

**City of Auburn**

**Council Minutes**

**July 21, 2014**

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

Mayor Stamer asked Kessler to lead the Pledge of Allegiance since he has just returned from a tour of duty in Kuwait.

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

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

I. Mayor's Comments

- a. Mayor Stamer presented a certificate of appreciation to Kessler for his several years of service overseas to our country and to welcome him home.
- b. Barb Henn requested a temporary liquor license for the Oasis to allow a temporary beer garden on a city right of way during the Auburn Carnival during the weekend of August 23, 2014. A motion was made by Davidson to approve the temporary liquor license for the applied dates on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup>, second by Rathgeber. **AYE: Davidson, Hemmerle, Johnson, Kessler, and Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Tanner. (5-0-3)**
- c. Crystal Forrestier was elected the head of the sesquicentennial committee. Rich Wheeler with Community Sponsors will be talking to businesses to see if they would like to purchase a banner honoring the sesquicentennial, he will over see the hanging of the banners and he will warranty the banners for 1 year and the banners will be hung from city owned light poles on 5<sup>th</sup> Street.
- d. The Illinois Municipal League Risk Fund will be at the library on 08/04/14 at 4:00 PM to review the property.
- e. The Labor Day Picnic will be on 08/30/14 with a parade at 9:00 AM and the pageant will begin at 6:00 PM.

II. City Clerk's Report – Warwick

- a. Warwick presented the meeting minutes from the city council meeting on 07/07/14. Rathgeber made a motion to accept the meeting minutes and destroy the recorded copy, second by Davidson. **Voice Vote: AYE: Davidson, Hemmerle, Johnson, Kessler, and Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Tanner. (5-0-3)**

- b. There will be a Committee of the Whole meeting on 08/18/14 at 6:30 PM to review Closed Session Meetings.

III. City Treasurer's Report - Appelt

- a. Warwick presented the Bills List from 06/17/14 to 07/09/14 for the council's approval. A motion was made by Davidson to approve the bills list, second by Rathgeber. **Voice Vote: AYE: Davidson, Hemmerle, Johnson, Kessler, and Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Tanner. (5-0-3)**
- b. There is a bill for the first payment for the new TIF District, Ponsler had a question on how that was to be paid, and Rathgeber stated that the payment should come out of savings and the Ordinance outlines the payment schedule.
- c. There was a class action lawsuit regarding the Telecom Excise Tax charged by cities. The city received more money than it should, so a repayment schedule was sent to the city of 11 monthly payments of \$154.16 and 1 monthly payment of \$154.16 which will be deducted from the payments received from the Illinois Department of Revenue.

IV. Attorney – Grischow

- a. Grischow presented for the first reading Ordinance 1398-14 which establishes a Parks & Recreation section in the City Ordinance Code Book.
- b. Grischow presented for the first reading Ordinance 1399-14 which established hours of operations for the different parks. The Parks Committee asked for different hours to be listed, all parks will operate from 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM and Veterans Park will operate from 6:00 AM to 11:30 PM, any exceptions must be approved by the council.
- c. Grischow did not need an Executive Session for pending litigation.

V. Visitors

- a. Zoning Board Report
  - i. Rathgeber presented that the Zoning Board has reviewed Section 3 & 4 of the Zoning Code and more work is needed regarding modular buildings.
  - ii. Will Norris requested that a porch be added to his dwelling at 307 East Wineman Street that will line up with the other properties. Rathgeber indicated that the Zoning Board approved the request and made a motion for the council to approve the request, second Kessler. **AYE: Davidson, Hemmerle, Johnson, Kessler, and Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Tanner. (5-0-3)**

- iii. The city will need to enter into an agreement with the Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Council (SSCRPC), which will allow us to receive grants or low interest loans in case of a disaster. A resolution will need to be passed and second reading will occur at the next council meeting on 08/04/14.
- iv. Richard Marx reported that we do not have enough funds to have our own dedicated ESDA group in Auburn; we will participate with the county.

VI. Department Heads

- a. Centko
  - i. No report. Once Gillock returns the Chief would like to have a meeting regarding replacement vehicles for the police department.
- b. Karhliker
  - i. No report
- c. Ponsler
  - i. Ponsler reported that we are 2 weeks away from change in the billing systems for our Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable modules.

VII. Committee Reports

- a. Administration – Berola
  - i. No report
- b. Public Works – Johnson
  - i. The original bid estimate for the Hogan Road Culvert Project was \$122,000.00; the lowest bid on the IDOT Bid Sheet was Kinney Construction at \$149, 933.00. Johnson spoke with the contractor and they are OK with the city adjusting the plans to help save money since the IDOT bid is 23% higher than originally estimated. Rathgeber asked why the original removal cost was about \$2,000 and the new removal cost is around \$20,000. Karhliker indicated that the equipment needed and the layout of the road requires specific equipment to remove the old culvert. Johnson made a motion to approve the Resolution for Improvement by Municipality under the Illinois Highway Code – Form BLR 09111 for \$100,000.00; second by Davidson. **AYE: Davidson, Hemmerle, Johnson, Kessler, and Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Tanner. (5-0-3)**
  - ii. Johnson made a motion award the bid to Kinney Contractors Inc for IDOT Section 13-00015-00-DR in the amount of \$149,993.00; second by Rathgeber.

**AYE: Davidson, Hemmerle, Johnson, Kessler, and Rathgeber. NAY: None.  
ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Tanner. (5-0-3)**

- c. Public Utilities – Kessler
  - i. No report
- d. Health & Safety - Gillock
  - i. Covered under the visitors session
- e. Health & Housing – Stamer
  - i. Stamer spoke with Martha Searcy about the church at West Jefferson & North 6<sup>th</sup> Street and she should have an estimate for removal in the next few months. Mrs. Searcy is trying to salvage as many valuable items as possible.
  - ii. Mayor Stamer is very concerned about two properties, the first property is the old Heritage Chevrolet on West Jackson Street, the property has several broken windows, debris, and parts of the roof are missing. The second property is old Ramsey Chevrolet at West Adams & North 5<sup>th</sup> Street it has debris and large portions of the roof is missing. Mayor Stamer is tired of sending notices to these owners, the Schumacher Brothers and Jack Bailey. She asked for 2 aldermen to accompany her to review the properties and document the list of nuisances.
- f. Parks – Tanner
  - i. Hemmerle reported that the fence for Merritt Field is on hold for now.
  - ii. The hours of operation was covered in the attorney's report.
  - iii. The Josh Brooks Memorial Tournament will be held on 08/01/14 through 08/03/14.
- g. Library/Technology – Hemmerle
  - i. No report

VIII. Adjournment

- i. A motion was made by Rathgeber to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 PM, second by Davidson. **Voice Vote: AYE: Davidson, Hemmerle, Johnson, Kessler, and Rathgeber. NAY: None. ABSENT: Berola, Gillock, and Tanner. (5-0-3)**

Respectfully Submitted,

July 21, 2014

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Christopher Warwick

City Clerk