

City of Auburn

Council Minutes

March 2, 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. Stamer introduced the new reporter for South County Publications, Daniel Winningham.
- b. Stamer is still working on the Proclamation for the Sesquicentennial Celebration.
- c. Stamer reported that the Auburn Area Special Olympics and the Auburn High School After Prom committees have asked the City for donations, it was noted that the Mayor may donate out of the Mayor's Contingency Fund.
- d. Stamer presented information about the upcoming proposed cuts in the LDGF Funding. Warwick stated that Governor Rauner has proposed a 50% reduction in the municipal share of the state income tax (LGDF). This could impact the city's general fund by \$236,164.50. Kessler made a motion to approve Resolution 61-15 notifying the Illinois Governor and leaders in the Legislature that the City does not support the reduction of LGDF funds.

II. City Clerk's Report – Warwick

- a. Warwick presented the meeting minutes from the city council meeting on 02/17/15. Kessler made a motion to accept the meeting minutes with an update to the section regarding utility increases, it should be noted that yearly increases will start on May 1st in 2016 and destroy the recorded copy, second by Hemmerle. **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 appoints Kristy Ponsler as Deputy Clerk per Sec. 2-22 of the Auburn Code. Kessler asked if the council could make the recommendation. The Deputy Clerk appointment is at the discretion of the Clerk. Kessler made a motion appointing Kristy Ponsler as the Deputy Clerk, second by Davidson. **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. The semiannual review of Closed Sessions will be held at City Hall on Monday 03/16/15 at 6:30 PM.

III. City Treasurer's Report - Appelt

- a. Appelt presented the Bills List from 02/18/15 to 02/28/15 for the council's approval. A motion was made by Gillock to approve the bills list, 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).**

IV. Attorney – Grischow

- a. Grischow had no report. Stamer asked about the tree at Hubert Kendal's tree. Grischow's understanding is that the tree is not on city property nor did the city plant the tree(s) in question. Hubert has had his property surveyed and still believes they are on city property and should be taken care of by the city.
- b. Grischow stated we could review the Forte agreement at this time. Grischow still has issue with verbiage with the contract. She will update the contract and send it to Forte to approve. Her main concern was the open language on the contract that makes reference to abiding by all terms and conditions of MasterCard, Discover, and Visa. The other issue is the language about excessive charge backs. Kessler wanted Grischow to review all of the details. Grischow asked why Forte was the preferred vendor, Ponsler replied that Forte had the best fees that works with our new utility billing system. The council felt we want a shorter term so the city can see how this will work out. Grischow noted that the updated agreement allows either party to terminate the agreement with 90 days' notice.
- c. Grischow noted on Sesquicentennial Ad Hoc Committee resignations, there were a few people still missing.

V. Visitors

- a. Don Gray Sangamon County Clerk was present and noted that voter registration for the April 7th, 2016 election will end 03/10/15 and on 03/13/15 absentee and voting at the County Clerk's office will start. Another item that Gray would like start implementing is bringing vital records to the citizens in Auburn.
- b. Seth Williams and Julie Barnhill were present at the meeting.

VI. Department Heads

- a. Centko
 - i. The surplus bikes have been picked up.

- ii. Centko has a part time dispatcher that has not responded to calls for work and scheduling. Grischow noted that would fall under the attendance policy and is job abandonment. Centko was providing this as an update to the council.
- b. Karhliker
 - i. The equipment for the culvert/whistle under the railroad tracks by north east end of Veteran's Park. This will be an additional culvert/whistle and will increase the capacity of water run-off.
 - ii. The bucket truck repairs will be done next week.
- c. Ponsler
- d. Ponsler had three quotes for a glass partition in the city office. The lowest bid was from Randy Bourne. Berola made a motion to approve the bid for a glass partition in the city office at a price not to exceed \$675, second by Kessler. **AYE: Tom Berola, Clay Davidson, Matt Gillock, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Mark Kessler, and Wayde Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: John Tanner. (7-0-1).**

VII. Committee Reports

- a. Administration – Berola
 - i. There will be a budget meeting on Tuesday 03/10/15 at 6:30 PM
- b. Public Works – Johnson
 - i. The final pay request for the Hogan Road project has been received. Johnson made a motion to approve the final request of \$16, 613.50, 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. Johnson updated the council that he had reached out to Mary Lamie regarding the revisions for the High Speed Rail Project because the revisions that were made were not clear on what is being updated.
- c. Public Utilities – Kessler
 - i. There are 9 updates to Utilities Ordinances, the updates are updating the wording to the Utilities wording.
- d. Health & Safety – Gillock
 - i. The first meeting for the Fraternal Order of Police contract negotiations will be Wednesday 03/04/15 at 5:30 PM.

e. Health & Housing – Stamer

- i. Stamer wanted to bring to the council's attention that the old Heritage Chevrolet building has been listed by One Call Real Estate. She noted that the GIS map shows there might be a city owned alley runs through the building.
- ii. Stamer also noted that the metal building owned by Magro's on the square and the white building owned by Magro's on Route 4 has been listed by One Call Real Estate.

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 7:59 PM; second by Kessler. **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