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Greetings from the All-America City of Lewiston:

Each month, this report from the City Administrator's office provides a brief summary and update of major activities, events, projects, and programs that impact the community of Lewiston. Feel free to send your comments and suggestions.

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ITEMS OF INTEREST Clean-Up Assistance Week

CLEAN-UP ASSISTANCE WEEK, APRIL 23-30, 2011 / For Lewiston Residents Only

- **Tip fees will be waived** (with the exception of commercial accounts)
- **You will not need to use your Punch Pass** – however, proof of residency is required; please bring a driver's license, tax receipt or utility bill with you
- In addition to the solid waste facility's regular weekday hours of 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM Monday through Friday and 8:00 AM – Noon on Saturday, it **will be open extended hours on two Saturdays during the designated "Clean-Up Assistance Week:" Saturday April 23rd and 30th from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM**
- **How should material be disposed of at the Solid Waste Facility?**
 - **All materials must be separated, i.e.:**



- **Construction & Demolition Debris** (includes, but is not limited to, building materials such as plaster and lath, plumbing fixtures, insulation, asphalt, wall board, pipes, pressure treated wood, and metal conduits, etc.)
- **Wood** This DOES NOT include pressure treated wood; (includes demolition wood--free of metal, sheet rock, insulations, and other solid waste--brush and tree waste--with no stumps--wood furniture, etc.
- **Scrap metal.** Appliances such as stoves, dryers, washing machines, etc. DOES NOT include engines, gearboxes, lawnmowers, or tanks of any kind – whether full or empty that contained chemicals or fuels
- **Television or Computer Monitors** (no more than (5) televisions or monitors)
- **Refrigerators/Freezers that Contain Refrigerant**
- **Up to Four (4) Tires**
- **Two (2) 20 lb. Propane Gas Cylinders**

Curbside Collection

- Brush will be collected at curbside, butt ends to face the street, with no stumps
 - **Please Note:**
 - **Quantities are limited to no more than one (1) standard pick-up truckload**
 - **All brush and/or yard waste MUST BE at curbside by 7:00 AM on April 24th**

Lewiston's Solid Waste Facility, 424 River Road, Tel. 513-3006

Regular hours: Monday – Friday 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM, and Saturday from 8:00 AM – Noon, with expanded Saturday hours on the 23rd & 30th from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

ITEMS OF INTEREST Continued...

LA CA\$H Coalition Exceeds \$13 Million

The Lewiston-Auburn CA\$H Coalition has **exceeded \$13 million** in claimed income tax refunds that it has facilitated for area residents since 2004. The grand total from 2004 to present is **\$13,036,674**, which has gone back into the pockets of families as well as the local economy.



During each tax season, Coalition members promote the Earned Income Tax Credit, a Federal tax credit for low-to-moderate income workers. From January – March each year, the Coalition also provides free tax preparation sites at the Multi-Purpose Center, Lewiston, and Auburn City Hall.

For the **2011 tax season alone**, the Coalition's dedicated IRS-certified volunteer core prepared and e-filed Federal & State returns for **1,458** residents claiming **\$2,607,000** in refunds. In addition, throughout the season, **CA\$H Coaches** were available at the sites to talk with residents about savings, budgeting, buying a home, credit card debt, money management, etc.

Deputy City Administrator Phil Nadeau notes, ***“Lewiston is proud to be part of a multi-partner effort that is making a difference in people’s lives.”***

The LA CA\$H Coalition is one of eight statewide, and its outreach is funded by monies from The Annie E. Casey Foundation, a statewide VITA grant, and Key Bank.

Tax Season	Federal Refunds	Federal EITC Amount	State Refunds	# Served
2011	\$2,214,000	\$671,000	\$393,000	1458
2010	\$1,911,000	\$370,888	\$584,000	1314
2009	\$1,889,237	\$638,746	\$335,637	1194
2008	\$1,537,994	\$624,379	\$285,985	1104
2007	\$1,362,269	\$537,502	\$249,463	990
2006	\$958,722	\$410,306	\$175,221	748
2005	\$536,562	\$251,082	\$96,896	397
2004	\$506,688	\$262,416	0*	336
TOTALS	\$10,916,472	\$3,766,319	\$2,120,202	7541

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Fiscal Year 2012 Budget

March was dominated by work on the FY12 budget. Finance and Administration met with each department to review their requests and to develop the proposed budget that was presented to the City Council at the end of the month.

The proposal calls for a 1.1% increase in the budget for City operations, an increase driven primarily by employee health insurance and retirement programs, energy costs, and our street paving program. Revenues are projected to fall by almost \$700,000 or 5.2%, given the continuing effects of today's economic environment and the elimination of the use of undesignated fund balance (the City's savings account or "rainy day fund") for operating purposes. We also estimate that the City's assessed value will fall by just over \$21 million because of personal property (business equipment) values which have been affected by the State's Business Equipment Tax Exemption Program. This value loss equates to an 11 cent increase in the tax rate for schools and 20 cents for the City.

The proposed budget called for a 95 cent (3.8%) increase in the tax rate.

Since the budget was presented to the Council, the School Department has reduced its funding request by \$200,000, eliminating any tax rate increase for schools and reducing the total increase to 84 cents.

During April and May, the City Council will review the budget in detail and make additional adjustments in an effort to further reduce its impact on the property tax rate.

State Funding Impact on Municipal Budget

Five percent of state sales and income taxes have traditionally been shared with its municipalities. In recent years, the State has raided this account to help balance its budget. This year, Lewiston received \$1.5 million less than called for by the formula. If this funding has been left intact, this year's 50 cent property tax rate increase would not have been necessary and personnel layoffs would have been avoided. For FY12, we anticipate that the state will increase the size of the raid to \$2 million. With these funds, next year's proposed tax rate could be cut by fifteen cents.

The business equipment tax exemption has reduced City property tax revenues by an estimated \$198,000 in FY12. While fully reimbursed in the first year of the program, this reimbursement will fall to 70% next year, 60% the year after, and the constitutionally required 50% the following year. At the 50% level, Lewiston will receive at least \$400,000 less from this revenue source, an amount which is simply transferred to others who pay property taxes in our community.

The most recent changes to the homestead program reduced the exemption from \$13,000 at 50% reimbursement to \$10,000 at 50%. In the year this change went into effect, our reimbursement fell by \$200,000, a direct cost to our home owners.

Without these reductions in state programs, the property tax rate would not have increased this year and would likely be lowered next year.

DEPUTY CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Revenue Sharing

On March 1st, I along with other municipal elected officials and managers testified before the Appropriations and Taxation Committees Regarding the Governor's proposed changes to revenue sharing for municipalities. Under the current law, municipalities in Maine are programmed to receive 5% of state sales and income tax revenue collected each year. The Governor proposed to strike this statute and simply have the legislature appropriate an amount to the municipalities each year. As of this writing, there seems to be no strong legislative support for terminating this formula-based approach, but it does appear that the legislature will yet again reduce the amount actually sent to municipalities. The current proposal will withhold \$2 million dollars from Lewiston for the coming year. However, we hope that this economy will continue to recover and that all municipalities in Maine will, receive the legislature's support to fully distribute revenue sharing to all Maine communities in future years.

Greyhound Lease at the Oak Street CityLink Terminal

The economy has taken its toll on everyone, including Greyhound. Their ridership is down nationally and in Lewiston. The L-A Transit Committee reviewed and approved a proposal on March 10th that would reduce their \$15,000 a year lease to \$13,000 for one year. Having a Greyhound presence at



the terminal is not only good for those who are coming and going from L-A, but good for our transit operation since the Greyhound staff at the terminal provides our riders a physical presence inside the terminal. This lease reduction will permit Greyhound to continue providing coverage for Lewiston-Auburn area residents at a time when long-distance carriers are electing to move more of their operations out of downtowns and closer to interstates. The Committee is also allowing Greyhound riders to use their

same-day tickets to ride the transit system for free to connect to the transit station. The Committee believes that keeping Greyhound connected to the transit terminal is good business for L-A, and we will continue to do what is economically feasible to provide our residents with the quality transit choices that compliment any vital and growing urban center.

Goodbye Paul and Ken

Area municipal officials and business associates assembled on March 18th at D'Avinci's to say goodbye to L-A Economic Growth Council staffers Paul Badeau and Ken St. Amand. Paul has joined Efficiency Maine as their Communications Director, and Ken will be retiring. Paul's work with the "L-A It's Happening Here!" campaign, the "Biz-to-Biz" Tradeshow and the annual dinner all helped to showcase his considerable talents. Ken contributed significantly in delivering the new veteran's medical clinic (which just broke ground recently) to Lewiston and to the redevelopment of the Grand Trunk railroad station building on Lincoln Street. The City of Lewiston wishes both Paul and Ken the best of luck on their new life journeys!

ASSESSING

Site Visits

March activity in the Assessing Department was dominated by on-site visits to new construction sites and fieldwork visits for personal property. Mobile home parks were visited to verify the site count for mobile homes for the April 1st taxing date. This is an annual process due to the lack of recorded ownership documents for mobile homes. At the present time, there are over 500 mobile homes on leased sites in Lewiston.



Personal Property Returns

Taxpayers have been submitting their personal property returns, filing for Homestead and Veteran's exemptions, and submitting their real estate property declaration forms. We anticipate that over 6,600 Lewiston property owners will qualify for the Homestead Exemption. All taxpayer submissions require accurate recording of the submitted information. In the case of personal property returns, the initial valuation figures for each account are tabulated pending on-site verification of assets. Personal Property accounts containing equipment eligible for the Business Equipment Tax Exemption program are being segregated so that the City may apply for a partial reimbursement of lost taxes from Maine Revenue Services.

All of these annual activities are of vital importance to accurately complete the Lewiston tax roll.

CLERKS

Preparations for May 10 School Budget Vote

The Department worked to reserve the facility and line up election workers and Public Works crews for the May 10th school budget vote.



Louis J. Martel
Elementary School

Energov



Staff reviewed and tested all aspects of the new business licensing database. A task work list of items that are not working well or that are not included in the program was developed, i.e. fee schedules, reports, and address problems.

Non-profit Organizations

The Department prepared and compiled the material for requests for service and donations, both in-kind and monetary, from the various non-profit organizations that interact with the City throughout the year. Examples include the various festivals as well as fundraising events such as walk-a-thons.

Legislative Activities

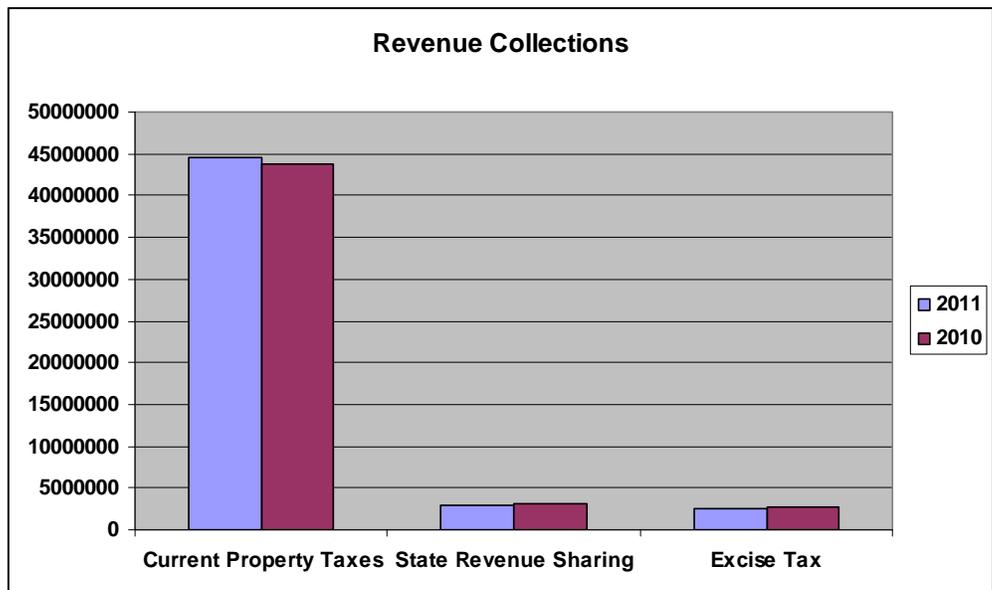
The City Clerk testified on two legislative proposals pertaining to customers of the Department – one regarding access to birth, marriage, and death records and the other bill regarding write-in candidates for a municipal election.

FINANCE

Finance & Treasury

With the continued sluggish economy and uncertainty of funding at the State level, the Finance Department continues to pay close attention to how actual receipts are trending compared to budget estimates and prior year balances. The results at the end of March are shown in the graph below:

The amounts shown for tax collections strictly reflect property tax payments received for the current year. At the end of March, the City was 94.26% collected for its real estate and personal property taxes compared to 2010's collection rate of 92.87%. Taking into consideration the 2% tax rate increase, collection rates are slightly out pacing last year.



Reminder letters go out on April 12th to accounts with outstanding balances to assist with collection efforts. Additionally, the City collected \$504,444 of its \$664,921 budgeted Homestead Exemption from the State. The remaining portion of the Homestead Exemption is anticipated in July, but the revenue will be accrued for the current fiscal year. The BETE reimbursement is fully collected at the \$797,149 budgeted amount.

The City has also collected \$1,775,995 in delinquent real and personal property taxes which is below last year's amount of \$1,950,415. The Treasurer's Office will be sending out 30-day tax lien notices on May 12th prior to the tax lien recording which will occur on June 17th.

Revenue Sharing receipts of \$2,887,268 are at 79% of the budget estimate and above the targeted 75% collection rate at this point in the fiscal year.

Excise Tax collections continue to lag behind last year by \$100,753, reflecting the sluggish economy. The 2011 budget was reduced by \$50,000, so we are still falling short in this revenue area. With spring here, we generally see a flurry of activity which may put us back on track.

The detailed third-quarter financial report with the accompanying explanatory memo will be in circulation shortly.

FIRE

New Assistant Fire Chief and Retirements



Assistant Fire Chief

On March 9th, Bruce H. McKay assumed his new position as Assistant Chief for the Lewiston Fire Department. Bruce's extended long-standing service with the department made him an excellent choice for the job. Bruce entered the department as a Private in 1981 and held that position until his promotion to Lieutenant in 1995. In 2003 he was promoted to the rank of Battalion Chief of Fire Prevention and Training Division for the department. As Assistant Chief, Bruce's duties in coordination with Chief LeClair will be to oversee all LFD divisions along with the daily operations of the department.

Promotion

Wallace N. Veilleux Jr. has been promoted to the rank of Fire Captain. Capt. Veilleux has served the department since 1983 and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in 1992. His new assignment begins in April and will include department supplies and clothing as well as Fire Ground Command duties. Capt. Veilleux holds a Bachelors Degree in Education from the University of Maine at Orono and an Associates Degree in Fire Science from Southern Maine Community College. Capt. Veilleux has also recently achieved Hazardous Materials Technician Certification.



Retirements

After 25 years of service with the Lewiston Fire Department, Private Shawn Metayer retired on March 26th. Shawn entered the department in 1986 as a Private and held that position for 25 years. Shawn was a great asset to the department as well as the community with his extensive back ground and experience in the Emergency Medical Services field. Upon retirement, Pvt. Metayer began his new career as a Nurse Anesthetist.

215 Pine Street Third Alarm Structure Fire

In the early morning hours of March 30, a Third Alarm Structure Fire heavily damaged a multi-unit apartment building at 215 Pine Street. For many years the building was the home of Champoux Insurance. Recently it was fully occupied as a three family tenement. Firefighting crews encountered heavy fire upon arrival and were successful in limiting the spread of fire to the upper floors of the building. Collapse of the roof hindered interior operations; however, firefighting crews deployed the use of exterior hose lines and aerial ladder operations to extinguish the remaining fire. The Third Alarm response included the recall of Lewiston firefighters and Mutual Aid units from the Auburn and Lisbon Fire Department.



PLANNING & CODE ENFORCEMENT

Historic Preservation Review Board

The Historic Preservation Review Board met on March 3, 2011. Assistant City Administrator Phil Nadeau addressed the Board and provided them with information on the proposed rehabilitation of the Kennedy Park Gazebo. The preservation of the Gazebo is very important to the Board. Assistant to the City Administrator Lincoln Jeffers provided the Board with an overview of the work staff has taken to pursue the acquisition of the Canal System.



Methadone Clinic Gets Council Approval



After several months of meetings and hearings, the City Council approved a license for Merrimack River Medical Services, Inc. to operate an outpatient addiction treatment clinic (i.e. a methadone clinic) at 18 Mollison Way. The clinic will occupy approximately 6,224 square feet of office space that was previously occupied by TD Bank located on the front side of the Sparetime Recreation building. Access and parking to the clinic will be limited to the Mollison Way side of the structure. The Council added a number of conditions to this license

aimed at addressing concerns expressed by other tenants/owners in this business park. The license must be renewed annually.

On March 28, 2011 the Lewiston Planning Board approved the following projects:

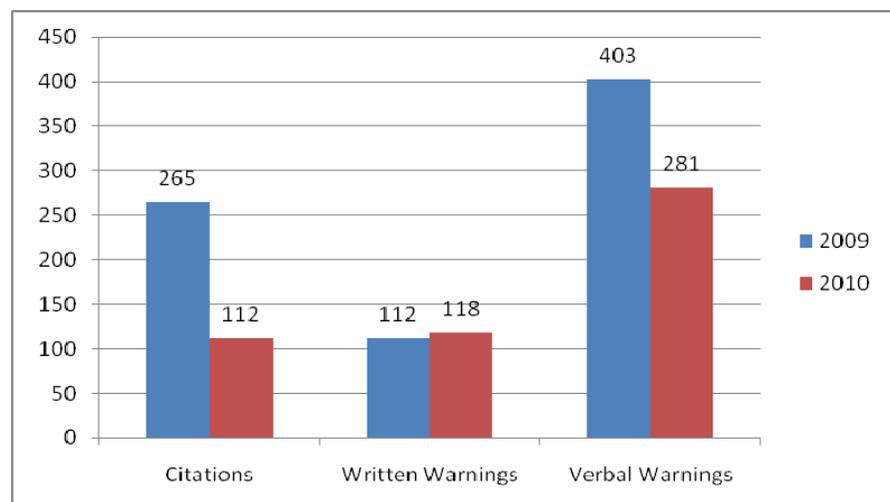
- Real Estate Holdings, LLC/ Moody's Collision Center for the construction of a 17,673 square foot auto body repair facility at 792 Main Street. In order to develop this site, it was necessary to discontinue Whittum Avenue. On March 1, 2011 the City Council approved the request to discontinue this public easement contingent upon the removal of the structures located on this parcel with frontage on Whittum and subject to development review approval.
- Central Maine Power Company for the Lewiston Loop Project to increase transmission capacity and reinforce its transmission system in the Lewiston/Auburn area to support current and forecasted electrical demand. To meet this objective, CMP will construct a new above-ground 115 kV transmission line from the proposed 51 Middle Street Substation in downtown Lewiston north along the Pan American Railway to the Veterans' Memorial Bridge then west across the Androscoggin River via Boxer Island to Auburn to the Gulf Island Substation. A second transmission line will be constructed underground from the new substation at 51 Middle Street beneath Chapel and Canal Streets to the Lower Lewiston Substation on Strawberry Patch Road. Central Maine Power Company is working to obtain the approval of the Maine Public Utilities Commission for this project.
- Central Maine Power to construct the above mentioned substation at 51 Middle Street. This is a 2.8 acre parcel of which approximately one acre will be used for the substation. The project was approved with the condition that a landscape plan be provided and approved by the Board before construction activity can commence.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Stats

March	2011
Calls For Service	3874
Vehicle Stops	618
Citations	166
Written Warnings	186
Verbal Warnings	266
Adult Arrests	219
Juvenile Arrests	13
Criminal Summonses	106
Narcotics Arrests	8
OUI Arrests	22
Parking Tickets	1,120

In the month of March, the Lewiston Police Department responded to 3,874 Calls for Service. The agency initiated 618 vehicle stops in resulting in 166 citations, 186 written warnings with the remaining resulting in verbal warnings. There were 219 adult arrests and 13 juvenile arrests during this period as well as 106 criminal summonses issued. There were 8 arrests on narcotics violations and 22 arrests for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The parking enforcement and patrol divisions issued 1,120 parking tickets in the month of March.



Events & Activities

Members of the Lewiston Police planned and participated in the following:

- March 1 – Lt. Robitaille attended a workshop at USM on Hate/Bias Prevention sponsored by the Center for Prevention of Hate
- March 2 – Lt. Adam Higgins, Sgt. Trevor Campbell, and Officer Tyler Michaud read to students at Longley School in celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday
- March 12 – Officer Jason Johnson facilitated a self-defense class at the Lewiston Armory for employees of FISC
- March 7-11 – Sgt. Joseph Bradeen attended a supervisory school at Southern Maine Community College
- March 18 – Officer Nicholas Meserve and Lt Robitaille attended the Androscoggin Special Olympics Swim meet at the YWCA
- March 19 – Officer Jason Johnson facilitated the second self-defense class at the Lewiston Armory



Photo courtesy of Sun Journal
photographer, Russ Dillingham

Used by permission

Published March 20, 2011

Lewiston police officer Jason Johnson watches how Patricia Bellegarde of Auburn will react to having a gun pointed at her by Kris Avery of Windham during Saturday's first day of a two-day personal defense course offered by members of the Lewiston Police Department at the Lewiston Armory.

- March 24 – Lt. Robitaille attended a Special Olympics Conference in South Portland
- March 28-29 – Officer Meserve attended a verbal judo class at Portland PD
- March 30 – Officer Jason Johnson attended the funeral of a Maine Game Warden in Augusta
- Sgt. Randy St. Laurent is coaching a local youth hockey team
- Sgt. Danny Lachance has begun working on a speed enforcement grant for the agency

PUBLIC WORKS

Highway Operations

- Winter Operations slowed after the busy month of February. We had only one (1) plowable event and five (5) sanding events. The three-inch storm on March 22nd brought our total snow for the season (through the end of March) to 93.5 inches. We had another 10.5 inches during the April Fools' Day storm, putting our season total at 104 inches! (Our average is ~70 inches.)
- Christmas decorations were removed and put in storage and sandboxes were emptied and stored for cleaning and repair
- Pothole patching became a priority with the start of spring thaw
- Preparations were made for spring work (sweeping, catch basin cleaning & mowing):
 - Converted three (3) sidewalk units from snow blowers to sweepers
 - Converted one sander to tank (water) truck
 - Serviced street sweepers
 - Prep. for Catch Basin Cleaning
 - Serviced Vac-All (catch basin cleaner)
 - Prep/tested mowing equipment & weed-wackers
 - Installed new lines on five (5) flagpoles
 - Set-up tennis and Lacrosse nets at Franklin and shoveled out remaining snow in skate park for the kids to use



Water, Sewer and Stormwater –

- Work is still ongoing on the ~\$8 million UV water treatment facility at Lake Auburn. Work on Phase II will begin in April;
- Responded to and repaired three water main leaks and one service leak;
- Water and Sewer responded to 110 Dig Safe requests and resolved 21 customer concerns (E-Gov);
- Removed 750 winter hydrant markers and sandblasted, painted and replaced 12 hydrants;
- Repaired 30 plus curb box covers destroyed over the winter;
- On-going water valve operating and maintenance and sewer flushing/maintenance;
- Tested 250 water meters; and
- Responded to two structure fires.



Public Buildings

- Work is finishing up on the building relocated from the Pettingill School to the Solid Waste Facility;
- We are working on the contract (Homeland Security Grant funding) for the emergency generator for City Hall that will help us continue operations during power outages. We also are working on a contract for HVAC improvements for the Public Works facilities.

Engineering

- The following is a list of only some of the current projects our Engineering Division is working on and will be gearing up for construction later this summer:

Project	Status	Est. Cost
Jepson Brook 1	Under Construction	\$1,300,000
Jepson Brook 2	Under Design	\$1,200,000
Jepson Brook 3	Under Design	\$1,000,000
Riverside Greenway Sidewalks	DOT Review	\$700,000
Riverside Greenway	Easement Acq.	\$2,400,000
Russell Street Overlay	Project Dev MDOT	\$600,000
Lincoln Street Recon	DOT Review	\$2,000,000
Lincoln Street Locust Recon	DOT Review	\$500,000
Joint UV 1	Testing/Start Up	\$7,800,000
Joint UV 2	Construction	\$3,170,000
Joint Chloramination	Final Design	\$700,000
SRF Water Line Package	Final Design	\$945,000
Gendron Business Park Phase II	Construction	\$1,200,000
Oak Street Storm Drain	Final Design	\$650,000
Ash Street Rehab	Await funds	\$533,000
Horton Street Rehab	Construction	\$280,000
Maple Street Rehab	Construction	\$70,000
East Avenue Sidewalk	Bidding	\$70,000
Webber Labbe C/L	Construction	\$230,000
Sewer Rehab	Construction	\$300,000
Beech St. Bridge Temp Repairs	Bidding	\$25,000
	Total	\$25,673,000

RECREATION

Department Employee Paul Emond is Honored

At the March meeting of the Franco American War Veterans (F.A.W.V.) Post #31, Paul Emond, a Rec Department employee, was honored for his dedication, service, and support of the Color Guard and the F.A.W.V. Post #31, as well as for his dedication to the American flag and his willingness to assist fellow veterans.

Congressional Representative Karen Staples attended on behalf of the Honorable U.S. Senator Olympia Snowe. Ms. Staples and Post Commander Danforth

presented Emond with an American flag that was flown over the United States Capitol and a document certifying the same. Commander Danforth was quoted as saying, "If today we were called to take up arms to defend this father land, I want Paul Emond in the fox hole next to me defending our United States of America."



Go-Green Project

The Department is working with the Lewiston High School Girls' Lacrosse Booster Club on a Go-Green project. The project consists of spring clean up outside the Multi-Purpose Center which will take place on April 20th from 9:00 AM to Noon. We are pleased the club approached us and we're looking forward to the results. Thank you Boosters!

Bates College Fellowship

A Bates student approached the Rec Department to discuss a creative writing summer workshop. The project, currently under consideration, would incorporate a creative writing and arts activity block for campers at Camp Smiles for an eight-week period. The creative writing portion of Camp Smiles would end with a creative writing showcase open to friends and family of the campers.

Special Events at the Armory and MPC

Several special events were held during March at both the Armory and Multi-Purpose Center including: The L/A Cash Coalition free tax preparation, L/A Islamic event, a gymnastics meet, Leavitt basketball practice, travel basketball games, 4-H project, L.P.D. defense classes, summer softball meetings, Auburn Exchange Club Gun Show, and AAU girls' basketball practices.

SOCIAL SERVICES

ALL GENERAL ASSISTANCE CLIENTS ARE NOW SEEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

Scheduling appointments has reduced walk-in traffic.

For the month of March, our total office traffic increased by 211 face-to-face contacts from the month of February; and we saw 22 more brand new clients in March.

Statistical Activity	March 2011	FYTD 7/1/2010-6/30/2011
<i>Office Traffic (Duplicated)</i>	804	6,444
<i>New Clients</i>	71	606
<i>Households Served (OT) (Unduplicated)</i>	233	1,950
<i>Housing Expenditures</i>	\$73,486.50	\$597,373.50
Total Expenditures	\$83,083.85	\$686,477.46
<i>SSI Reimbursement</i>	\$ 4,504.22	\$ 19,361.16
<i>State Reimbursement</i>	\$41,478.92 (50%)	\$342,027.05
<i>Other Reimbursements</i>	\$ 126.02	\$ 2,423.38
Actual Municipal GA Cost (net)	\$36,974.69	\$322,665.87
Workfare	March 2011	FYTD 7/1/2010-6/30/2011
# of cases	96	392
# of people	116	509
Work-Fare Hours Performed	4,221.50	33,052.30
Dollar Value (\$7.50 per hr)	\$31,661.25	\$247,892.25

All able-bodied recipients are required to participate in the work-fare program. The number of hours assigned are calculated by dividing the amount of assistance the recipient receives by minimum wage.

On behalf of the City of Lewiston, the Social Services Department in conjunction with the Maine Welfare Directors Association, has submitted bills to the legislature that are aimed at improving and building accountability into the GA program.