



TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Denis D'Auteuil, Acting City Manager
RE: Weekly Report
DATE: Week Ending January 27, 2017

Assessing

- October deeds and Declarations of Value have been loaded and proofed. Staff has begun loading the November deeds and Declarations of Value. December deeds have not been received.
- Staff has been out in the field working on permit inspections. In addition they have been accompanying Mark Stambach on his inspections of completed new construction for issuance of certificate of occupancies. When both the Code Enforcement and Assessing staff are able to do their inspections at the same time it is a lesser inconvenience for the homeowner.
- January 26, 2017 is the abatement deadline for the 2016 tax year. As of today we have one pending residential abatement application and three pending commercial abatement applications for the 2016 tax year.
- Cell tower ownership has historically been very difficult to track due to companies changing corporate names and merges between one or more companies. Often the Assessing Department does not get notification of the name change until the tax bills go out and the company calls to make the correction. In an attempt to make sure the correct real estate ownership is listed in the property records as well as ownership of the personal property located at the sites, staff has been working on verifying this information for sites throughout the City. We currently have nineteen sites listed in the database. Letters have been sent to each of the owners currently listed on the Assessing records requesting verification of ownership, location of each tower, number of antennas, ownership of the antennas and ownership of the supporting equipment at each site. To date four responses have been received.

Auburn Public Library

- The Origami USA exhibit is on display in the Children's Room until March 15th. Please stop by to see the incredible art work from children across the country.
- The Library will be participating in this year's Winter Festival. It should be a good weekend for both indoor (storytime and movie) and outdoor activities.

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- The annual Indoor Farmer's Market will be Friday, Feb. 24th, from 4:30 – 6:30 PM. There will be live animals as well as agricultural crafts, local produce and more! A current list of vendors can be found on the Library's Facebook page.
- Café LA has closed permanently. The Library is actively working to fill the space.
- The Library was closed on Tues., Jan. 24th, due to inclement weather.
- The Board of Trustees held their postponed monthly meeting on Weds., 1/25. Items discussed included this year's June online auction and the closure of Café LA.
- The Library's leadership team met for its regular monthly meeting on Weds., 1/25. Agenda items included budget preparation, upcoming programs, and summer reading plans.
- The Teen Librarian attended a meeting of the MELMAC Grant committee. The program through the Edward Little guidance department seeks to raise the aspirations of students to attend post graduate programs. She is also working with the high school librarian to establish a joint teen advisory board. It is hoped that their efforts will bring more teens into both libraries.
- Upcoming programs include:
 - KIDS! Read to a Dog | Thursday, February 2 | 5:00 – 6:00 PM | Join Susan Farrell and her dog Addie. Kids can practice their reading skills while reading to Addie and make a new friend! Please call the library at 333-6640 ext.3 to register for your 15 minute appointment.
 - Making Refuge: Somali Bantu Refugees and Lewiston, ME | Thursday, February 2 | 6:00 – 7:30 PM | The Auburn Public Library welcomes Catherine Besteman, author of "Making Refuge: Somali Bantu Refugees and Lewiston, ME." In "Making Refuge," Besteman follows the trajectory of Somali Bantus from their homes in Somalia before the onset of Somalia's civil war in 1991, to their displacement to Kenyan refugee camps, to their relocation in cities across the United States, to their settlement in Lewiston. Sponsored by the Camden Conference.
 - Teens! Friday Movie: Pretty in Pink (PG-13) | Friday, February 3 | 3:00 – 5:00 PM | February brings us Valentine's Day and the teens have requested "Pretty in Pink." The movie is a 1986 comedy drama starring Molly Ringwald as Andie Walsh, a teenager who lives on the "dingy" side of town. When she falls for rich boy Blaine (Andrew McCarthy), she realizes her best friend Duckie (Jon Cryer) is madly in love with her. With whom will she end up? Join us for this fun movie! This program is just for teens, ages 12-18, and will include a snack!
 - Auburn Page Turners Book Discussion | Monday, February 6 | 12:30 – 1:30 PM | This is a discussion of "City of Thorns: Nine Lives in the World's Largest Refugee Camp." Situated hundreds of miles from any other settlement, deep within the inhospitable desert of northern Kenya where only thorn bushes grow, Dadaab is a city like no other. Its buildings are made from mud, sticks or plastic, its entire economy is grey, and its citizens survive on rations and luck. Over the course of four years, Ben Rawlence became a first-hand witness to a strange and desperate limbo-land, getting to know many of those who have come there seeking sanctuary. This event is sponsored by the Camden Conference.

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- Multi-Faith Discussion | Tuesday, February 7 | 12:30 – 1:30 PM | The Auburn Public Library concludes its popular Multi-Faith Roundtable discussions. Once again, this lively yet friendly discussion will be between some of the area's leading Clergy who also serve as Chaplains for the Auburn Police Department: Rabbi Sruli Dresdner of Temple Shalom, Pastor Roger Cousineau of East Auburn Baptist Church, Rev. Doctor Jody Cohen Hayashida of First Universalist Church in New Auburn, and Pastor Richard Waller of the Auburn Church of the Nazarene. Copies of the texts will be provided and the audience will have an opportunity to ask questions.
- Follow the Library on [Facebook](#) or link to our website at www.auburnpubliclibrary.org for more information about all of our programs, new books, library news, and online registration.

City Clerk

- Staff issued the following:
 - 20 birth certificates
 - 37 death certificates
 - 8 marriage certificates
 - 0 marriage license
 - 8 burial permits
 - 7 taxi driver licenses
 - 0 Taxi Cab License
 - 3 business licenses (all renewals)
- Received 3 business license applications
- Attended the 1/23/2017 Council Meeting
- Worked on the minutes of the 1/23/2017 Council Meeting and the draft agenda for the 2/6/2017 meeting
- Nomination papers for the Ward 4 City Council seat are still available (to date, still only one person has taken out papers)
- We are still accepting applications for several board and committee seats that are vacant – the application deadline for this round of appointments is January 27, 2017
- Staff attended Safety training on Wednesday, January 25th
- Data, Research, and Vital Statistics is in the process of implementing the Electronic Marriage Registration System (EMRS). Once all Clerk's, Deputy Clerk's and Assistant Clerk's are trained, we will begin issuing marriage licenses from the EMRS. The City Clerk attended the training on Thursday, January 26th. DRVS anticipates full deployment of the EMRS by July of 2017.

Economic and Community Development

- Meetings between Lewiston and Auburn have begun as we anticipate the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the next Lead Hazard Control Grant. The NOFA was scheduled to be released in January but the incoming administration has delayed the process. We will be eligible to apply for up to \$3 million dollars in funding.
- The Bridges Out of Poverty Steering Committee has resumed their monthly meetings. This is a regional group with the common goal of ending generational poverty.

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- Staff met with three Auburn based businesses considering expanding and/or relocating their successful businesses.
- Taco Bell's tentative opening date is February 6Th (we will confirm this next Monday) and Krispy Kreme is still projecting opening sometime in May.
- The Chinese government recently tightened the restrictions on money being transferred out of China. The two current projects (Miracle and Prospect Hill) will be experiencing different impacts; both projects are still moving forward. We will be hosting more foreign investors in May.
- The new Aroma Joes' at 166 Center Street is planning on a soft opening in February.
- Staff attended the Maine Real Estate & Development Association annual forecast conference in Portland on January 19th and came away with a positive outlook on development trends for the LA area and numerous ideas on how to better market Auburn.
- Staff held a field review of 88 Newbury Street for a possible community garden.
- The Urban Development Coordinator attended a New Auburn Neighborhood Watch meeting and presented CDBG grant information and a New Auburn Redevelopment update.
- The Urban Development Coordinator and Economic Development Staff hosted a second Saint Louis Bells meeting on Friday, January 27 with the goal of getting more public feedback and to present a proposal for CMCC Architecture and Civil Engineering students help with the design and site selection of the Saint Louis Bells.
- Staff worked to help get licenses in place for L/A Arts and Winterfest food and drinks.
- Staff is working with a deer farmer on a potential location in Auburn.
- The structures at 741 Broad Street should be completely removed over the weekend.
- Staff is working on an RFP and deed reviews of two Downtown Target Area Parcels for the first CC Meeting in February. There is development interest in one of them already.
- Staff is participating in the Gulf Island Dam failure response planning and finishing up CRS Floodplain reporting.
- The State moratorium on Recreational Marijuana sales and commercial production was passed by legislators Thursday. This will give us until February 1, 2018 to participate in State rulemaking and address any local concerns if the Governor signs it.
- The former Spurwink School facility will be adding to the residential care component and reducing the educational use space on Danville Corner Road. A \$1,200,000 renovation is planned.
- Planning Board applications and renewals are due today and it looks like we will have a full complement of applications to fill the Board with renewals and new applicants.

Fire

- Crews responded to 3 fire calls during this time period.
- Crews responded with the Rescue Boat for a potential jumper from the Longley Bridge. The boat was launched and stood by until the jumper was convinced to comeback over the railing by APD. Subject was transported to the hospital.
- Staff performed several follow up inspections, site inspections and met with a potential new business owner.

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- Electricians completed work on the light upgrade for Central Station.
- Crews attended training on Cardiac Emergencies.
- Crews attended the annual BLS/OSHA refresher training.
- Crews did Ice Rescue refresher training.
- Crews performed 9 inspections, 3 of which were for licenses.
- For the week of January 19th to January 25th, we responded to 86 calls for service. These include, but are not limited to: 3 fire calls, 1 Swift Water Rescue call, 56 Emergency Medical calls, 10 Motor Vehicle Accidents - 2 with injuries, 4 Hazardous Condition calls, 6 Service calls, and 5 fire alarm calls. We received 0 mutual aid responses during this period and we provided 0 mutual aid responses. We provided 2 Paramedic intercept during this time and responded to Lewiston for 1 patient for UAS.

IT

- GIS staff created a template that will provide an easy way to create individual pdf files for specific parcels. This is useful for staff use, as well as for requests from realtors and citizens. We will ask several departments to review the template, and then may consider creating a pdf 'library' of maps for each parcel that can be linked to a MapAuburn download.
- Staff created the first abutter list using apartment data received from the Maine Office of GIS (data source USPS). Currently, we do not have an automated procedure for accessing this data, so it has been added to our To Do list.
- Staff met with faculty from Bates College to discuss ways that their students can work with us on several potential projects. We are considering a GIS project that will explore land use.
- GFTV staff recorded the regular Council meeting, and the Consolidation Commission meeting at the Franco Center. Staff continue to work with School staff on the studio deployment. The Council meeting is available on the video archive and on the City's YouTube channel, and the Consolidation meetings is available on the archive.
- Staff took advantage of the weather-related building closure on Tuesday to make some UPS updates to the server room. This should put an end to the beeping alarm that was so clearly audible in the Patrol area. We were also able to update several pieces of software, since no staff were using them. Staff did inadvertently (and embarrassingly) set off the building burglar alarm, which APD had activated due to the building closure. I tried to disarm it, under pressure, but put in my code for the Monmouth Fish & Game, instead of the Auburn Hall one. That didn't work out well.

NSBA

- Ice
 - Men's League
 - Women's League
 - Public Skate
 - Private Rentals
 - Central Maine Elite League
 - High School Practices & Games

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- SMMHL
- Maine Gladiators practices & Games
- L/A Seniors
- Marc's Meetings
 - Jeremy Gatcomb - Signage for Ingersoll
 - Michael Broadbent - Auburn Water & Sewerage District
 - Mike Berube
- Partnerships
 - Pratt & Sons – New partner
 - Republic Jewelry – In consideration
 - Mount Auburn Dental – Renewed for 16-17

- Jason Ops Tasks
 - Ice Maintenance
 - Building Maintenance
 - Olympia Maintenance
 - Ice Scheduling
 - Gladiator's Ice Scheduling
 - Staff Scheduling
 - Michael Broadbent ~ Auburn Water & Sewerage District

Police

- The department handled 501 calls for service this week.
- Officers conducted 139 motor vehicle stops.
- Officers investigated 69 offenses of which, 6 of which were felonies, generating 14 arrests, 26 criminal summonses and 4 juvenile arrests.
- Officers responded to 38 motor vehicle crashes.

Public Services

- Public Services crews worked a 16-hour shift during this week's past ice/rain/slush storm
- Crews are working hard in assisting the Recreation Department in this weekend's annual Winter Festival;. Crews are building a snow fort downtown, clearing snow at Festival Plaza for the farm animals as well as other behind the scene preparations.
- In-house, work continues on tire chains, mailboxes and other items in need of repair
Crews were out cold patching potholes around the city.
- Snow removal continues around the City in the priority areas
- Crews continue to try and keep up on sanding and clearing City sidewalks. The changing weather between rain and snow, as well as temperature changes, vehicle breakdowns, has made it difficult for crews to keep up.
- Sign work around the city continues; replacing and or fixing faded and damaged signs by the new regulations.
- Public Services still receives calls to pick up road debris as well as dead animals.
- The Engineering Technician/GIS has been working with IT on a geodatabase for the collector application.

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- This week our mechanics and welder crew worked on transmissions, replacing clutch's, PTO clutch, changed out a tire on the Fire Dept Rescue Truck as well as replaced a valve on the Fire Departments 316 plow; performed five road calls and three state inspections as well as ten preventative maintenance on our equipment. Also, fabricated an electrical box as well as a new calcium tank mount. Lastly, to be cost effective our mechanic will rebuild the engine in #50 the sweeper in time for spring street sweeping.
- The tree crew along with others continue to remove Christmas lights and decorations weather permitting.
- Staff attended an Emergency response training at City Hall
- Engineering staff are reviewing the General Consulting RFQs. The Hampshire Street Reconstruction Project will be out in a couple of weeks and Lake Street is being surveyed.

Recreation

Changes/Updates:

- Winter Festival is this weekend!!
- NEW – Thursday Men's Slow Pitch Softball Draft League, \$70 per player, 6 team max. Registration is open now.
- New – 3v3 Basketball Spring Fling Tourney, Men's Fastbreak, Men's Slowdown, Women's open, and Grades 6-8. Sat. March 4th \$75 per team. 3 game minimum games are to 15 points or 15 min (whichever comes first).

Ongoing Programs:

- AARP Tax Prep will be using a section of the Hasty Building for tax prep starting in February.
- Renovations to the Hasty Building are in full swing and seem to have minimal impact on current programming.
- Summer Camp Financial Aid Packets are ready for pick-up, deadline is March 10th.
- Youth Ski Lessons with Lost Valley we have 6 participants.
- After School Ski Club will be combined with the Merrick Ski Program we have 54 participants.
- Indoor Soccer we have; 10 signed up for ages 3-5, 8 signed up for ages 6-9, and 6 signed up for ages 10-14.
- Senior Walking happens every Tues/Thurs in the Ingersoll Turf Facility from 9am-10am.
- Afterschool Open Gym running Jan 5 – April 28 on Mon/Thurs/Fri from 230-4pm for grades 7-12 at the Hasty Gym for \$1 each day. Now offering a year pass for \$20. Averaging around 15 kids a day.
- Pickelball drop-in– every Tues/Thurs from 9am-11am, \$2 for residents \$3 for non-residents. Beginners are welcomed, we have 3 courts running and average around 15-25 per day. Now offering a punch card for frequent users!
- Youth Basketball we are in our 5th week 7. 1-2 grade we have 4 teams for 40 players. 3-4 grade we have 6 teams for 47 players. 5-6 grade we have 8 teams for 42 players. 7-8 grade we 9 teams for have 42 players. For High School we have 7 teams for 61 players. Total of 32 teams for 232 players!
- Pre-K and Kinder Basketball Skills and Drills we have 15 for session 2 starting Jan 22.

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- Men's A Basketball League – We are in week 7, we have 12 teams playing on Sunday afternoons.
- Men's B Basketball League – We are in week 8, we have 9 teams playing on Mon/Tues nights.
- Men's C Basketball League – We are in week 8, we have 7 teams playing on Wednesday nights.
- Women's League – We are in week 7, we have 7 teams playing on Thursday nights.

Ending Programs:

- Kids Yoga – cancelled due to low enrollment.

Special Projects/Events:

- Winterfest will be held on January 27, 28, and 29 with a variety of activities including; ice sculpture, ice skating in Festival Plaza, Snow mountain in downtown, skiing and sledding at Lost Valley, Baxter 10k, L/A Arts Exhibit, Movies at the Library, Bunco at WLU, Ice Bar tent with live music from Skosh, and FIREWORKS!!
- Spring Celebration Sat. April 15 from 10am-12pm at Hasty Community Center. This is a free event for families with games, arts and crafts, and Egg-Stravaganza.
- Rec to Rec 5K – from Lewiston Rec to Auburn Rec this 5K **DATE IS TBA** and include a family walk at 930am, run will begin 10am. Family walk \$25 for family of 4 (additional \$5 per person). Timed Run \$35 per person (\$10 off if register before March 31) (\$40 on day of race).

Upcoming Programs:

Youth Programs –

- Father/Daughter Dance "Under the Sea" Sat. Feb 18 from 6-9pm at Hasty Community Center. \$15 per person (\$30 per couple).
- February Vacation Camp from Feb 20-24 for grades K-6 at the Hasty Community Center. Cost will be \$80 for the week/\$25 per day from 730am-530pm.
- Spring Travel Basketball – co sponsored with L/A Swish Evaluation day will be Feb 20th time TBA. Games on Weekends, cost \$200 with fundraising opportunities for BOYS grades 5-8th and Girls 3-4.
- April Vacation Camp from April 17-21 for grades K-6 at the Hasty Community Center. Cost will be \$80 for the week/\$25 per day from 730am-530pm.
- Youth Lacrosse – grades 3-6, practices during the week, games on weekends. Cost is \$60 player we will start indoor practices April 10th. Equipment is needed for this program, mandatory parent meeting on March 6th for more info.
- Middle School LAX – Practices during the week, games during the week home and away from Late April to Mid-June. \$80 per player, practices will begin April 10th indoors.

Senior Programs

- Valentine's Luncheon – Spaghetti and meatball lunch with games and raffles on Thurs Feb 9 from 11am-2pm, Cost \$15 per person.
- Haven's Candy Factory and shopping at the Maine Mall – Thurs March 9 from 9am-4pm, Cost: \$5 per person (lunch on your own).
- Bermuda Cruise – May 5 – 12, We will transport you to Boston where you head out to the Bermuda Islands on the Norwegian Dawn. US Passport or Birth Certificate & Photo ID requires for international travel. \$1,123 per person for double room or \$2,246 for single.

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Family Programs

- Family Open Gym – Cost \$1 per person, designed for families with young children to come and run around, an adult must be present. Times vary each day, call or check Facebook for updates; Dec 22, 23, Jan 2, 4, 11, 18, 25, Feb 8, 15, March 8, 22, 29, April 12, 26.
- Parent & Me Learn to Cook Series Wed. 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 3/1, 3/8 at the PAL Center for grades K-6 from 12:30pm-1:30pm. Instructor Tom Poulin, cost is \$15 per person (\$30 for parent/child combo) for each date.

Adult Programs

- Adult Yoga – For beginners to learn the basics of yoga and relaxation Thursday Jan 19- Feb 16 from 5:15-6:15pm at the Hasty Community Center, Cost: \$60.
- Tai Chi – learn the basic of Tai Chi for all ages 16-80 Wed Jan 25 – Feb 22 from 9am-10am OR Thursday Jan 26 – Feb 23 from 7-8pm at the Hasty Community Center. Cost: \$40 for the 5 week session or \$10 drop in class rate.
- Men's Summer Basketball League – Fast Break league will be Mondays starting June 5 games vary from 5-10pm, rosters must be 18+ with 51% Auburn/Lewiston residents. Team cost \$675.
- Men's Summer Basketball League – Slow Down League will be Sundays starting June 4 game times vary from 3-9pm, rosters must be 18+ with 51% Auburn/Lewiston residents. Team cost \$575.
- Slow Pitch Softball – Men's League will offer three levels Lower (Mondays) , Middle (Wednesday), and Upper (Tuesday) division. Cost \$825 per team. More info will come out with rules and captains meeting in February.
- Slow Pitch Softball – COED league will offer three levels this year Minor, Middle, and Major Divisions. Games will be played on Sundays, team cost \$650.

Turf

Rentals:

- Coastal Field Hockey
- Androscoggin Youth Indoor Soccer Session 2
- Next Pitch & Prime 360 Baseball and Softball Training Session 2
- Middle School age soccer training
- Tiny Tonka Toddler soccer Wednesday Session 2
- Poland AAU Baseball training
- High School Girls Soccer Training continues
- Maine Rapids AAU Baseball Starts
- EL Indoor Track Practice
- Lady Her-ricanes AAU softball Starts
- Boys High School Lacrosse Training
- Cardio Sport Fitness Class
- Auburn Recreation Department Indoor Soccer Ends
- Bates ultimate Frisbee group
- 50 total hours used in batting cages
- Maine Raging Bulls Men's Football

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- One birthday party this weekend
- Working with Green Youth Softball for field and cage time

Advertising/Promotional Meetings:

- Meeting with Bedard Pharmacy
- Working with Paradie, Sherman, Walker & Worden
- Working with Modern Woodmen
- Talking with various businesses on potential partnerships

Leagues/Programs:

- Session 3 for Adult Co-Ed soccer
- Session 2 of the Boy's High School Soccer League
- Session 2 of Women's pick-up field hockey every Monday evening 7pm-8pm.
- Senior Citizen walking every Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00am-10:00am.
- Adult wiffle ball Playoffs
- Working with Bates College Women's Soccer on youth programming
- Met with EL Girls Lacrosse Coach on possible girls youth lacrosse program