# SACO CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
# SEPTEMBER 28, 2026 - 6:30 PM

City Hall Auditorium

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

On Monday, September 28, 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, Sandra Guay, Jeffrey Onnen, William Gayle, Tricia Huot, and Nathan Johnston. City Administrator Ryan Pelletier was also present this evening.

## 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## 4. GENERAL

## 5. COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE TO COUNCIL

- Councilor Huot - I just want to thank the Saco Museum. They are doing a Art Exhibit by 3 local artists. I have to tell you; it was a fabulous exhibit. Some kind benefactor has offered to pay all admission fees. So, if you have time, go check it out.

- Councilor Edwards - Good news. Saco Main Street, there efforts to revitalize the Riverfront Park Revitalization won an award last Friday. It was from the Maine Development Foundation. They have won for the Maine Downtown Center 2026 Project of the Year Award. I would like to thank publicly, all the Saco Main Street and volunteers that help with that. That is an amazing accomplishment. I wish I had been here long enough in Saco to be able to see the real difference, but I know many long timers including our current Executive Director Angie Presby know the difference and it's a wonderful site. I have actually seen personally people coming in from other places and a recommendation from people who live here to walk that walk. So, it's something that brings people to downtown Saco. In related news the Executive Director Angie, after 4 years has decided to continue her journey. So, we will be looking for an Executive Director. If you are interested, please visit the Saco Main Street site and look at the job listing, it maybe something for you.

- Mayor MacPhail - That is very exciting news. Actually, that is the 2nd project in the last 6 years that the Main Street Organization has been awarded that back in 2020 when the Saco Scoop was under the Saco Main Street, the Maine Downtown Foundation had awarded that at the time to Director Biggs. So, congratulations to Saco Main Street.

## 6. PUBLIC COMMENT

## 7. CONSENT ITEMS

Councilor Johnston moved, Councilor Parks seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda item #A as follows:

**A. Easement to Central Maine power (CMP) for Electrical Installation for a Structure at Foss Road** - Be it Ordered that the Saco City Council authorize the City Administrator to grant an easement to Central Maine Power Company in substantially the same form as presented. Further move to approve the Order.

The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

## 8. ACTION ITEMS

### A. (First Reading) Amendments to Saco Code, Chapter 112 - General Assistance Program Appendices

Councilor Gayle moved, Councilor Huot seconded, Be it ordered that the City Council hereby approves the First Reading of Amendments

to the Saco Code, Chapter 112, General Assistance Program, Portland HMFA Appendix A-I, and further moves to set the Public Hearing for October 19th 2026. Further move to approve the Order. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

## B. (One Reading) Emergency Ordinance to Re-establish a Temporary Prohibition on Data Centers

Councilor Onnen moved, Councilor Gayle seconded, Be it found by the Saco City Council that an emergency still exists, and therefore be it Ordered, that the City of Saco adopt the Emergency Ordinance to Re-Establish a Temporary Prohibition on Data Centers. Further move to approve the Order. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

## C. (One Reading) Order to Authorize Lease Purchase of Cardiac Monitors in the Aggregate Principal Amount of up to $284,000

Councilor Parks moved, Councilor Edwards seconded, Be it Ordered that the Saco City Council approve the Order entitled, â€˜Order to Authorize Lease Purchase of Cardiac Monitors in the Aggregate Principal Amount of up to $284,000,' and that an attested copy of this Order be filed with the minutes of this meeting. Further move to approve the Order. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

## 9. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

City Administrator Ryan Pelletier provided administrative updates.

## 10. COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

- Councilor Onnen - I want to extend my appreciation to the city, and Public Works for their continued support down in Camp Ellis always during these weather events they are challenging times and our city does a tremendous job in making sure that the community and the citizens in that area are safe and taken care of. I also would like to mention, and I don't use this term flippantly, this is not a tourist location. For those that may be listening to us, anyone who is traveling along that seawall puts yourself at risk in these weather conditions. I would strongly suggest that you do not go down just to visit. You have folks who live down there and have to live it on a daily basis. But for the sake of having a visit, it is the wrong time to do that.

- Councilor Edwards - Maybe I should have brought this up earlier. I was wondering why we didn't see minutes on this particular agenda? Mayor MacPhail - No, it is not listed on the agenda. City Administrator Ryan Pelletier - That is a great question, I will get back to you on that. Mayor MacPhail - We will have double minutes on the next one because it was not listed on the agenda this evening.

Mayor MacPhail called for a recess of the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Mayor MacPhail reconvened the meeting at 6:54 p.m.

## 11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Parks moved, Councilor Edwards seconded, Be it ordered that the City Council enter into executive session, pursuant to [M.R.S. A. Title 1, Chapter 13, Subchapter 1, §405 (6)]: (E) Consultation between the municipality and its attorney-The Ecology School, Lucia Kimball Health Trust Matter, and General Dynamics Abatement. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas. Time: 6:55 p.m.

**EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor MacPhail, and City Councilors: Edwards, Parks, Guay, Onnen, Gayle, Huot, Johnston, and City Administrator Ryan Pelletier were all present.

Councilor Guay moved, Councilor Edwards seconded, to exit executive session. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas. Time: 8:17 p.m.

## 12. REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Parks stated there was no report.

## 13. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Edwards moved, Councilor Guay seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas. Time: 8:18 p.m.

Attest:_____

Michele L. Hughes, City Clerk

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