

**Infrastructure Committee  
Minutes  
SEPTEMBER 23, 2014**

**ATTENDEES**

**Councilors:**

Gibran Graham  
Joseph Baldacci

Pauline Civiello  
Patricia Blanchette

Joshua Plourde  
Pauline Civiello

**Staff:**

Dana Wardwell

Cathy Conlow

John Theriault

**Others:**

Kendra Overlock, Emera-Mgr  
Transmission Development

Bruce Philbrick, Emera-T& D  
Mgr/Prjt Eng. Waterworks Prjt

Janet Scully, Emera-  
Customer Service

Jennifer D'Groff

Hope Brougunier

Lucy Quimby

Adam Darcy

Adam Good, Maine House of  
Representatives

**Agenda**

**1. Discussion: West Side Power Outages**

Janet explained that in late July there was equipment failure and a delay in restoring service during a scheduled maintenance at a substation at the University of Maine. Councilor Baldacci requested continued communications between the City and Emera. The City would be of assistance with advanced notices, as necessary. Councilor Plourde asked if there were alerts for customers when outages were anticipated and asked if they could sign up for text or emails. Janet indicated that it was a work in progress. Councilor Blanchette suggested placement of outages be put on the government channel, and Councilor Baldacci suggested the website as well. Jennifer D'Groff asked if there was a Facebook app for alerts, the response was that they anticipated setting up a Facebook account, but currently information was available through Twitter with linked in maps and anticipated duration of outages. Hope came to the table asking how the sale of the land came to be, as Saxl Park (proposed location of the new substation) was a preserve to honor Joe Saxl. Councilor Baldacci informed Hope this would be in the next agenda item.

***Vote: No vote necessary, informational only.***

**2. Presentation: Emera Maine, New Substation near Waterworks**

Bruce began the presentation by provided a project history and explaining the location of the proposed project. He stated Eastern Maine Medical Center facility was served by Veazie and was at capacity. The proposed plan was to provide power increase and provide an alternative to the aging asset. Emera

would prefer to avoid excessive load capacity of Broadway and Hogan. Bruce continued to explain the location, buffers, and the potential re-routing of trails.

Adam Darcy from Garland Street heard of this last week and expressed his concerns on the proposed location and its proximity to trails, residential areas, and near wetlands. His preference was to not see this monstrosity on the hill and asked this be reconsidered. Hope, who learned of this last night, expressed concerned that this was a nature preserve and a memorial to Joe Saxl and how could this become available for other uses. She stated this was not an appropriate use. Councilor Baldacci believed that the legislature passed this bill. Representative Good from High Street stated he had many reservations as Hope did. He informed the Committee there was language in the 125<sup>th</sup> Legislature's 2011 Bi-Annual Budget to allow the Bureau of General Services to sell state property at Dorethea Dix to Emera for this purpose. Councilor Blanchette asked if this went to any committee to be vetted at a public hearing and she suggested it be taken back to the legislature. Adam stated he was not party to the process as this was passed prior to his taking a seat in the house. Councilor Baldacci did not want it to go back to legislature because of the difficulty and time it would take to pass. The preference was to work with a couple people from City Staff, a couple representatives, a couple members of the community, along with Emera in an informal work group to develop a balanced solution.

Bruce stated the first step in the process was to acquire stakeholder feedback, then hold public meetings (at present, no set hard date), if the State was satisfied with the community's support, they would enter into a purchase and sale agreement, after which permitting would be underway in 2015. Anticipated timeframe of construction would take approximately a year and four months. He also stated this was the best location that met the criteria. Lucy noted meeting with Saxl Park Commission and expressed additional concerns. Councilor Baldacci asked Emera come back in sixty days.

***Vote: No vote necessary, informational only.***