

City of Auburn

Council Minutes

March 16, 2015

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. All of the resignations for the Sesquicentennial Committee have been received and confirmed by Grischow so the Committee can be disbanded
- b. Stamer handed out a tentative 2015 schedule from the Auburn Activities Committee.
- c. Grischow reported that Hubert Kendal wanted a letter from the city asking for permission to cut down the tree he had questioned, Karhliker stated that the tree has been taken down and is no longer on Hubert Kendal's property.
- d. Stamer brought forth recommendations to the council regarding leaf burning.
- e. The Tropical Ice Stand will be opening the second weekend in April.

II. City Clerk's Report – Warwick

- a. Warwick presented the meeting minutes from the city council meeting on 03/02/15. Davidson made a motion to accept the meeting minutes and destroy the recorded copy, second by Rathgeber. **Voice Vote: AYE: Tom Berola, Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Mark Kessler, and Wayde Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**
- b. Warwick reported that there were 8 closed session meetings that were opened as a result of the Bi-Annual Closed Session Meeting Minute review.

III. City Treasurer's Report - Appelt

- a. Appelt presented the Bills List from 03/01/15 to 03/20/15 for the council's approval. A motion was made by Davidson to approve the bills list, second by Gillock. **Voice Vote: AYE: Tom Berola, Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Mark Kessler, and Wayde Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**
- b. Appelt presented the Bank Cash Balance Report through 02/28/15 for the council's approval. Rathgeber made a motion to approve the report, second by Gillock. **Voice**

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

IV. Attorney – Grischow

- a. Grischow presented for second reading Ordinance 1390-15 which makes several updates to Chapter 24, Articles 1 & 2 of the Auburn Code. The sewer tap connection is \$250.00 and 24-41b was corrected to spell out \$300.00 for the gas tap fees. It also corrected a grammatical error in 24-48. The new deposit rates in 24-42 and 24-43 should be \$50.00 for water, \$50.00 for sewer, and \$100.00 for gas. Ponsler checked with other towns and our rates will be in line with municipalities, she also noted that other towns charge renters double on the deposit if the landlord does not countersign to the lower rate. This protects the city and landlords better if someone skips out on their rental. Grischow noted that we have several small balances that are left over when someone stops service, we have sent out checks for \$0.55 that still have not been cashed and are outstanding. Kessler recommended that we take further look at this ordinance since there is not dire need for the updates, Kessler made a motion to table Ordinance 1390-15 to next council meeting, second by Davidson. **Voice Vote: AYE: Tom Berola, Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Mark Kessler, and Wayde Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**
- b. Grischow noted that all of the agreements from Visa, MasterCard and Payment Associations regarding doing business with Forte for online payments to the city are very lengthy, approximately 80 – 300 pages each. Her concern is that we are indemnifying the different groups, and the city will not. Ponsler noted that Forte is the best one she has found that works with the Utility software we have recently implemented and the software is used by many municipalities. Davidson made a motion to enter into a 1 year agreement with Forte, second by Kessler. **Voice Vote: AYE: Tom Berola, Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Mark Kessler, and Wayde Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**
- c. Regarding raffles there was no action taken, the council was fine without taking action because of the verbiage. Grischow stated she can update the current ordinance to make the city's ordinance match the state statute. Kessler made a motion authorizing the mayor to direct the city attorney to update the Raffle Ordinance, second by Davidson. **Voice Vote: AYE: Tom Berola, Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Mark Kessler, and Wayde Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**

V. Visitors

- a. Zoning Board – Rathgeber reported that the Ray Landers was present to describe the changes he wants to make to Clover Street. The Zoning Board asked Ray to update his

application so a meeting could be held on 04/01/15. The Zoning Board is also working on updating the regulations regarding B-3 and R-3.

- b. Karhliker noted that Landers will need to make improvements to the lot closest to the F/S facility that lot floods Clover Street.

VI. Department Heads

a. Centko

- i. The storm siren by Edgewood Golf Course has been repaired.
- ii. Centko noted that the intersection at 5th Street and Jefferson Street going westbound. Centko noted that removing spaces on 5th Street south and north of Jefferson Street and repainting the cross walk should help with visibility at that intersection.
- iii. Centko attended the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting on behalf of the city. The city needs to register plans with that group so if grant money is disbursed we would be eligible. Centko worked with Karhliker to get several projects added.
- iv. Berola asked about an extra patrol at East/Union Park because basketball players are parking on the soft ground and it is tearing up the grass.
- v. Davidson asked about cameras at East/Union Park, Centko noted that he is looking into it but the biggest factor right now is the cost of the video streaming.

b. Karhliker

- i. There was damage to a light fixture on the Square; it was shot out by a BB gun.
- ii. Karhliker presented the council with an inventory of the equipment within Karhliker's department.
- iii. Karhliker mentioned at previous meeting that the zero turn mower needed to be replaced. Karhliker stated that we would trade in the old mower and we would get the state bid rate on the mower, the total cost would be \$12,338.00. A motion was made by Davidson to approve the purchase of a zero turn mower from Sievers Equipment in the amount of \$12,338.00, second by Johnson. **AYE: Tom Berola, Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Mark Kessler, and Wayde Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**
- iv. Karhliker has our Gas Engineer looking into the rate differential for our natural gas prices; the engineer should have an update soon.

c. Ponsler

- i. Ponsler presented quotes for an updated copier for the city office. Davidson made a motion to approve an agreement with Watts Copy System for a Sharp copier for \$105.00 per month for 60 months, second by Rathgeber. **AYE: Tom Berola, Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Mark Kessler, and Wayde Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**
- ii. The fines and fees will be reviewed at the next council meeting.
- iii. Ponsler wanted to remind the council that fee increases will be on the April Utility bills.

VII. Committee Reports

a. Administration – Berola

- i. Berola reported that the Administrative Committee has met regarding the FY2016 budget. Berola asked the department heads to come to the council with any big ticket item requests. He also noted that we need to relook at our fee schedules so we are more in line with other communities in the area, which charge more.

b. Public Works – Johnson

- i. Johnson reported that Mary Lamie from the railroad recommended that we approve the 5 – 6 changes that were recommended. The changes would be listed in city letterhead back to IDOT.

c. Public Utilities – Kessler

- i. No Report.

d. Health & Safety – Gillock

- i. No Report.

e. Health & Housing – Stamer

- i. Stamer reminded the citizens that it is beautification time; it is time to clean up yards.

f. Parks – Tanner

- i. No Report.

g. Library/Technology – Hemmerle

- i. No Report.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. A motion to adjourn was made by Rathgeber at 8:04 PM; second by Berola. **AYE: Tom Berola, Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Mark Kessler, and Wayde Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Warwick

City Clerk