

**City of Auburn**

**Council Minutes**

**August 3, 2015**

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

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

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

I. Mayor's Comments

- a. The Comprehensive Plan needs to be updated and Stamer wanted to appoint two aldermen to participate with the Zoning Board. Stamer appointed Madaus and Johnson, Devos made a motion to accept the mayor's recommendations, second by Barnhill. **Voice Vote: AYE: Julie Barnhill, Larry Hemmerle, Ed Madaus, Rod Johnson, Matt Gillock, Seth Williams, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola. (7-0-1).**

II. City Clerk's Report – Warwick

- a. Warwick presented the 07/20/15 meeting minutes for the council's review and approval. A motion was made by Devos to approve the meeting minutes and destroy the recorded copy, second by Gillock. **Voice Vote: AYE: Julie Barnhill, Larry Hemmerle, Ed Madaus, Rod Johnson, Matt Gillock, Seth Williams, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola. (7-0-1).**
- b. Seth Williams will attend the Illinois Municipal League Annual Conference for the City of Auburn. A motion was made by Gillock to allow for expenses not to exceed \$700, second by Madaus. **AYE: Julie Barnhill, Larry Hemmerle, Ed Madaus, Rod Johnson, Matt Gillock, Seth Williams, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola. (7-0-1).**

III. City Treasurer's Report - Appelt

- a. Appelt presented the Bills List from 07/18/15 to 07/31/15 for the councils review and approval. A motion was made by Gillock to approve the bills list, second by Hemmerle. **Voice Vote: AYE: Julie Barnhill, Larry Hemmerle, Ed Madaus, Rod Johnson, Matt Gillock, Seth Williams, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola. (7-0-1).**

IV. Attorney – Grischow

- a. Grischow presented for Second Reading Ordinance 1405-15 an Ordinance regarding Sidewalk Cafés. Based on the committee meetings, the percentage of alcohol sales has

to be less than 50% to qualify as a restaurant or retail establishment. One item of clarification was brought up that the fee for the Sidewalk Café would run along the same timeline as the Liquor License. A motion was made by Johnson to accept Ordinance 1405-15, second by Barnhill. **AYE: Julie Barnhill, Larry Hemmerle, Ed Madaus, Rod Johnson, Matt Gillock, Seth Williams, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola. (7-0-1).**

V. Visitors

- a. 'lyn Pignon was present and was representing the Auburn Historical Society to help save the bell from the New Testament Church of Jesus Christ. Pignon read two letters aloud based on her correspondence with Martha Searcy. Pignon asked if the City would receive the bell if the monies were raised to purchase the bell. A motion was made by Williams for the City to accept the bell if the funds were raised to purchase the bell from the New Testament Church of Jesus Christ, second by Devos. **AYE: Julie Barnhill, Larry Hemmerle, Ed Madaus, Rod Johnson, Matt Gillock, Seth Williams, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola. (7-0-1).**
- b. Devos asked that the council members consider walking in the Labor Day Parade as a council together. Having the entire council walk together would be a strong show of support for the town.
- c. Melissa Davis, Director of the Auburn Library was present to introduce herself to the new council. One question did come up about the water fountain replacement, she replied that one fountain was bad but the replacement will be for both the high and low fountain because the new fountain is one unit.
- d. Martha Searcy stopped by and reported that she had 2 offers for the old New Testament Church of Jesus Christ property.

VI. Department Heads

- a. Centko
  - i. Centko has discussed the use of surveillance cameras within East/Union Park and they are continuing to discuss the issue, no resolution at this time.
  - ii. Centko reported at the last meeting that the phone system was in need of an upgrade/replacement. He has tried to get quotes from various sources and the best price quote he has is from Commercial Technology Solutions in the amount of \$9,403.00. A motion was made by Gillock to accept the quote from Commercial Technology Solutions in the amount of \$9,403.00 for a new phone system, second by Madaus. **AYE: Julie Barnhill, Larry Hemmerle, Ed Madaus, Rod Johnson, Matt Gillock, Seth Williams, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola. (7-0-1).**

- iii. Centko has gotten a few inquiries about a golf cart ordinance which would allow golf carts on city roads. Centko mentioned that the residents of the Auburn Hills subdivision will not be able to use their golf carts on the east side of Route 4 because the speed limit is 45 miles per hour and state statute does not allow crossing a road at that speed limit.
- iv. Centko mentioned that the city should look into our ordinances regarding group homes and multi-person dwellings.
- v. Centko requested a Police Committee meeting in the near future.
- vi. A motion was made by Gillock to direct the City Attorney to start working on a draft ordinance for group homes and multi-person single dwellings, second by Williams. **AYE: Julie Barnhill, Larry Hemmerle, Ed Madaus, Rod Johnson, Matt Gillock, Seth Williams, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola. (7-0-1).**

b. Karhliker

- i. No report.

c. Ponsler

- i. Ponsler reported that the new refrigerator is in for the Auburn Community Center.
- ii. The old yellow house near Subway has requested that the utilities be disconnected so they can start the demolition process.
- iii. A motion was made by Devos to change the City Office hours for this year, the office will be closed on Christmas Eve and open on New Year's Eve for 2015, second by Barnhill. **AYE: Julie Barnhill, Larry Hemmerle, Ed Madaus, Rod Johnson, Matt Gillock, Seth Williams, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola. (7-0-1).**
- iv. Ponsler reported that we have brought in \$3,400 in video gaming revenue since May 2015. No additional money will be received from the state until a budget is in place. All of the information is available online.

VII. Committee Reports

a. Administration

- i. The Administration Committee will look at dental and vision benefits when the health care benefits are reviewed annually.

b. Public Works

- i. Ponsler and Karhliker met with Benton and Associates to review the updated paperwork needed for the sidewalks around the square. We are waiting on the reimbursement from the IDOT and where we want to replace the sidewalks.
  - c. Public Utilities
    - i. No Report.
  - d. Health & Safety
    - i. There will be a meeting called in the near future, the date to be determined.
  - e. Health & Housing
    - i. The grass within the railroad fencing is very tall; Johnson said he would reach out to Mary Lamie with the railroad to find out how they will abate the issue. Devos noted that in the past, the City would mow the grass and the railroad would reimburse.
  - f. Parks
    - i. Hemmerle reported that Barnhill has been the main person working on the Adopt-A-Park program and they are close to getting an Ordinance or Resolution to cover the program.
    - ii. Hemmerle reported that previously the Parks committee was going to help fund the replacement of the new electronic sign replacing the one that was destroyed on the square, but was discovered that the Park committee can only cover 10% of the cost if it is place on non-park land. The final decision might require a committee of the whole.
    - iii. Hemmerle reported that web based cameras that would be placed in the parks would cost around \$1,000.00 for the equipment. They are still looking into the equipment and funding.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. A motion to adjourn was made by Gillock at 8:42 PM; second by Devos. **Voice Vote: AYE: Julie Barnhill, Larry Hemmerle, Ed Madaus, Rod Johnson, Matt Gillock, Seth Williams, and Vic Devos, Jr. NAY: None. ABSENT: Tom Berola. (7-0-1).**

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Warwick  
City Clerk