



SACO CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JUNE 8, 2026 - 6:30 PM

CITY HALL AUDITORIUM

1. CALL TO ORDER

On Monday, June 8, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. a City Council meeting was held in the City Hall Auditorium.

2. RECOGNITION OF MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Jodi MacPhail recognized the members of the Council and determined that the Councilors present constituted a quorum. Councilors present: Douglas Edwards, Joshua Parks, William Doyle, Jeffrey Onnen, William Gayle, Tricia Huot, and Nathan Johnston. City Administrator Ryan Pelletier was also present this evening.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. GENERAL

A. Recognition of Way Way Store and Peter Scontras

Mayor MacPhail noted that Peter Scontras is still under the weather So, this will be rescheduled to a later date.

5. COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE TO COUNCIL

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals chose to speak:

- Annick Nzeyimana, 3 Country Woods Rd
- Ketsia Kabela, 141 Beach Street

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Edwards moved, Councilor Parks seconded, to approve the June 1, 2026, City Council minutes as written. The motion passed with six (6) yeas and one (1) abstention - Councilor Doyle.

8. ACTION ITEMS

A. FY26 Quarter 3 Financial Summary Report

Interim Finance Director Judie Belanger presented the 3rd Quarter FY26 Summary Report ending March 31, 2026, for revenues and expenditures for the General Fund which are tracking really well.

Revenues

- Excise Taxes - Collected \$6.1 million which is really good.
- Cable TV Franchise Fees - Summary shows 2 payments. Another payment of \$48,000 was received in this 3rd Quarter but not reported in the summary, so we're at \$149,000. We do show that this revenue will have a little bit of a shortfall than we anticipated. As previously discussed, the cable franchise fees are going down. The did revise the estimated revenue for FY27 at a lower amount.
- Investment interest is holding strong. We are experiencing a \$300,000 surplus with 3 more months of interest to book.
- Miscellaneous revenue is reporting a surplus. The majority of this is because we have PE cards, which are city issued credit cards for the department heads, which results in the city getting a rebate back which is currently \$47,000.

Expenditures

- Departments - Are coming in right on target.
- General Assistance - We are showing that we're going to have a shortfall in this area but keeping in mind that we do get a 70%

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reimbursement from the State of Maine.

- Property & Liability Insurance - This is over by \$55,000 and is a result of adding new assets and some rates for the coverage had increase, but all the insurance premiums are paid for the year.

B. (One Reading) Authorization to Request Speed Studies with the Maine Department of Transportation (MeDOT)

Councilor Johnston moved, Councilor Huot seconded, Be it Ordered that the Saco City Council approves the Traffic Safety Committee's process recommendations; and further, authorizes the Public Works Director to submit a request to the Maine Department of Transportation for speed studies for Jenkins Road, Route 112 from Foss Road to Jenkins Road, and Route One from Elm Street to Ross Road. Further move to approve the Order. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

9. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Request for Utility Easement from the City of Saco for Map 97 Lot 2-1 off Buxton Road

Deputy City Administrator Emily Cole-Prescott and Deputy Assessor Sean McCarthy provided background information on the request for utility easement for Map 87, Lot 2-1 off Buxton Road.

Deputy Assessor McCarthy noted that at the present there is a right of way, but a right of way is not rights to pass utilities through the land which the city does currently own to access any house that would be put out there. So, we convened a bunch of City Staff, Public Works, Parks and Rec., a representative from Wastewater as well as Maine Water to discuss what requirements would the city have if any to make this request come to fruition. Ultimately, we decided partially due to the proximity of the Transfer Station and the old landfill we would require that they hook up to water. There is a stub to this parcel right now. So, drilling a well would be more expensive for them in the long run anyway. But it's better to have access to clean, fresh water that they know is good than risk the well. Also, just as I believe there was a request potentially to just delineate this boundary with the pond at the end, so that way there's a clear line between their land and the city's land. There would probably need to be by our estimations 2-3 telephone poles to get power back out there. There's already water.

Deputy City Administrator Cole-Prescott - So, as far as Sean's research so far, there's a right of way to pass and potentially build a road, but there's not the option to put utilities to the lot. So that's really what the request is for is to grant a utility easement from the City of Saco to the person making the request.

Deputy Assessor McCarthy - Noted Parks & Recreation Director Ryan Sommer stated this easement wouldn't impact the use of the right of way as a right of way. We will still have the ability to make use of that option in the future if the city decides to expand the Foss Road Recreational Complex.

Deputy City Administrator Cole-Prescott and Deputy Assessor McCarthy addressed councilors questions.

B. Charter Amendments

City Administrator Ryan Pelletier reviewed the process for Charter Amendments and provided a timeline.

The deadline for the last vote for Charter Amendments would be the August 17th meeting.

If council could provide drafts for the 1st meeting in July, the 2nd meeting in July it would be brought back as a 1st Reading, and a 2nd & Final Reading for the 1st meeting in August.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

City Administrator Ryan Pelletier provided administrative updates.

11. COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

- Councilor Huot - First I want to congratulate all the graduates of Thornton Academy. Also, the 2026 Summer Reading Challenge at Dyer Library begins Saturday, June 20, 2026. Registration and reading logs are ready and pick to be picked up that day at the children's desk. And the library is hosting a Summer Reading Program kickoff from 10:30 to 12:30 p.m. Programs and challenges are available for all age groups, babies up to adults. Also, the Saco Arts Committee is excited to announce the Arts Festival will be held June 20th from 9 to 3 on Main Street. If you're an artist who'd like to participate, would like to volunteer, or become a sponsor, check out sacomainstreet.org.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Onnen moved, Councilor Doyle seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas. Time: 6:59 p.m.

Attest: _____
Michele L. Hughes, City Clerk