Joanne LeBrun, Tri County EMS Coordinator
Maine Emergency Services Communications Bureau
Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services