

STATE OF MAINE

COUNTY OF YORK

CITY OF SACO

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – On Monday, October 2, 2006 at 7:03 p.m. a Council Meeting was held in the City Hall Auditorium.
- II. **ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS** –Mayor Johnston conducted a roll call of the members and determined that the Councilors present constituted a quorum. Councilors present: David Tripp, Leslie Smith Jr., Ronald Morton, Roland Michaud, Arthur Tardif, Eric Cote and Jesse McDougal. Richard R. Michaud, City Administrator was also present.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes were not presented this evening.
- V. **GENERAL:** Presentation to Carrie Shaw. Peg Poulin, President of Saco Spirit had the privilege of honoring Carrie Shaw for her many years of volunteering for the Saco Arts Festival with a painting by Saco artist Judith Kinsman. Carrie Shaw was unable to attend this evening.
- VI. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. (Second & Final Reading) Zoning Ordinance Amendment –Recycling
“The City of Saco hereby Ordains and Approves the Second and Final Reading of the zoning ordinance amendment outlined in the document entitled, ‘Saco Zoning Ordinance Section 410-12, I-2, dated August 21, 2006’.”

B. (First Reading) Amendment to Personnel Code – 457 Retirement Plan

“Be it Ordered that the City Council approve pursuant to Section 11.02 of the ‘Great-West Retirement Services Section 457 Eligible Deferred Compensation Plan for Governmental Employers Adopted by the City of Saco effective January 1, 2002’, the First Reading of the following amendment –

Section D., Eligible Employee, is amended to add any permanent part-time employee to the definition of “Employee to the plan and is made effective as though contained in the plan document as of January 1, 2002”, and *further move* to authorize the City Administrator to execute ‘Amendment 1-06, City of Saco, Section 457 Eligible Deferred Compensation Plan’.

C. Authorization to Appoint Dyer Library as Record Repository

"Be it Ordered that the City Council authorize Dyer Library Association, to submit an application, to the State of Maine Archive in order to receive the designation of Repository for the City of Saco."

Councilor Smith moved, Councilor Morton seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

VII AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Energy Conservation Initiative – Replacement of Refrigerators

The Saco energy committee has gathered pertinent information on all 22 of the city's refrigerators. Sixteen of the 22 refrigerators were deemed energy inefficient and in need of replacement. Verbal requests from all departments, with the exception of City Hall, were taken into consideration to ensure all replacement units will meet specific department demands. A quote was obtained from Vic's appliance, located on Main Street, Saco. The quote was tax-free and included the disposal and delivery of the 16 refrigerators. The price for the replacement of the refrigerators totaled \$7,768.00. The annual kw/h savings from the new units would be 16,161; which amounts to an annual electricity savings of \$2,181.80; and the pay back period would total 3.5 years.

Be it Ordered that the City Council authorize the purchase of energy efficient refrigerators for City buildings, as detailed on the document entitled 'City of Saco Refrigerator Data', for a total cost of \$7,768.00."

Councilor McDougal moved, Councilor Tripp seconded. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

B. Energy Conservation Initiative – Replacement of Computer Monitors

At budget time the Council set aside funding for energy conservation. As part of this energy conservation effort the staff has surveyed the number of old fashioned computer monitors (CRTs) in city buildings. Replacing these inefficient CRT monitors with new flat panel monitors would be efficient and have a rapid payback because of reduced energy use.

There are 53 CRTs in six city buildings. Replacements would be budgeted at \$225 each, for a total cost of \$11,925.

Councilor Cote moved, Councilor McDougal seconded *that it be Ordered that the City Council authorize the purchase of energy efficient computer monitors, as detailed on the document entitled 'City of Saco Computer Monitor Replacement Totals, dated October 2, 2006', for a cost of \$11, 925."*

Councilor Cote moved, Councilor McDougal seconded. Councilor Cote moved, Councilor Tripp seconded, to table the matter. The motion passed with six (6) yeas and one (1) nay- Councilor Smith voted in the negative.

C. Confirm Appointments to the Southern Alliance

On June 19, 2006, the City Council approved the draft agreement titled "Memorandum of Understanding" which was intended to be an invitation to area boards and councils to create a study group and charge it with the task of developing a vision for our educational community for the year 2020, as well as to study the legal, financial, political, and physical feasibility of sharing resources and educational opportunities.

Subsequently, an invitation to meet on the topic was extended to the Saco Board of Education, Dayton Board of Selectmen and Board of Education, Thornton Academy Board of Trustees, the Old Orchard Beach Town Council and Board of Education, the Town of Arundel Board of Selectmen and School Board, and the Biddeford City Council and Board of Education.

Meetings were held on July 26; August 9, and August 16, 2006, where discussions included drafting a mission and vision statement for the group, as well as setting the parameter for a school planning committee called the Southern Alliance.

The Mayor has appointed (3) members to serve on the Southern Alliance Committee - Councilors' Ron Morton, and Ron Michaud, and himself, Mayor Mark Johnston.

The City Council discussed this item at Workshop on September 18, 2006

"Be it Ordered that the City Council confirm the appointment of Councilors Ron Michaud, and Ron Morton, and Mayor Mark Johnston to serve on the **Southern Alliance Committee**".

Councilor Cote moved, Councilor McDougal seconded to approve the order. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

D. Approve Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Agreement with Eco Maine

At the council meeting of June 26, the Council directed the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Task Committee to meet with PERC and Eco-Maine (formerly RWS) a final time. The purpose of these meetings was to clarify a number of issues raised by the Council and to endeavor to negotiate a better proposal for the City. In addition, the committee met with:

1. SJ Clisham of Winterport to obtain transportation prices to PERC,
2. MERC for MSW disposal options and
3. BBI for curb to facility transportation costs to Eco-Maine.

All three of the MSW disposal proposals offered different advantages and disadvantages for the City to consider. Of the 3 MSW disposal proposals considered, the most balanced and comprehensive proposal was submitted by Eco-Maine. Eco-Maine offered a competitive tipping fee for the MSW, a zero tip fee single stream recycling program, and stable municipally owned and operated facility located in Portland. A key advantage to the Eco-Maine proposal is the single stream recycling program that offers the potential for less expensive curbside collection and a more convenient program for our residents. While PERC offered a lower tipping fee, the expense and uncertainty of transfer and transportation to Orrington doubled their adjusted disposal cost. The MERC proposal offered a low tipping fee and no transfer or transportation costs, however there have been recent and historical legal and environmental considerations that weighed against their proposal.

The Council discussed this item at Workshop on September 25, 2006.

“Be it ordered that the City Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into a contract with Eco-Maine titled ‘Associate Member Municipality Waste Handling Agreement, between the Ecomaine and the City of Saco’, for the disposal of the municipal solid waste and the beneficial reuse of the recycling.”

Further note that “Be it ordered that the City Council authorize the City Administrator to amend the contract with Blow Brothers Inc. to transfer Municipal Solid Waste and recyclables to Eco-Maine.”

Councilor Morton moved, Councilor Smith seconded.

Mayor Johnston said many Saco citizens requested to address the council. The Mayor will allow the public to address the council.

John Surran of 33 Cherryfield Ave:

The sole purpose of hopefully delaying the council to sign a 20-year contract. The new contract has a lot of gray areas and leaves me to be concerned. Maine Energy is willing to negotiate with Saco with many options. What is the rush our contract only runs out in 2007? Why not let the taxpayers of Saco decide through a citywide referendum?

Stavroula Willette of 168 Smutty Lane

I urge the council to delay their votes this evening. Some councilors favor Eco Maine over Maine Energy. Please validate your reasons. I am not convinced that the Eco Maine proposal is more favorable for the city residents. Make your decisions on the best interest of the taxpayers.

Clayton Meserve of 164 Smutty Lane

You’re rushing into it. You don’t have all the facts; you don’t have all the figures. There are two things to do. Regroup and put it to a vote to the citizens of Saco.

Brian Callahan of 273 Bradley St

I would like to comment on something that I read in the paper. This proposal is going to cost the city a figure of \$200,000. Several officials and council people dismiss this amount as insignificant. I don’t know why you won’t deal with Merc, at least let them be in the bidding.

Merc will be here for the next 15 years whether we sign a contract with them or not.

John Houy of 252 Boom Rd

Voters spoke in the election of 2005 to keep Maine Energy. Casella Waste has offered to build a single stream recycling facility in Saco. I think Saco needs to slow down and look at the options. You have to listen to the voter’s voice.

Rod Potter of 11 Foley Ave

My perspective is the disposal of trash is a commodity. By moving away from Merc we are losing whatever leverage we have. I would like to see a greater effort made to make the doings of the council public. To be well known to the public before you make a decision. I think it is too early to make decision at this point.

Councilor Tripp moved, Councilor Tardif seconded to table the matter for one week.
The motion failed with three (3) yeas and four (4) nays. Councilors Smith, Michaud, Cote and McDougal.

Councilor Morton moved, Councilor Smith seconded to enter into a contract with Eco-Maine. The motion passed with four (4) yeas and three (3) nays. Councilors Tripp, Morton and Tardif.

VII ADJOURMENT

Councilor Morton moved, Councilor Smith seconded, to adjourn. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.
TIME: 8:40 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Claire I. Wyman, Assistant Clerk