

**City of Auburn**

**Council Minutes**

**November 3, 2014**

Mayor Stamer called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Present:** Barb Stamer, Chris Warwick, Tom Appelt, Tom Berola, Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Mark Kessler, and Wayde Rathgeber. **Absent:** John Tanner.

**Department Heads:** Bruce Centko, Bill Karhliker, and Kristy Ponsler. **City Attorney:** Raylene Grischow

I. Mayor's Comments

- a. Mayor Stamer has had requests from the School Board about lowering the speed limit around the football field. There is a concern that cars are going too fast and that a student might be hit. There is a cross walk sign on the north and the south of the crossing. Mayor Stamer would like to see the speed limit lowered to 35 miles per hour. Kessler mentioned that if we want to lower the speed limit, we should see public comment first. Centko mentioned that we could add flashing lights at the crossing but the entire expense would fall on the city and not the state. The state would do the work but the city would have to pay the cost. Mayor Stamer will continue to work on this issue with Chief Centko.
- b. Mayor Stamer attended the High Speed Rail Program in Raymond last week. The folks from the High Speed Rail group will visit Auburn to answer questions that residents might have. It was mentioned that this would be a good idea closer to the date that high speed trains start up.
- c. Sangamon County Animal Control board corrected their rates and the intergovernmental agreement is ready for the mayor to sign.

II. City Clerk's Report – Warwick

- a. Warwick presented the meeting minutes from the city council meeting on 10/20/14. Rathgeber made a motion to accept the meeting minutes and destroy the recorded copy, second by Gillock. **Voice Vote: AYE: Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Mark Kessler, Wayde Rathgeber, Tom Berola and Rod Johnson. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**

III. City Treasurer's Report - Appelt

- a. Appelt presented the Bills List from 10/15/14 to 10/31/14 for the council's approval. A motion was made by Gillock to approve the bills list, second by Rathgeber. **Voice Vote:**

**AYE: Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Mark Kessler, Wayde Rathgeber, Tom Berola and Rod Johnson. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**

IV. Attorney – Grischow

- a. Beth Scheff is being fined for the nuisance at her property; she is being fined \$100 per day. The fines will be applied to her utility bill and if the utility bill is not paid in full then her utilities would be shut off.
- b. Grischow presented the First Reading for Ordinance 1401-14 regarding Liquor License Restrictions and Special Regulations.
- c. Grischow presented the First Reading for Ordinance 1402-14 regarding an ordinance levying and assessing taxes for the City of Auburn, Illinois for the year ending December 13, 2014 (payable in 2015).
- d. Grischow still does not like the language regarding the Sangamon County Animal Control agreement. She will reach out to Jim Stone to get some of the terms updated. Once the updates are made Kessler felt the agreement would be correct. Kessler made a motion to authorize the mayor to enter in to an agreement with the Sangamon County Animal Control Board at a price not to exceed \$1,130.05 with the updates of village changed to city and the annual review date be provided on the contract, second by Davidson. **AYE: Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Mark Kessler, Wayde Rathgeber, Tom Berola and Rod Johnson. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**
- e. Grischow requested an Executive Session at end of the meeting regarding litigation.

V. Visitors

- a. Mr. Verschelden contracted with Jason Beck to replace the roof of the home at 1220 Pine Lane. Mr. Verschelden stated that he had thought Mr. Beck had taken care of the building permit and Mr. Beck thought Mr. Verschelden had taken care of it. The roof was replaced and encroached upon the 25 foot setback required on back yards. The petitioner was asking for a 4 foot reduction of setback, allowing the back edge of the roof overhang to be 21 feet from the back property line. The Zoning Board recommended to the City Council to grant the variance to allow a 4 foot reduction of setback, thus making a 21 foot setback to the back property line of 1220 Pine Lane by a vote of 5-0-2. Rathgeber made his presentation in the form of a motion to approve the variance, second by Kessler. **AYE: Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Mark Kessler, Wayde Rathgeber, Tom Berola and Rod Johnson. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**
- b. Sandy Rohdeman from 407 East Wineman Street approached the council about a fence permit that she is having an issue with. The building inspector has denied her permit at this time because she cannot locate her property pins. Sandy stated she cannot afford

to hire someone to locate the pins. The council explained that the pins need to be found to prevent the fence from improperly being placed. Rathgeber said he will speak with the building inspector John Edie to see if the pins could be located.

VI. Department Heads

a. Centko

- i. A request for stop sign at Park Street and West Maple Avenue from some citizens in the area. Centko noted that at a T intersection the middle road must stop.
- ii. Centko noted that the class he was going to attend in Champaign has been cancelled.
- iii. Centko asked to have the Shredding Service added to the agenda.

b. Karhliker

- i. No Report.

c. Ponsler

- i. Ponsler found a policy that will increase benefits while lowering costs, she will check with the employees to see if the changes would match employee needs.
- ii. Standard insurance will be at city hall on 11/13/14 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM to answer questions.
- iii. The utility equalizer issue has been corrected.

VII. Committee Reports

a. Administration – Berola

- i. The Financial Audit will be discussed at the next meeting. Ponsler noted that the audit is just about wrapped up but the auditor still had a few questions.

b. Public Works – Johnson

- i. It was noted that the quote to trim the tree at Hubert Kendal's residence would be \$500 from Hemberger Tree Service. The council felt this should be looked at again since if we start cutting down trees that are alive then we would have many more requests. No action was taken by the council.
- ii. A set of plans and a request for proposal (RFP) have been created by the engineer and are ready to be released. It was decided that the RFP would be

out for 30 days and the bid winner would need to be complete the work in 2 weeks.

c. Public Utilities – Kessler

i. No report.

d. Health & Safety – Gillock

i. No report.

e. Health & Housing – Stamer

i. There is a trailer that is up for auction on 11/05/14; once the trailer is removed from the property another trailer cannot be placed on the property.

ii. Mayor Stamer asks that when people receive a letter from the Health & Safety Officer they need to take action as soon as possible.

f. Parks – Tanner

i. No report.

g. Library/Technology – Hemmerle

i. No report.

VIII. Executive Session

a. Rathgeber made a motion to enter into executive session, second by Kessler. **Voice Vote: AYE: Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Mark Kessler, Wayne Rathgeber, Tom Berola and Rod Johnson. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**

b. Rathgeber made a motion to exit executive session, second by Gillock. **Voice Vote: AYE: AYE: Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Mark Kessler, Wayne Rathgeber, Tom Berola and Rod Johnson. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**

IX. Adjournment

a. A motion was made by Rathgeber to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 PM, second by Berola. **Voice Vote: AYE: Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Mark Kessler, Wayne Rathgeber, Tom Berola and Rod Johnson. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Warwick

November 3, 2014

City Clerk