I. CALL TO ORDER – On Monday, February 6, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. a Council Meeting was held in the City Hall Auditorium.

II. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS – Mayor Mark Johnston introduced the members and determined that the Councilors present constituted a quorum. Councilors present: David Tripp, Marie Doucette, Philip Blood, Arthur Tardif, Eric Cote and Marston Lovell. Councilor Leslie Smith Jr. was excused this evening. City Administrator Rick Michaud was also present.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. GENERAL

V. AGENDA:

A. RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT – SACO PLAZA d/b/a RAMADA SACO & EXPRESS EVENTS CATERING – (PUBLIC HEARING)

Councilor Doucette moved, Councilor Blood seconded to open the Public Hearing. The motion passed with six (6) yeas.

There were no comments from the public.

Councilor Doucette moved, Councilor Blood seconded to close the Public Hearing and be it ordered that the City Council grant the renewal application submitted by Saco Plaza d/b/a Ramada Saco & Express Events Catering for a Special Entertainment permit to be concurrent with the establishment’s current liquor license. Further move to approve the Order. The motion passed with six (6) yeas.

B. VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA (VOA) REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE IMPACT FEES

Councilor Cote moved, Councilor Blood seconded “Be it ordered that the City Council move to waive the recreation and open space impact fee of $19,753.20, for the 31 unit Volunteers of America elder housing complex off Main Street, because the project meets the standards of 1601-7, Modification of Impact Fees, Paragraphs 3 and 4 and under standard 1601-7 paragraph 1, the Council can waive the impact fee if the developer creates an equivalent improvement approved by the City Council.” Further move to approve the Order. The motion passed with six (6) yeas.

From Article 16, Impact Fees, Saco Zoning Ordinance
(This section deals with Council waivers of recreation and open space impact fees.)

1601-7. MODIFICATION OF IMPACT FEES
The City Council may, by formal vote following a public hearing, reduce or eliminate the payment of a required impact fee if it finds that:

1. The developer or property owner who would otherwise be responsible for the payment of the impact fee voluntarily agrees to construct the improvement for which the impact fee would be collected or an equivalent improvement approved by the City Council, or

2. The developer or property owner is required, as part of a development approval by the City or a state or federal agency, to make or to pay for infrastructure improvements that are of the same nature as the improvement to be funded by the impact fee, or
3. The project subject to the impact fee involves the construction of affordable housing as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development or the Maine State Housing Authority. If only part of the project is affordable housing, the Council may waive only the portion of the fee attributable to the affordable units, or

4. The project involves the construction of elderly congregate housing assisted living, or other eldercare facilities.

VI. CONSENT

Councilor Blood moved, Councilor Lovell seconded to adopt Items A, B, C, D, E, F and G. The City of Saco hereby:

A. Approval of Minutes: No minutes presented.
B. (First Reading) Amendments to Chapter 87, Electrical Standards
C. (First Reading) Amendments to Chapter 163, Property Maintenance Code Standards
D. Confirm the Mayor’s Reappointment of Neil Schuster, Rene Ittenbach, and Martin Devlin to the Planning Board
E. Confirm the Mayor’s Appointment of Craig Pendleton to the Transit Committee
F. Maine Municipal Employees Health Trust – PPO 500 Plan
G. Economic Development Plan Update

The motion passed with six (6) yeas.

Below are the Consent Agenda Item Commentaries.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no minutes presented this evening.

B. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 87 – NATIONAL ELECTRIC CODE – (FIRST READING)

“Amendments to Chapter 87. ELECTRICAL STANDARDS, dated 01/23/2012”

(please note underlined represents new language, while strikethrough represents language to be deleted)

[HISTORY: Adopted by the City Council of the City of Saco 5-1-1995 as Ch. XII, Sec 12-2, of the 1994 Code; amended in its entirety 2-6-2006. Subsequent amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Building construction — See Ch. 73.
Fire prevention — See Ch. 102.
Floodplain management — See Ch. 106.
Mobile homes — See Ch. 143.
Property maintenance — See Ch. 163.

§ 87-1. Title.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the “Electrical Code.”

§ 87-1.1. Definitions.
As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

**ELECTRIC FENCE**

Any fencing or barrier capable of delivering an electric shock to any person or animal coming into contact therewith, but does not include fences erected for enclosing pastures, crops or livestock and does not include underground invisible fencing which controls animals by use of a receiver collar worn by animals.

§ 87-2. Adoption of standards by reference.

A. Reference is herewith made to the 2008 2011 Edition of the National Electrical Code, NFPA 70, as published by the National Fire Protection Association, as amended, to become effective September 1, 2008 April 1, 2012, and said code is hereby adopted and made a part hereof as if fully set out in this chapter, with the additions, insertions, deletions and changes as found herein. Statutory authority to adopt this code is granted by 30-A M.R.S.A., and 30-A M.R.S.A. § 4171 and shall cover original installations, alterations and additions, both residential and commercial and shall be in effect for the entire City of Saco. At least seven days prior to the public hearing, the purpose of which is to consider changes to this chapter, notice shall be given by regular mail, electronic mail or facsimile to all electricians who have obtained an electrical permit within the six-month period preceding the public hearing date

[Amended 8-4-2008 new date inserted here]

B. Additions, insertions and changes. The following are hereby revised as follows:

1. **Illumination.** All locations containing electrical panels, and switchgear shall have a lighting outlet provided at or near such equipment. Where the main occupancy of the building in which the equipment is located is required by the Building Code to provide emergency lighting, all locations containing electrical panels, and switchgear shall also be provided with emergency lighting. **200.6 Means of Identifying Grounded Conductors.**

2. **Grounded Conductors of Different Systems.** Where grounded conductors of different systems are installed in the same raceway, cable, box, auxiliary gutter, or other type of enclosure, each grounded conductor shall be identified by system. Identification that distinguishes each system grounded conductor shall be permitted by one of the following means:

   1. One system grounded conductor shall have an outer covering conforming to 200.6 (A) or (B).

   2. The grounded conductor(s) of other systems shall have a different outer covering conforming to 200.6 (A) or (B) or by an outer covering of what or gray with a readily distinguishable colored strip other than green running along the insulation.

   3. Other and different means of identification as allowed by 200.6 (A) or (B) that will distinguish each system grounded conductor.

   The means of identification shall be permanently posted where the conductors of different systems originate.

2. **210.5 Identification for Branch Circuits.**

   1. **Identification for Ungrounded Conductors.** Ungrounded conductors shall be identified in accordance with 210.5 (C)(1), (2) and (3).
(3) Posting of Identification Means. The method utilized for conductors originating within each branch-circuit panelboard or similar branch circuit distribution equipment shall be permanently posted at each branch-circuit panelboard or similar branch-circuit distribution equipment.

[Exception deleted under (B)]

[Amended 8-4-2008 new date inserted here]

(3) Mounting hardware used for grounding. Grounding of all electrical equipment shall not rely on mounting hardware to achieve proper grounding of said equipment. 215.12 Identification of Feeders.

(C) Ungrounded Conductors. Where the premises wiring system has feeders supplied from more than one nominal voltage system, each ungrounded conductor of a feeder shall be identified by phase or line and system at all termination, connection, and splice points. The means of identification shall be permitted to be by separate color coding, marking tape, tagging, or other approved means. The method utilized for conductors originating within each feeder panelboard or similar feeder distribution equipment shall be permanently posted at each feeder panelboard or similar feeder distribution equipment.

(4) 210.8(A)(5) addition to exception: A single receptacle supplying a sump pump shall not have to be GFCI protected, provided that a GFCI protected receptacle is located within three feet of the non-GFCI protected outlet. 334.10 Uses Permitted.

(3) Other structures permitted to be of Types III, IV and V construction except as prohibited in 334.12.

[Amended 8-4-2008 new date inserted here]

(5) 334.12(A)(2) Uses Not Permitted is deleted and not adopted by the City of Saco.

[Amended 8-4-2008 new date inserted here]

(6) 702.5(B)(2) for other than single-family dwellings, where automatic transfer equipment is used, and an optional standby system shall comply with (2)(a) or (2)(b). 338.12 Uses Not Permitted.

(B) Underground Service-Entrance Cable.

(1) For interior wiring of branch circuits and feeders originating and terminating within the same building.

(2) For above-ground installations except where USE cable emerges from the ground and is terminated in an enclosure at a location acceptable to the Authority Having Jurisdiction and the cable is protected in accordance with 300.5(D).

[Amended 8-4-2008 new date inserted here]

(7) Electric fence requirements.
(a) Any person proposing to erect an electric fence within the City of Saco shall first obtain a permit in accordance with other provisions of this Code. The Electrical Inspector, prior to issuance of a permit to install an electric fence, shall notify the Police and Fire Departments of Saco of the location of the proposed installation. Acknowledgement of the notification from both the Fire and Police Departments shall be given before any permit to install electrified fences is granted. Failure to comply with any of the design standards found in the manufacturers' installation instructions shall be a basis for denial of a permit application. Exemption: Any electric fence used in association with an agricultural use shall be exempted from this subsection.

(b) Electric fence design standards. Where an electric fence is within 100 feet of a public or private road as defined by the Saco Zoning Ordinance, it shall be posted with signs every 75 feet along the fence line facing toward the road. The signs shall state “Warning, Electric Fence, Keep Back.” All warning signs shall be legible from a distance of at least 10 feet away from the electric fence. Any fence that is electrified shall not contain more than 7,000 volts and no more than nine milliamps. All fence-charging equipment shall be listed by a recognized testing agency such as Underwriters Laboratories. All persons proposing to install electric fences shall provide plans in sufficient detail to determine compliance with these standards. All electric fences shall be pulse-type systems. The point of electrical supply for the fence shall comply with all applicable standards of the main body of the National Electric Code. 

(B) System Capacity.

(2) Automatic Transfer Equipment. For other than single-family dwellings, where automatic transfer equipment is used, an optional standby system shall comply with (2)(a) or (2)(b)

[Amended 8-4-2008 new date inserted here]

(8) Smoke and heat detectors. In addition to smoke detectors required elsewhere in this Code, a smoke or heat detector shall be installed in any new attached residential garage. Installation, including wiring and power sources for all smoke and heat detectors shall be in accordance with the provisions of the 2007 Edition of NFPA Standard 72, Chapter 11.

(9) USE cable may be used where it emerges from ground and is terminated in an enclosure at a location acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction. Adoption of utility requirements. The Authority having jurisdiction may, at the request of the electrical utility company, enforce the requirements as found in the Handbook of Standard Requirements for Electric Service and Meter Installations published by Central Maine Power, effective April 25, 2006 January 1, 2009, and as amended.

[Amended 8-4-2008 new date inserted here]

(10) Removal of old wiring required. All readily accessible cable that is not properly capped and terminated and labeled for future use shall be removed.

[Amended 8-4-2008 new date inserted here]


The Electrical Inspector who must be licensed by the State of Maine as a Master Electrician is herewith designated as the City official to supervise and enforce this chapter. The Electrical Inspector will be under the direction of the Building Inspector, who will act as his/her immediate supervisor.
§ 87-4. Appeals.

A. Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Electrical Inspector with regard to the enforcement of the Electrical Code may take an appeal to the Mayor and City Council.

B. An appeal may be taken within 30 days from the date of the decision appealed by filing with the City Council, through its Clerk, a notice of appeal specifying the grounds thereof, except that in the case of a building or structure which, in the opinion of the Electrical Inspector, is unsafe, dangerous and a threat to life safety, the Electrical Inspector may, in his/her order, limit the time for such an appeal to seven days. The Electrical Inspector shall forthwith transmit to the Mayor and City Council all the papers upon which the action appealed from was taken.

§ 87-5. Violations and penalties.

The following provisions shall apply to violations of the laws and ordinances set forth in this chapter, and all monetary penalties shall be civil penalties.

A. The minimum penalty for starting construction or undertaking a land use activity without a required permit shall be $100, and the maximum penalty shall be $2,500.

B. The minimum penalty for a specific violation shall be $100, and the maximum penalty shall be $2,500.

C. The violator may be ordered to correct or abate the violations. Where the court finds that the violation was willful, the violator shall be ordered to correct or abate the violation, unless the abatement or correction will:

1. Result in a threat or hazard to public health or safety;

2. Result in substantial environmental damage; or

3. Result in substantial injustice.

D. If the City of Saco is the prevailing party, it shall be awarded reasonable attorney fees, expert witness fees and costs, unless the court finds that special circumstances make the award of these fees and costs unjust. If the defendant is the prevailing party, the defendant may be awarded reasonable attorney fees, expert witness fees and costs, as provided by court rule.

E. The maximum penalty may exceed $2,500 but shall not exceed $25,000 when it can be shown that there has been a previous conviction of the same party, within the past two years, of the same law or ordinance.

F. All proceedings arising under the provisions of locally administered laws and ordinances shall be brought in the name of the City of Saco, and fines shall be paid to the City of Saco.

§ 87-6. Electrical permits and fee schedule.

Electrical permits shall be administered as provided for in Informative Annex G, Section 80.19(A) through (C) and (F) through (H) of the 2008 2011 National Electric Code. The City Council shall determine fees after a public hearing.

[Amended 8-4-2008 new date inserted here]
C. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 163 – MAINTENANCE CODE STANDARDS – (FIRST READING)

‘Amendments to Chapter 163 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE, dated 01/23/2012’

(Note that underlined text represents new language, while strikethrough represents language to be deleted.)

[HISTORY: Adopted by the City Council of the City of Saco 5-1-1995 as Ch. XIII of the 1994 Code. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Building construction — See Ch. 73.
Fire prevention — See Ch. 102.
Solid waste — See Ch. 181.

§ 163-1. Title.
[Amended 5-3-2004]
This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "International Property Maintenance Code/2003 2009 Edition."

[Amended 5-3-2004]
A. Adoption of the International Property Maintenance Code. An ordinance establishing the minimum regulations governing the conditions and maintenance of all property, buildings and structures; by providing the standards for supplied utilities and facilities and other physical things and conditions essential to ensure that structures are safe, sanitary and fit for occupation and use; and the condemnation of buildings and structures unfit for human occupancy and use and the demolition of such structures; known as the "Property Maintenance Code"; be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Saco as follows;

B. A certain document, three copies of which are on file in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Saco, being marked and designated as “The International Property Maintenance Code, 2003 2009” as published by the International Code Council, be and is hereby adopted as the Property Maintenance Code of the City of Saco, in the State of Maine; for control of buildings and structures as herein provided; and each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties, conditions and terms of said Property Maintenance Code are hereby referred to, adopted, and made a part hereof, as if fully set out in the chapter, with the additions, deletions and changes prescribed in § 163-3 of this chapter.

§ 163-3. Additions, insertions and changes.
[Amended 5-3-2004]
Additions, insertions and changes to the International Property Maintenance Code/2003 2009 are set out below:

A. Section 101.1, Title (page 1, second line): insert: "The City of Saco."
B. Section 103.6, Fees (page 2): Delete the entire section.
C. Section 106.4, Penalties (page 3): delete everything after the word "Penalty" and insert "See Code of the City of Saco, Chapter 163, § 163-6."
D. Section 111.2: “Membership of board”(page 6) Delete “a minimum of three members who are qualified by experience and training to pass on matters pertaining to property maintenance and who are not employees of the jurisdiction.” and replace with “the same body that makes up the Saco City Council and shall operate under the same rules of order it has adopted. The Chair of the Board shall be the Mayor, or in his absence, a member of the council selected by its own membership.” Delete Sections 111.2.1 through 111.2.5 in its entirety and replace with "See Code of the City of Saco, Chapter 163, § 163-5."
E. Section 302.4 Weeds (page 11) Insert “12 inches.”
F. Section 304.14, Insect screens (page 10-13): insert "May 1" after "the period from" and insert "October 1" after "to."

G. Sections 502.5 and 505.1 (page 19) Delete the words "International Plumbing Code" and insert the words "State of Maine Internal Plumbing Rules, 144A CMR Chapter 238."

H. Section 602.3, Heat supply (page 17-21): insert the words "September 1 to May 15." Add to the end of this section the following: "For all dwellings covered by the scope of this section, the building owner or designated agent shall maintain and provide an adequate source of fuel for the heating equipment required by Section 602.1, unless otherwise provided for in a written lease."

I. Section 602.4, Occupiable workspaces (page 17-21): insert "September 1" after "the period from" and insert "May 15" after "to."

J. Insert new Section 602.6 on page 17-21 as follows: "Failure of owner to provide fuel: In the event of the failure of the owner or his designated agent to comply with Section 602.3, upon determination of the Code Enforcement Officer that an emergency exists, the City shall be entitled to supply the necessary maintenance or fuel. The City shall, in such case, in addition to the penalties provided for herein for violation of this code, be entitled to recover amounts expended hereunder in an action against the owner or agent, together with costs, including reasonable attorney fees."

K. Chapter 8, Referenced Standards (page 24-27) delete the following references: "IPC-09 ICC International Plumbing Code" and replace with the following reference: "State of Maine Internal Plumbing Rules, 144A CMR Chapter 238." Delete "IZC-09 ICC International Zoning Code" without replacement.


§ 163-4. Supervisory official.
The Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer or his/her representative is herewith designated as the city official to supervise and enforce this chapter.

§ 163-5. Appeals.
Reserved

[Amended insert new date here]

A. Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Building Inspector with regard to the enforcement of this code may take appeal to the Mayor and City Council.

B. An appeal may be taken within 30 days from the date of the decision appealed by filing with the City Council, through its Clerk, a notice of appeal specifying the grounds thereof, except that in the case of a building or structure which, in the opinion of the Building Inspector, is unsafe, dangerous and a threat to life safety, the Building Inspector may, in his/her order, limit the time for such an appeal to seven days. The Building Inspector shall forthwith transmit to the Mayor and City Council all the papers upon which the action appealed from was taken.

§ 163-6. Violations and penalties.
The following provisions shall apply to violations of the laws and ordinances set forth in this chapter, and all monetary penalties shall be civil penalties.

A. The minimum penalty for starting construction or undertaking a land use activity without a required permit shall be $100 and the maximum penalty shall be $2,500.

B. The minimum penalty for a specific violation shall be $100 and the maximum penalty shall be $2,500.

C. The violator may be ordered to correct or abate the violations. Where the court finds that the violation was willful, the violator shall be ordered to correct or abate the violation, unless the abatement or correction will:

1. Result in a threat or hazard to public health or safety;
2. Result in substantial environmental damage; or
3. Result in substantial injustice.
D. If the City of Saco is the prevailing party, it shall be awarded reasonable attorney fees, expert witness fees and costs, unless the court finds that special circumstances make the award of these fees and costs unjust. If the defendant is the prevailing party, the defendant may be awarded reasonable attorney fees, expert witness fees and costs as provided by court rule.

E. The maximum penalty may exceed $2,500 but shall not exceed $25,000 when it can be shown that there has been a previous conviction of the same party within the past two years of the same law or ordinance.

F. All proceedings arising under the provisions of locally administered laws and ordinances shall be brought in the name of the City of Saco, and fines shall be paid to the City of Saco.

D. CONFIRM THE MAYORS REAPPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board primarily reviews subdivisions and site plans. The Board is authorized to undertake studies and make recommendations on matters of land development, energy and water conservation, transportation, solid waste disposal, location of municipal and school facilities, affordable housing, urban beautification and design improvements, historic and scenic preservations and agricultural preservation.

The Mayor is seeking to have Neil Schuster of 433 Ferry Road, Rene Ittenbach of 271A Buxton Road, and Martin Devlin of 416 Main Street, reappointed to the Planning Board for a 3-year term.

E. CONFIRM THE MAYORS APPOINTMENT TO THE TRANSIT COMMITTEE

The Transit Committee is an outside agency of which three members of a nine-member committee represent Saco. Craig Pendleton currently serves as the Director of the Biddeford Saco Chamber of Commerce.

The purpose of the Committee: establish, maintain and implement a short and long-range bus transit development program. To apply for, receive and administer Federal and State grants-in-aid for mass transit on behalf of the municipalities of Biddeford, Old Orchard Beach, and Saco to provide adequate and efficient bus mass transit for the Biddeford, Old Orchard Beach, and Saco area.

F. MAINE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE HEALTH TRUST PLAN (MMEHT) – PPO 500

Following industry trends toward providing health insurance plans: (1) placing emphasis on employee involvement in health care and (2) addressing rising health care costs, Maine Municipal Employees Health Trust (MMEHT), the city’s current health insurance provider, has introduced two new health insurance offerings as administered by Anthem/Blue Cross.

The city has determined that the new PPO-500 plan, with lower monthly premiums and a deductible of $500 (the current plan, POS-C has no deductible), can be coupled with a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) account, funded by the city, and be so structured as to leave the employee fundamentally “whole” (with substantially the same benefits) and:

- Introduce incentives to employees for selecting quality rated providers through reduced co-pays and waived deductibles, thereby increasing employee awareness of how their choices affect health care costs and their quality of care. See attachments from MMEHT.
- Provide employees with complete Explanations of Benefits to be submitted for payment through the HRA that also will increase employee awareness of health care costs and involve them in the payment process, thereby increasing employee education.
- Potentially save money: the total savings are estimated at between $50,000 and $195,000 if all employees were transitioned to the new plan, and between ($3635) and $26,177 in savings for the city for the 30 nonunion employees only, which is the initial employee group that staff is proposing to transition. The attached documents outline these potential savings.
G. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN UPDATE

On November 1, 2010, the Council accepted the “City of Saco Economic Development Plan” developed by an ad hoc committee. It also asked that the Economic Development Commission “prepare an economic development plan to be submitted to the new City Council by the first meeting in January 2012.”

The Economic Development Commission met four times in October, November and December to update the economic development plan and has completed an update. This plan includes a number of new items related to marketing, including social and digital marketing, and makes small revisions in many recommendations. The data on economic outlook and economic conditions has been updated.

This item was discussed at Workshop on January 23, 2012.

Economic Development Plan Update- This document can be found on the city’s homepage of the website. www.sacomaine.org

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Tardif moved, Councilor Tripp seconded “Be it Ordered that the City Council, Pursuant to [M.R.S.A. Chapter 18, Subchapter 1, §405 (6) (C)] move to enter into Executive Session to discuss: (D) Labor Contract Negotiation, Specifically Council Granting Bargaining Authority; (C) Acquisition of Property; Lease of Public Services Center – Foss Road. The motion passed with six (6) yeas. TIME: 7:12 p.m.

Mayor Johnston moved to come out of Executive Session with the unanimous consent of the Council. TIME: 8:45 p.m.

a. REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon return from the executive session Mayor Johnston conducted a roll call of the members and determined that the Councilors present constituted a quorum. Councilors present: David Tripp, Marie Doucette, Philip Blood, Arthur Tardif, Eric Cote and Marston Lovell. City Administrator Rick Michaud was also present.

No report was given this evening.

VIII. ADJOURN THE MEETING

Mayor Johnston declared the meeting adjourned with the unanimous consent of the Council. TIME: 8:45 p.m.

ATTEST: _________________________________
Michele L. Hughes, City Clerk