

**City of Auburn
Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 2, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Berola with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance of all present.

Clerk Sponsler took roll. Present were Mayor Berola, Clerk Sponsler, Treasurer Williams, Alderman Parrish, Alderman Garrett, Alderman Sheppard, Alderman Johnson, Alderman Crissey and Alderman Hemmerle.

Also present were Office Manager Rathgeber, Chief Campbell, Superintendent Henson, and Attorney Andrew Jarmer.

Alderman Royer and Alderman Marquis were absent.

Mayor's Comments:

Visitor's Comments:

City Clerk's Report:

Clerk Sponsler presented the December 18, 2023 meeting minutes for review and approval. Alderman Garrett made a motion to approve the December 18, 2023 minutes, second by Alderman Parrish.

AYES: Parrish, Garrett, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle

NAYES: None

PRESENT: Sheppard

ABSENT: Royer, Marquis

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Williams presented the bills list from December 18, 2023 to December 29, 2023. A motion was made to approve the bills list by Alderman Garrett, second by Alderman Sheppard.

AYES: Parrish, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle

NAYES: Garrett

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Royer, Marquis

Treasurer Williams presented the 2023 Cash Report. Alderman Garrett made a motion to accept the 2023 Cash Report, second by Alderman Parrish.

AYES: Parrish, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle

NAYES: Garrett

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Royer, Marquis

Treasurer Williams presented the Budget Report for the January 2, 2024 meeting for review only.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Jarmer presented the First Reading of Ordinance 1537-24, An Ordinance Authorizing the Disposal of Surplus Property.

Department Heads

Chief Campbell:

No Report

Superintendent Henson:

There was an IMRF concern regarding a police officer away on active duty. His IMRF was dropped and he was reinstated in November. A resolution will be ready for the next meeting.

Office Manager Rathgeber:

Office Manager Rathgeber told the council that the new furnace at the community center was installed buy Top Notch and has been working well.

Office Manager Rathgeber provided the council with an update on the issue with health insurance. The new policy has been in effect since December 1st. Health Alliance agreed to go back and accept everything in December.

Committee Reports

Administration-Johnson: No Report

Public Works-Parrish: No Report

Public Utilities-Johnson:

Alderman Johnson went over some budget items. The water department was \$30,000 in the hold, gas was \$90,000 in the hole. He is hopeful they will make a quick turnaround.

Health & Safety-Marquis: Not in attendance

Health & Housing:

Parks-Hemmerle:

Greg Hillis from Bentons was in attendance to discuss the park bids. There were two park bids- Kinney Contractors and Harold O'Shea Builders. A Tabulation of Bids was passed out. Alderman Hemmerle went over the numbers from the bids. The numbers are higher than when we started the project 2 years ago. The process was discussed. A motion was made by Alderman Hemmerle to accept the bid from O'Shea Builders for the base bid plus the alternate bid #1 for electrical receptacles for a total bid from O'Shea of \$1,059,925.00. Total with engineering fees is \$1,183,925.00. A second was made by Alderman Sheppard.

AYES: Parrish, Garrett, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Royer, Marquis

Economic Development-Garrett:

Springfield Plastics should be starting the project quickly.

Building Committee-Garrett:

The RFQ will be finalized in the morning.

Other Business:

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Alderman Garrett to adjourn at 7:43 pm, second by Alderman Parrish. A voice vote was taken.

AYES: Parrish, Garrett, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Royer, Marquis

