

City of Auburn
Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 20, 2022

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

Treasurer Williams took roll in the absence of Office Manager Ponsler. Present Alderman Garrett, Alderman Hemmerle, Alderman Johnson, Alderman Karhliker, Alderman Marquis, Alderman Powell, Alderman Royer, Alderwoman Sheppard, Mayor Berola, Treasurer Williams. Also present were Chief Campbell and Attorney Moredock.

Absent: Superintendent Henson, Office Manager Ponsler

Mayor Berola asked that Deputy Clerk Ponsler take written minutes from the recorded copy.

Mayor Berola complimented both the police department and the city maintenance department on their efforts immediately following the storm on June 17, 2022. The crews did an excellent job blocking roads and cleaning up in a very quick turnaround. The sewer plant has been opened and remained open for residents to bring all tree limbs/branches brought down during that storm.

Mayor Berola requested to have a fallback location should an extended power outage happen again to serve as a cooling or heating location for residents or even for those who have medical devices that rely on power. The mayor is seeking to have a generator installed to ensure that the community center location continues to always have power.

Alderman Garret made a motion to have Chief Campbell seek bids for a generator at the community center not to exceed \$11,000.00, second by Alderwoman Sheppard.

AYES: Garrett, Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

Dawna Edie was in attendance representing the Auburn Activities Committee. They will be hosting their Last Call Before Fall event on August 5-6, 2022, at Union (East) Park. Bands will be playing from 7 pm to 11 pm, but the noise request permit is for midnight just for clean up of the event or one more song. The parade will take place on Saturday, August 6th and the parade route will be given to Chief Campbell and Superintendent Henson for proper planning.

Alderman Royer spoke about acquiring a certain number of officers if there were a certain number of people in attendance and ensuring all was secure with alcohol being served. Alderman Garrett requested a police officer or two due to the large gathering.

Noise and liquor permit approved by the mayor with the council support.

Mayor Berola presented a request for a noise permit and temporary liquor license for Benderz for an event to be held on August 26, 2022, for Bike Night. No one was present from Benderz but mayor to approve.

Mayor Berola presented a request for a temporary liquor license and noise permit for Slaughterhouse for a 3rd Annual Red Ride to take place on August 27, 2022. The event would take place from 3 pm to 10 pm. Requesting the square to be closed at 3 pm except for 5th Street. A representative from the Red Ride has volunteers that clean up at each stop along the ride to ensure each location is clean upon closing of event.

Scott Ferguson was in attendance regarding a health letter that he received. He informed the council that upon receiving the letter they had lost a close friend and he had spent four nights in the hospital so they did not get the entire property cleaned up as they would have liked. He informed the council he does a lot of scrap metal collecting, and he is trying but he cannot stop people from dropping things off at his home. He was requesting from the council a little leeway given this is a part time job for him.

The council did not vote to declare his property at 417 East Washington a nuisance, if he continues to work with Alderwoman Sheppard to keep the property cleaned up.

Alderman Johnson asked to circle back to the events that were presented and approved but requested additional information on what was required in terms of police presence. Because they are happening on city property, he felt the event organizer should be required to hire police or the city should provide police presence at a cost.

The main request was to ensure that all events were treated equal in terms of police presence and/or connection to electric points.

Alderman Karhliker asked about police presence at these events and inquired as to how the city could require the officers to come back and work overtime for these events especially if they were not on shift. He noted a lot of variables that come into play and the liability that places on the city. The question is whether the city provides the security or does the vendor work with the sheriff's department for security, and they pay them directly?

Attorney Moredock was directed to draft in ordinance form to require these events in which temporary liquor permits are requested and/or if the event is on public property where a large crowd will be gathered to have the city provide police presence at a set rate if able, and if not, the event organizer must secure police presence through the county. This item will be placed on the July 5, 2022, agenda for further review and discussion.

Alderwoman Sheppard presented Zoning Board minutes from the June 8, 2022, meeting in which solar panels were discussed. The board discussed the implementation of the solar panels. This was tabled as not all members were there to discuss. Alderwoman Sheppard asked Attorney Moredock to potentially draft a baseline ordinance for the board's review in terms of panels on residential homes at their next meeting in July.

Mayor Berola presented the June 6, 2022, meeting minutes for the council's review and approval. Alderman Royer made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Marquis.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard
NAYES: Garrett
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: None

Treasurer Williams presented the bills list from June 7, 2022, to June 20, 2022. Alderman Royer stated that at the last meeting there was a question about Visa charge accounts. There was an approximately 600.00 charge for chairs. On this bills list there is additional charges for chairs and was questioning what is being paid for, is it being paid for more than once, and asked for an understanding of the expenses on the Visa accounts. Treasurer Williams provided an e-mail from Office Manager Ponsler regarding the expenses and stated 1979.94 was put on Superintendent Henson's card for a portion of the council chairs, 2969.91 was put on Office Manager Ponsler's card for the remaining portion of the chairs. Expenses for these chairs was paid out of the infrastructure line item in the general budget as had been approved by the council from surplus from FY22.

Because of the questions pertaining to expenses and payments, the council requested all receipts for the VISA credit card payments to be included with the bills list, Treasurer Williams requests that all Visa statements be attached to the bills list as well.

The city council also requests that large purchases in the future be placed onto an invoice to the city with no use of the city credit cards to manage those expenses.

Alderman Royer made a motion to approve the bills list minus the Visa bills, second by Alderman Johnson.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard
NAYES: Garrett
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: None

Treasurer Williams provided the April cash report for the council review and approval. Alderman Johnson made a motion to approve the April cash report, second by Alderman Royer.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard
NAYES: Garrett
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: None

Treasurer Williams provided the May cash report for the council review and approval. Alderman Johnson made a motion to approve the May cash report, second by Alderwoman Sheppard.

AYES: None
NAYES: Garrett, Hemmerle, Johnson, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard
PRESENT: Karhliker
ABSENT: None

It was noted that corrections would need to be made to the cash report and it will be presented at the July 5, 2022, council meeting for review.

Attorney Moredock presented for Second Reading Ordinance 1515-22, Ordinance Regulating Food Trucks. There are two separate versions that are in the Teams folder for the council to review. The first ordinance is a revised version of what was submitted at the last council meeting. It is a more robust permit processing and has fees to be charged and it is much more strict permitting process.

Alderman Royer drafted the alternate version of the ordinance is bare bones with what has been discussed with the council before. There are three provisions: background check as well as food safety and fire safety requirements.

Those are the two ordinances being presented to the council for review. It is the second reading for the ordinance so either ordinance could be passed by council at the meeting.

Alderman Powell voiced concerns as to who would decide where the food truck(s) could be located when on public right of way. There were safety precautions for those on the square and if being served into the street.

Alderman Royer made a motion to approve the Alternate version of Ordinance 1515-22 Ordinance Regulating Food Trucks with the changes of the police department handling the background check to the vendor obtaining their own background check, second by Alderman Garrett:

AYES: Garrett, Royer, Sheppard

NAYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Marquis, Powell, Karhliker

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

Alderman Johnson made a motion to approve Ordinance 1515-22, Ordinance Regulating Food Trucks, as written by Attorney Moredock with the caveat that it applies to public property and public right of ways, second by Alderman Powell.

AYES: Johnson, Karhliker, Powell

NAYES: Garrett, Hemmerle, Marquis, Royer, Sheppard

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

Neither version approved by the city council.

Attorney Moredock presented the second reading of Ordinance 1516-22, Ordinance Regulating the Private Use of Public Electric Connections. Alderman Royer made a motion to approve Ordinance 1516-22, second by Alderwoman Sheppard.

AYES: Garrett, Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

Attorney Moredock presented a second reading for Ordinance 1517-22, Ordinance Approving the Purchase of Real Property from the Auburn School District for a nominal fee. Alderman Sheppard made a motion to approve Ordinance 1517-22, second by Alderman Marquis.

AYES: Garrett, Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: None

Attorney Moredock did not need an executive session at the end of the meeting.

Chief Campbell introduced Michael McDermid as the new FT police officer. Alderman Sheppard made the motion to approve Michael McDermid for the full-time police academy for five weeks, second by Alderman Marquis.

AYES: Garrett, Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: None

Alderman Sheppard made a motion to approve Charles Barber as a PT police officer and approve sending him to the PT academy, second by Alderman Marquis.

AYES: Garrett, Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: None

Alderman Johnson had no report for the Administration Committee

Alderman Karhliker had an update on the Safe Routes to School grant, but still waiting on the state to finalize paperwork and provide to the city before any work can commence.

Alderman Johnson was in recent discussion with Jamie Headen from Benton and Associates regarding the end of fiscal year close out for the state and the need to approve paperwork to submit to IEPA prior to their year end close out. If documentation was not submitted, they would not be able to process any IEPA reimbursements to contractors for our water project until middle to late August. Alderman Johnson needed verbal consensus from council members to sign to get paperwork to IEPA for processing. After speaking with the council, Alderman Johnson was able to get the go ahead to process the paperwork. Office Manager Ponsler obtained the mayor's signature and provided to Benton's for submission to the state for payment. This item will be placed on the next meeting agenda to have a formal vote on this IEPA pay request.

Jamie Headen has scheduled a meeting between Springfield Plastics and the ISO on June 28, 2022, at 10:00 am in person and over the phone regarding the ISO ratings and determine what needs to be done to assist Springfield Plastics in attempts to get them annexed into the city. Alderman Johnson will report back at the next meeting.

Alderwoman Sheppard had no report for Health and Safety.

Alderwoman Sheppard had a question pertaining to a few properties that continually get letters. They come into compliance but then another letter is sent out. She is requesting clarification on how many times a letter must be sent before the city can just start fining them and not send letters.

Alderman Hemmerle will be doing some research on damage on Leonard Field from the storm. Additional information will be provided at the next meeting.

Alderman Garrett made a motion to approve the tree bid from Emmons Tree service in the amount of \$4850.00 to cut down trees and grind stumps, second by Alderman Marquis.

AYES: Garrett, Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

Alderman Garrett made a motion to adjourn at 8:54 pm, second by Alderman Marquis.

AYES: Garrett, Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None