

**City of Auburn**  
**Council Minutes**  
**September 2, 2014**

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

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

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

I. Mayor's Comments

- a. Mayor Stamer has noticed in her Health Officer duties, that many houses do not have house numbers. She wanted to remind the citizens that they need to have their homes numbered by ordinance.
- b. Sugar Creek Wine and Cheese Deli has an application for a Temporary Liquor Permit to allow them to serve alcohol on a city street on 09/07/14. Rathgeber noted that all of the permit information is correct for Sugar Creek Wine and Cheese Deli, a motion was made by Rathgeber to approve the request, second by Davidson. **AYE: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**
- c. Mayor Stamer wanted to remind the citizens that they are responsible for their trees even if they are on the right of way. The city does not remove braches or live trees. Also if braches fall off of the tree it is the homeowner's responsibility to have the branches removed. The city would only remove branches or tree debris after a major storm once the city has approved the pick-up of storm damaged tree debris, that information would be communicated to the citizens.

II. City Clerk's Report – Warwick

- a. Warwick presented the meeting minutes from the city council meeting on 08/18/14. Kessler made a motion to accept the meeting minutes and destroy the recorded copy, second by Rathgeber. **AYE: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**
- b. Warwick presented the results from the Committee of the Whole meeting held on 08/18/14.
- c. Warwick requested permission to attend one day of the 2014 Illinois Municipal League Conference in Chicago on 09/19/14. The one day attendance cost would be \$160.00. A motion was made by Davidson to approve the request at an expense not to exceed

\$200.00 to cover any additional expenses, second by Kessler. **Voice Vote: AYE: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**

III. City Treasurer's Report - Appelt

- a. Appelt presented the Bills List from 08/15/14 to 08/30/14 for the council's approval. A motion was made by Rathgeber to approve the bills list, second by Davidson. **Voice Vote: AYE: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**
- b. The tax revenue for video gaming was \$1,152 for the month of July 2014.

IV. Attorney – Grischow

- a. Grischow asked to table Liquor Ordinance revisions, she asked for more time to review the information. Kessler noted that no decisions have been made and due to the rules around video gaming there have been new questions raised about how the liquor ordinances should be handled. Don Kern from the 104 Store was requesting a liquor license change so they would have the ability to pour liquor so they can be in compliance with the video gaming rules. Don Kern indicated that they do not intend to pour liquor; they would keep their packaged liquor sales. Don also noted that their hours would stay the same Monday through Thursday 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM; Friday and Saturday 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM, and Sunday 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. They are planning to have 5 machines. It was asked by the council if someone could buy a six pack, then sit and gamble, it would not be allowed.
- b. Grischow requested an Executive Session regarding litigation at the end of the meeting.

V. Visitors

- a. Heather Murdock from the Auburn Activities Committee asked about the use of Union (East) Park for a Trunk or Treat event on 10/25/14. She was told by the city office that the park would be winterized by that time and she was concerned that the park would be unavailable. Karhliker indicated that bathrooms would be closed but electricity would be available. Murdock indicated that they will be getting portable potties. The event would be held on 10/25/14 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM.
- b. Cathy Myers at 217 Cheyenne Drive, she is concerned that her neighbor has a fence that exceeds the city fence height limits. Rathgeber and Kessler reviewed the fencing and it is actually trellis and it is free standing within the neighbor's yard. The neighbor can allow the trellis to stand.
- c. Dale Schumacher was present to address the nuisances at 443 West Jackson Street. Dale indicated that they are close to selling the property. Dale indicated that he wants

to fix the windows but he does not want to fix the windows one way and then the new owners want something different. Dale indicated that he could fix the broken glass. Rathgeber made motion that the Schumacher's have 30 days (10/03/14) to remedy the nuisances or they will be fined \$100.00 a day, second by Kessler. **AYE: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**

VI. Department Heads

a. Centko

- i. Centko spoke with Skinz in Auburn about signs for the new park hours and the cost would be \$20.00 per sign. Centko recommended 10 signs to cover all of the parks. Tanner made a motion to approve 12 signs at a total cost of \$240.00, second by Johnson. **AYE: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**
- ii. Centko presented a resignation from Rachel Babbs, part time dispatcher, effective 08/29/14. Rathgeber made a motion to accept the resignation; second by Kessler. **Voice Vote: AYE: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**
- iii. Centko presented the resignation of Sargent Josh Blankenship effective 09/13/14. Rathgeber made a motion to accept the resignation; second by Kessler. **Voice Vote: AYE: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**

b. Karhliker

- i. Karhliker reported that the Hogan Road project will start the week of 10/06/14. He noted that the project will last 15 days and there will a temporary road during the project. The power on the road will be off during the installation of the culvert, so it should only be off for 1 to 2 hours.
- ii. Karhliker reported that for the sidewalk in front of Township building that needs to be replaced as part of the Kennedy Road project. One of the township officials wanted to add a culvert in the ditch and place the sidewalk over the culvert area. The council was in agreement that option will not work and they had concerns about flooding.

c. Ponsler

- i. The Temporary Liquor License has been updated to include a list of the documents needed by the applicant, application timeline and fees.

- ii. Ponsler noted that on 09/10/14 through 09/12/14 the last portion of the training for the new city software system.
- iii. Ponsler reported that we will have almost \$19,000.00 more in the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) fund.
- iv. Ponsler is looking at information from the State of Illinois Central Management Services for Health Insurance for the city employees. It would afford us to offer dental and vision coverage. She will have more information at the next meeting.
- v. Ponsler is also looking into making recommendations to updating the utility ordinances; it is still a work in progress.

VII. Committee Reports

- a. Administration – Berola
  - i. No report.
- b. Public Works – Johnson
  - i. No report.
- c. Public Utilities – Kessler
  - i. Kessler reported that the committee met earlier regarding a resident’s dispute on a loose dog that prevented the meter being read at 121 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street. The resident paid the fine and the committee found that the fine should be upheld. A motion was made by Kessler to uphold the fine, second by Davidson. **AYE: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**
  - ii. Kessler reported that Ponsler has run into issues with ordinances not always matching based on changes made. Kessler has asked Ponsler to review them and present the recommendations to the committee who would review then the committee would present to the council.
  - iii. Kessler reported that Gerry Berry had not paid is past due utilities for his barber shop on North 5<sup>th</sup> Street.
- d. Health & Safety - Gillock
  - i. Centko requested to purchase a 2015 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor at \$27,125.00; this would include the decals on the vehicle and the cage. This vehicle would be used by the evidence officer so extra room would be needed. We will be receiving \$300.00 for our vehicle trade in. Rathgeber made a motion

to approve the purchase of a 2015 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor at price not to exceed \$28,000.00.

- ii. Centko requested to purchase a speed control trailer. It is a used trailer but it can be upgraded to include a full sign board in the future. Rathgeber made a motion to approve the expense of a speed control trailer at price not to exceed \$4,000.00, second by Kessler. **AYE: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**
  - iii. Centko is looking into another option to laptops that are needed for the squad cars. He is looking into a more cost effective option.
  - iv. The committee discussed the use of golf carts. The committee felt there was not an overwhelming demand to have golf carts on the city streets. So they recommended leaving the rules as is.
- e. Health & Housing – Stamer
- i. Chris Jacobs has not remedied his nuisance and is being fined \$100.00 since 08/25/14.
- f. Parks – Tanner
- i. The Auburn Township Park requested a \$500.00 for assistance in running the park. A motion was made by Tanner to approve the \$500.00 donation, second by Davison. Rathgeber left the room. **AYE: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (4-0-4).**
  - ii. Tanner made a motion to purchase turf for the batting cage near the concession stand at a price not to exceed \$4,500.00, second by Davidson. **Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**
- 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: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**
- b. Rathgeber made a motion to exit executive session, second by Kessler. **Voice Vote: AYE: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**

IX. Adjournment

- i. A motion was made by Rathgeber to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM, second by Kessler. **Voice Vote: AYE: Davidson, Johnson, Kessler, Rathgeber, and Tanner. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Hemmerle. (5-0-3).**

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Warwick

City Clerk