

STATE OF MAINE

COUNTY OF YORK

CITY OF SACO

I. OPENING REMARKS BY RENE MENDARD, THORNTON ACADEMY HEADMASTER

Welcome to Thornton Academy. On behalf of the Board of Trustees we are honored to serve as the venue for the tonight's inauguration ceremony. Thornton Academy has proudly educated the youth of Saco for over 200 years. A long-standing partnership between Thornton Academy and Saco is a relationship we value, trust and hold dear. Saco is a very special community for so many of us and we are so fortunate to call this place home. They say that public service attracts a special kind of individual. One that is motivated by sense of duty and a desire to serve others for the common good. Public service often requires a high degree of commitment and sacrifice. I'm sure I speak for the entire Saco community in thanking those who have faithfully served our city. We extend our gratitude and best wishes to those who continue to serve and to those who are assuming additional roles this evening. It is my pleasure to now introduce Mayor Roland Michaud to call tonight's meeting to order.

II. CALL TO ORDER – On Monday, December 4, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Inauguration of the Mayor, Councilors and School Board (Even numbered Wards) was held at the Thornton Academy Auditorium.

III. RECOGNITION OF MEMBERS PRESENT – Mayor Roland Michaud recognized the members of the Council and determined that the Councilors present constituted a quorum. Councilors present: David Precourt, Roger Gay, William Doyle, Kevin Roche, Alan Minthorn, and Nathan Johnston. Councilor Cote was absent this evening. City Administrator Kevin Sutherland was also present this evening. Mayor Michaud also recognized the School Board members present: Garrett Abrahamson, Lynn Leary, Edna Ben-Ami, Michel Ohayon, Theodore Sirois and Elizabeth Johnston. Kevin Lafortune was absent this evening.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. REMARKS BY MAYOR ROLAND MICHAUD

I'm honored to have served as Mayor of this great City of Saco. We can truly be proud of the great employees we have working for us in the schools and city departments. From the Superintendent that has to deal with the challenges of decreasing funds to the teachers and staff in our schools who make every effort to ensure that our children receive the best possible education. To our City Manager who has to deal with the never-ending issues of running the City of Saco. To all our Department Heads who tasked with keeping the city moving forward and do so effectively and competently. To all those city employees who work tirelessly to provide us with a service that we at times take for granted. To all the residents who took the time to share their thoughts of what was working and what was not, as an elected official this is so critical to know what folks think. To take that time and effort it is really appreciated. Thank you to all those individuals involved in making my work that much easier with your participation. I would also like to express my thanks to the School Board for all their tireless efforts in helping make education the best for all the students. To all the other board and commission members "thank you" for you time and efforts in helping guide our community. Most especially to our Councilors, we have worked together for the past 2 years. Not always agreeing with the actions taken but always remembering that we can agree to disagree reasonably.

Congratulations to the newly elected Mayor, City Council, and School Board members. They have chosen to step up to the challenge of working as a team to help ensure that Saco continues to be a great community to live in and work in and one that we can all be proud of. Thank you and good luck and I know you will be in good hands.

VI. MUSICAL INTERLUDE PROVIDED BY THE SACO MIDDLE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA

Saco Middle School Orchestra:

Sarah Hoag, Director
Brandenburg Concerto, No. 5
by J.S. Bach / Arr. Merle J. Isaac

7th Grade Violas

Antonia Farago-Dumsch

Kyra Wiggs

Dance of the Tumblers from "Snow Maiden"
by Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakoff
Arr. Sandra Dackow

6th Grade Violins

Regan Ambrose
Adelaide Brown
Gabriella Evans
Rachael Fox
Spencer Kline
Brady Lee
Guinevere Robbins

6th Grade Violas

Lucas Dube
Korrinne Greer

6th Grade Cellos

Macie Boucher
Maia Gustafson

7th Grade Violins

Amelia Bradford
Estella Duquette
Carlie Hutchings
Gabriella Walters
Brianna Wilder

7th Grade Cellos

Adeline Falardeau
Eli Palleschi
Brian Roy

8th Grade Violins

Jamison Baker
Simon DiMatteo
Norah Lennon
Izabela Roughton
Irene Scribner
Kaitlyn Walsh

8th Grade Violas

Lilly DesRoberts
Paul Solomon

8th Grade Cellos

Madeline Darigan
Ella Redlon
Liam Robbins

8th Grade Bass

Christopher Simard

VII. AGENDA ITEMS:

A. OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED BY MICHLE HUGHES, CITY CLERK TO:

City Clerk Michele Hughes administered the Oath of Office to the new Mayor, Marston D. Lovell.

Mayor Lovell called the members of the new City Council and School Board forward to have the City Clerk administer the Oath of Office:

City Council

Ward One: Marshall F. Archer
Ward Four: Lynn H. Copeland
Ward Seven: Nathan Johnston

Ward Two: Roger Gay
Ward Five: Alan Minthorn

Ward three: William P. Doyle
Ward Six: Micah Smart

School Board

Ward One: Garrett Abrahamson
Ward Four: Stephen Shiman*
Ward Seven: Elizabeth Johnston

Ward Two: Lynn Leary*
Ward Five: Michel Ohayon

Ward Three: Edna-Ben-Ami
Ward Six: Stanley Mozden*

* School Board members to be sworn in during the inauguration ceremony.

VIII. PRESENTATIONS BY MAYOR MARSTON LOVELL

➤ Roland Michaud – Mayor Lovell presented a mantle clock to Ron and a bouquet of roses to his wife Hilda. To briefly summarize Ron’s career is hard to do because he has provided so much to the city. He served 8 years on the Planning Board and 3 years on the RSU Board. When he was Mayor he was very pro RSU. He saw all the good in the RSU. Unfortunately, it looked as if the RSU was being used to transfer Saco tax dollars and school equipment to a different location. He became disenchanted with how the RSU was behaving and ran for the board and with a wonderful 12% tax hike that the RSU passed onto us. We identified and I made the motion and Eric Cote seconded it to identify \$30,000 should an RSU Withdrawal Committee be voted on favorably by Saco’s residents. It was, and \$30,000 was set aside for that board and the campaign was led by Vangel Cotsis who is here tonight. So, when Mayor Johnston was mayor at the time and needed to form that RSU Withdrawal Committee, he

picked me for having created a reserve so that the RSU Withdrawal Committee would be funded, Mr. Cotsis as the most outspoken member of that committee and the RSU board selected Mayor Michaud as the Saco representative on the Withdrawal Committee. Mayor Johnston then picked Mayor Emeritus Bill Johnson as our fearless leader in dealing with that and we were able to successfully get out of the RSU. Mayor Michaud also served 14 years on the City Council and then 2 terms as Mayor and then served on the RSU Board and then came back again to serve as the Mayor completing his final term. What was really amazing was that I was his Deputy Mayor when he fulfilled his second term and he told me he was retiring. Since he retired he has been on the RSU Board and run again as Mayor. I personally appreciate that effort that he has put in for the City of Saco. He has also worked to ensure children's education in Saco and has been very close to the Saco Education Association members and for a short time after he has retired from the Social Security Administration worked for Saco. He has also been making this a livable community as people age. Although he doesn't look it he has actually aged a little bit. He is on the board of the Wardwell and one of the volunteers with Age Friendly Saco. So, thank you Ron and Hilda for your devotion City of Saco and all the sacrifices that you have made over the last 32 years to make Saco such a livable place.

Ron thanked his wife Hilda for 32 years of support.

➤ Eric Cote – Mayor Lovell noted that the next presentation that we have is for a long-standing Councilor and Mayor. One of the joys that I had when I was a Councilor with Eric Cote was walking down Main Street with Eric. People stopped and come out of shops. He is a magnate of good will and an amazing guy. He has been a Mayor for two terms, Councilor for 10 terms, member of the Planning Board and just completely involved in the city. Representative Donna Bailey has a presentation for him. As usual Eric knows when not to be here. So, we will be honoring Eric in spite of himself and presenting him with his sentiment and mantle clock.

Representative Donna Bailey read a Legislative Sentiment from the State of Maine for thanking Eric for his many years of dedication, devotion and public service to the city. As the Mayor mentioned Eric served on the Planning Board, Zoning Board, 2 terms as Mayor and 10 terms on the City Council. He has given many, many late nights to the City of Saco.

Sentiment: Be it known to all that we the members of the Senate and House of Representatives join in recognizing the honorable Eric Cote of Saco. Who is retiring from the Saco City Council after a long career in public service. Mr. Cote served on the Planning Board. 2 terms as Mayor of Saco and a total of 10 terms on their City Council. We extend to Mr. Cote our congratulations on his retirement and offer him our best wishes. Be it Ordered that this official expression of sentiment be sent forthwith on behalf of the 128th Legislature and the people of the State of Maine. Signed by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House, Clerk, Secretary and four representatives of the City of Saco.

Mayor Lovell added that Eric is a tremendous guy and a light for him. I asked him "Why don't you run for the Legislature? He said that was because we have much greater effect and closer to people if you run for local government office". That has been a guide for me ever since I sat next to him in City Council meetings.

IX. REMARKS BY MAYOR MARSTON LOVELL

I want to first acknowledge that and thank one of the city staff Brandon Pettit who was thoughtful enough to take my remarks and try to re-write them into a lite manner.

Over the last several years I have been speaking and listening to people one on one. I have grown unfamiliar with large group speaking technique. Every time that I practiced this speech I was able to recall more on my training that I had forgotten and so the smoothness this lacks is part of the rough edge that still exists. So please pardon my presentation style. I will become more practiced as time goes along.

My vision of Saco is a city of 25,000 with an assessed value of \$3 billion. We can accomplish this by increasing Saco's commercial and industrial base which will create a stable tax rate and a level in upward growth.

I would like to take a moment to thank Headmaster Rene Menard and his staff for hosting this event. They have been very thoughtful and thorough all the way through. This event is also being recorded so that those of you that have family that can't make it here are going to be able to have a video record of this.

We are here in celebration of elected Saco citizens who tonight embark on a journey to continue to develop Saco as a city of great promise. We have undertaken the task of bringing the city closer to stable level growth and its tax payers closer to reconciling their property cost to the value of services.

Saco faces many challenges and the ground work to conquer these challenges has been laid by the Mayors, Councils, and the Boards of Education who preceded us. Our thanks for all their efforts. Our goal is to achieve a tomorrow that is better than today.

We are grateful to the Mayor, Councilors, and School Board members who helped us to weather the difficulties of the past and we have had them. They have brought us to the promise of today.

One of the people in the audience is 7 term Mayor, Mark Johnston and his lovely wife Karen, Mayor Emeritus William Johnson and his lovely wife Mary and, Mayor Pilon. Those are some of the Mayors who have served us well in leveling off the City of Saco through the tribulations that we had, cash problems that we had in the 1980's and the cash problems we incurred during the great recession as President Obama described it. Also, the Councilors that are here I know that Councilor Jeff Christenbury is here and I have to say a special thank you to my friend Councilor Christenbury, but also to Councilor Tardif, Councilor Cote a former Mayor, and Councilor Smith for the guidance and direction they have given me to help me through the various political offices that I have held.

We appreciate our former Mayor, Councilors and School Board members for their service, dedication, and their love of this beautiful sunny Saco. We are honored to recognize our City Administrator Kevin Sutherland and his staff in the audience and our Superintendent of Schools Dominic DePatsey and his staff. We are honored to have officials from the offices of our Senators and U.S. Representatives and especially our Legislative Delegation. Senator Justin Chenette, Representative Donna Bailey, Representative Margaret O'Neil, Representative Donald Marean and my dear friend and class mate Senator David Woodsome. We are also honored to have officials, Councilors and Select Board members of our neighboring communities. Earlier I spoke to say hello and I will again at Mayor Casavant's Inauguration tomorrow. From our neighboring communities with the county government included Commissioner Richard Dutremble, Sheriff William King Jr., and representatives from the Maine Municipal Association.

The citizens of Saco deserve a safe and viable infrastructure. We will be using funds raised through voter approved bond issues and council approved capital funds to improve the conditions of some of our streets and important city buildings.

In the future, the city will resist in accepting any new city streets where those streets do not provide a stable foundation and adequate depth and do not provide adequate drainage. We will work to repair the streets that the city has accepted in the past that are not well constructed.

The situation in Camp Ellis is a chronic problem and unacceptable. We will work with our friend Senator Collins, Senator King, Representative Pingree and their staff and state government and most especially our friends in the legislature Senator Chenette, Representative Bailey, Representative O'Neil, and Representative Marean. Also, with the Corp. of Engineers to correct the design failures of their previous work and bring stability to Camp Ellis.

We will work with our City Administrator and new Finance Director to data analysis to provide timely reports and new ways and means to improve cost effective spending. They will then provide guidance to the Council in spending to assist us in recognizing and responding to the growth we achieved and the growth we will achieve. We will be working with the City Administrator and staff, Economic Development Commission and our friends at Saco Main Street represented here by Mr. Rob Biggs in order to bring new commercial and industrial growth to the city and raised the cities assessed value and by doing so stabilize taxes.

We the Council will be working with volunteers to staff our committees to develop better two-way communication

between our city staff and our year-round residents and other property owners and visitors.

This is a heady agenda for a city of nearly 20,000 citizens and a staff that was formed to support 16,000. We your council, city staff, city committees, boards and commissions will work hard and work smart to bring a brighter tomorrow.

Thank you for your indulgence and I hope I get to speak to each of you individually in the next 2 years.

X. ADJOURNMENT TO THE ATRIUM

Councilor Archer moved, Councilor Doyle seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

Refreshments and music by the Thornton Academy String Quartet were provided in the atrium.

Thornton Academy String Quartet
Anne Wilkinson, Director
Violin: Shannon Danis & Jenna Danler
Viola: Vincent Falardeau
Cello: Rowan Collins

Attest: _____
Michele L. Hughes, City Clerk