

**City of Auburn**

**Council Minutes**

**June 1, 2015**

Mayor Stamer called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM.

**Present:** Barb Stamer, Chris Warwick, Tom Appelt, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Seth Williams, Julie Barnhill, and Vic Devos, Jr. **Absent:** Tom Berola and Matt Gillock.

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

I. Mayor's Comments

- a. Mayor Stamer asked the council about a summer meeting time of 6:00 Pm for June, July, and August. Starting the meeting earlier would allow the council to get out of the meeting earlier while it was still light outside. Hemmerle stated that the ordinance would need to be changed to adjust the meetings, the change would take 2 meetings and we would only see the benefit on three meetings. Warwick noted that the council meeting dates are set by ordinance and published at the beginning of the year and any change would require a minimum of ten days' notice to the public in the newspaper if the council was to change the meeting. Mayor Stamer asked several members their thoughts, some did not mind, but some council members thought it would be an issue getting home from work and making the meeting. Warwick noted that Berola and Gillock were not present and it would not be fair to vote on a time change without their input. Some of the council members thought that if the time should be changed maybe it should be changed for the whole year and not just for the summer months. Mayor Stamer asked for a motion from the council to change the meeting time for the summer, there was not motion so the item failed. Mayor Stamer noted that this is the second year that the request for an early meeting was presented but not acted upon by the council. Warwick noted that an early start time does not replace a well-run meeting; he also noted that it is well run meeting from the entire council.
- b. Mayor Stamer asked if there was an update on the Zoning Board recommendations to the council, Ponsler responded that she was not aware of any updates made.
- c. Mayor Stamer brought up the Temporary Liquor Permit from 06/05/15 to 06/07/15 for the Sugar Creek Wine and Cheese Deli; Ponsler noted that the 3 days would take up 3 of their 6 available days. It was noted that their paperwork and noise permits have been completed. Mayor Stamer will sign off on the Temporary Liquor Permit.

II. City Clerk's Report – Warwick

- a. Warwick presented the 05/18/15 meeting minutes for the council's review and approval. Warwick thanked Deputy Clerk Ponsler for filling in for him at the last meeting. A motion was made by Johnson to approve the meeting minutes and destroy the recorded copy, second by Devos. **Voice Vote: AYE: Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Seth Williams, Julie Barnhill, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola and Matt Gillock. (5-0-2).**
- b. Warwick noted that he needed the Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act training confirmations from all of the newly elected aldermen. He also noted there is an Illinois Municipal League training for newly elected officials in Springfield on the evening of 06/24/15.

III. City Treasurer's Report - Appelt

- a. Appelt presented the Bills List from 05/14/15 to 05/31/15 for the councils review and approval. Johnson asked about a check for Poggenpohl Ready Mix, Karhliker replied that the concrete was used for various projects around town. A motion was made by Hemmerle to approve the bills list, second by Williams. **Voice Vote: AYE: Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Seth Williams, Julie Barnhill, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola and Matt Gillock. (5-0-2).**

IV. Attorney – Grischow

- a. Grischow presented for first reading Ordinance 1404-15 regarding Budget Appropriations. Grischow also presented for first reading Ordinance 1405-15 regarding Prevailing Wage. Grischow noted that a public hearing needed to be held for the Budget Appropriations. Warwick announced that there will be a Public Hearing on 06/15/15 at 6:45 PM regarding the FY2016 Budget Appropriations and a notice will be placed in the Auburn Citizen according to statute.

V. Visitors

- a. Jan Robinson came forth regarding the restrictions on the Auburn Community Center (ACC) for certain groups. Ms. Robinson is from the New Covenant Christian Ministries and she felt that other groups such as Senior Citizens are able to have regularly scheduled meetings at the ACC but not her Ministry. She felt her organization was being discriminated against. She would like to have the ACC every Friday night at 7:00 PM and Saturday morning at 9:30 AM and 10:30 AM. Centko noted that the ACC was originally a Senior Center and when they gave the building to the city it was agreement to allow them to meet. It was noted that we did not want to allow one group monopolize the ACC on the weekends since it is the most popular time for rental. Ms. Robinson had been meeting at her home, but felt people might be more comfortable meeting at public location. The council felt that if it was rented on a weekly basis at the beginning of the week based on availability. Ms. Robinson noted that her use of the ACC would

be minimal, just a few chairs and tables. There was no action taken by the council because the item was not listed on the agenda, it was the feeling of the council that she should come in weekly to rent the ACC for the next Friday and Saturday if available.

VI. Department Heads

a. Centko

- i. Centko asked about the Temporary Liquor Licenses, are the 3 days that Sugar Creek is using is one event, so would Sugar Creek be able to have five more events? Grischow said she would research the information.
- ii. Centko noted that the Auburn Citizen misquoted him in stating that there was no current animal control officer due to the police union and that was not the case, the lack of an animal control officer due to the city garage contract.

b. Karhliker

- i. Karhliker reported that the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) bid opening was last week. Illinois Road Contractors was the low bidder for the road work and Central Stone was the lower bidder for the CA6 rock and chip.
  1. Johnson made a motion to accept the bid of Illinois Road Contractors on Group #1 of the IDOT bid sheet in the amount of \$64,477.00; second by Hemmerle. **AYE: Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Seth Williams, Julie Barnhill, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola and Matt Gillock. (5-0-2).**
  2. Johnson made a motion to accept the bid of Central Stone on Group #2 of the IDOT bid sheet in the amount of \$24,774.80; second by Hemmerle. **AYE: Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Seth Williams, Julie Barnhill, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola and Matt Gillock. (5-0-2).**
- ii. Karhliker reported that the railroad crossing at Washington Street was never funded properly, so the crossing still needs to be corrected. The Illinois Commerce Commission still needs to authorize it at the correct location, so the crossing will be closed until the first week of July.

c. Ponsler

- i. Ponsler gave a heads up that the Benld Animal Protective League is going to have a pet adoption event at the ACC.
- ii. The online payments have started and we have received about \$1,300 in payments.

## VII. Committee Reports

### a. Administration

- i. Centko reported that the carnival has asked that 5<sup>th</sup> Street be closed during the carnival. Centko stated that closing 5<sup>th</sup> Street but not Jefferson Street would be easier on traffic flow and help out the carnival.
- ii. An advertisement for an Animal Control Officer has been in the paper and applications have been collected. Interviews will be held soon.
- iii. The Building Inspector will still be John Edie, the only change is that a separate check will be issued for the Building Inspector work.

### b. Public Works

- i. No Report.

### c. Public Utilities

- i. No Report.

### d. Health & Safety

- i. No Report.

### e. Health & Housing

- i. Jill Talavera has removed the chickens from her property and a committee meeting will be held to discuss further once Berola returns in July.
- ii. Stamer reported that the letters to 446 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street are being sent back by the Post Office, the building is not in foreclosure, but is owned by Ocwen Financial. Stamer spoke with someone at Ocwen and they will care for the property.
- iii. Stacey Mitkos did not remedy the tall grass and weeds until 2 days after their final notice. Warwick asked if there would be a motion to fine Stacey Mitkos \$146.50 regarding the tall grass and weeds. Johnson made a motion to concur on the \$146.50 fine, second by Hemmerle. **AYE: Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Seth Williams, Julie Barnhill, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola and Matt Gillock. (5-0-2).**
- iv. Shane Olsson did not remedy the garbage, debris and unsightly accumulations until 2 days after their final notice. Warwick asked if there would be a motion to fine Shane Olsson \$146.50 regarding the garbage, debris and unsightly accumulations. Johnson made a motion to concur on the \$146.50 fine, second

by Hemmerle. **AYE: Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Seth Williams, Julie Barnhill, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola and Matt Gillock. (5-0-2).**

f. Parks

i. N/R

g. Library/Technology

i. No Report. It was asked that Library and Technology report be removed from the agenda and can be reported out on an as needed basis. There was no objection from the council.

VIII. Adjournment

a. A motion to adjourn was made by Johnson at 7:58 PM; second by Hemmerle. **Voice Vote: AYE: Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Seth Williams, Julie Barnhill, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola and Matt Gillock. (5-0-2).**

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Warwick

City Clerk