

City of Biddeford
City Council
November 15, 2022 6:00 PM Council Chambers and via Zoom

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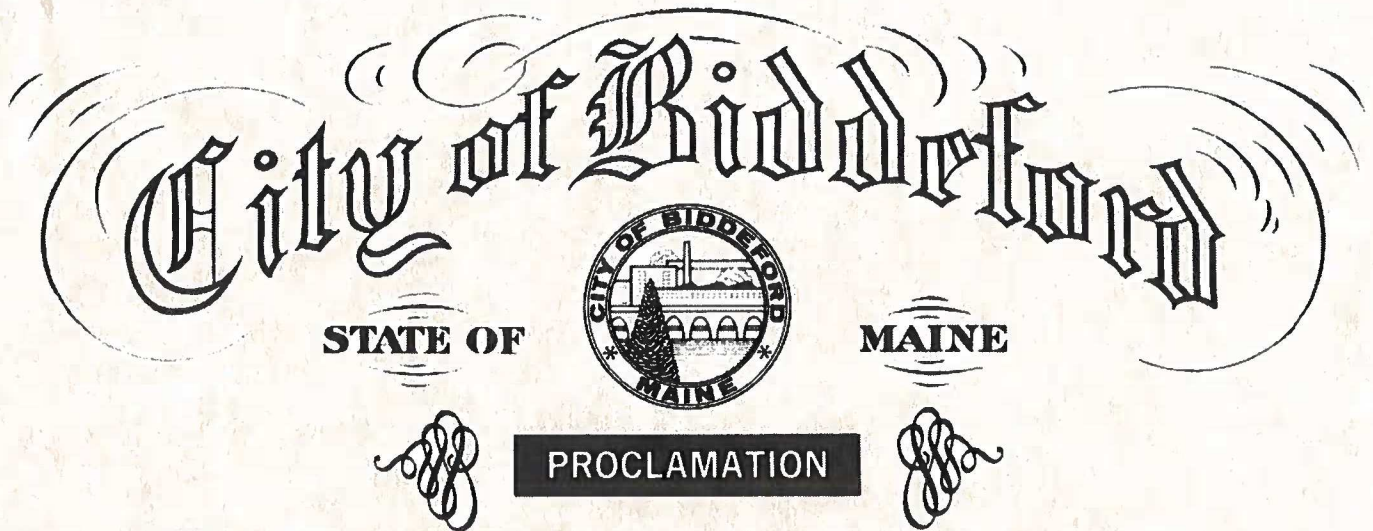
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Status: In-Person and via Zoom; Council Chambers; 6:00 p.m.

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Adjustment(s) to Agenda**
- 4. Proclamation:**
 - 4a. November 26, 2022 as Small Business Saturday
[20221115 -Small Business Saturday-PROCLAMATION](#)
- 5. Presentation:**
 - 5a. Summary Report of Ward Meetings -Abigail Smallwood
[20221115 Ward Meetings Report - MEMO](#)
[20221115 Ward Meetings Report](#)
[Ward Meeting - Entry Survey Results](#)
[Ward Meeting - Exit Survey Results](#)
[Ward 1 Report](#)
[Ward 2 Report](#)
[Ward 3 Report](#)
[Ward 4 Report](#)
[Ward 5 Report](#)
[Ward 6 Report](#)
[Ward 7 Report](#)

- [20221115 Biddeford Ward Meetings](#)
- 5b. School Building Plans Presentation - Jeremy Ray, Superintendent of Schools
[20221115 Council Presentation - School Program Building Expansion](#)
- 6. Public Addressing the Council...(3 minute limit per speaker for up to a total of 15 minutes)**
- 7. Consideration of Minutes:**
- 7a. November 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes
[2022111 City Council Meeting Minutes](#)
- 8. Public Hearing - FY23 General Assistance Maximums**
- 8a. Public Hearing -FY23 GA Maximums
[20221115 GA Appendices Adoption Form](#)
[2022-2023 GA Maximums-Overall-Appendix A](#)
[2022-2023 GA Maximums-Food-Appendix B](#)
[2022-2023 GA Maximums-Housing-Appendix C](#)
[2022-2023 GA Maximums-Summary Sheet-Appendix D, E, & F](#)
[2022-2023 GA Maximums-Mileage Rate-Appendix G](#)
[2022-2023 GA Maximums-Funerals-Appendix H](#)
- 9. Orders of the Day: (Public Comment - 3 minute limit)**
- 9a. 2022.95) Acceptance/General Assistance Maximums
[20221115 Acceptance of FY23 General Assistance Maximums - ORDER](#)
[20221115 - FY23 General Assistance Maximums - MEMO](#)
[20221115 FY23 GA Maximums Appendices Adoption Form](#)
[2022-2023 GA Maximums-Overall-Appendix A](#)
[2022-2023 GA Maximums-Food-Appendix B](#)
[2022-2023 GA Maximums-Housing-Appendix C](#)
[2022-2023 GA Maximums-Summary Sheet-Appendix D, E, & F](#)
[2022-2023 GA Maximums-Mileage Rate-Appendix G](#)
[2022-2023 GA Maximums-Funerals-Appendix H](#)
- 9b. 2022.96) Approval/Municipal Airport Consultant Agreement with Gale Associates Inc.
[20221115 Airport Consultant-Gale Associates-ORDER](#)
[20221115 Airport Agreement-MEMO](#)
- 9c. 2022.97) Approval/City Council Blanket Letter of Approval-Gaming License
[20221115 Blanket Letter of Approval-Gaming Licenses-ORDER](#)
[20221115 Council Letter of Approval-Gaming Licenses-LETTER](#)
- 9d. 2022.98) Amendment/CH. 30, Public Safety, Article III FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU, Section 30-147, Fire Lanes
[20221115 Amend/CH 30, Sec. 30-147 Fire Lanes - ORDER](#)
[20221115 Amend/CH 30, Sec 30-147 Fire Lanes - MEMO](#)
- 10. Appointments: (No Public Comment)**
- 10a. Kristy Cyr...Confirmation of Mayor's nomination for City Clerk
[20221115 Kristy Cyr -Offer Letter for Appointment as City Clerk](#)
- 10b. Julian Schlaver....Downtown Development Commission
[20221115 - Application/Julian Schlaver-Downtown Development Commission](#)
- 10c. Community Members....SMPDC General Assembly
[20221115 SMPDC General Assembly Informational Handout](#)

- 11. Public Addressing the Council..(5 minute limit per speaker; 30 minute total time limit)**
- 12. City Manager Report: (James Bennett)**
- 13. Other Business: (Councilors' Comments; Updates; Announcements)**
- 14. Council President Addressing the Council: (Councilor Norman Belanger)**
- 15. Mayor Addressing the Council: (Mayor Alan Casavant)**
- 16. Adjourn**



Whereas the government of Biddeford, Maine celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are 32.5 million small businesses in the United States, they represent 99.7% of firms with paid employees, and they are responsible for 62% of net new jobs created since 1995, and small businesses employ 46.8% of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and

WHEREAS, 79% of consumers understand the importance of supporting the small businesses in their community on Small Business Saturday®, 70% report the day makes them want to encourage others to Shop Small®, independently-owned retailers, and 66% report that the day makes them want to Shop Small all year long; and

WHEREAS, 58% of shoppers reported they shopped online with a small business and 54% reported they dined or ordered takeout from a small restaurant, bar, or café on Small Business Saturday in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Biddeford supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy, and preserve our communities; and

WHEREAS, advocacy groups, as well as public and private organizations, across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Alan Casavant, Mayor of the City of Biddeford, do hereby proclaim, November 26, 2022, as: **SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY** and urge the residents of our community, and communities across the country, to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

*In Witness Whereof, We, the undersigned, have herewith
affixed our signatures this 15th day of November 2022*

City Clerk



Alan Casavant

Mayor



City Council

Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 15

Meeting Time: 6:00 PM

Agenda Item No:

Item Description: Presentation: Ward Meetings Report

Submitted by: Abigail Smallwood, Community Development Coordinator

Supporting Information/Documentation:

See attached document.

Key Terms:

- CDBG – Community Development Block Grant
- HUD – Department of Housing and Urban Development (source of CDBG funds)
- CAC – Citizens Advisory Committee

Executive Summary:

From September 29 to October 24, staff members and City Councilors held Ward meetings in each of the seven Wards. This report summarizes the discussion in those meetings, the feedback received from entry and exit surveys of attendees, and recommendations for next steps.

Detailed Review:

See attached document for full details.

Funding Source:

N/A

Staff Recommendation:

N/A

Ward Meetings Report

From September 29 to October 24, staff members and City Councilors held Ward meetings in each of the seven Wards. The idea originated with the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), which is the committee tasked with decision-making around Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Because HUD requires public participation in the process when deciding how to use CDBG funds, the CAC is working to expand public participation and engagement, particularly on the neighborhood level. Since the Wards are the most clearly defined geographic areas for the city, the Ward meetings were designed as a first step in outreach.

There were initially going to be neighborhood walks tied to these meetings, in order to share a neighborhood assessment survey developed by the CAC, but due to timing and further discussion on meeting goals and priorities, these were not held. The CAC and staff plan to conduct these separately in the future.

Ultimately, these goals were identified for the Ward Meetings further:

1. Sharing important citywide and Ward-specific information with attendees
2. Allowing attendees to share their concerns, questions, and ideas
3. Informing attendees how to stay involved in the future

Additionally, questions from the meetings were compiled and sent to Department Heads. Answers are being compiled and will be released as soon as possible. They will be posted on the city website and on the [Ward Meetings page](#) on Our Biddeford.

Attendance at the meetings ranged from 6 to 16, with an average of 9-10 attendees per meeting.

At each meeting, updates were given on the Comprehensive Plan, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and CDBG Consolidated Plan process, the Climate Action Plan cohort, and the new citizen engagement platform Our Biddeford, as well as any updates relevant to the specific Wards, which were typically related to public works, transportation, or development.

At the initial meeting, there were pre-set topics, but the conversation covered these topics as well as many others. Because of this, it was determined that a range of topics should be offered to attendees, with dedicated time spent to the top 2-3 topics, plus some time at the end for any items not covered. The topics were developed using the Comprehensive Plan table of contents:

- Local economic development
- Housing
- Transportation (walk/bike/transit and traffic/speed concerns)
- Public Works (trash/recycling, paving, plowing, etc)
- Public Safety (police and fire)
- Youth and Schools

- Recreation and Open Space
- Natural Resources
- Climate Change

The most frequently discussed topics were housing, transportation, and public works.

After the first meeting, an entry and exit survey were put together in order to get a general sense of what people were interested in, their current level of engagement with the city, and anything they would suggest for the future. There were 29 responses to the entry survey, and 24 responses to the exit survey. The full results are attached, but some key takeaways are as follows:

- People typically attended in order to get updates, engage on important issues, and meet their City Councilor.
- People most commonly get their information from the Biddeford Beat email newsletter, followed by Facebook, the Courier, and word of mouth.
- About 70% of respondents have attended a City Council meeting, and about 60% knew their City Councilor prior to the meeting.
- Most respondents (about 92%) found the meeting valuable, while the rest were unsure.
- Most respondents (about 96%) would attend another Ward Meeting, while the rest might attend.
- The biggest recommendation for improving the meetings was increasing outreach and attendance.

Summary of Comments

Each Ward has its own report, attached to this overall report, but these items were most frequently brought up across meetings:

- Rising cost of rent, especially new owners who raise rent significantly
- Interest in Affordable Housing Task Force recommendations, particularly around requirements for affordable housing in developments
- Concerns about how to address homelessness and housing insecurity
- Speeding issues
- Difficulty of navigating city website
- Interest in improvements around bike/pedestrian safety and access
- Bus line routes and connections
- Intersection of climate change / affordable housing / bike/pedestrian safety and infrastructure
- Expansion of Transfer Station hours

In general, attendees were glad these meetings were happening. Ideas on how to improve attendance can be found in the Communication and Recommendations sections.

Questions

As mentioned above, answers to these questions are being compiled.

General/Multiple Departments

- Can the breakwater be made more visible? (Size and location of current markers is not sufficient.)
- For the river wall repair, what is the overall cost? What is the timeline for repair?
- Are there plans for a small boat launch in that area or anywhere else on the river? Which department(s) manages the decision making process to add boat launches?
- Is there information on additional asylum seekers coming to Biddeford?
- What is the plan for the courthouse building on Adams Street once the Judicial Center has opened? What is the timeframe for opening the new center?
- How do TIFs work, especially in relation to city tax rate/budget, and what can these funds be used for?
- Is it possible to report abandoned properties and if so, which department should this go to? What can be done to get abandoned properties occupied again?
- What is the plan with the former Maine Water building?
- What is the status of the former Shaw House (257 South St)? It was recently sold, are there any plans for it?

Planning

- Where are ADUs permitted, and are there any proposed changes to allow ADUs where they are not currently permitted?
- Will climate change response have an impact on housing development?
- What are the various ways that affordable housing is supported, e.g. programs/funding, etc?

City Manager's Office

- What are the current details/updates/timeline on mill area development?
- What is the current status of the second pedestrian bridge from Biddeford (Pearl St) to Saco (Transportation Center)?
- What is the plan for the parking garage if it doesn't meet the minimums and agreements aren't reached? Are there other solutions to prevent the cost being covered by taxpayers?
- Where is transportation-related work being focused, and does it extend into downtown?

Police

- Could we develop a formal system for requesting "event" parking when churches or other locations have specific events happening? Who should this go through and what is the threshold for an event?
- How to handle pickup/disposal of used needles found in community? Particularly for groups who are collecting/containing them, where and how can they dispose of them?
- Is there a law related to volume of motorcycles (e.g. decibel limit)?
- How does the police department decide where speed enforcement will happen? How often does it happen?
- What is the best way to report speeding and lane width issues?

Public Works

- What is the timeline for resurfacing Route 9?
- When will the High St paving occur? What kind of advance notice is given to residents?
- Construction on lower Main Street – when work was originally done, curb cuts were not ADA compliant. It appears they are currently being redone in connection with the Hill/Main/Water intersection, but that the grade might still be incorrect. How can we ensure ADA compliance with this project and others like it?
- Is it possible for Public Works to plow handicap spots that are adjacent to where the sidewalk is already plowed?
- How will the new recycling ordinance be enforced? How strict will it be?
- What items can be recycled at Transfer Station that can't be put into the single sort bin?
- Is it possible to add more "children at play" signage in the Waco Dr neighborhood?

Transportation

- Are there any plans or discussions around bike lanes going out to or at the coast?
- In the Main/Hill/Water St reconstruction, what signage will be up until the traffic lights are installed?
- Can BSOOB Transit make a bus map that shows all the lines together, to see where the connection points are?
- Is there a possibility of adding a grocery store stop to the Silver Line circulator route?

Assessing

- How often does revaluation happen? Is there a difference between commercial and residential for this process, and do the rates of these impact each other?
- How does valuation affect local share for schools?

Communication

The meetings were advertised through public events (River Jam and Family Fun Festival, where participants could also find their Ward on a large map), the Biddeford Beat, the city website, Our Biddeford (the city's citizen engagement platform), the city's Facebook and Twitter pages, on the community bulletin board at City Hall, the What's Up Biddeford phone line, in the Courier newspaper, and in Heart of Biddeford's email newsletter.

We were not able to do as much targeted advertisement as we had hoped, so for future Ward and area-specific meetings, this is something we will work to develop. That said, one positive outcome of these meetings was connecting with residents who are interested in engaging more, which can help the city expand word-of-mouth communication, an important component of increasing civic engagement. We also plan to increase more casual neighborhood events and meetings, there will be a more solid base of residents by the next time Ward meetings are held.

Recommendations

Determine area-specific news sources (e.g. existing groups, commonly visited businesses or buildings, etc.) to increase awareness of and participation in Ward and other meetings.

Hold formal Ward Meetings once a year but continue engagement in more casual gatherings throughout the year. With the Comprehensive Plan being completed in early 2023, potentially share information and implementation steps, using more neighborhood-focused engagement.

Conduct neighborhood assessment walks, with at least one during the winter when there is snow on the ground, to determine any accessibility issues due to snow. In addition to the staff/committee-led walk(s), encourage community members to fill out the walk survey, or share specific problem areas, on their own time.

Promote the Our Biddeford community engagement platform to expand reach, number of users, and participation.

Refine the meeting goals and structure, and better advertise this to the public so attendees can be prepared with their thoughts, ideas, and concerns.

Consider holding topic-specific meetings for the most frequently discussed items.

Ward 1 Meeting
September 26, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Bill Emhiser, Abigail Smallwood (staff), Tim Boston (Staff), 16 attendees

Questions

Where are ADUs permitted, and are there any proposed changes to allow ADUs where they are not currently permitted?

Can the breakwater be made more visible? (Size and location of current markers is not sufficient.)

Will climate change response have an impact on housing development?

What is the timeline for resurfacing Route 9?

Are there any plans or discussions around bike lanes going out to or at the coast?

Comments/Discussion

Housing

Support was shared for the Affordable Housing Task Force, and affordability and dramatic rent increases on the city level were a general concern

Development on Barra Road was of interest

Climate Change

Discussion about the impact of climate change on coastal housing, particularly if there will potentially be new/expanded requirements for construction

Transportation

Request for flashing lights/stop sign at Guinea and West intersection

High speeds on Route 9, difficult to turn onto it from Scadlock Mill Rd – potentially have a sign posting or look into reducing speed limit. Same area has issues with deer, request for Deer Crossing signs.

High speeds on Fortunes Rocks Rd, coming from Rt 9 – concerns about the speed limit.

Response time of fire and EMS, with a suggestion to use smaller crews/vehicles for certain emergency responses, to save time and money

Paving needs/questions: Route 9 (repaving), shoulder on Bridge Road (possibility of bike lane?), Mile Stretch (possibility of sidewalk and/or bike lane?)

Limited beach parking, made more challenging because of limited transit and safe bike/ped options.
Discussion about previous issues with a shuttle from UNE to the beaches.

Other

Wastewater is a concern, especially along coastline where sewer might not be handled by City – discussion about expansion and new construction, overboard discharge permits, and cesspools potentially impacting clam flats

Concern about size and visibility of the breakwater – insufficient markings are dangerous

Concern about cannabis in upper floor of recently sold West Street Market

Discussion on clam flats, the following information was shared:

- Grant opportunity with York County conservation group to preserve soil/water/etc
- Watershed Management Committee has been established with grant funds
 - Water quality testing program and partnership with UNE
- City inspections of cesspools (97 of 150 have been inspected)

Discussion about how better to share these updates, whether through Biddeford Beat or something more Ward 1-specific

Concerns about the resident parking rate for the beach

Ward 2 Meeting
October 6, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Scott Whiting, Abigail Smallwood (staff), Tim Boston (Staff), 6 attendees

Questions

In the Main/Hill/Water St reconstruction, what signage will be up until the traffic lights are installed?

For the river wall repair, what is the overall cost? What is the timeline for repair?

Are there plans for a small boat launch in that area or anywhere else on the river? Which department(s) manages the decision making process to add boat launches?

Could we develop a formal system for requesting “event” parking when churches or other locations have specific events happening? Who should this go through and what is the threshold for an event?

Can BSOOB Transit make a bus map that shows all the lines together, to see where the connection points are?

When will the High St paving occur? What kind of advance notice is given to residents?

Is there information on additional asylum seekers coming to Biddeford?

How to handle pickup/disposal of used needles found in community? Particularly for groups who are collecting/containing them, where and how can they dispose of them?

Comments/Discussion

Public Safety

(There were a couple members present from the Police Advisory Committee, so they took note of some of these issues as well.)

Concerns about homelessness and drug activity, particularly in places where there are kids

Discussion on police oversight and how the chain of command works, and whether some sort of Civilian Oversight Committee could be considered, or other ways to increase transparency

Example was given that police/community relations really helped improve Bacon St neighborhood

Transportation

Would like to see improved coordination between city and DOT on projects, particularly around traffic control by police department. There is also an electronic sign in the neighborhood for Main/Hill/Water project that is not kept up-to-date.

Parking concerns in neighborhood – came up in relation to Etz Chaim Congregation needing handicap and loading zone spaces when they have services. They have also seen a decrease in street parking in this area because of people looking to avoid paying parking fees in the nearby lots. This was exacerbated by the loss of parking on Foss and Main due to lane width issues.

Parking concerns for Second Congregational Church on Crescent St – not enough parking for congregants and no handicap spaces, but parking on both sides is also dangerous due to lane width.

Discussed Silver Line as a possibility for people to be able to park and then take the free line to get to their destination. Look at how to better promote this line in general.

Concerns about the large flower planters not being visible enough, particularly those in the lower Main Street area – potentially add reflective strips and/or lane striping to make it more visible, particularly in the dark or inclement weather.

Housing

Looking into a shelter or similar option, as Warming Centers can't be open as much as needed.

Feeling that there is no safe place for families – would be nice to have an option like small houses to place people in so they don't have to go into a hotel.

Some individuals are going to encampments in order to assist unsheltered people, and those people are saying no one else is coming to talk to them. Expand connection with encampments.

There was a program that ran many years ago, a 'safety place' for runaway youth, where they could be placed to provide them support and keep them safe in the case of abuse

Other

Discussion of reviving an interfaith group that used to operate

Ward 3 Meeting
October 17, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Marty Grohman, Abigail Smallwood (staff), Tim Boston (Staff), 12 attendees

Questions

Is there a law related to volume of motorcycles (e.g. decibel limit)?

How does the police department decide where speed enforcement will happen? How often does it happen?

What is the current status of the second pedestrian bridge from Biddeford (Pearl St) to Saco (Transportation Center)?

How often does revaluation happen? Is there a difference between commercial and residential for this process, and do the rates of these impact each other?

How does valuation affect local share for schools?

What are the current details/updates/timeline on mill area development?

What is the plan for the courthouse building on Adams Street once the Judicial Center has opened?
What is the timeframe for opening the new center?

What is the plan for the parking garage if it doesn't meet the minimums and agreements aren't reached? Are there other solutions to prevent the cost being covered by taxpayers?

How do TIFs work, especially in relation to city tax rate/budget, and what can these funds be used for?

Comments/Discussion

Transportation

Notice high speeds when walking on West St (in the area near Ray's), including fire trucks/buses/etc

Electronic sign that has happy/sad faces based on how fast you're going above or below the speed limit

"Slow Down Kennebunk" initiative with signs available to residents – is it working?

People are supportive of the bridge from Pearl St to Saco Transportation Center

Shared information on Greater Portland Council of Government's work around bike/ped safety in the area – meeting for Biddeford (and a few other communities) will happen on November 7

Interest in seeing more information on connection from Eastern Trail to Riverwalk/downtown, and in general, how all the different transportation/bike/ped/Complete Streets work overlaps

Discussion on South St connector and a suggestion that people can only turn left onto South St from the connector (to avoid an increase in traffic between downtown and the connector)

Taxes

More clarity and transparency on how revaluation works, and concern about it having a disproportionate impact in places like Ward 3, where property value is higher

Concerns about the education formula as it relates to property values

Other

Website difficult to navigate if you are looking for ways to get involved

Shared information on the goal to add off-road connections to the Eastern Trail from Biddeford to Saco (where it currently goes on-road)

Some areas of Ward 3, there is no city water/septic (Guinea Rd area)

West Street Market update – bottom floor to be a market and deli. Opposition to idea of cannabis use on the second floor. Information shared that this use would have to go through Planning Board process.

Concerns about UNE medical program moving to Portland, but information was shared that it's being done in order to support growth of other programs

Ward 4 Meeting
October 24, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Bob Mills, Tim Boston (Staff), 11 attendees (including Stephanie Edwards, Citizens Advisory Committee member, who assisted with notetaking)

Questions

Is it possible to report abandoned properties and if so, which department should this go to? What can be done to get abandoned properties occupied again?

What is the best way to report speeding and lane width issues?

Comments/Discussion

Housing

Affordable housing ordinance needed and should include bike/walkability

Comprehensive rezoning is needed, especially to avoid the overuse of Contract Zones

Request for staff to work more on abandoned/city/bank owned properties for redevelopment

Transportation

Sidewalk needed on both sides of West St up to 5 Points, currently a safety issue (no sidewalk from Prospect to Five Points on the Waterhouse Field side)

Need for better bike/ped infrastructure in general

Speeding issues, especially on Hill and Granite – suggestion to call the non-emergency line to report

Parking on Prospect St – fire truck access difficult if there are two large vehicles parked on both sides of the street

Bike racks and improved safety for bike/ped helps toward climate goals, and this is a practical improvement that is easier to support, rather than some of the more complex/big picture climate change issues

Public Works

Issues with large item pickup and abandoned objects (e.g. mattresses)

Request to have Transfer Station open 7 days

Request that Victory Ave plowing be done away from the houses (currently it's plowed in toward the houses)

Ward 5 Meeting
October 13, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Amy Clearwater, Abigail Smallwood (staff), Tim Boston (Staff), 7 attendees

Questions

Construction on lower Main Street – when work was originally done, curb cuts were not ADA compliant. It appears they are currently being redone in connection with the Hill/Main/Water intersection, but that the grade might still be incorrect. How can we ensure ADA compliance with this project and others like it?

Where is transportation-related work being focused, and does it extend into downtown?

Is it possible for Public Works to plow handicap spots that are adjacent to where the sidewalk is already plowed?

Is there a possibility of adding a grocery store stop to the Silver Line circulator route?

Comments/Discussion

Housing

Current rental costs are very high, even on properties with codes issues

Discussion of what affordable means (defined as 80% of Area Median Income)

Most/all development happening is market rate and will not be affordable to most people

Large scale development should include affordable units, rather than allowing for developments to contribute to a fund, since that funding cannot go as far as including affordable units would

Discussion about Inclusionary Zoning and that this is being recommended; suggestion that “buy-out” should be much higher so that it isn’t an easy amount to pay for most developers

Discussion of how to provide support so that it’s easier to administer affordable housing units (e.g. admin assistance, funding, etc)

Mixed income developments are good for community building

Suggestions for Affordable Housing fund – down payment assistance to leverage homeownership of either rehab or infill housing

Discussion on blight ordinance

With rising rents, increased homelessness and housing insecurity for people on fixed incomes

Address zoning for ideas like tiny home villages

Transportation

Area right off exit 32 – dangerous with no sidewalks

Hard to bike going from downtown Biddeford to downtown Saco, as there is not sufficient shoulder space to keep to the right

Discussion about the Silver Line

Speeding is still an issue on Main Street – people going too fast and don't stop at crosswalks. Look into reducing speed limit.

Request for an all-way stop at Alfred and Main – yield sign is dangerous and navigating the intersection is difficult because it is heavily used by both vehicles and pedestrians

Mason/Elm area crosswalk is not very visible and driver speed tends to be high

Public Works

Plowing is car-focused, makes navigating streets/sidewalks difficult for bike/ped

Property owners/residents not plowing is an issue, as well as some people plowing from driveway into the right of way, blocking off the sidewalk

Other

Add a prominent link to Our Biddeford to the front page of the city website

Website updates, some things people have had issues with: Planning Board application deadline/materials; search bar does not always give the best results; bus routes

Community resilience ideas – increasing community connections for sharing e.g. Buy Nothing group (there is one for Biddeford/Dayton), Swap Shop at Transfer Station, shared tool shop, shared garage space (for people to be able to do work on their vehicle)

Discussion about whether a grocery store is needed downtown – most felt like there were a decent amount of options to get groceries downtown, though there is sometimes an issue with consistency of stock. Would like to see something like Fresh Approach (in Portland). Affordability and reliability are the biggest factors in making either the current stores or a potential new store most successful and likely to be used (vs. driving to a store you know is likely to have everything you need).

Heart of Biddeford has put together a [map](#) identifying downtown streetscape amenities, which includes a layer for suggested items to bring to Public Works.

Ward 6 Meeting
October 20, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Norm Belanger, Abigail Smallwood (staff), 7 attendees

Questions

What is the plan with the former Maine Water building?

How will the new recycling ordinance be enforced? How strict will it be?

What items can be recycled at Transfer Station that can't be put into the single sort bin?

Comments/Discussion

Housing

Concerns over rising rents (new owner increased rent almost 50%)

Planning Board tries to incorporate affordable units when reviewing, but there's not currently a requirement for it

Biddeford Housing Authority is working to build affordable housing and renovate existing homes

Discussion on rent control - information was shared about the research done on this by the Affordable Housing Task Force

Transportation

Discussion about South Street connector - question about having new turnpike exit onto South Street, rather than a connector; approval being contingent on improvements being made to South Street (e.g. sidewalks)

Sidewalks are in bad shape, which reduces willingness to walk, so it affects climate change goals too

Update on May Street traffic calming process – it is with the Policy Committee currently. Staff is working on proposals based on the information received, will be discussed at the November Policy Committee meeting.

South Street traffic issues – people often go much faster than the 35mph speed limit; would like to see more police enforcement of speed limit; more congested; people have trouble navigating the intersection at South and Main

Public Works

Public Works Transfer Station hours are tough for a regular schedule, would like it to be open later on Saturdays and/or on Sundays

Discussion on recycling issues and less items being taken for recycling, makes it harder to have the small trash can and larger recycling bin.

Other

Support for keeping the previous Maine Water building and using it for community space

Eastern Trail area is being used inappropriately, concern about keeping the area in good condition; possibly need more police presence

Discussion on how to get the news out – revisit using public access channel (not as much use of it as in the past, including use by members of the public); having an “informational page” in the Courier; improving website navigation; flyers up at businesses

Ward 7 Meeting
September 29, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Liam LaFountain, Councilor Doris Ortiz, Abigail Smallwood (staff), Tim Boston (Staff), Greg Mitchell (staff), 8 attendees

Questions

What is the status of the former Shaw House (257 South St)? It was recently sold, are there any plans for it?

What are the various ways that affordable housing is supported, e.g. programs/funding, etc? (Some information was shared on this, but might be good to develop a basic answer to this.)

Is it possible to add more “children at play” signage in the Waco Dr neighborhood?

Comments/Discussion

Housing

Concerns about gentrification, inability to afford rent, and large rent increases

Like seeing the growth in Biddeford, but it is still small so cost doesn’t feel appropriate

Interest in seeing a cap on how much rent can increase each year or some other kind of rent control (even if done as a short-term emergency measure)

Question about the definition of affordable, especially as even “middle income” people often struggle with affording housing (some details were shared that Area Median Income is typically used as a base to work from)

Landlords/potential landlords have to factor in all costs (taxes, utilities if providing, etc., in addition to the mortgage), and many of those things are increasing

Concern about property tax rising for those on fixed incomes (details were shared about the new Property Tax Stabilization program), and also on many assisted living facilities closing, so it’s difficult for older residents to age in place

Discussion about current affordable housing projects – four rental projects, nothing around homeownership currently but looking into it

Concerns about homelessness – update was given that the Affordable Housing Task Force did develop a short list of recommendations to present to City Council, though they will not be in the final report, as that was not part of the original goal of the task force

Climate Change

Information shared about the Climate Task Force work thus far – emissions study is complete; Biddeford is now part of a four-community cohort that will develop Climate Action Plans, due for completion in fall 2023. The Climate Task Force has a [page](#) on the Our Biddeford engagement platform, where updates will be posted.

Transportation

Concerns about speeding on Waco Drive, especially with lots of children living in this area. There are some signs but only facing one way

When new Judicial Center opens, worries about increase in traffic and difficulty turning left from side streets onto Elm Street (there are already challenges with this at current traffic levels)

May Street concerns (an update was given on the current Traffic Calming effort) – increase in traffic on the street with people looking to avoid increasing traffic on Elm. There is no sidewalk next to the playground.

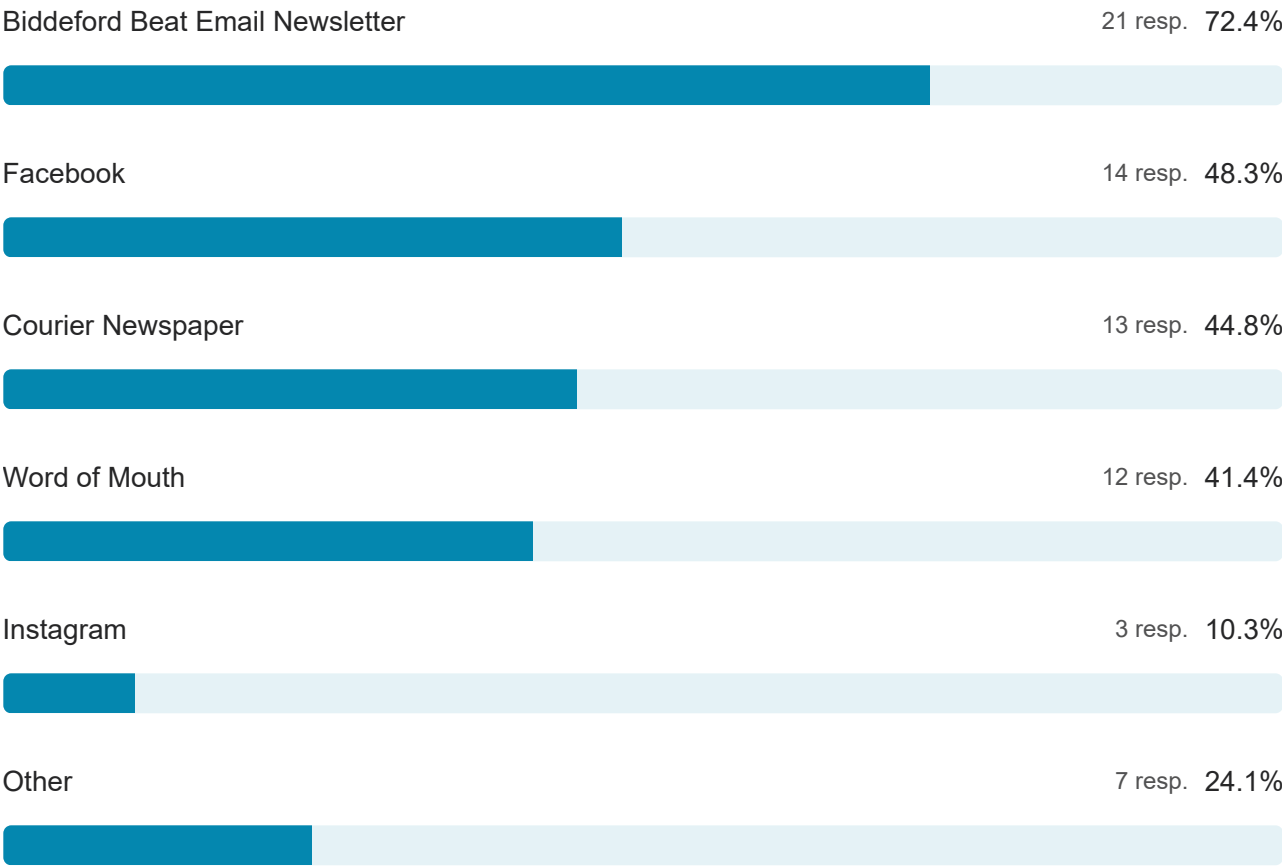
Information shared on the larger transportation plan in progress for major corridors and will keep interested residents informed on that process

Ward Meeting Entry Survey

29 responses

Where do you usually get information about what's happening in Biddeford?

29 out of 29 answered



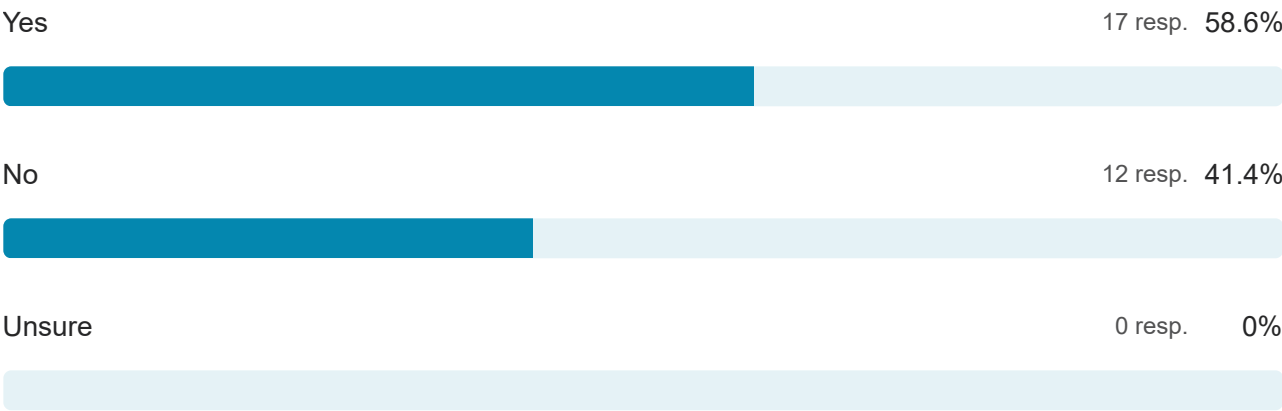
Have you been to a City Council meeting before?

29 out of 29 answered



Do you know your City Councilor?

29 out of 29 answered



Why are you here tonight?

learning about what is going on in the neighborhood

Public safety around Waterhouse and St. Louis Field. To help keep people safe - sidewalk on the Waterhouse Field side to 5 Points is greatly needed.

to inquire about police concerns

better understand Ward 3 and Ward 7 merging and how it might effect

read invitation on HOB; wish to learn initiatives for Biddeford

to see what the city is going to do in the coming year

to have an input!

to represent Police Advisory Committee

Hosting meeting as president of Congregation Etz Chaim. Unhappy with present parking situation.

I live on Granite Street. I want to know what's going on in the city.

community building

Public Works/Transfer Station operating hours

I wanted to meet my councilor in person and also to express my concern about traffic and development. Learn more about what's going on in my area of town and meet others from my ward. Share info about the Biddeford Policy Advisory Committee.

I live in Ward 6. I am very interested in what will be happening in my neighborhood.

see what is going on since I can never make the City Council meetings; rents, traffic

find out what is going on, meet some neighbors

I'm interested in learning more about how to support Biddeford on a Ward specific level, versus Biddeford as a whole.

Love my neighborhood

To learn more about my neighborhood & related topics & politics

Concerned citizen and want to stay current with city hall

Engaging with the city and communicating needs

I'm a student in the area, and I'm interested in learning more about my local government.

See who else comes!

To hear from the community and learn more about what's happening.

What do you like about your Ward or neighborhood? What would you improve?

Like - close to downtown/Clifford Park. Improve - fix the sidewalks on Granite St, one side has nice curb and the other does not; speed limit on Granite St; bike lanes as roads get resurfaced.

great neighbors, quiet and safe

It's friendly and beautiful

likes - community and neighbors

My neighborhood is a walkable neighborhood. Close proximity to the turnpike and downtown. Looking forward to becoming acquainted with fellows in my ward and neighborhood.
want to know what is going on in the ward

homeless issues in Clifford Park

Live the diversity; parking issues as above

I enjoy the quiet and the planes and just the location is great.

Snow clearing of sidewalks would be cool. Traffic calming on Elm St from Main St to 5 Points, especially at Mason St intersection - improve crosswalk. Love Williams Court, walkable to downtown, easy access to all basic amenities.

I love the closed neighborhood. Repair the sidewalks.

I would like to see more stringent enforcement of traffic laws. I like my home and my neighbors; the fact that my neighborhood abuts the river.

The walkability, quiet and spacious but close enough to downtown.

Love how quiet it is - and how close it is to the downtown. Love walking downtown to the restaurants and shops.

road improvements, safety, South St/River Rd

I love our community very much. I'd love the road on my street (Raymond) to be improved — dangerously bumpy! I'd love to see more efforts to educate our neighbors on alternative lawn care options, encourage public transit, work together to keep Clifford as a natural space for recreation and to keep wildlife safe.

Love the walkability, want to improve street quality and blight

Open space, nature

I like living near downtown.

Love being able to walk to various amenities

I like having food easily accessible, I don't like the fast traffic speeds on Main Street, which make it dangerous to bike

So much to walk to! Wish it were bikeable

Walkable. Clifford park. Proximal to river and downtown.

Livability

Need more sidewalks, walkable neighborhoods, currently feel like it's really difficult to walk/bike from my house, 5 points is a nightmare for safety

Ward Meeting Exit Survey

24 responses

Did you find this meeting valuable?

24 out of 24 answered



Do you plan to attend another Ward Meeting in the future?

24 out of 24 answered



What could we do to improve the meeting?

More citizens would be welcomed.

Have the group vote on top 3, specific actionable items that need attention in that Ward and have the council representative bring that back to the whole council.

Monthly meetings perhaps

More targeted questions

Maybe at the beginning have people express their primary interest

Better notices to the ward as mail boxes at the different areas, post cards to the ward,

Advertise it more

Encourage people attending the meeting to spread the word about future meetings.

I don't know because it was my first meeting.

Faster updates

Find a way to have boundaries around political candidates sucking all the air out of the room.

Limit a specific time for covering each agenda item

Perhaps publicize the format so that folks can prepare, gather their thoughts, think about the issues that are concerning to them.

I would have loved to see more people attend. I wonder if other ways of notifying the public, like sending out small 3X5 postcards by mail or putting up a few physical signs in key locations might help boost awareness and participation. Otherwise, I thought the meeting was really well run, kudos!

There's gotta be more people at these

increase attendance, more/better notice

Let people know about it by a postcard or signage displayed in the Ward. Many older folks are not on the internet. The Courier did not replace the Journal Tribune and isn't widely read.

Conduct the meeting in a setting where participants can see and hear each other. There's also the need to deal with the small group problem of how to talk to each other if we've never met. People wanted to

talk about their particular concern rather than broad topics like where housing growth should happen, climate, etc. Gotta give primary space to the former before tackling the latter.

Work towards greater attendance: enlist coastal organizations (Hills Beach Association, BP Community Center, BPIA, Fortunes Rocks Association) and schedule session during summer months when property owners from away are here.

What didn't we cover?

Would love to know more on empty homes/vacancy. Why, what can be done? Can the City buy and resale for tax money? Home for the homeless? Hearing updates on other projects. What is working in other Wards?

Perhaps joining and volunteering for committees and commissions.

Taxes, Evaluations of homes & properties, Local Government keeps getting bigger

Just interested in my community - thank you for the meeting.

The topics of lower graded concerns. A rather abrupt ending at 7.

I would have liked to talk about the land swap in Clifford park that wasn't well advertised to the citizens. How can we better communicate things like this in future?

No, you allowed open discussion time which allowed folks to raise whatever issue was on their minds.

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So many worthwhile topics, time does not permit review/discussion of them all.

ward reapportionment

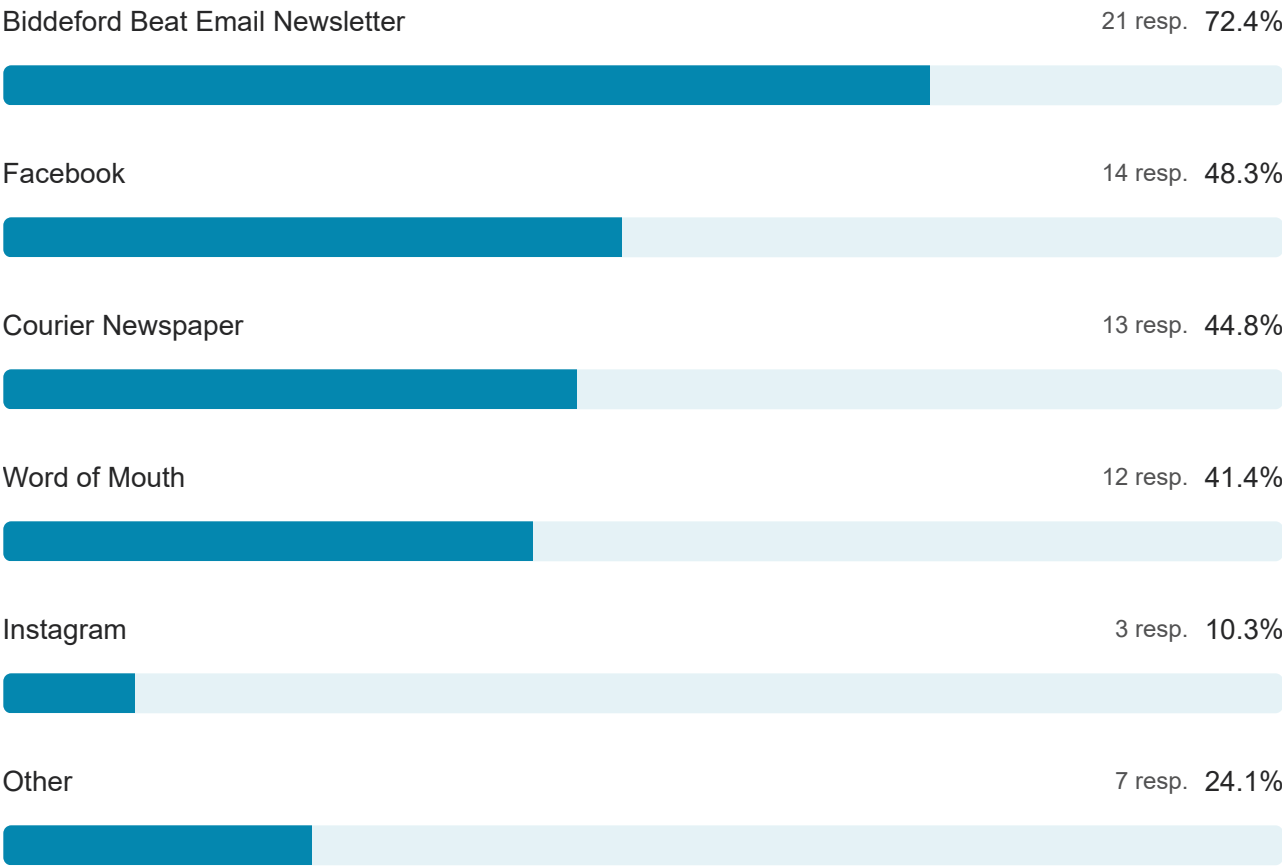
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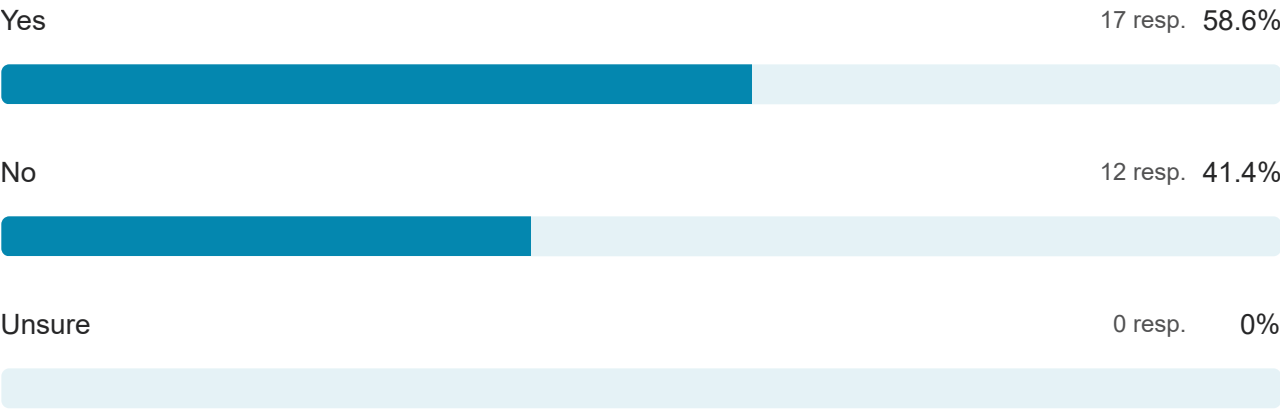
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ward reapportionment

If possible, focus on one topic (e.g., driving safety: speed limits, bike lanes) and invite key admin to join us.

Ward 1 Meeting
September 26, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Bill Emhiser, Abigail Smallwood (staff), Tim Boston (Staff), 16 attendees

Questions

Where are ADUs permitted, and are there any proposed changes to allow ADUs where they are not currently permitted?

Can the breakwater be made more visible? (Size and location of current markers is not sufficient.)

Will climate change response have an impact on housing development?

What is the timeline for resurfacing Route 9?

Are there any plans or discussions around bike lanes going out to or at the coast?

Comments/Discussion

Housing

Support was shared for the Affordable Housing Task Force, and affordability and dramatic rent increases on the city level were a general concern

Development on Barra Road was of interest

Climate Change

Discussion about the impact of climate change on coastal housing, particularly if there will potentially be new/expanded requirements for construction

Transportation

Request for flashing lights/stop sign at Guinea and West intersection

High speeds on Route 9, difficult to turn onto it from Scadlock Mill Rd – potentially have a sign posting or look into reducing speed limit. Same area has issues with deer, request for Deer Crossing signs.

High speeds on Fortunes Rocks Rd, coming from Rt 9 – concerns about the speed limit.

Response time of fire and EMS, with a suggestion to use smaller crews/vehicles for certain emergency responses, to save time and money

Paving needs/questions: Route 9 (repaving), shoulder on Bridge Road (possibility of bike lane?), Mile Stretch (possibility of sidewalk and/or bike lane?)

Limited beach parking, made more challenging because of limited transit and safe bike/ped options.
Discussion about previous issues with a shuttle from UNE to the beaches.

Other

Wastewater is a concern, especially along coastline where sewer might not be handled by City – discussion about expansion and new construction, overboard discharge permits, and cesspools potentially impacting clam flats

Concern about size and visibility of the breakwater – insufficient markings are dangerous

Concern about cannabis in upper floor of recently sold West Street Market

Discussion on clam flats, the following information was shared:

- Grant opportunity with York County conservation group to preserve soil/water/etc
- Watershed Management Committee has been established with grant funds
 - Water quality testing program and partnership with UNE
- City inspections of cesspools (97 of 150 have been inspected)

Discussion about how better to share these updates, whether through Biddeford Beat or something more Ward 1-specific

Concerns about the resident parking rate for the beach

Ward 2 Meeting
October 6, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Scott Whiting, Abigail Smallwood (staff), Tim Boston (Staff), 6 attendees

Questions

In the Main/Hill/Water St reconstruction, what signage will be up until the traffic lights are installed?

For the river wall repair, what is the overall cost? What is the timeline for repair?

Are there plans for a small boat launch in that area or anywhere else on the river? Which department(s) manages the decision making process to add boat launches?

Could we develop a formal system for requesting “event” parking when churches or other locations have specific events happening? Who should this go through and what is the threshold for an event?

Can BSOOB Transit make a bus map that shows all the lines together, to see where the connection points are?

When will the High St paving occur? What kind of advance notice is given to residents?

Is there information on additional asylum seekers coming to Biddeford?

How to handle pickup/disposal of used needles found in community? Particularly for groups who are collecting/containing them, where and how can they dispose of them?

Comments/Discussion

Public Safety

(There were a couple members present from the Police Advisory Committee, so they took note of some of these issues as well.)

Concerns about homelessness and drug activity, particularly in places where there are kids

Discussion on police oversight and how the chain of command works, and whether some sort of Civilian Oversight Committee could be considered, or other ways to increase transparency

Example was given that police/community relations really helped improve Bacon St neighborhood

Transportation

Would like to see improved coordination between city and DOT on projects, particularly around traffic control by police department. There is also an electronic sign in the neighborhood for Main/Hill/Water project that is not kept up-to-date.

Parking concerns in neighborhood – came up in relation to Etz Chaim Congregation needing handicap and loading zone spaces when they have services. They have also seen a decrease in street parking in this area because of people looking to avoid paying parking fees in the nearby lots. This was exacerbated by the loss of parking on Foss and Main due to lane width issues.

Parking concerns for Second Congregational Church on Crescent St – not enough parking for congregants and no handicap spaces, but parking on both sides is also dangerous due to lane width.

Discussed Silver Line as a possibility for people to be able to park and then take the free line to get to their destination. Look at how to better promote this line in general.

Concerns about the large flower planters not being visible enough, particularly those in the lower Main Street area – potentially add reflective strips and/or lane striping to make it more visible, particularly in the dark or inclement weather.

Housing

Looking into a shelter or similar option, as Warming Centers can't be open as much as needed.

Feeling that there is no safe place for families – would be nice to have an option like small houses to place people in so they don't have to go into a hotel.

Some individuals are going to encampments in order to assist unsheltered people, and those people are saying no one else is coming to talk to them. Expand connection with encampments.

There was a program that ran many years ago, a 'safety place' for runaway youth, where they could be placed to provide them support and keep them safe in the case of abuse

Other

Discussion of reviving an interfaith group that used to operate

Ward 3 Meeting
October 17, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Marty Grohman, Abigail Smallwood (staff), Tim Boston (Staff), 12 attendees

Questions

Is there a law related to volume of motorcycles (e.g. decibel limit)?

How does the police department decide where speed enforcement will happen? How often does it happen?

What is the current status of the second pedestrian bridge from Biddeford (Pearl St) to Saco (Transportation Center)?

How often does revaluation happen? Is there a difference between commercial and residential for this process, and do the rates of these impact each other?

How does valuation affect local share for schools?

What are the current details/updates/timeline on mill area development?

What is the plan for the courthouse building on Adams Street once the Judicial Center has opened?
What is the timeframe for opening the new center?

What is the plan for the parking garage if it doesn't meet the minimums and agreements aren't reached? Are there other solutions to prevent the cost being covered by taxpayers?

How do TIFs work, especially in relation to city tax rate/budget, and what can these funds be used for?

Comments/Discussion

Transportation

Notice high speeds when walking on West St (in the area near Ray's), including fire trucks/buses/etc

Electronic sign that has happy/sad faces based on how fast you're going above or below the speed limit

"Slow Down Kennebunk" initiative with signs available to residents – is it working?

People are supportive of the bridge from Pearl St to Saco Transportation Center

Shared information on Greater Portland Council of Government's work around bike/ped safety in the area – meeting for Biddeford (and a few other communities) will happen on November 7

Interest in seeing more information on connection from Eastern Trail to Riverwalk/downtown, and in general, how all the different transportation/bike/ped/Complete Streets work overlaps

Discussion on South St connector and a suggestion that people can only turn left onto South St from the connector (to avoid an increase in traffic between downtown and the connector)

Taxes

More clarity and transparency on how revaluation works, and concern about it having a disproportionate impact in places like Ward 3, where property value is higher

Concerns about the education formula as it relates to property values

Other

Website difficult to navigate if you are looking for ways to get involved

Shared information on the goal to add off-road connections to the Eastern Trail from Biddeford to Saco (where it currently goes on-road)

Some areas of Ward 3, there is no city water/septic (Guinea Rd area)

West Street Market update – bottom floor to be a market and deli. Opposition to idea of cannabis use on the second floor. Information shared that this use would have to go through Planning Board process.

Concerns about UNE medical program moving to Portland, but information was shared that it's being done in order to support growth of other programs

Ward 4 Meeting
October 24, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Bob Mills, Tim Boston (Staff), 11 attendees (including Stephanie Edwards, Citizens Advisory Committee member, who assisted with notetaking)

Questions

Is it possible to report abandoned properties and if so, which department should this go to? What can be done to get abandoned properties occupied again?

What is the best way to report speeding and lane width issues?

Comments/Discussion

Housing

Affordable housing ordinance needed and should include bike/walkability

Comprehensive rezoning is needed, especially to avoid the overuse of Contract Zones

Request for staff to work more on abandoned/city/bank owned properties for redevelopment

Transportation

Sidewalk needed on both sides of West St up to 5 Points, currently a safety issue (no sidewalk from Prospect to Five Points on the Waterhouse Field side)

Need for better bike/ped infrastructure in general

Speeding issues, especially on Hill and Granite – suggestion to call the non-emergency line to report

Parking on Prospect St – fire truck access difficult if there are two large vehicles parked on both sides of the street

Bike racks and improved safety for bike/ped helps toward climate goals, and this is a practical improvement that is easier to support, rather than some of the more complex/big picture climate change issues

Public Works

Issues with large item pickup and abandoned objects (e.g. mattresses)

Request to have Transfer Station open 7 days

Request that Victory Ave plowing be done away from the houses (currently it's plowed in toward the houses)

Ward 5 Meeting
October 13, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Amy Clearwater, Abigail Smallwood (staff), Tim Boston (Staff), 7 attendees

Questions

Construction on lower Main Street – when work was originally done, curb cuts were not ADA compliant. It appears they are currently being redone in connection with the Hill/Main/Water intersection, but that the grade might still be incorrect. How can we ensure ADA compliance with this project and others like it?

Where is transportation-related work being focused, and does it extend into downtown?

Is it possible for Public Works to plow handicap spots that are adjacent to where the sidewalk is already plowed?

Is there a possibility of adding a grocery store stop to the Silver Line circulator route?

Comments/Discussion

Housing

Current rental costs are very high, even on properties with codes issues

Discussion of what affordable means (defined as 80% of Area Median Income)

Most/all development happening is market rate and will not be affordable to most people

Large scale development should include affordable units, rather than allowing for developments to contribute to a fund, since that funding cannot go as far as including affordable units would

Discussion about Inclusionary Zoning and that this is being recommended; suggestion that “buy-out” should be much higher so that it isn’t an easy amount to pay for most developers

Discussion of how to provide support so that it’s easier to administer affordable housing units (e.g. admin assistance, funding, etc)

Mixed income developments are good for community building

Suggestions for Affordable Housing fund – down payment assistance to leverage homeownership of either rehab or infill housing

Discussion on blight ordinance

With rising rents, increased homelessness and housing insecurity for people on fixed incomes

Address zoning for ideas like tiny home villages

Transportation

Area right off exit 32 – dangerous with no sidewalks

Hard to bike going from downtown Biddeford to downtown Saco, as there is not sufficient shoulder space to keep to the right

Discussion about the Silver Line

Speeding is still an issue on Main Street – people going too fast and don't stop at crosswalks. Look into reducing speed limit.

Request for an all-way stop at Alfred and Main – yield sign is dangerous and navigating the intersection is difficult because it is heavily used by both vehicles and pedestrians

Mason/Elm area crosswalk is not very visible and driver speed tends to be high

Public Works

Plowing is car-focused, makes navigating streets/sidewalks difficult for bike/ped

Property owners/residents not plowing is an issue, as well as some people plowing from driveway into the right of way, blocking off the sidewalk

Other

Add a prominent link to Our Biddeford to the front page of the city website

Website updates, some things people have had issues with: Planning Board application deadline/materials; search bar does not always give the best results; bus routes

Community resilience ideas – increasing community connections for sharing e.g. Buy Nothing group (there is one for Biddeford/Dayton), Swap Shop at Transfer Station, shared tool shop, shared garage space (for people to be able to do work on their vehicle)

Discussion about whether a grocery store is needed downtown – most felt like there were a decent amount of options to get groceries downtown, though there is sometimes an issue with consistency of stock. Would like to see something like Fresh Approach (in Portland). Affordability and reliability are the biggest factors in making either the current stores or a potential new store most successful and likely to be used (vs. driving to a store you know is likely to have everything you need).

Heart of Biddeford has put together a [map](#) identifying downtown streetscape amenities, which includes a layer for suggested items to bring to Public Works.

Ward 6 Meeting
October 20, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Norm Belanger, Abigail Smallwood (staff), 7 attendees

Questions

What is the plan with the former Maine Water building?

How will the new recycling ordinance be enforced? How strict will it be?

What items can be recycled at Transfer Station that can't be put into the single sort bin?

Comments/Discussion

Housing

Concerns over rising rents (new owner increased rent almost 50%)

Planning Board tries to incorporate affordable units when reviewing, but there's not currently a requirement for it

Biddeford Housing Authority is working to build affordable housing and renovate existing homes

Discussion on rent control - information was shared about the research done on this by the Affordable Housing Task Force

Transportation

Discussion about South Street connector - question about having new turnpike exit onto South Street, rather than a connector; approval being contingent on improvements being made to South Street (e.g. sidewalks)

Sidewalks are in bad shape, which reduces willingness to walk, so it affects climate change goals too

Update on May Street traffic calming process – it is with the Policy Committee currently. Staff is working on proposals based on the information received, will be discussed at the November Policy Committee meeting.

South Street traffic issues – people often go much faster than the 35mph speed limit; would like to see more police enforcement of speed limit; more congested; people have trouble navigating the intersection at South and Main

Public Works

Public Works Transfer Station hours are tough for a regular schedule, would like it to be open later on Saturdays and/or on Sundays

Discussion on recycling issues and less items being taken for recycling, makes it harder to have the small trash can and larger recycling bin.

Other

Support for keeping the previous Maine Water building and using it for community space

Eastern Trail area is being used inappropriately, concern about keeping the area in good condition; possibly need more police presence

Discussion on how to get the news out – revisit using public access channel (not as much use of it as in the past, including use by members of the public); having an “informational page” in the Courier; improving website navigation; flyers up at businesses

Ward 7 Meeting
September 29, 2022
Summary

Attendance: Councilor Liam LaFountain, Councilor Doris Ortiz, Abigail Smallwood (staff), Tim Boston (Staff), Greg Mitchell (staff), 8 attendees

Questions

What is the status of the former Shaw House (257 South St)? It was recently sold, are there any plans for it?

What are the various ways that affordable housing is supported, e.g. programs/funding, etc? (Some information was shared on this, but might be good to develop a basic answer to this.)

Is it possible to add more “children at play” signage in the Waco Dr neighborhood?

Comments/Discussion

Housing

Concerns about gentrification, inability to afford rent, and large rent increases

Like seeing the growth in Biddeford, but it is still small so cost doesn't feel appropriate

Interest in seeing a cap on how much rent can increase each year or some other kind of rent control (even if done as a short-term emergency measure)

Question about the definition of affordable, especially as even “middle income” people often struggle with affording housing (some details were shared that Area Median Income is typically used as a base to work from)

Landlords/potential landlords have to factor in all costs (taxes, utilities if providing, etc., in addition to the mortgage), and many of those things are increasing

Concern about property tax rising for those on fixed incomes (details were shared about the new Property Tax Stabilization program), and also on many assisted living facilities closing, so it's difficult for older residents to age in place

Discussion about current affordable housing projects – four rental projects, nothing around homeownership currently but looking into it

Concerns about homelessness – update was given that the Affordable Housing Task Force did develop a short list of recommendations to present to City Council, though they will not be in the final report, as that was not part of the original goal of the task force

Climate Change

Information shared about the Climate Task Force work thus far – emissions study is complete; Biddeford is now part of a four-community cohort that will develop Climate Action Plans, due for completion in fall 2023. The Climate Task Force has a [page](#) on the Our Biddeford engagement platform, where updates will be posted.

Transportation

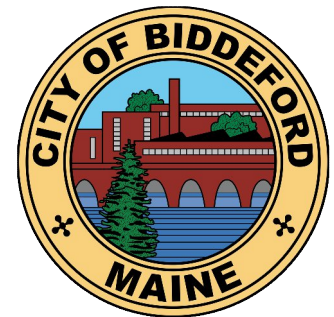
Concerns about speeding on Waco Drive, especially with lots of children living in this area. There are some signs but only facing one way

When new Judicial Center opens, worries about increase in traffic and difficulty turning left from side streets onto Elm Street (there are already challenges with this at current traffic levels)

May Street concerns (an update was given on the current Traffic Calming effort) – increase in traffic on the street with people looking to avoid increasing traffic on Elm. There is no sidewalk next to the playground.

Information shared on the larger transportation plan in progress for major corridors and will keep interested residents informed on that process

Biddeford Ward Meetings



Introduction

This effort was initiated by the Citizens Advisory Committee and proceeded with support from the Mayor, City Council, and the City Manager's office.



Overview

- September 29 to October 24, 2022
- City Councilors attended their Ward's meeting
- City staff led the conversation
- Ward meetings were designed as a first step for increasing civic engagement in neighborhoods

Goals

- Sharing important citywide and Ward-specific information
- Allowing attendees to share their concerns, questions, and ideas
- Informing attendees about ways to stay involved in the future



- Attendance:
 - 6 to 16
 - Average of 9 to 10 per meeting
- City updates on Comprehensive Plan, CDBG Consolidated Plan, Climate Action Plan, Our Biddeford platform, and others



Topics Discussed

- These topics were shared for potential discussion:
 - Local economic development
 - Housing
 - Transportation
 - Public Works
 - Public Safety
 - Youth and Schools
 - Recreation and Open Space
 - Natural Resources
 - Climate Change
- The most frequently discussed topics were housing, transportation, and public works.
- There were many questions spanning topics and staff are working to address these questions.

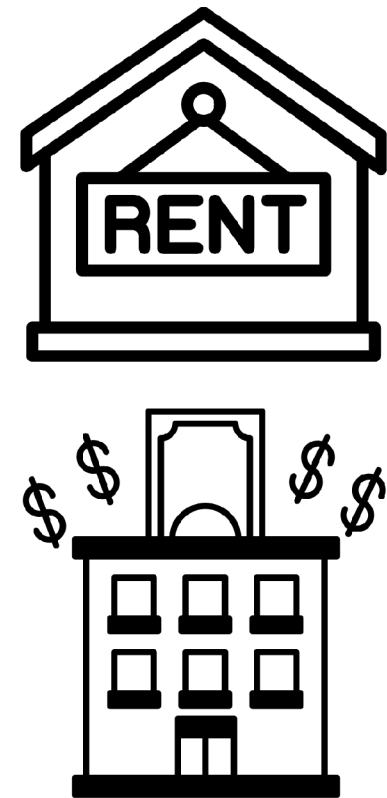
Entry and Exit Surveys

Attendees were surveyed in order to learn some basic information.

- Why did people attend?
 - get updates
 - engage on important issues
 - meet their City Councilor
- Where do people get information?
 - Biddeford Beat
 - Facebook
 - Courier
 - Word of mouth
- Most respondents found the meeting valuable and would attend another.
- How would people improve the meeting?
 - Increase outreach and attendance

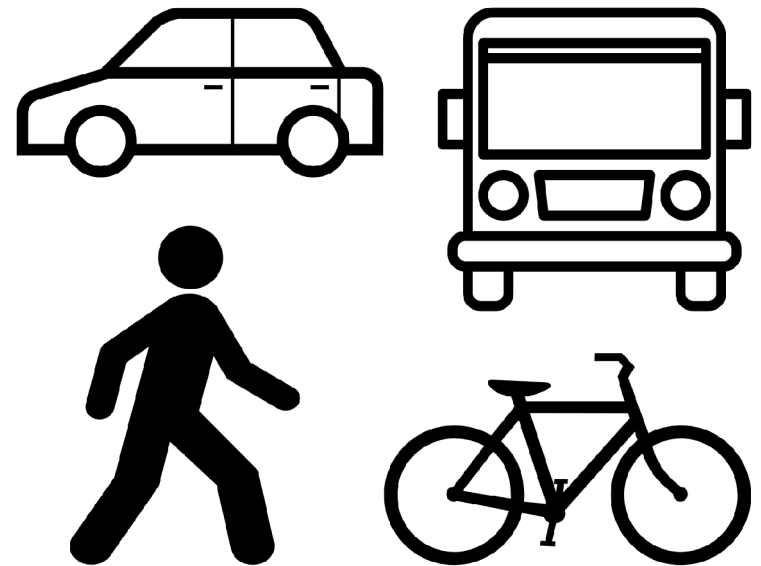
Frequently Discussed Items

- Rising cost of rent, especially new owners who raise rent significantly
- Interest in Affordable Housing Task Force recommendations, particularly around requirements for affordable housing in developments
- Concerns about how to address homelessness and housing insecurity
- Difficulty of navigating city website



Frequently Discussed Items

- Speeding issues
- Interest in improvements around bike/pedestrian safety and access
- Bus line routes and connections
- Intersection of climate change, affordable housing, and bike/pedestrian safety and infrastructure
- Expansion of Transfer Station hours



Communication Plan

The city shared information about the Ward meetings in a variety of ways in the month leading up to the launch, as well as during the five weeks the meetings were held.

Public Events

Biddeford Beat

City website

Our Biddeford

Facebook

Twitter

City Hall bulletin board

Biddeford phone line

Courier newspaper

Heart of Biddeford
newsletter

Recommendations

- Through feedback received in entry and exit surveys, as well as assessment by staff members, these are a few of the items being considered moving forward:
 - Expand outreach efforts in order to increase participation
 - Develop various ways to engage with the public throughout the year
 - Conduct neighborhood assessment walks
 - Promote the Our Biddeford community engagement platform to expand reach, number of users, and participation
 - Refine the meeting goals and structure
 - Consider holding topic-specific meetings for the most frequently discussed items

An orange speech bubble with a diagonal line pattern, containing the text "Questions?".

Questions?

Abigail Smallwood

Community Development Coordinator

Office of Planning and Development

abigail.smallwood@biddefordmaine.org

207-284-9115

NEW Programming, Realignment, and Building Expansion

*Leveraging Federal and
Grant Funding to Address
Capital and Program Needs*





Overview

- Historical Timeline of Building Needs
- Enrollment and Realignment of Grade Levels
- Expand Programming at BRCOT Using Minimal Local Funds
- Address JFK Building Issues Using Minimal Local Funds

Timeline

- 2005 - Oak Point Associates JFK Building Evaluation
- 2012 - Completion of BHS Renovation Project
- 2014 - Harriman Associate Study - Culinary Program BRCOT
- 2015 - First Floor Renovation at BRCOT
- 2016 - Oak Point Associates JFK Building Evaluation
- 2017 - State Application for New Construction JFK, BRCOT
- 2018 - Second Floor Renovation at BRCOT
- 2019 - Revolving Renovation Application for BRCOT, BPS, BIS
- 2020 - City Council Tour of Elementary Schools
- 2020 - Grade Level Reconfiguration
- 2021 - Revolving Renovation Application for BRCOT, BPS, BIS
- 2022 - Realignment Decision PK-2, 3-4, 5-7, 8-12
- 2022 - Federal ESSER Fund Plan Development
- 2022 - DOE Vocational Infrastructure Grant - \$7 million

Current Student Enrollment

BIDDEFORD			
SHOOL	ENROLLMENT	FRL	PERCENTAGE
Biddeford High School 9 -12	711	345	49%
Biddeford Middle School 5 -8	627	358	57%
Biddeford Intermediate School 3-4	349	184	53%
Biddeford Primary School 1-2	351	203	58%
John F Kennedy Memorial School HS,PreK, K	261	140	54%
	2299	1230	54%
COT	399		

Enrollment Projections

Year	Total	BHS (9-12)
2011-2012	2610	848
2014-2015	2439	797
2019-2020	2457	762
Current	2299	711
2023-2024	2273	657
2024-2025	2223	674
2025-2026	2226	662
2026-2027	2188	627



Grade Level Realignment

- JFK - PreK and K
- BPS - Grades 1 - 2
- BIS - Grades 3 - 4
- BMS - Grades 5 - 7
- BHS Grades 8 - 12

Programming at BHS



- Students will have access to a World Language, Band, Chorus and additional classes that become a part of their individualized learning plan.
- Addition of Alternative Education for grades 8, 9 and 10.
- Math and English Daily for all students.
- 8th Grade access to select programs at the Biddeford Regional Center of Technology.





Career & Technical Education (CTE) Infrastructure Grant

Construction/Addition	Other Funding	RFA	Total
Construction/Addition	\$783,870.50	\$4,815,204.50	\$5,599,075.00
Site Work	\$61,281.50	\$376,443.50	\$437,725.00
Mechanical Systems + Sprinklers	\$73,537.80	\$451,732.20	\$525,270.00
Equipment (Vocational Program Specific)	\$0.00	\$450,000.00	\$450,000.00
Furniture	\$28,000.00	\$172,000.00	\$200,000.00
Administrative Costs & Reserve			
Advertising	\$700.00	\$4,300.00	\$5,000.00
Insurance	\$5,600.00	\$34,400.00	\$40,000.00
Legal	\$2,800.00	\$17,200.00	\$20,000.00
Contingency	\$100,968.98	\$620,238.02	\$721,207.00
Fees			
Architect/Engineering	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
Permitting State	\$10,092.35	\$61,995.86	\$72,088.21
Permitting Local	\$80,087.13	\$0.00	\$80,100.85
Total	\$1,246,938.26	\$7,003,514.08	\$8,250,466.06





New Programs - BRCOT

- Culinary Arts
- Tourism & Hospitality
- Athletic Training

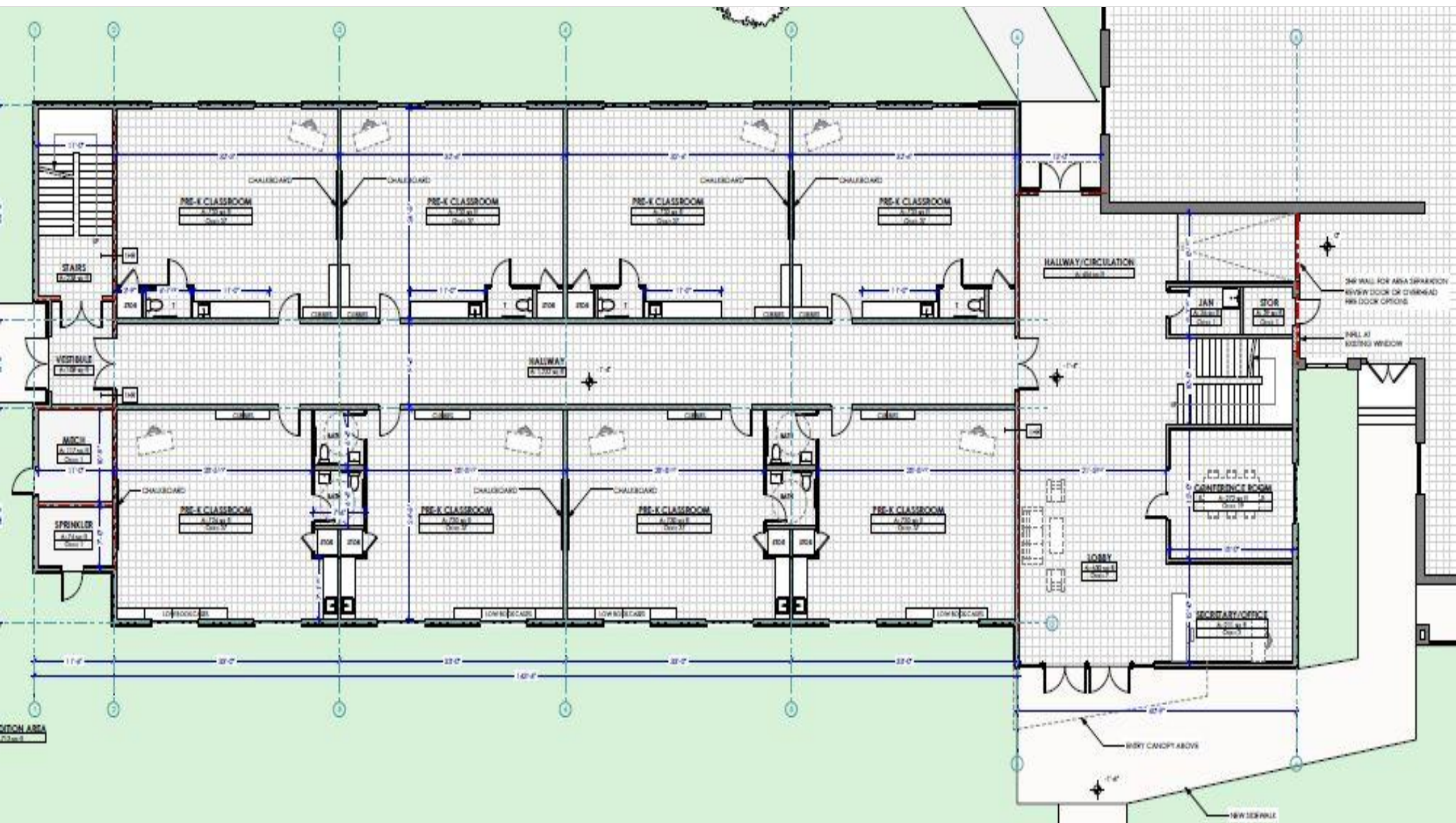
Additional Offerings for Local Students

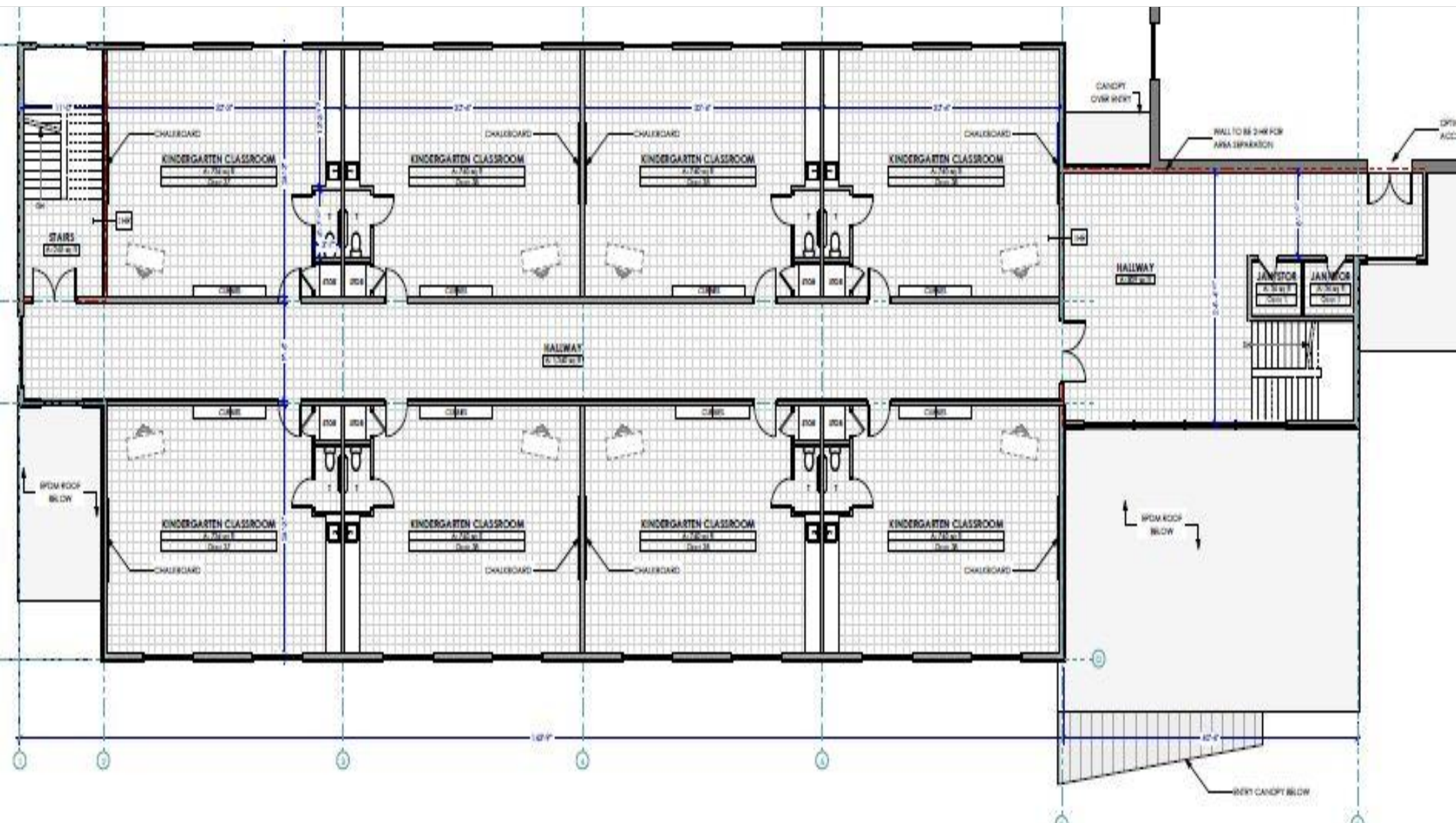


BPS Addition and Programming



- Fewer transitions during the elementary school years. BPS would house our students PreK-2.
- Partnership with local post secondary schools will continue providing many volunteer opportunities.
- Families would develop a deeper and long term partnership with the the staff at the start of their child's education.
- Students in grades PreK-5 will continue to receive the benefits of social emotional learning curriculum.





Questions?

—

Available Funding

- \$7 Million from CTE Infrastructure Grant*
- \$3.8 Million in Federal ARP Funds*
- \$750,000 Additional Carryover Funds

*Time requirements to spend.

COUNCIL MEETING

November 1, 2022

{The meeting was held in a hybrid model – in person and via Zoom}

Mayor Casavant called meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Roll Call: Scott Whiting, Norman Belanger, Liam LaFountain, and Doris Ortiz were present. Bobby Mills joined the meeting at 6:25pm via zoom. William Emhiser, Martin Grohman, Amy Clearwater and Marc Lessard were excused.

The Council and all who were present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustment to the Agenda:

ADD: November Homelessness Awareness Month – Proclamation

ADD: Discussion – Approval/Denial – Flag Display Appeal

Mayor Casavant read the following Proclamations;

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States and in 2022, accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer and prostate cancer combined; and

Whereas, screening for lung cancer for high-risk individuals using low-dose computed tomography can lead to the earlier detection of lung cancer and save lives, reducing the mortality by 20% when compared to screening by chest x-ray in the National Lung Screening Trial and reducing the risk of death at 10 years by 24% in men and 33% in women as demonstrated by another large randomized trial; and

Whereas, funding for lung cancer research trials is far behind funding for research of many other cancers, and additional research is needed in early diagnosis, screening and treatment for lung cancer as well as in lung cancer affecting women and lung cancer health disparities; and

Whereas, women diagnosed with lung cancer are more likely to be younger and never-smokers; lung cancer incidence and mortality rates in women are rising. More women die from lung cancer than breast cancer every year and by 2035, it is expected that more women will die from lung cancer than men; and

Whereas, organizations working in the community, such as the American Lung Cancer Screening Initiative and Women's Lung Cancer Forum, are committed to educating people about lung cancer and lung cancer screening while working to increase lung cancer screening rates.

Now Therefore, I, Alan Casavant, Mayor of the City of Biddeford, Maine do hereby proclaim November 2022 as **LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH** and encourage all citizens to educate themselves about the need for research, screening and early detection of lung cancer affecting women and men.

Biddeford joins the nation in recognizing November as Homelessness Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this proclamation is to educate the public about the many reasons people are homeless, and to encourage support for homeless assistance service providers and other service organizations; and

WHEREAS, there are several local organizations committed to sheltering, providing supportive services, as well as providing meals and food to those experiencing homelessness including: Seeds of Hope, York County Community Action, Bon Appetit Community Meal Program, Biddeford Food Pantry; and

WHEREAS, Seeds of Hope estimates there are between 50-60 people experiencing homelessness in our community and Biddeford schools have identified 50-75 students currently couch surfing due to housing insecurity, the Biddeford City Council recognizes that homelessness continues to be a serious problem for many individuals and families in our community; and

WHEREAS, public symbols of support for those experiencing homelessness can make a lasting impact on members of the homeless community who otherwise feel isolated and alone. The Biddeford City Council stands with the homeless community in their struggle for housing and to ensure dignity for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Alan Casavant, Mayor of the City of Biddeford, do hereby proclaim, November as Homelessness Awareness Month in Biddeford and encourage all residents to recognize that many people do not have housing and need support from citizens and private/public nonprofit service entities.

Public Hearing: Public Input Session on Police Chief Recruitment Process

The Public Hearing was opened at 6:09

There were no public comments

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 6:09

Public Addressing the Council: No Public Comments

Consideration of Minutes: October 18, 2022

Motion by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Councilor Whiting to accept the minutes as printed.

Vote: Unanimous

ARPA Second Reading:

2022.86 Allocation of Undesignated ARPA Funds

Motion made by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Councilor Whiting

Vote: Unanimous

Orders of the Day:

Committee-of-the-Whole: Special Assessment District

Councilor Whiting makes a motion to go into Committee-of-the-Whole, seconded by Councilor Belanger

Vote: Unanimous

Time: 6:10pm

Councilor Whiting makes a motion to exit Committee-of-the-Whole, seconded by Councilor Belanger

Vote: Unanimous

Time: 6:29pm

2022.92) Acceptance / Cricket Lane as a Public Way

Motion made by Councilor Whiting to accept Cricket Lane as a Public Way, seconded by Councilor Belanger

One Public Comment

Vote: Unanimous

2022.93) Acceptance / No Trespassing Policy – Andrews Rd Landfill

Motion made by Councilor Whiting to accept No Trespassing Policy – Andrews Rd Landfill, seconded by Councilor Belanger.

One Public Comment

Vote: Unanimous

2022.94) Discussion – Approval/Denial – Flag Display Appeal

Motion made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor LaFountain – Motion withdrawn by Councilor Whiting.

Two Public Comments

Motion made by Councilor Mills to allow both flags to fly during the month of November, seconded by Councilor Whiting.

Two Public Comments

Vote: 3-2, Councilors Mills, Ortiz Opposed. Councilors Belanger, Whiting, LaFountain in Favor. Motion passes as amended.

Motion made by Councilor Belanger to amend the motion and allow the Christian Flag to be flown from November 1st through November 12th and then allow the Transgender Flag to be flown from November 13th through November 20th and then the Christian Flag again from November 21st through November 30th, seconded by Councilor Whiting.

Three Public Comment

Vote: 3-2, Councilors Mills, Ortiz Opposed. Councilors Belanger, Whiting, LaFountain in Favor. Amendment passes.

Public Addressing the Council: Two people addressed the Council.

City Manager report: Jim Bennett did not give a City Manager's Report

Other Business:

Councilor LaFountain spoke about his visit to the Fire Department saying he was very impressed by their service and professionalism. He thanked the Fire Department for the work that they do in the community, not only regarding service calls but beyond that by going into the schools to do some preventative work to explain to the kids how to prevent fires and how to handle if there is a fire in their home.

Councilor LaFountain also spoke about the Recreation Department and how they hosted a family Halloween get-together at the Community Center and that there were over 500 kids and adults there to celebrate and he wanted to thank the Recreation Department for doing great job at organizing that.

Lastly Councilor LaFountain wanted to congratulate the Biddeford High School Volleyball team for having an undefeated season and a State Championship.

Council Mills spoke about his Ward Meeting and that it was very productive. He took a lot of notes regarding concerns some of the residents have. Councilor Mills feels the meeting went really well.

Council President Addressing the Council: Councilor Belanger did not address the Council.

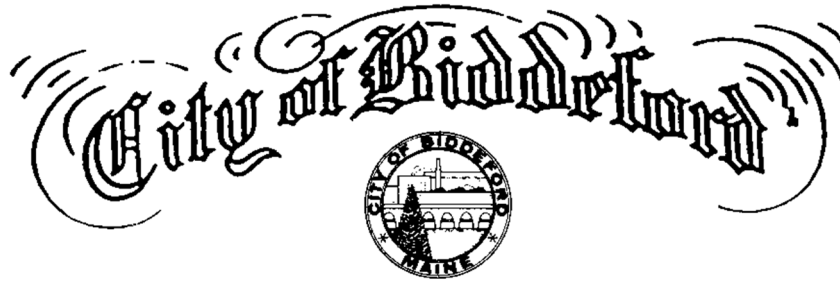
Mayor Addressing the Council: Mayor Casavant did not address the Council.

Executive Session: The Council did not enter into Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Belanger

Vote: Unanimous

Adjourned: 7:21pm



MUNICIPALITY OF BIDDEFORD, MAINE
GENERAL ASSISTANCE ORDINANCE

Pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 4305(1), the municipal officers of the Municipality of Biddeford, ME, after notice and hearing, hereby amend the municipal General Assistance Ordinance by repealing and replacing appendices A through G of the existing ordinance with the attached appendices A through H, which shall be in effect from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022. This amendment will be filed with the Maine Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 4305(4), and a copy of the ordinance and amended appendices shall be available for public inspection at the municipal office along with a copy of the 22 M.R.S. chapter 1161.

Signed this 15th day of November 2022, by the municipal officers:

_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)

[Please send a copy of the enactment page only to DHHS, 109 Capitol Street, SHS 11, Augusta, ME 04330-0011]

2022-2023 GA Overall Maximums

Metropolitan Areas

Persons in Household					
COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5*
Bangor HMFA: Bangor, Brewer, Eddington, Glenburn, Hampden, Hermon, Holden, Kenduskeag, Milford, Old Town, Orono, Orrington, Penobscot Indian Island Reservation, Veazie	826	955	1,219	1,515	2,071
Cumberland County HMFA: Baldwin, Bridgton, Brunswick, Harpswell, Harrison, Naples, New Gloucester, Pownal, Sebago	1,016	1,075	1,409	1,865	1,991
Lewiston/Auburn MSA: Auburn, Durham, Greene, Leeds, Lewiston, Lisbon, Livermore, Livermore Falls, Mechanic Falls, Minot, Poland, Sabattus, Turner, Wales	795	859	1,099	1,427	1,728
Penobscot County HMFA: Alton, Argyle UT, Bradford, Bradley, Burlington, Carmel, Carroll plantation, Charleston, Chester, Clifton, Corinna, Corinth, Dexter, Dixmont, Drew plantation, East Central Penobscot UT, East Millinocket, Edinburg, Enfield, Etna, Exeter, Garland, Greenbush, Howland, Hudson, Kingman UT, Lagrange, Lakeville, Lee, Levant, Lincoln, Lowell town, Mattawamkeag, Maxfield, Medway, Millinocket, Mount Chase, Newburgh Newport, North Penobscot UT, Passadumkeag, Patten, Plymouth, Prentiss UT, Seboeis plantation, Springfield, Stacyville, Stetson, Twombly UT, Webster plantation, Whitney UT, Winn, Woodville	789	792	1,043	1,302	1,420
Portland HMFA: Cape Elizabeth, Casco, Chebeague Island, Cumberland, Falmouth, Freeport, Frye Island, Gorham, Gray, Long Island, North Yarmouth, Portland, Raymond, Scarborough, South Portland, Standish, Westbrook, Windham, Yarmouth; Buxton, Hollis, Limington, Old Orchard Beach	1,263	1,463	1,893	2,415	2,958
Sagadahoc HMFA: Arrowsic, Bath, Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, Georgetown, Perkins UT, Phippsburg, Richmond, Topsham, West Bath, Woolwich	874	1,031	1,253	1,650	1,880

Appendix A
Effective: 10/01/22-09/30/23

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5*
York County HMFA: Acton, Alfred, Arundel, Biddeford, Cornish, Dayton, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Lebanon, Limerick, Lyman, Newfield, North Berwick, Ogunquit, Parsonsfield, Saco, Sanford, Shapleigh, Waterboro, Wells	1,072	1,082	1,355	1,717	1,984
York/Kittery/S.Berwick HMFA: Berwick, Eliot, Kittery, South Berwick, York	1,237	1,293	1,699	2,194	2,934

*Note: Add \$75 for each additional person.

Non-Metropolitan Areas

Persons in Household

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5*
Aroostook County	692	754	881	1,185	1,353
Franklin County	728	774	909	1,229	1,566
Hancock County	890	925	1,110	1,397	1,529
Kennebec County	819	835	1,038	1,360	1,451
Knox County	844	848	1,038	1,378	1,471
Lincoln County	925	941	1,178	1,463	1,912
Oxford County	814	815	993	1,400	1,627
Piscataquis County	701	752	926	1,227	1,477
Somerset County	755	790	1,017	1,323	1,416
Waldo County	970	972	1,155	1,441	1,970
Washington County	756	758	982	1,228	1,343

* Please Note: Add \$75 for each additional person.

Appendix B

Effective: 10/01/22 to 09/30/23

2022-2023 Food Maximums

Please Note: The maximum amounts allowed for food are established in accordance with the U.S.D.A. Thrifty Food Plan. As of October 1, 2022, those amounts are:

Number in Household	Weekly Maximum	Monthly Maximum
1	\$ 65.35	\$ 281.00
2	120.00	516.00
3	172.09	740.00
4	218.37	939.00
5	259.53	1,116.00
6	311.40	1,339.00
7	344.19	1,480.00
8	393.26	1,691.00

Note: For each additional person add \$211 per month.

2022-2023 GA Housing Maximums (Heated & Unheated Rents)

NOTE: NOT ALL MUNICIPALITIES SHOULD ADOPT THESE SUGGESTED HOUSING MAXIMUMS! Municipalities should ONLY **consider** adopting the following numbers, if these figures are consistent with local rent values. If not, a market survey should be conducted and the figures should be altered accordingly. The results of any such survey must be presented to DHHS prior to adoption. **Or, no housing maximums should be adopted and eligibility should be analyzed in terms of the Overall Maximum—Appendix A. (See Instruction Memo for further guidance.)**

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Aroostook County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	123	528	157	676
1	126	541	171	735
2	140	604	200	859
3	197	846	270	1,159
4	218	935	308	1,323
<u>Franklin County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	131	564	165	712
1	131	564	176	755
2	147	632	206	887
3	207	890	280	1,203
4	267	1,148	357	1,536
<u>Hancock County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	176	755	204	875
1	176	755	211	908
2	205	883	253	1,089
3	260	1,120	319	1,373
4	276	1,187	349	1,500
<u>Kennebec County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	159	684	187	804
1	159	684	190	818
2	189	811	237	1,017
3	252	1,083	311	1,336
4	258	1,109	331	1,422

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Knox County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	165	709	193	831
1	157	673	193	831
2	189	811	237	1,017
3	256	1,101	315	1,354
4	263	1,129	335	1,442
<u>Lincoln County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	184	790	212	910
1	184	790	215	924
2	221	951	269	1,157
3	276	1,186	335	1,439
4	365	1,570	438	1,883
<u>Oxford County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	158	679	186	799
1	158	679	186	799
2	178	766	226	972
3	261	1,123	320	1,376
4	299	1,285	372	1,598
<u>Piscataquis County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	125	537	159	685
1	125	539	171	733
2	151	649	210	904
3	206	888	279	1,201
4	246	1,059	336	1,447
<u>Somerset County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	144	620	172	740
1	144	620	180	773
2	184	790	232	996
3	243	1,046	302	1,299
4	250	1,074	322	1,387

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Waldo County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	194	835	222	955
1	194	835	222	955
2	216	928	264	1,134
3	271	1,164	329	1,417
4	379	1,628	451	1,941
<u>Washington County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	144	621	172	741
1	144	621	172	741
2	176	755	224	961
3	221	951	280	1,204
4	233	1,001	306	1,314

Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Bangor HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	161	691	189	811
1	181	780	218	938
2	231	992	279	1,198
3	288	1,238	347	1,491
4	402	1,729	475	2,042
<u>Cumberland Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	205	881	233	1,001
1	209	900	246	1,058
2	275	1,182	323	1,388
3	369	1,588	428	1,841
4	383	1,649	456	1,962
<u>Lewiston/Auburn MSA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	153	660	181	780
1	159	684	196	842
2	203	872	251	1,078
3	267	1,150	326	1,403
4	322	1,386	395	1,699

Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Penobscot Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	152	654	180	775
1	152	654	180	775
2	190	816	238	1,022
3	238	1,025	297	1,278
4	251	1,078	323	1,391
<u>Portland HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	262	1,128	290	1,248
1	300	1,288	336	1,446
2	387	1,666	435	1,872
3	497	2,138	556	2,391
4	608	2,616	681	2,929
<u>Sagadahoc Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	172	739	200	859
1	199	856	236	1,014
2	239	1,026	287	1,232
3	319	1,373	378	1,626
4	358	1,538	430	1,851
<u>York Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	218	937	246	1,057
1	218	937	248	1,065
2	262	1,128	310	1,334
3	335	1,440	394	1,693
4	382	1,642	455	1,955
<u>York/Kittery/S. Berwick HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	256	1,102	284	1,222
1	260	1,118	297	1,276
2	342	1,472	390	1,678
3	446	1,917	505	2,170
4	603	2,592	676	2,905

2022-2023 GA MAXIMUMS SUMMARY SHEET

Note: The overall maximums found in *Appendices A, B, C, D, E, and F* are effective from **October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023.**

APPENDIX A - OVERALL MAXIMUMS

<u>County</u>	<u>Persons in Household</u>					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
York County HMFA	1,072	1,082	1,355	1,717	1,984	2,059

NOTE: For each additional person add \$75 per month.

(The applicable figures from Appendix A, *once adopted*, should be inserted here.)

APPENDIX B - FOOD MAXIMUMS

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly Maximum</u>	<u>Monthly Maximum</u>
1	\$ 65.35	\$ 281.00
2	120.00	516.00
3	172.09	740.00
4	218.37	939.00
5	259.53	1,116.00
6	311.40	1,339.00
7	344.19	1,480.00
8	393.26	1,691.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$211 per month.

APPENDIX C - HOUSING MAXIMUMS

Number of Bedrooms	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	218	937	246	1,057
1	218	937	248	1,065
2	262	1,128	310	1,334
3	335	1,440	394	1,693
4	382	1,642	455	1,955

(The applicable figures from Appendix C, *once adopted*, should be inserted here.)

FOR MUNICIPAL USE ONLY

MMA
08/22

APPENDIX D - UTILITIES

ELECTRIC

NOTE: For an electrically heated dwelling also see “Heating Fuel” maximums below. But remember, an applicant is ***not automatically*** entitled to the “maximums” established—applicants must demonstrate need.

1) **Electricity Maximums for Households Without Electric Hot Water:** The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, for lights, cooking and other electric uses ***excluding*** electric hot water and heat:

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
1	\$19.95	\$ 85.50
2	\$22.52	\$ 96.50
3	\$24.97	\$107.00
4	\$27.53	\$118.00
5	\$29.88	\$128.50
6	\$32.55	\$139.50

NOTE: For each additional person add \$10.50 per month.

2) **Electricity Maximums for Households With Electrically Heated Hot Water:** The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, hot water, for lights, cooking and other electric uses ***excluding*** heat:

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
1	\$29.63	\$127.00
2	\$34.07	\$146.00
3	\$39.67	\$170.00
4	\$46.32	\$198.50
5	\$55.65	\$238.50
6	\$58.68	\$251.50

NOTE: For each additional person add \$14.50 per month.

NOTE: For electrically heated households, the maximum amount allowed for electrical utilities per month shall be the sum of the appropriate maximum amount under this subsection and the appropriate maximum for heating fuel as provided below.

APPENDIX E - HEATING FUEL

<u>Month</u>	<u>Gallons</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Gallons</u>
September	50	January	225
October	100	February	225
November	200	March	125
December	200	April	125
		May	50

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NOTE: When the dwelling unit is heated electrically, the maximum amount allowed for heating purposes will be calculated by multiplying the number of gallons of fuel allowed for that month by the current price per gallon. When fuels such as wood, coal and/or natural gas are used for heating purposes, they will be budgeted at actual rates, if they are reasonable. No eligible applicant shall be considered to need more than 7 tons of coal per year, 8 cords of wood per year, 126,000 cubic feet of natural gas per year, or 1000 gallons of propane.

APPENDIX F - PERSONAL CARE & HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly Amount</u>	<u>Monthly Amount</u>
1-2	\$10.50	\$45.00
3-4	\$11.60	\$50.00
5-6	\$12.80	\$55.00
7-8	\$14.00	\$60.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$1.25 per week or \$5.00 per month.

SUPPLEMENT FOR HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN UNDER 5

When an applicant can verify expenditures for the following items, a special supplement will be budgeted as necessary for households with children under 5 years of age for items such as cloth or disposable diapers, laundry powder, oil, shampoo, and ointment up to the following amounts:

<u>Number of Children</u>	<u>Weekly Amount</u>	<u>Monthly Amount</u>
1	\$12.80	\$55.00
2	\$17.40	\$75.00
3	\$23.30	\$100.00
4	\$27.90	\$120.00

FOR MUNICIPAL USE ONLY

MMA
08/22

APPENDIX G

Effective 10/01/22

Mileage Rate

This municipality adopts the State of Maine travel expense reimbursement rate as set by the Office of the State Controller as may be amended from time to time. The current rate for approved employment and necessary medical travel etc., is forty-six cents (46¢) per mile.

Please refer to the Office of State Controller for changes to this rate: Telephone: 626-8420 or visit:
<http://www.state.me.us/osc/>

Funeral Maximums

Burial Maximums

The maximum amount of general assistance granted for the purpose of burial is **\$1,475**. The municipality's obligation to provide funds for burial purposes is limited to a reasonable calculation of the funeral director's direct costs, not to exceed the maximum amounts of assistance described in this section. Allowable burial expenses are limited to:

- removal of the body from a local residence or institution
- a secured death certificate or obituary
- embalming
- a minimum casket
- a reasonable cost for necessary transportation
- other reasonable and necessary specified direct costs, as itemized by the funeral director and approved by the municipal administrator.

Additional costs may be allowed by the GA administrator, where there is an actual cost, for:

- the wholesale cost of a cement liner if the cemetery by-laws require one;
- the opening and closing of the grave site; and
- a lot in the least expensive section of the cemetery. If the municipality is able to provide a cemetery lot in a municipally owned cemetery or in a cemetery under municipal control, the cost of the cemetery lot in any other cemetery will not be paid by the municipality.

Cremation Maximums

The maximum amount of assistance granted for a cremation shall be **\$1,025**.

The municipality's obligation to provide funds for cremation purposes is limited to a reasonable calculation of the funeral director's direct costs, not to exceed the maximum amounts of assistance described in this section. Allowable cremation expenses are limited to:

- removal and transportation of the body from a local residence or institution
- professional fees
- crematorium fees
- a secured death certificate or obituary

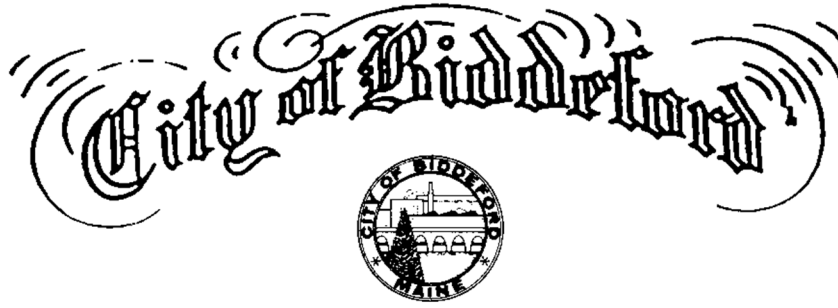
Appendix H

Effective: 10/01/22-9/30/23

- other reasonable and necessary specified direct costs, as itemized by the funeral director and approved by the municipal administrator.

Additional costs may be allowed by the GA administrator where there is an actual cost, for:

- a cremation lot in the least expensive section of the cemetery
- a reasonable cost for a burial urn not to exceed \$55
- transportation costs borne by the funeral director at a reasonable rate per mile for transporting the remains to and from the cremation facility.



2022.95

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... November 15, 2022

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford hereby amends the current Model General Assistance Ordinance by repealing appendices A-H and replacing these with the FY23 General Assistance Maximums Appendices A-H, for the period of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023 as published by the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the City Clerk be authorized to sign the DHHS *GA Appendices Adoption Form* on behalf of the City Council.



City Council

Meeting Date: November 15th, 2022

Meeting Time: 6:00 PM

Agenda Item No: 9.a.

Item Description: 2022.95) Acceptance/General Assistance Maximums

Submitted by: JJ Bennett, General Assistance Administrator

Supporting Information/Documentation:

- 2023 Maximums provided by the DHHS General Assistance Hotline for the York County HMFA region, that includes the City of Biddeford – “FY23 GA Maximum Summary Sheet”
- 2022 Maximums Provided by DHHS, for the York County HMFA region, that includes the City of Biddeford – “FY22 GA Maximum Summary Sheet”

Key Terms:

Unheated – when referenced in regard to housing or housing maximum limits, refers to a rented dwelling having the heating of the unit being the responsibility of the Tenant.

Heated- when referenced in regard to housing or housing maximums limits, refers to a rented or owned dwelling having the heating of the unit being the responsibility of the Landlord or property owner.

Executive Summary:

The DHHS General Assistance Hotline has provided a new Maximums Reference Sheet for the York County HMFA (which includes the City of Biddeford) and the maximums must either be approved by the Municipal Officers, or if the municipality wishes to establish their own General Assistance Maximums, documentation must be submitted to DHHS verifying that any changes made to the levels of assistance are appropriate to maintaining health and decency.

Detailed Review:

DHHS has provided, the updated Maximum Reference sheet and appendices to municipalities for their respective geographic areas. In years past the updated General Assistance Maximums are accompanied by the updated General Assistance Ordinance. This year the updated Ordinance has been delayed, and there is no confirmed date for which the ordinance is expected to be completed and released. The city receives reimbursement for General Assistance that is administered at the 70% rate.

Changes from the FY 2022 General Assistance Maximums are as follows:

- Increase in the dollar amount allotted to the overall maximum for eligible individuals/families
- Increased housing maximums for both heated and unheated Electricity Maximums
- Increased food maximums that are congruent with the increased maximum dollar amounts allotted by the SNAP program.
- Burial and cremation maximums

The FY22 GA Maximums, by the associated Order, will be updated to reflect the FY23 GA Maximums. Sections of the ordinance may need to be updated at a future date once the model ordinance is available.

Funding Source:

Fiscal Year 2023 Health and Welfare Budget allocation.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval.

2021

General Assistance Maximums Reference Sheet-York County HMFA

2022

Oct 1, 2021 to Sept 30, 2022

<u>OVERALL MAXIMUMS</u>					<u>HOUSING MAXIMUMS</u>					<u>ELECTRIC</u>		
Persons in Household										NOTE: For an electrically heated dwelling also see "Heating Fuel" maximums below. But remember, an applicant is not automatically entitled to the "maximums" established applicants must demonstrate need. 1) Electricity Maximums for Households <u>Without</u> Electric Hot Water: The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, for lights, cooking and other electric uses excluding electric hot water and heat:		
1	2	3	4	5	BEDROOM	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly			
\$1,016	\$1,030	\$1,293	\$1,615	\$1,896	0	\$201	\$863	\$224	\$963			
Household of 6 = \$1,971					1	\$201	\$863	\$225	\$968			
* Add \$75 for each additional person					2	\$243	\$1,047	\$284	\$1,221			
<u>FOOD MAXIMUMS</u>					<u>PERSONAL CARE & HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES</u>					NOTE: For each additional person add \$7.50 per month.		
Persons	Weekly	Monthly		<u>Number in Household</u> <u>Weekly Amount</u> <u>Monthly Amount</u>								
1	\$58.14	\$250		1-2 \$10.50 \$45.00								
2	\$106.74	\$459		3-4 \$11.60 \$50.00								
3	\$153.02	\$658		5-6 \$12.80 \$55.00								
4	\$194.19	\$835		7-8 \$14.00 \$60.00					2) Electricity Maximums for Households <u>With</u> Electrically Heated Hot Water: The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, hot water, for lights, cooking and other electric uses excluding heat:			
5	\$230.70	\$992		NOTE: For each additional person add \$1.25 per week or \$5.00 per month.								
6	\$276.74	\$1,190										
7	\$306.05	\$1,316										
8	\$349.77	\$1,504										
Add \$188 per month for each + person					<u>SUPPLEMENT FOR HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN UNDER 5</u>					NOTE: For each additional person add \$10.00 per month.		
<u>HEATING FUEL</u>					When an applicant can verify expenditures for the following items, a special supplement will be budgeted as necessary for households with children under 5 years of age for items such as cloth or disposable diapers, laundry powder, oil, shampoo, and ointment up to the following amounts:							
Month	Gallons	Month	Gallons		<u>Number of Children</u> <u>Weekly Amount</u> <u>Monthly Amount</u>							
September	50	January	225		1 \$12.80 \$55.00							
October	100	February	225		2 \$17.40 \$75.00							
November	200	March	125		3 \$23.30 \$100.00					***New - Appendix H Revisions		
December	200	April	125		4 \$27.90 \$120.00							
NOTE: When the dwelling unit is heated electrically, the maximum amount allowed for heating purposes will be calculated by multiplying the number of gallons of fuel allowed for that month by the current price per gallon. When fuels such as wood, coal and/or natural gas are used for heating purposes, they will be budgeted at actual rates, if they are reasonable. No eligible applicant shall be considered to need more than 7 tons of coal per year, 8 cords of wood per year, 126,000 cubic feet of natural gas per year, or 1000 gallons of propane.					Burial Maximum: \$1,475							
					Cremation Maximum: \$1,025							
					1-800-442-6003 Revised 7/22/20							

2022

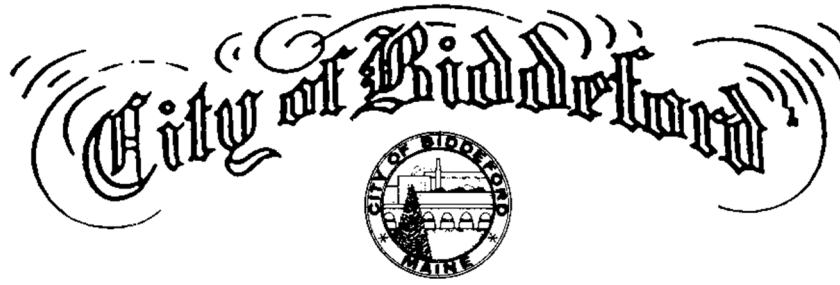
General Assistance Maximums Reference Sheet-York County HMFA

2023

Oct 1, 2022 to Sept 30, 2023

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1-800-442-6003



MUNICIPALITY OF BIDDEFORD, MAINE
GENERAL ASSISTANCE ORDINANCE

Pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 4305(1), the municipal officers of the Municipality of Biddeford, ME, after notice and hearing, hereby amend the municipal General Assistance Ordinance by repealing and replacing appendices A through G of the existing ordinance with the attached appendices A through G, which shall be in effect from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022. This amendment will be filed with the Maine Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 4305(4), and a copy of the ordinance and amended appendices shall be available for public inspection at the municipal office along with a copy of the 22 M.R.S. chapter 1161.

Signed this 15th day of November 2022, by the municipal officers:

_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)
_____ (Print Name)	_____ (Signature)

[Please send a copy of the enactment page only to DHHS, 109 Capitol Street, SHS 11, Augusta, ME 04330-0011]

2022-2023 GA Overall Maximums

Metropolitan Areas

Persons in Household					
COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5*
Bangor HMFA: Bangor, Brewer, Eddington, Glenburn, Hampden, Hermon, Holden, Kenduskeag, Milford, Old Town, Orono, Orrington, Penobscot Indian Island Reservation, Veazie	826	955	1,219	1,515	2,071
Cumberland County HMFA: Baldwin, Bridgton, Brunswick, Harpswell, Harrison, Naples, New Gloucester, Pownal, Sebago	1,016	1,075	1,409	1,865	1,991
Lewiston/Auburn MSA: Auburn, Durham, Greene, Leeds, Lewiston, Lisbon, Livermore, Livermore Falls, Mechanic Falls, Minot, Poland, Sabattus, Turner, Wales	795	859	1,099	1,427	1,728
Penobscot County HMFA: Alton, Argyle UT, Bradford, Bradley, Burlington, Carmel, Carroll plantation, Charleston, Chester, Clifton, Corinna, Corinth, Dexter, Dixmont, Drew plantation, East Central Penobscot UT, East Millinocket, Edinburg, Enfield, Etna, Exeter, Garland, Greenbush, Howland, Hudson, Kingman UT, Lagrange, Lakeville, Lee, Levant, Lincoln, Lowell town, Mattawamkeag, Maxfield, Medway, Millinocket, Mount Chase, Newburgh Newport, North Penobscot UT, Passadumkeag, Patten, Plymouth, Prentiss UT, Seboeis plantation, Springfield, Stacyville, Stetson, Twombly UT, Webster plantation, Whitney UT, Winn, Woodville	789	792	1,043	1,302	1,420
Portland HMFA: Cape Elizabeth, Casco, Chebeague Island, Cumberland, Falmouth, Freeport, Frye Island, Gorham, Gray, Long Island, North Yarmouth, Portland, Raymond, Scarborough, South Portland, Standish, Westbrook, Windham, Yarmouth; Buxton, Hollis, Limington, Old Orchard Beach	1,263	1,463	1,893	2,415	2,958
Sagadahoc HMFA: Arrowsic, Bath, Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, Georgetown, Perkins UT, Phippsburg, Richmond, Topsham, West Bath, Woolwich	874	1,031	1,253	1,650	1,880

Appendix A
Effective: 10/01/22-09/30/23

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5*
York County HMFA: Acton, Alfred, Arundel, Biddeford, Cornish, Dayton, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Lebanon, Limerick, Lyman, Newfield, North Berwick, Ogunquit, Parsonsfield, Saco, Sanford, Shapleigh, Waterboro, Wells	1,072	1,082	1,355	1,717	1,984
York/Kittery/S.Berwick HMFA: Berwick, Eliot, Kittery, South Berwick, York	1,237	1,293	1,699	2,194	2,934

*Note: Add \$75 for each additional person.

Non-Metropolitan Areas

Persons in Household

COUNTY	1	2	3	4	5*
Aroostook County	692	754	881	1,185	1,353
Franklin County	728	774	909	1,229	1,566
Hancock County	890	925	1,110	1,397	1,529
Kennebec County	819	835	1,038	1,360	1,451
Knox County	844	848	1,038	1,378	1,471
Lincoln County	925	941	1,178	1,463	1,912
Oxford County	814	815	993	1,400	1,627
Piscataquis County	701	752	926	1,227	1,477
Somerset County	755	790	1,017	1,323	1,416
Waldo County	970	972	1,155	1,441	1,970
Washington County	756	758	982	1,228	1,343

* Please Note: Add \$75 for each additional person.

Appendix B

Effective: 10/01/22 to 09/30/23

2022-2023 Food Maximums

Please Note: The maximum amounts allowed for food are established in accordance with the U.S.D.A. Thrifty Food Plan. As of October 1, 2022, those amounts are:

Number in Household	Weekly Maximum	Monthly Maximum
1	\$ 65.35	\$ 281.00
2	120.00	516.00
3	172.09	740.00
4	218.37	939.00
5	259.53	1,116.00
6	311.40	1,339.00
7	344.19	1,480.00
8	393.26	1,691.00

Note: For each additional person add \$211 per month.

2022-2023 GA Housing Maximums (Heated & Unheated Rents)

NOTE: NOT ALL MUNICIPALITIES SHOULD ADOPT THESE SUGGESTED HOUSING MAXIMUMS! Municipalities should ONLY **consider** adopting the following numbers, if these figures are consistent with local rent values. If not, a market survey should be conducted and the figures should be altered accordingly. The results of any such survey must be presented to DHHS prior to adoption. **Or, no housing maximums should be adopted and eligibility should be analyzed in terms of the Overall Maximum—Appendix A. (See Instruction Memo for further guidance.)**

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Aroostook County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	123	528	157	676
1	126	541	171	735
2	140	604	200	859
3	197	846	270	1,159
4	218	935	308	1,323
<u>Franklin County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	131	564	165	712
1	131	564	176	755
2	147	632	206	887
3	207	890	280	1,203
4	267	1,148	357	1,536
<u>Hancock County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	176	755	204	875
1	176	755	211	908
2	205	883	253	1,089
3	260	1,120	319	1,373
4	276	1,187	349	1,500
<u>Kennebec County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	159	684	187	804
1	159	684	190	818
2	189	811	237	1,017
3	252	1,083	311	1,336
4	258	1,109	331	1,422

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Knox County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	165	709	193	831
1	157	673	193	831
2	189	811	237	1,017
3	256	1,101	315	1,354
4	263	1,129	335	1,442
<u>Lincoln County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	184	790	212	910
1	184	790	215	924
2	221	951	269	1,157
3	276	1,186	335	1,439
4	365	1,570	438	1,883
<u>Oxford County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	158	679	186	799
1	158	679	186	799
2	178	766	226	972
3	261	1,123	320	1,376
4	299	1,285	372	1,598
<u>Piscataquis County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	125	537	159	685
1	125	539	171	733
2	151	649	210	904
3	206	888	279	1,201
4	246	1,059	336	1,447
<u>Somerset County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	144	620	172	740
1	144	620	180	773
2	184	790	232	996
3	243	1,046	302	1,299
4	250	1,074	322	1,387

Non-Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Waldo County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	194	835	222	955
1	194	835	222	955
2	216	928	264	1,134
3	271	1,164	329	1,417
4	379	1,628	451	1,941
<u>Washington County</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	144	621	172	741
1	144	621	172	741
2	176	755	224	961
3	221	951	280	1,204
4	233	1,001	306	1,314

Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Bangor HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	161	691	189	811
1	181	780	218	938
2	231	992	279	1,198
3	288	1,238	347	1,491
4	402	1,729	475	2,042
<u>Cumberland Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	205	881	233	1,001
1	209	900	246	1,058
2	275	1,182	323	1,388
3	369	1,588	428	1,841
4	383	1,649	456	1,962
<u>Lewiston/Auburn MSA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	153	660	181	780
1	159	684	196	842
2	203	872	251	1,078
3	267	1,150	326	1,403
4	322	1,386	395	1,699

Metropolitan FMR Areas

<u>Penobscot Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	152	654	180	775
1	152	654	180	775
2	190	816	238	1,022
3	238	1,025	297	1,278
4	251	1,078	323	1,391
<u>Portland HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	262	1,128	290	1,248
1	300	1,288	336	1,446
2	387	1,666	435	1,872
3	497	2,138	556	2,391
4	608	2,616	681	2,929
<u>Sagadahoc Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	172	739	200	859
1	199	856	236	1,014
2	239	1,026	287	1,232
3	319	1,373	378	1,626
4	358	1,538	430	1,851
<u>York Cty. HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	218	937	246	1,057
1	218	937	248	1,065
2	262	1,128	310	1,334
3	335	1,440	394	1,693
4	382	1,642	455	1,955
<u>York/Kittery/S. Berwick HMFA</u>	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
Bedrooms	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	256	1,102	284	1,222
1	260	1,118	297	1,276
2	342	1,472	390	1,678
3	446	1,917	505	2,170
4	603	2,592	676	2,905

2022-2023 GA MAXIMUMS SUMMARY SHEET

Note: The overall maximums found in *Appendices A, B, C, D, E, and F* are effective from **October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023.**

APPENDIX A - OVERALL MAXIMUMS

<u>County</u>	<u>Persons in Household</u>					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
York County HMFA	1,072	1,082	1,355	1,717	1,984	2,059

NOTE: For each additional person add \$75 per month.

(The applicable figures from Appendix A, *once adopted*, should be inserted here.)

APPENDIX B - FOOD MAXIMUMS

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly Maximum</u>	<u>Monthly Maximum</u>
1	\$ 65.35	\$ 281.00
2	120.00	516.00
3	172.09	740.00
4	218.37	939.00
5	259.53	1,116.00
6	311.40	1,339.00
7	344.19	1,480.00
8	393.26	1,691.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$211 per month.

APPENDIX C - HOUSING MAXIMUMS

Number of Bedrooms	<u>Unheated</u>		<u>Heated</u>	
	Weekly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly
0	218	937	246	1,057
1	218	937	248	1,065
2	262	1,128	310	1,334
3	335	1,440	394	1,693
4	382	1,642	455	1,955

(The applicable figures from Appendix C, *once adopted*, should be inserted here.)

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APPENDIX D - UTILITIES

ELECTRIC

NOTE: For an electrically heated dwelling also see “Heating Fuel” maximums below. But remember, an applicant is *not automatically* entitled to the “maximums” established—applicants must demonstrate need.

1) **Electricity Maximums for Households Without Electric Hot Water:** The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, for lights, cooking and other electric uses *excluding* electric hot water and heat:

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
1	\$19.95	\$ 85.50
2	\$22.52	\$ 96.50
3	\$24.97	\$107.00
4	\$27.53	\$118.00
5	\$29.88	\$128.50
6	\$32.55	\$139.50

NOTE: For each additional person add \$10.50 per month.

2) **Electricity Maximums for Households With Electrically Heated Hot Water:** The maximum amounts allowed for utilities, hot water, for lights, cooking and other electric uses *excluding* heat:

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
1	\$29.63	\$127.00
2	\$34.07	\$146.00
3	\$39.67	\$170.00
4	\$46.32	\$198.50
5	\$55.65	\$238.50
6	\$58.68	\$251.50

NOTE: For each additional person add \$14.50 per month.

NOTE: For electrically heated households, the maximum amount allowed for electrical utilities per month shall be the sum of the appropriate maximum amount under this subsection and the appropriate maximum for heating fuel as provided below.

APPENDIX E - HEATING FUEL

<u>Month</u>	<u>Gallons</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Gallons</u>
September	50	January	225
October	100	February	225
November	200	March	125
December	200	April	125
		May	50

FOR MUNICIPAL USE ONLY

NOTE: When the dwelling unit is heated electrically, the maximum amount allowed for heating purposes will be calculated by multiplying the number of gallons of fuel allowed for that month by the current price per gallon. When fuels such as wood, coal and/or natural gas are used for heating purposes, they will be budgeted at actual rates, if they are reasonable. No eligible applicant shall be considered to need more than 7 tons of coal per year, 8 cords of wood per year, 126,000 cubic feet of natural gas per year, or 1000 gallons of propane.

APPENDIX F - PERSONAL CARE & HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES

<u>Number in Household</u>	<u>Weekly Amount</u>	<u>Monthly Amount</u>
1-2	\$10.50	\$45.00
3-4	\$11.60	\$50.00
5-6	\$12.80	\$55.00
7-8	\$14.00	\$60.00

NOTE: For each additional person add \$1.25 per week or \$5.00 per month.

SUPPLEMENT FOR HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN UNDER 5

When an applicant can verify expenditures for the following items, a special supplement will be budgeted as necessary for households with children under 5 years of age for items such as cloth or disposable diapers, laundry powder, oil, shampoo, and ointment up to the following amounts:

<u>Number of Children</u>	<u>Weekly Amount</u>	<u>Monthly Amount</u>
1	\$12.80	\$55.00
2	\$17.40	\$75.00
3	\$23.30	\$100.00
4	\$27.90	\$120.00

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APPENDIX G

Effective 10/01/22

Mileage Rate

This municipality adopts the State of Maine travel expense reimbursement rate as set by the Office of the State Controller as may be amended from time to time. The current rate for approved employment and necessary medical travel etc., is forty-six cents (46¢) per mile.

Please refer to the Office of State Controller for changes to this rate: Telephone: 626-8420 or visit:
<http://www.state.me.us/osc/>

Funeral Maximums

Burial Maximums

The maximum amount of general assistance granted for the purpose of burial is **\$1,475**. The municipality's obligation to provide funds for burial purposes is limited to a reasonable calculation of the funeral director's direct costs, not to exceed the maximum amounts of assistance described in this section. Allowable burial expenses are limited to:

- removal of the body from a local residence or institution
- a secured death certificate or obituary
- embalming
- a minimum casket
- a reasonable cost for necessary transportation
- other reasonable and necessary specified direct costs, as itemized by the funeral director and approved by the municipal administrator.

Additional costs may be allowed by the GA administrator, where there is an actual cost, for:

- the wholesale cost of a cement liner if the cemetery by-laws require one;
- the opening and closing of the grave site; and
- a lot in the least expensive section of the cemetery. If the municipality is able to provide a cemetery lot in a municipally owned cemetery or in a cemetery under municipal control, the cost of the cemetery lot in any other cemetery will not be paid by the municipality.

Cremation Maximums

The maximum amount of assistance granted for a cremation shall be **\$1,025**.

The municipality's obligation to provide funds for cremation purposes is limited to a reasonable calculation of the funeral director's direct costs, not to exceed the maximum amounts of assistance described in this section. Allowable cremation expenses are limited to:

- removal and transportation of the body from a local residence or institution
- professional fees
- crematorium fees
- a secured death certificate or obituary

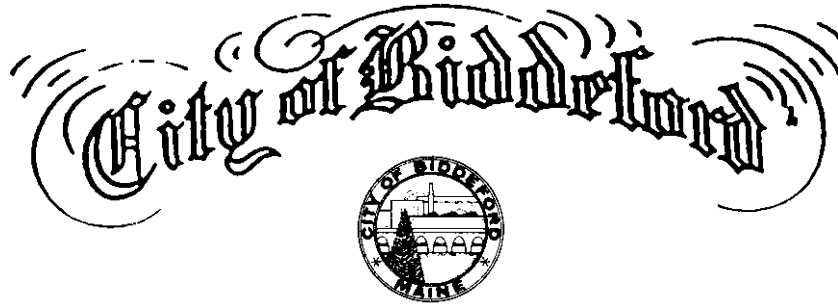
Appendix H

Effective: 10/01/22-9/30/23

- other reasonable and necessary specified direct costs, as itemized by the funeral director and approved by the municipal administrator.

Additional costs may be allowed by the GA administrator where there is an actual cost, for:

- a cremation lot in the least expensive section of the cemetery
- a reasonable cost for a burial urn not to exceed \$55
- transportation costs borne by the funeral director at a reasonable rate per mile for transporting the remains to and from the cremation facility.



2022.96 **IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..NOVEMBER 15, 2022**
BE IT ORDERED, that the City Manager be authorized to sign a contract with Gale Associates, Inc. for airport planning and engineering services for the Biddeford Municipal Airport for a 5-year term. The consultants would focus on projects that are eligible for Federal and State grants covering 95% of the cost. The project costs that are eligible for grants also include the consultant's fees.

NOTE: At their September 29, 2022 meeting, the Airport Commission reviewed the RFQ's for an Airport Consulting Firm and unanimously recommended Gale Associates, Inc.



City Council

Meeting Date: November 15, 2022

Meeting Time: 6:00 PM

Agenda Item No: 2022.96

Item Description: Authorization/Contract w/Gale Associates, Inc./Consultant for Biddeford Municipal Airport

Submitted by: Jeff Demers, Public Works Director
John Taylor, Airport Manager

Supporting Information/Documentation:

Updated Agreement with Gale Associates, Inc.

Key Terms:

N/A

Executive Summary:

Every five years, the City enters into a planning and engineering contract with a qualified Airport Consultant who assists with all major projects at the Biddeford Municipal Airport. The current Consultant contract was approved in 2017 and will expire at the end of the year.

Detailed Review:

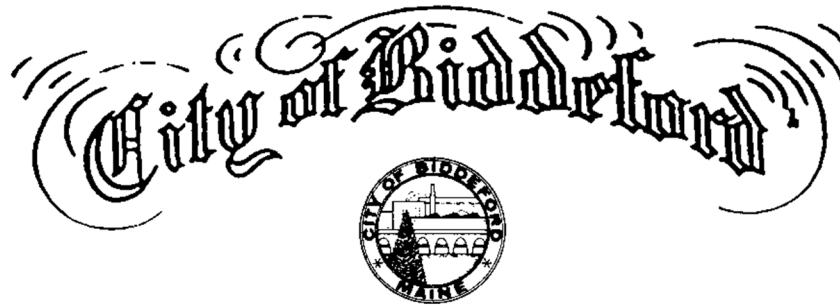
An RFQ was put out in August 2022 with submissions due September 16, 2022. There were two inquiries to the RFQ, and only one submission. Gale Associates, Inc. is the City's current Airport Consultant and both Staff and the Airport Commission agree that they are the best choice.

Funding Source:

Consultant fees are included in any project costs that are eligible for grants.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff, and the Airport Commission, recommend renewing the Consultant contract with Gale Associates, Inc.

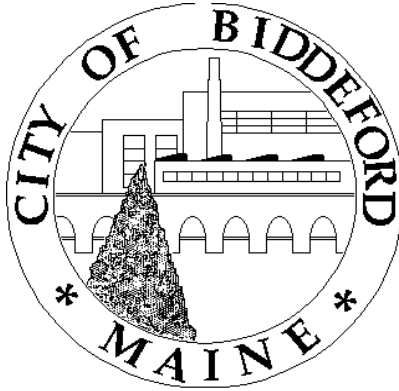


2022. 97

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..NOVEMBER 15, 2022

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby approve a “blanket letter of approval” for the renewals of State Beano/Bingo applications and State Game of Chance applications for all applicable local organizations, to cover the calendar year of 2023.

NOTE: This Blanket Letter of Approval eliminates the need to obtain Councilors’ signatures each time an application is filed with the City Clerk. However, the City Council still needs to consider and approve each application.



November 2022

Dept. of Public Safety, Gaming & Weapons Section
164 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0164

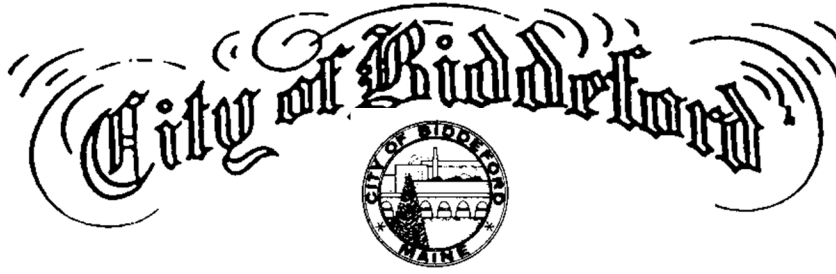
To Whom It May Concern:

The Municipal Officers of the City of Biddeford, at their Council meeting of November 15, 2022 granted a "blanket letter of approval" for any and all renewals of Beano/Bingo applications and Game of Chance applications for all applicable organizations in Biddeford. This "blanket letter of approval" will cover the calendar year of 2023.

*Municipal Officers
City of Biddeford*

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

ATTEST BY: _____



2022.98 **IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...November 15, 2022**
BE IT ORDERED, by the City Council of the City of Biddeford that the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 30, Public Safety, Article III FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU, **Section 30-147 Fire Lanes**, be amended by adding or ~~deleting~~ text to read as follows:

Sec. 30-147 Fire lanes.

(a) Purpose. Fire lanes are established for the purpose of promoting the public health, safety and welfare by recognizing that there exist, and will in the future exist, buildings and other areas within the City within which and to which the public will be invited, served or housed. These buildings or other areas must be provided prompt, adequate emergency services, including access by fire fighters and firefighting equipment and other emergency personnel and equipment, in order to accomplish such purposes and effect the saving of life and property in emergency situations.

(b) Applicability.

The provisions of this article shall, in order to accomplish the stated purpose, be applicable to all proposed developments, subdivisions, buildings and other premises as defined by the Planning Board; or, in any other areas within the City that the Fire Chief deems access to public land is necessary in order to accomplish its mission.

(c) Establishment of fire lanes.

(1) Each application for residential or nonresidential subdivision approval and each application for site plan review submitted to the Planning Board shall be reviewed by the Chief of the Fire Department and/or the State Fire Marshal within which such development or building is located. The Fire Chief and/or Fire Marshal shall review each such application to determine the location of such fire lanes as are necessary and report his finding, recommendations and suggested designation of fire lanes to the Planning Board, in writing, which findings, recommendations and suggested designations of fire lanes shall be made a part of the record of proceedings before the Planning Board on each such subdivision site plan review application. In such cases, the decision of the Planning Board shall govern the requirement and designation of such fire lanes.

- (2) Within existing developments and premises to which this article is applicable, the Fire Chief shall designate fire lanes by written order and shall notify in writing both the Planning Board and the owner, owners or agents of such development or premises by certified mail of such designation and of any specific requirements for compliance with this article, and shall publish notice of such establishment of such fire lanes once in a newspaper having general circulation within the City. The Fire Chief shall file one copy of any order of designation of any such fire lanes with the City Clerk. Any person aggrieved by such order may file with the Clerk within 30 days after the date of the receipt of such order written notice of appeal, setting forth therein reasons for aggrievement. A public hearing shall be held by the Planning Board, after which the board must affirm, modify or rescind such order within 30 days of the public hearing. The Board shall notify the Fire Chief, as may be applicable, by written communication, any and all action taken relative to the establishment of a fire lane.
- (3) Excepting any fire lane ordered by the Planning Board, a person aggrieved by the creation of a fire lane otherwise designated within this section may file a written appeal. Said appeal shall be consistent with section 30-147(c)(2) above, excepting that the appeal shall be filed with the City Manager or their official designee.
- (4) Fire department access roads require 20 feet of unobstructed width, 13.5 feet of unobstructed vertical clearance and an appropriate radius for turns in the roads and dead ends for the vehicles apparatus to turn around.
- (d) Compliance. Notice of establishment of fire lanes shall prescribe a reasonable time for compliance, such compliance time being 30 days from time of notification by certified mail. If compliance is not obtained within such time, then the owner, owners or agents receiving such notice shall be subject to a fine in accordance with Section **1-12**. Each day following such specified time for compliance shall constitute a new and separate violation.
- (e) Parking prohibited; notice of violation; towing of vehicles.
- (1) No person shall park or permit to stand unattended a motor vehicle in any fire lane established in accordance with this article, except when actually picking up or discharging passengers or actively engaged in loading or unloading a motor vehicle.

- (2) Whenever any vehicle ~~shall be~~ is found parked in violation of this section, any police officer or parking enforcement official shall attach to such vehicle a notice to the owner or operator thereof that such vehicle has been parked in violation of these regulations. Any motor vehicle found parked or standing in a fire lane that has been established in accordance with this article, in addition to the foregoing, may be towed upon the direction of a police officer or parking enforcement official to any public or private parking facility or area; and all expense of such towing and any subsequent storage shall be borne by the registered owner or operator of such vehicle.



City Council

Meeting Date: November 15, 2022

Meeting Time: 6:00 pm

Agenda Item No: 9.d.

Item Description: 2022.98) Amendment/CH. 30, Public Safety, Article III FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU, Section 30-147, Fire Lanes

Submitted by: Brian S. Phinney, COO

Supporting Information/Documentation:

N/A

Key Terms:

N/A

Executive Summary:

An amendment to *Sec. 30-147 – Fire Lanes* establishing authority to designate and keep fire lanes clear, establishing an appeals process for designation of fire lanes not reviewed under the authority of the Planning Board, establishing minimum physical design requirements to accommodate emergency vehicles, and extending authority for parking enforcement to “parking enforcement official”

Detailed Review:

While existing Ordinance language allows the Fire Chief to establish Fire Lanes, that authority is only applicable to, “proposed developments, subdivisions, buildings...” This restrictive language does not permit the Fire Chief to designate Fire Lanes in other areas of the City where access by emergency vehicles may be required and potentially blocked by parked vehicles. One example of this is near the intersection of Pike and Acorn Streets, where access to trails within Clifford Park is hampered by motor vehicles parked in such a way that blocks access. Adopting the attached Ordinance language will allow the Fire Chief to designate Fire Lanes as s/he deems vital for access by emergency responders. The amended language also includes an appeal process in which appeals outside of Planning Board authority shall be directed to the City Manager.

The amendment adds minimum width, height, and turning radius requirements for emergency vehicles. Additionally, the current ordinance specified “any police officer” may prepare a written violation for parking in violation of the section. The amendment adds “parking enforcement official” to the parking enforcement section since parking enforcement does not require status as a police officer.

The Chief of Police brought this amendment to the Policy Committee on October 25, 2022. The amendment was moved to the City Council by unanimous vote with the notation that an appeal process would be added to the original proposal.

Funding Source:

Signs needed to post fire lanes and parking restrictions. Expenses covered under the DPW sign budget, 21162-60507 Street Sign Expense.

Staff Recommendation:

Adopt revised language as proposed.



City of Biddeford

Diana DePaolo
Human Resource Director
205 Main St.
Biddeford, ME. 04005

Office: (207) 286-0593
Diana.Depaolo@Biddefordmaine.org

Tuesday, November 8, 2022
Re: Official Offer of Employment – City Clerk

Dear Ms. Cyr,

This is an official offer of employment with the City of Biddeford for our City Clerk position. Your work with the City in this capacity will commence upon the City Council's confirmation. If you accept, please return this letter with your signature. While this position is an appointment of the Mayor, you will report to the City Manager for day-to-day operations.

This is an exempt, full-time, regular position with a starting wage of \$80,000 annually as the position is a level 18 on our wage scale. Upon a successful completion of your 6-month probationary period as deemed so by the City Manager, your salary will increase to \$82,000. You will retain your current vacation, sick and personal time banks, which will also continue to reset on your initial anniversary date with the City of September 10th.

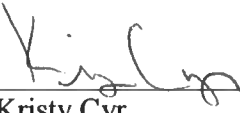
You will be required to become an active member of the Maine Town & City Clerk's Association during your probationary period and to begin the pursuit of your Certified Clerk of Maine Certification. You will need to obtain this certification by the end of 2025. Upon certification, you will be granted a 5% increase to your salary.

As a regular, full-time employee of the City of Biddeford, you will continue to be eligible to participate in of City-sponsored benefit programs. Detailed benefit information can be found on the City's website at www.biddefordmaine.org City Departments/Human Resources/Benefits or by contacting the Human Resources Department.

If you have any questions, or would like additional information, please contact me at 207-286-0593. If you accept this offer, please sign below and return to the Human Resources Director.

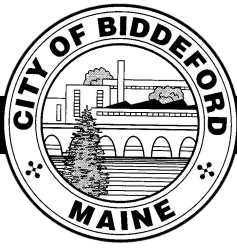
Sincerely,

Alan Casavant
Mayor- City of Biddeford



Kristy Cyr


Date



CITY OF BIDDEFORD

Application for City Committees, Commissions and Boards

Date: _____

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Mailing Address:
(if different) _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Email Address: _____

Which City Committee, Board or Commission do you request to be appointed to:

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Airport Commission | • Harbor Commission |
| • Biddeford Citizens Advisory Committee | • Historic Preservation Commission |
| • Biddeford Fire Advisory Committee | • Planning Board |
| • Biddeford Housing Authority | • Policy Committee |
| • Biddeford Police Advisory Committee | • Project Canopy Committee |
| • Board of Assessment Review | • Recreation Commission |
| • Cable T.V. Committee | • Recycling & Solid Waste Management Commission |
| • Capital Projects Committee | • Shellfish Conservation Committee |
| • Conservation Commission | • Wastewater Management Commission |
| • Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee | • Zoning Board of Appeals |
| • Downtown Development Commission | • Other: |
| • Economic Improvement Commission | |
-

CITY OF BIDDEFORD
Committee Application

| Please list any prior experience serving on any Public Boards, Commissions or Committees (and approximate dates)

| Please list any other experience that may be pertinent to the Board or Committee in which you are requesting to serve on.

| Please provide a brief statement describing your interest in serving the City of Biddeford.

Attach any additional information to this application and return it to the City Clerk’s Office.



Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission
March 21, 2022

SMPDC is in the process of revisiting our General Assembly (GA), the group of appointed representatives from each SMPDC member municipality. Over the course of the pandemic, and with much municipal staff and committee turnover, we would like to ensure that our towns have currently appointed GA members, and that those members understand their role on the assembly.

In addition, it has been difficult to maintain regular communications with many of our smaller towns. We understand that you have limited staff and capacity, which is exactly why we want to make sure you are up to date on all the resources and services your dues provide. We are hoping that updating our General Assembly list will help bolster our outreach to every community.

Who is the General Assembly?

- The GA is the group of appointed representatives from each SMPDC member municipality.
- Ideally, there are two general assembly members from each community. If a community has a population of more than 10,000, they may appoint a third member for every 10,000 people.
- Ideally, at least one of those representatives is a municipal officer from the Selectboard or Council.
- General Assembly members must be appointed by the Board of Selectman or City/Town Councils

What does the General Assembly do?

- The group convenes just once a year, at the SMPDC Annual Meeting, unless a specific legislative or budget need arises.
- At the annual meeting, they vote on the SMPDC budget, vote on the work plan for the upcoming year, and elect officers which serve on the SMPDC Executive Committee. Executive Committee members are chosen from the General Assembly membership.
- During the rest of the year, the General Assembly members act as liaisons of SMPDC's work and services to the community. This means they are our primary contact, and are responsible for sharing email blasts, newsletters, or other important communications and opportunities with the relevant committees, boards, or staff.

If you don't know who your General Assembly representatives are, reach out to Raegan Young at ryoung@smpdc.org or 207-571-7065.