

ATTENTION: NPM and PCHC Need Your Help

Northeast Pain Management (NPM) is currently under contract to purchase 103 Maine Avenue, Bangor, ME from PCHC. The city of Bangor has a right of first refusal on the building. They were notified on August 3rd and had 30 days to respond and match, and last week, the week the deal was to be closed on and finalized, they decided to try to purchase the building for \$1.375 million for their public health functions. The city also owns 120 Venture Way and 50 Cleveland St, both of which could house the Bangor public health function and would likely cost much less than \$1.375 million of city funds to renovate. It is unclear what "public health" function they intend to use the building for.

PCHC is in dire financial straits and the proceeds from this sale would help them renovate other buildings so they could downsize their office footprint and save money. They are currently seeking to avoid bankruptcy. They serve as a vital provider of primary health services to Bangor and the local community, serving over 50,000 patients in the region.

NPM has been a small business operating within Bangor for over 20 years, treating chronic pain with interventional methods (injections, minor surgery, etc.), without the use of long-term medications including opioids. They provide the VAST majority of this service for not only the city of Bangor, but half the state of Maine, and are the only provider of this service to anyone who has Medicare or Mainecare in the region. NPM seeks to purchase 103 Maine Avenue in order to move into a larger space where they can expand their services. Since Northern Light EMMC closed their pain services, wait times for patients have skyrocketed. Stopping the deal this late in the process not only prevents them from expanding to meet the growing need; their existing location is under contract to be sold, and thus it also jeopardizes their ability to provide any services in the near future.

By purchasing 103 Maine Avenue, the city is:

- 1) Causing financial stress to PCHC by delaying the sale and proceeds that PCHC definitively needs.
- 2) Causing uncertainty for the future of NPM and potentially serious damage to their business given their existing location is under contract to be sold.
- 3) Causing Bangor to lose out on \$23,000 of annual tax revenue, assuming the building is reassessed at the sales price.
- 4) Is doing so without any public transparency for a tangible plan of what they intend to utilize the property for.

We believe this would have negative effects on not just NPM, PCHC and the public health services they provide, but also on Bangor businesses, taxpayers, and the health of the local community.

There is a public meeting scheduled for September 14th at 7:00pm at Council Chambers in City Hall, for comments on this plan - any support for PCHC and NPM that you could share would be appreciated. Council Chambers is located at 73 Harlow St. Public meetings are available for in-person attendance in the back entrance of the Penquis building via the atrium.

The phone number for City Council, and the emails of the Councilors are located on the back of this paper. We encourage you to contact them and voice any concerns you may have regarding the matter.

City Council

Phone Number: 207-992-4205

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