

**City of Auburn  
Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, October 3, 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.

Clerk Sponsler took roll. Present were Mayor Berola, Clerk Sponsler, Treasurer Williams, Alderman Garrett, Alderman Johnson, Alderman Karhliker, Alderman Marquis, Alderman Powell, Alderwoman Sheppard, Alderman Hemmerle.

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

Absent is Alderman Royer

**Mayor's Comments:**

Mayor Berola appointed office manager Rathgeber as Deputy Clerk. A motion to appoint office manager Rathgeber as Deputy Clerk was made by Alderman Johnson, second by Alderman Marquis.

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

Taft and Associates completed an appraisal was completed on the Red Bud Park Property. The value of the property was valued at \$625,000. The city is allowed to sell the property on its own, hire a real estate agent, or put the property up for auction. The council will need to pass an ordinance naming the property as a surplus property. Attorney Moredock will write up this ordinance. The council agreed to sell the property.

**City Clerk's Report:**

Clerk Sponsler presented the September 19, 2022, meeting minutes for the council's review and approval. Alderwoman Sheppard made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Alderman Marquis.

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

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Williams presented the bills list from September 20, 2022- October 3, 2022 for the council's review and approval. A motion was made by Alderman Garrett to approve the bills list, second by Alderman Johnson.

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

Treasurer Williams presented the September 2022 Cash Report for the council's review and approval. Alderwoman Sheppard made a motion to approve the August 2022 Cash Report, second by Alderman Karhliker.

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

### **Attorney's Report**

Attorney Moredock presented Ordinance 1522-22, An Ordinance Amending the City Code Relating to Excavations, Erections of Poles. New language was added, including an addition of a six-month window and now requires the company/person doing the excavating to repair the right of way. A motion to pass this ordinance was made by Alderman Karhliker, second by Alderwoman Sheppard.

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

Attorney Moredock announced that he will be leaving Sorling Northrup in November and another attorney will take over working for the City of Auburn.

### **Department Heads**

#### *Chief Campbell*

Chief Campbell brought up making changes to the Temporary Liquor License. The changes that will be made include no bottles, only cans or cups and clean-up by the next morning. Attorney Moredock will write up this ordinance.

Chief Campbell introduced Part-Time Police Officer Rio Flesch. Officer Flesch will graduate November 12, 2022. A motion was made by Alderwoman Sheppard to hire Officer Flesch with a start date of October 5, 2022 at the rate of \$23/hour, second by Alderman Johnson.

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

Chief Campbell also told the council that he is in the process of getting a proposal for body cameras for the police officers.

#### *Superintendent Henson*

Superintendent Henson provided the council with an update on the fiber being installed around town. He said that at this point it is mostly damage control from the city guys as they are focusing on protecting our pipes as the fiber crews are digging. There was discussion about Julie regulations and the city guys needing to be present while the crews are working to prevent damage to our pipes.

Superintendent Henson also mentioned that there could be more fiber crews coming to town in the future for a total of five.

### *Office Manager*

Office Manager Rathgeber said that his training is going well, and Tami is doing a wonderful job of helping him.

Office staff member Lori is working on getting quotes for trash pickup options due to prices going up.

### **Committee Reports**

#### *Administration:*

Alderman Johnson wants to make sure the city employees have reviewed the options for health insurance. After the employees have seen the documents, we can schedule a meeting with Troxell.

#### *Public Works:*

Stephanie from Benton's was present at the meeting to present the proposal for the Safe Routes to Schools. Alderman Johnson made a motion to accept Benton's proposal in the amount of \$25,000 for The Safe Routes to School. Second made by Alderman Karhliker.

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

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Royer

#### *Public Utilities:*

Alderman Johnson informed the council about the Public Utilities Meeting that took place on September 28, 2022. At this meeting, they discussed the proposed annexation of Springfield Plastics, Inc. There were multiple options presented. A meeting with Springfield Plastics will need to be rescheduled to discuss the matter further.

The council had a conference call with Ron Ragan from UGM about natural gas prices for winter 2022/2023. Mr. Ragan went over numbers and prices. Alderman Johnson asked Mr. Ragan what the price comparison would be to last year. He went over the costs from last winter and compared to what we are seeing so far. The cost is currently lower than this time last year, but there are many factors that can change the costs. Mr. Ragan believes costs will be slightly higher than last year.

#### *Health & Safety:*

No report

#### *Health & Housing:*

No report

#### *Parks:*

No report.

#### *Economic Development:*

Alderman Garrett brought up the topic of temporary lodging such as Air BnB. The city is not allowed to tax temporary rentals, but the city could use noise and nuisance ordinances to regulate them.

*Other Business:*

Alderman Garrett mentioned that there was a dead tree at 236 Caldwell Street. Two bids were received on the removal of the tree. The first was Emmon's for cut and grind at \$800. The second bid was \$800 to just cut down the tree, but not to grind down the stump. A motion was made by Alderman Karhliker to hire Emmon's to cut down the tree and grind down the stump in the amount of \$800, second by Alderman Garrett.

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

*Adjournment:*

Alderman Garrett made a motion to adjourn meeting at 8:22 pm, second by Alderman Marquis. A voice vote was taken.

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

**City of Auburn  
Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, October 17, 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.

Clerk Sponsler took roll. Present were Mayor Berola, Clerk Sponsler, Treasurer Williams, Alderman Garrett, Alderman Johnson, Alderman Karhliker, Alderman Marquis, Alderman Powell, Alderwoman Sheppard, Alderman Hemmerle, Alderman Royer.

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

**Mayor's Comments:**

It was brought to the Council's attention that Office Manager Rathgeber should be the FOIA Officer. He needs to go through training before he can take over the position. Attorney Moredock said he would get Wayne a link for the training. This will be pushed to the November 7, 2022 meeting.

There was a Zoning Board meeting on October 12, 2022.

The first topic of this meeting was a variance request at 619 S. Kennedy. Bob Bolt requested a variance to put up a 6-foot-high fence across the front of his property. Mr. Bolt was present at the meeting and informed the council that the fence has been taken down and he is going to use a black iron and brick fence instead.

The second topic at the zoning board meeting was an annexation request at 5495 Hogan Road. Jay Timm at 5551 Hogan Road wants to annex 5495 Hogan Road into the city and zoned as an agriculture property. The first reading of this annexation ordinance will be presented at the November 7, 2022 Council Meeting.

**City Clerk's Report:**

Clerk Sponsler presented the October 3, 2022, meeting minutes for the council's review and approval. Alderwoman Sheppard made the motion to pass the minutes, but Alderman Karhliker mentioned that Alderman Royer was absent at the October 3, 2022 meeting, however he minutes for that meeting did not reflect that absence. Alderman Garrett asked Alderwoman Sheppard if she would like to amend her motion and she agreed. Alderwoman Sheppard made an amended motion to approve the minutes, second by Alderman Garrett.

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

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Williams presented the bills list from October 4 2022- October 17, 2022 for the council's review and approval. A motion was made by Alderman Garrett to approve the bills list, second by Alderman Johnson.

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

NAYES: Garrett, Royer

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

Treasurer Williams presented the October Budget Report for the Council's review. Treasurer Williams also presented the September 2022 Video Gaming Report.

### **Attorney's Report**

Attorney Moredock presented the first reading of a resolution declaring surplus property for the 41 acres at 15280 Kennedy Road as surplus property and authorizing the City staff to sell the property.

Attorney Moredock introduced Steve Hedinger, the partner that will now oversee The City of Auburn moving forward.

Alderman Garrett asked Attorney Moredock if the city is allowed to advertise the property for sale or if we were required to wait until the second reading for the resolution. Attorney Moredock said the city needs to wait. Alderman Garrett mentioned that he was approached by two realtors. A discussion was had on the pros and cons between listing the property with a realtor or trying to sell the property privately. It was determined that offers would be discussed in executive session.

### **Department Heads**

#### *Chief Campbell*

Chief Campbell announced the resignation of Officer Charles Barber who did not meet the minimum standards. Alderwoman Sheppard made a motion to accept the resignation of Officer Barber, second by Alderman Marquis.

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

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

Chief Campbell introduced Part-Time Police Officer Jared Leake to take Officer Barber's place and attend P/T academy. He will start Law Officer Training on Saturday, October 22, 2022 and his effective hire date would be October 17, 2022. Alderwoman Sheppard made a motion to hire part-time officer Leake, second by Alderman Marquis.

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

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

Mayor Berola brought to the council's attention that Lincoln Militia was selling alcohol over the weekend in which officers had witnessed it. He asked Attorney Moredock what the next steps were since a cease and desist had been served already. Attorney Moredock advised that filing for an injunction was the next step. He would need an affidavit from the officers that witnessed it and then it is a complaint in court for a temp restraining order, a preliminary injunction, and a permanent injunction. Emergency restraining order doesn't require providing a notice to them, then within 10 days there would need to be a preliminary injunction, and then standard litigation to get a permanent injunction.

#### *Superintendent Henson*

Superintendent Henson provided a couple of updates. On October 24, the startup of the new master meter, the last part of phase two.

Two weeks ago, they served as mutual aid with Otter Lake. This placed water restrictions on the city, but the community did a great job on restricting water. Otter Lake will reimburse for fees. They have discussed working together in the future as mutual aid when necessary.

The sewer plant is open for leaves and branches.

*Office Manager*

Office Manager Rathgeber provided an update on the window in the drive thru. This should be in around December 12, 2022. The two doors that will be replaced were sent to the painters and will take a couple of weeks there.

A zoom meeting was held with gWorks. With Front Desk, forms could be filled out online and fees could be paid online as well. Office Manager Rathgeber will type up the info and provide to the council soon.

The server replacement was mentioned again. We were told that the server is on its last leg, CDS is saying it is a huge security risk. The quote CDS provided was \$10,047.22. Alderman Johnson asked Wayde to contact CDS for a meeting and maybe we can get bids from other companies. A committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 25 at 7-7:15 pm.

**Committee Reports**

*Administration:*

Alderman Johnson brought up the topic of insurance again. The police department would like a meeting to be set up with Troxell to go over options.

*Public Works:*

Alderman Karhliker provided an update on the awning over the drive-up window. It will be installed at the same time as the new window.

*Public Utilities:*

There will be a committee meeting on Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 6:30 pm with Springfield Plastics.

*Health & Safety:*

No report

*Health & Housing:*

No report

*Parks:*

No report

*Economic Development:*

Alderman Garrett received information from Chris Warwick about contact with the Business Development Coordinator and will have a full report at the next meeting.

*Other Business:*

Alderman Powell mentioned some concerns from events on the square over the weekend. The school district had a fine arts family event and a bar having beer and alcohol outside. There was also an open fire pit on the sidewalk which is a fire hazard. Discussion was had about these topics.

*Adjournment:*

Alderman Garrett made a motion to adjourn meeting at 8:02 pm, second by Alderwoman Sheppard. A voice vote was taken.

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

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None