

City of Sanford



**From the Desk of
Steven R. Buck
City Manager**



Memorandum

To: City Council
Subject: City Manager's Report for July 21st, 2015
Date: July 21st, 2015

State Inspection:

The State of Maine Department of Public Safety performed an annual audit today of the City's Police Department and Sanford Regional Communications Center (SRCC). The audit is to check that the records created and maintained by these Departments are compliant with and being managed according to the Maine Criminal Justice System records management laws pursuant to Title 16 Chapter 3 et al. I am pleased to report that both Departments met the requirements and passed the audits. The only request was for the SRCC to codify their currently implemented practices of the protection of access to records upon the discontinuance of employment.

Solar Array:

The City continues to work diligently on the development of a Solar Farm installation in Sanford. The City has explored several models, has worked for amendments to current State law restrictions, and has even had legislation sponsored for a Pilot Project that was unsuccessful in the last legislative session.

The City is now working with Ranger Solar towards a privately-funded utility scale project that may be sighted at the Sanford Seacoast Regional Airport. Details are pending, but we are finishing working our way through the FAA sighting restrictions and cost feasibility.

For a recent Article about Ranger Solar of Yarmouth and their ingenuity within Maine, please see the recent Article in the Portland Press Herald at : <http://www.pressherald.com/2015/07/21/winslow-ordinance-could-open-door-for-states-largest-solar-farm/>

School Construction:

On July 15th City Administration met with the Department of Education in Augusta with the Phase II Architectural Firm of Harriman Associates to scope the Feasibility Study of Sanford's existing school facilities. The result of the daylong session was to define the scope of services under this initial contract to conduct a facilities analysis focused on structural condition and

limitations, space analysis, and cost effectiveness of reassigned program needs. Options developed within this initial Feasibility Study will be reviewed prior to any initial engineering of final proposed solutions. The scope was further refined to focus on pre-K through 5 facilities with a centralized Middle School centered on the asset of the existing High School. This approach saves time, resources, and funds that will be preserved for a final design and construction.

The Feasibility Study will be finished by the end of December at which time it will be provided for State and local review.

The CBC I also met on July 16th further reviewing design elements of the New High School. Exterior and Interior design elements were reviewed and refined. The Committee also reviewed the status of permitting. Project Architect and Civil Engineers also met on a local code review and permitting initiation on July 20th. The New High School design remains on task with its very aggressive schedule as the Project will go to bid in January of 2016.

Parking:

Administration continues to meet with representatives of Downtown businesses to measure the outcomes of the recently amended Lower Mid-Town Mall Parking Ordinance Exhibit A. After the installation of the 2-hour parking the availability of short term parking in the appropriate areas has been documented. Further work has also been conducted with the Manager of the Northland Building/Sanford Mill. The Manager of the facility has the ability to communicate with the buildings residential and commercial tenants. Our recent communications focused on the residential clients making full advantage of the 32 center two lanes of parking in the Lower Mid-Town Mall, business patrons using the 2-hour spaces, and for the employees of the commercial tenants to make better use of available long term parking in the Upper Mid-Town Mall parking lots. Administration in conjunction with the Police Department will continue to monitor the parking situation with a commitment to the businesses to make recommendations to the City Council as may be required to amend in the future, if needed.

Items in Brief:

Administration is also working on the following areas for future consideration:

1. Downtown Parking Plan with the possible inclusion of parking kiosks
2. Storm Water Management amendments to prevent Sanford from becoming Tier 4 Designation
3. Traffic Section of the Comprehensive Plan to include the analysis of the Traffic Impact Fees and future recommendations
4. Traffic Signal Upgrades for all of Sanford – MDOT Project currently under design
5. Major Road Projects on Cottage Street and School Streets – bids pending for further in-town streets
6. Addressing Abandoned Properties pursuant to the recently enacted State legislation
7. Expansion of the Fleet Management Program to the Airport Division
8. Parks and Recreational priorities and improvements
9. Ambulance Bad Debt Policy and Financial Assistance Policy