



The Biddeford Beat

THE CITY OF BIDDEFORD WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Meetings are located in the Council Chambers at City Hall unless otherwise stated. Live meetings can be viewed on the [City of Biddeford website](http://www.biddefordmaine.org/) or on the Public Access Channel.

Monday April 1, 2019
5:30 p.m. Downtown Development Commission

Tuesday April 2, 2019
5:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting (Live)
6:00 p.m. City Council Meeting (Live)

Wednesday April 3, 2019
6:00 p.m. Planning Board Meeting (Live)

Thursday April 4, 2019
5:30 p.m. Public Hearing – CDBG Draft Year 2 Action Plan @ 2nd Floor Conference Room

Monday April 8, 2019
5:30 p.m. Budget Committee Meeting (Live)

Wednesday April 10, 2019
4:00 p.m. Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

All meetings are subject to change. [Click here](#) to view updates on the full city calendar.

CLOCK TOWER RESTORATION UPDATE

Balzer Family Clock Works was busy at work inside the clock tower this morning! They very carefully took apart the clock so that they can get started on the restoration process. It will be telling time again before we know it! [Click here](#) to watch a video of the process.



Note: no City funds will be used for the clock repairs. The project was funded thanks to Heart of Biddeford's grant from the Partners in Preservation: Main Street campaign!



Looking for an easy way to participate in the budget process? The City is looking for your input on Polco, our new tool for civic engagement. Visit www.polco.us/Biddeford by March 30 to answer the latest survey.

UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

April 1 marks the start of two construction projects in Biddeford.

South Street Project

The South Street project resumed with light work on March 25 with no disruptions to traffic flow. Starting on April 1, crews will begin replacing infrastructure below the roadway between Quimby Street and Elm Street. Work between Dearborn Street and May Street will not resume until the State to Elm portion of the construction is substantially complete.

During construction, local residents will be allowed to travel to and from their homes on South Street and side streets that can only be accessed from South Street. **Non-residential traffic should expect to be detoured and should follow all posted directional signage.**

In order for the underground piping to be reconstructed in a quick and timely manner, parking will be prohibited in some areas of the street on weekdays between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Some additional Saturday work may be necessary to meet required time schedules, and any extra parking restrictions on these days will be posted. Cars that are parked in restricted areas may be towed.

When the construction project is complete, the street will receive new sewer, storm drains, water mains, sidewalks, curbing, and street paving.

Main Street Sidewalk Project

Work on the Main Street Sidewalk Project will also begin on April 1. During this project, sidewalks on both sides of Main Street between Elm Street and Adams Street will be demolished and replaced with new sidewalks. New lighting, landscaping, planters, and other street amenities will also be installed.

Access to Main Street businesses will not be affected during this project. Crews will be installing temporary aluminum ramps when the sidewalks are removed so that pedestrians can safely travel to the entrances of businesses.

Traffic will flow in both directions on Main Street as normal during the construction project. However, two-hour parking areas will be reduced to 15-minute parking in the construction zone area only to help crews complete construction in a timely manner.

* * *

We will make every effort to minimize any inconvenience this may cause and we thank you for your patience during these projects. If you have any further questions, you can contact the City of Biddeford's Public Works Department at 207-282-1579 or the Engineering Office at 207-284-9118.

FY2020 BUDGET PROCESS UPDATE

At their March 25 meeting, the City Manager identified the policy decisions that the City Council will have to consider as part of the Fiscal Year 2020 budget process. The Budget Committee set the following agendas for their upcoming meetings so that these policy issues can be discussed:



- **April 8:** Discussion on Wastewater Treatment Plant/Sewer Use Fees and proposed FY20 Capital Improvement Projects
- **April 18:** Discussion on Solid Waste Management Program/Recycling and Head Count/Staffing Levels (including discussion on Fire Department request for additional personnel)
- **April 25:** School Department Proposed FY20 Budget

At the March 28th meeting, the committee discussed Social and Municipal Service Agencies and invited representatives from the agencies to speak about the work that they have accomplished over the past year. To watch the meeting, please click [here](#).

SACO RIVER DREDGE

The Saco River dredge will be wrapping up at the end of March. The US Army Corps of Engineers extended the contract for the dredge until the end of the month to ensure that the river is dredged to its approved depths. The cost to complete the dredging - \$3.93 million - was completely paid for by the USACE.



PREPAID PARKING CARDS

In order to accommodate cash-only households, the City will be offering prepaid parking cards that can be used at the downtown parking kiosks. Beginning on Wednesday April 3, the cards will be available for purchase at the City Clerk's Office during regular business hours. They will be sold in increments of \$10, \$25, \$40, \$50, \$75, and \$100.



Save the Date!

Earth Day Activities @
Recycling Center

April 27, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

