

## Administration

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor Doyle and City Council  
**FROM:** Bryan T. Kaenrath, City Administrator  
**DATE:** November 9, 2020  
**RE:** **Administrator's Report**

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### Election Update

A very busy Election Day went off smoothly, I would like to thank City Clerk Michele Hughes, her staff and all of the dedicated volunteers for making this possible. I would also like to thank Thornton Academy for their partnership in allowing us to offer a more suitable polling place during these times of COVID-19. We encountered no major issues and that is a testament to all of the hard work put in by so many. Below is an overview of our numbers.

- **Absentee Ballots: Note: These #'s include civilian (9,949) & military (72)**
  - Total absentee ballots requested: 10,021
  - Total absentee ballots returned & accepted: 9,758
  
- **Voter Registration:**
  - **From 9/1/20 – 11/2/20**
    - New Voters – 1,345
    - Changes/Updates – 534
    - Cancelled – 99
  - **Election Day – 11/3/20**
    - 639 registrations
  
- **Total Registered Voters as of 11/2/2020 – 17,056** Note: The statutory deadline for entering Election Day registrations & changes is 11/25/20. So, we won't have an accurate voter registration number until every municipality has completed entering registrations because they could be pulling registrations from our community as we are pulling registrations from other communities.
  
- **Voters who participated in election – 12,767.** Voter turnout approximately 74 % based on the 11/2/20 registered voter numbers.

### **Senior Meals Program**

Our senior meals program will be coming back for some additional dates this fall. The first is scheduled for this **Wednesday, Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>** and will be provided by the Golden Rooster and sponsored by Saco Valley Credit Union. The second will be on November 19<sup>th</sup> and will feature a Thanksgiving meal. This will also be offered with drive-thru or delivery options. If anyone is interested in volunteering please contact Amelia Meier at Parks and Rec to sign up.

### **Policy Updates**

We have been hard at work and will have a number of new and revised policies to present to the Council in the coming months. This will include a Code of Ethics & Conduct, military leave policy, education reimbursement policy and revisions to our sewer ordinance, among others. A comprehensive review and edit of the dog ordinance is also underway.

### **River Walk Trail Updates**

The Fisherman's Path segment of the Saco River Walk Trail has existed for decades, providing access to the shoreline of the Saco River for generations of fishermen. Thanks to a State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry grant, Saco's Parks & Recreation Department has been able to make significant improvements. Working with Great Northern Docks and Allied Dock Services, boardwalk work has recently been completed and we held a ribbon cutting ceremony on October 23, 2020. This section of the trail provides visitors with a spectacular view of the adjacent Cataract Dam as well as access for multiple fishermen. It is just a three-minute walk from Main Street. and we encourage all residents and visitors come take a look at this significant accomplishment. Also, a thank you to Communications Coordinator Andrew Dickinson for the spectacular video he did on the project currently posted on our YouTube page.

### **City Hall Auditorium Audio Upgrades**

The Communications, Facilities, and Information Technology Departments have worked with Access AV to move the cablecast equipment from the third floor to a booth behind the stage.

Facilities has constructed a booth and will be completing some finish work during the next few months. The microphone wiring has been replaced, a new camera has been added, and a new wireless presentation program has been installed. The Communications Director is currently drafting an RFP for the sound system upgrades to replace the speakers in the auditorium. We will share more information about this project as it moves forward.