



# The Biddeford Beat

CITY OF BIDDEFORD WEEKLY NEWSLETTER | MONDAY, JAN 9, 2017

Volume 17.1

A1

## SAVE THE DATE!



## Goals Setting Process: A Success

At the end of 2015, the City Council participated in a formal goals setting process for upcoming year (2016). Most believe that this was the first time that such a process occurred as no one can actually recall a formal goal setting process.

There are generally two approaches to a goal setting process. Most common, the goals are condensed and fairly easy obtain. On the other hand, goals are diverse and many and there is no expectation that all of the goals will be achieved.

The Council elected the second approach. The general feeling is that the City would achieve more success with a greater list to achieve. As we look back on the 2016 results, it is hard to not see that the approach chosen worked. *(continued on A2)*

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### Mon Jan 9

4:30pm - Cable TV Committee  
(Public Access Building)

6:00pm - Strategic Planning Subcommittee  
(City Hall City Manager's Office)

6:30pm - Downtown Development Commission  
(City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room)

### Tue Jan 10

6:00pm - Joint City Council & School Committee  
Workshop (BHS Little Theater)

7:00pm - School Committee  
(BHS Little Theater)

7:00pm - Solid Waste Management  
(Public Works facility)

### Wed Jan 11

6:00pm - Zoning Board of Appeals  
(City Hall Council Chambers)

6:00pm - Strategic Planning Steering Committee  
(City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room)

7:00pm - Shellfish Committee  
(Biddeford Pool Fire Station)  
For Full Calendar, [click here](#)

## Proud of Biddeford, Tweet Positives

Are you passionate about Biddeford? Are you proud that Biddeford is your hometown or is the place you call home now? Do you get frustrated when others try to put it down?

If you are and agree, join us as we celebrate in 2017 all the positives that Biddeford has to offer. Please join the movement using Twitter to share why you believe Biddeford is great. Send out a positive tweet about Biddeford and use hashtag #365BiddefordMEpositives. We look forward to hearing about your thoughts and being able to share your tweets with others.

Who to follow: @BiddMECity @BiddMEMayor @BiddMECityMgr @BiddMEBldMaint @BiddMECityClerk @BiddMEEng @BiddMEEnvCodes @BiddMEFire @BiddMEHR @BiddMEGA @BiddMEIT @BiddMEPolice @BiddMEPW @BiddMERec

## City Sells Pate Property

The City Council formally voted to unanimously sell the former Pate Property located at 515 Elm St to the State of Maine for the new consolidated York County Court building. The building is projected to cost in excess of \$65,000,000 and employ 68 full time employees when it opens. *(continued on A2)*

*(continued from AI Goals)*

The 2016 work plan consisted of 55 separate goals. Each of them was given a priority status: critical, high, medium or low. In addition, each of them were given a tentative due date. The Council formally adopted the prioritized goals and timeframes in January 2016. Those goals were converted into a 'dashboard' report system and publicly available on the home page of the City's website [www.biddefordmaine.org](http://www.biddefordmaine.org). Periodically during the year, the dashboard would be updated to let the Council and the public know what the status was.

The end of the year progress is available on the website. The results are impressive.

- All 55 goals: 86% of the goals were either completed or nearly completed.
- Critical Items: 100% of the goals met.
- High Priority Items: 75% were completed or nearly completed.
- Medium Priority Items: 94% were completed.
- Low Priority Items: 80% were completed.

The goals were established to cover a 12 to 18 month period. The statistics above are for the first 12 month period. We encourage you to take a look at the goals. We believe you will be impressed with the list.

For 2017, the Council will be using the same process. In preparation of their process, a list of potential goals is being sorted for them to consider. Once the Council has completed the prioritization process, the formal goals will appear on an agenda for formal adoption. We will report on the process as it proceeds.

If you have any suggestions that you would like to see on the potential goals list, please email to Jim Bennett, City Manager at [jbennett@biddefordmaine.org](mailto:jbennett@biddefordmaine.org) or by calling 207.284.9313 by Friday, January 13.

*(continued from AI Pate Property)*

Many citizens know that the City initially bought the property for the purpose of expanding the commercial footprint in the community. There have been some reports that the City lost money in this transaction. Here are the financial details of the City's involvement with the property.

The City bought two parcels of land. It paid \$700,000 for both lots together. The main lot (515 Elm St) was assigned a purchase price of \$650,000. The lot across the street (516 Elm St) was assigned a purchase price of \$50,000. That lot has not been sold. The City owns the lot.

The Courthouse project is paying a total of \$810,000 for the 515 Elm Street lot and another city owned lot at 384 Hill St lot adjacent to the Elm Street property. The City acquired that lot for \$1.

Since the purchase of the Pate property, the city has spent money to do an environmental assessment on the lot as well as remove the structures. It also has paid interest on the loan for the property. In total, the City has \$721,692 invested in the property as follows:

Purchase 515 Elm	\$650,000
Purchase of 384 Hill	\$ 1
Environment Assessment	\$ 2,700
Demolition of buildings	\$ 30,655
<u>Interest (until 6.1.2017)</u>	<u>\$ 38,336</u>
Total	\$721,692

When the property is sold, the city will gain \$88,308 (\$810,000 selling price less \$721,692 in costs) that can be used for other economic development projects. The final determination of how these funds might be used will be determined by the Council.



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For questions or comments:

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Thank you for reading.