

City of Auburn

Council Minutes

June 17, 2013

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

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

Bruce Centko, Bill Karhliker, and Connie Powell.

I. Mayor's Comments

- a. Mayor Stamer thanked Mary Centko for documenting the Memorial Day march to the cemetery in a video. A copy of the video will be available for a donation to the Honor Flight program and will at the VFW and the American Legion soon.
- b. Mayor Stamer will be hosting an Ice Cream Social and Patriotic Sing a Long on the town square on July 4, 2013 at 2 PM. More details will be published in the Auburn Citizen.
- c. Mayor Stamer was looking for volunteers to paint and repair the Santa Claus house for a winter event. It was noted that the Auburn Junior Women's club owns the Santa Claus house and its current whereabouts are unknown.
- d. Mayor Stamer has ten (10) volunteers for the Sesquicentennial Ad Hoc Committee.
- e. Mayor Stamer has spoken with Auburn Athletic Director Dave Bates and he has given permission for people to use track around the football field as long as they are not using any items with wheels (scooters, strollers, etc.)
- f. Regarding the Animal & Fowl Code, the mayor chose to skip that item because of the full agenda.
- g. Mayor Stamer yielded the hours of liquor sales to Alderman Berola and the zoning around the square to Alderman Kessler.

II. City Clerk's Report – Warwick

- a. A motion was made by Kessler to accept the minutes of the last council meeting of June 3, 2013 and destroy the recorded copy, second by Gillock. **AYES: Berola, Hemmerle, Johnson, Tanner, Davidson, Gillock, Kessler, and Rathgeber. (8-0).**
- b. Alderman Berola asked if there was a process or a form that was needed to get an item added to the agenda. Alderman Berola had called in a request that an item be added to the agenda; it was on the agenda but not under his committee. Clerk Warwick indicated that the best way to transmit the information would be via e-mail to his city e-mail address chris.warwick@auburnillinois.us and Warwick indicated that he would have more information on a process in the coming weeks.

III. City Treasurer's Report - Appelt

- a. Appelt presented bills list from 06/01/13 to 06/17/13. A motion was made by Kessler to approve the bills list, second by Davidson. **AYES: Berola, Hemmerle, Johnson, Tanner, Davidson, Gillock, Kessler, and Rathgeber. (8-0).**

- b. Applet presented the Financial Statement dated 05/31/13; it is the first month of the new fiscal year. Alderman Kessler asked how far behind the state was behind in its tax payments to the city, Connie Powell thought we up to date. Alderman Kessler made a motion to approve the 05/31/13 Financial Statement, second by Tanner. **AYES: Berola, Hemmerle, Johnson, Tanner, Davidson, Gillock, Kessler, and Rathgeber. (8-0).**

IV. Attorney – Grischow

- a. Grischow asked for an Executive Session towards the end of the meeting regarding threatened litigation.
- b. Mayor Stamer asked about the status of the Police Agreement with the Village of Thayer, Grischow indicated that she has reached out Thayer’s attorney and he was going to consult with the Village President, but she has not heard back from him.

V. Visitors

- a. The Auburn Elementary School sent a Thank You Letter to the Police Department; they thanked the police for helping to keep the children safe during the last school year.
- b. Darrell Adcock presented four (4) items listed below to the city council which concerned him as a business owner in the city. Mr. Adcock asked for relief on the signage issue immediately, the council was not comfortable with granting the request immediately. Kessler called for a Committee as a Whole meeting on 06/24/13 at 6:30 PM in the council chambers to discuss the issues.
 - i. Selling items on the city sidewalk downtown/square.
 - ii. Display of signage and sidewalk improvements downtown/square.
 - iii. Snow removal on the square
 - iv. Bond requirement under city ordinance 1368-13
- c. Ray Landers indicated the situation regarding his lot at southwest corner of Edgewood Court is moving forward. He indicated that the council should look at the housing regulations to make Auburn friendlier to multi-tenant housing. The concern was that the landlord is responsible for the utilities if the tenant does not pay.

VI. Zoning Board Report

- a. Rathgeber gave a report from the Zoning Board. The first item was a recommendation to the council to reduce the setback on lots 101, 115, 116, 130, 131, 145, 146, 147, 148, 158 and 171 from 25 feet on the side facing Auburn Road to 15 feet. The request was made to accommodate the size of the houses and it was noted that Auburn Road is 60 foot wide road so there would be still plenty of visibility. Rathgeber made a motion to accept the Zoning Board request to make the changes, second by Berola. **AYES: Berola, Hemmerle, Johnson, Tanner, Davidson, Gillock, Kessler, and Rathgeber. (8-0).**
- b. Regarding the zoning violation at 926 West Jefferson Street, Rathgeber reported that the Zoning Board and Council had denied Twila Cline’s previous request to change the zoning from R-1 to R-2 because of the size of the lot and the lack of off street parking. Currently there is a family member living in the garage apartment and no rent is being charged, if there were a renter then it would be turned over to the Health & Housing Officer - Mayor Stamer for enforcement. No action was taken by the Zoning Board or by the Council.

- c. Rathgeber reported that Zoning Board recommended that the parking standards for R-2 and R-3 zoning be updated to include more spaces. Rathgeber made a motion to increase the amount of off street parking needed for R-2 zoning to two (2) spaces and for R-3 zoning two and a half (2 ½) spaces, second by Kessler. **AYES: Berola, Hemmerle, Johnson, Tanner, Davidson, Gillock, Kessler, and Rathgeber. (8-0).**

VII. Department Heads

- a. Centko
 - i. Chief Centko indicated that Alderman Gillock will need to call a Health & Safety meeting.
- b. Karhliker
 - i. The Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) work is scheduled to start the week of July 22nd, 2013.
 - ii. The Gas Alliance, who provides the cities natural gas insurance met recently and the per meter fee has been increased from two dollars and seventy-five cents (\$2.75) to three dollars (\$3.00) and all future insurance claims must be above one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
 - iii. The replacement relief valve and odorant station will be changed on 06/18/13, this is replacing the relief valve would handle any over pressure, like the event that occurred on Good Friday 2012.
- c. Powell
 - i. Grischow gave the report for Connie Powell (had to leave the meeting). We need to have a Public Hearing regarding Appropriations Ordinance 1370-13 on or before 07/0/13. It will be scheduled for 6:50 PM on Monday July 1, 2013.

VIII. Committee Reports

- a. Administration – Berola
 - i. Berola noted that the city needed to address the liquor hours on Sundays. Berola made a motion to have a first reading to amend Section 4-42 of the Auburn Code to remove the reference of the Sunday exception, so the liquor hours would be all hours seven days a week except during the hours of 1 AM to 7 AM, second by Johnson. **AYES: Berola, Johnson, Tanner, Davidson, Gillock, Kessler, and Rathgeber. PRESENT: Hemmerle. (7-0-1).**
- b. Public Works – Johnson
 - i. Johnson brought forth a request from the Auburn Fire Department to vacate the alley between 117 West Jackson Street and 111 West Jackson Street. This request has been brought up before, but the city has been waiting on the Fire Department to present the official legal descriptions for the two properties. Johnson made a motion to table the issue until the Fire Department could provide the legal descriptions, second by Kessler. **AYES: Berola, Hemmerle, Johnson, Tanner, Davidson, Gillock, Kessler, and Rathgeber. (8-0).**
 - ii. Johnson stated that there will be a Public Works committee meeting on Monday 06/24/13 regarding the Landers property on the southwest corner of Edgewood Court immediately following the Committee as a Whole meeting.
- c. Public Utilities – Kessler

- i. Alderman Kessler was aware of zoning issue on the square, Mayor Stamer indicated that issue was in regards to Mr. Adcock's earlier comments during the visitors section of the meeting.
- d. Health & Safety - Gillock
 - i. Gillock will set up a meeting in July to discuss the possibility of Taser use by the police department.
- e. Health & Housing – Stamer
 - i. Mayor Stamer brought up the ongoing issue at 1027 West Adams Street, it is the Barton Estate, the previous owner had died, it was left to an heir but that has not taken over the property. There are monies budgeted to demolish the home, the city does have liens against the property. Alderman Kessler recommended that if it needed to be discussed further it would be best done at committee meeting because of the complex issues surrounding the property.
 - ii. Mayor Stamer stated that old church at 6th Street and West Jefferson Street potentially has a buyer out of California. Mayor Stamer indicated that the current owner is trying to sell the property, a nuisance letter was sent.
 - iii. Mayor Stamer brought up the building at southwest corner of Adams Street and 5th Street. She was concerned about the trailers and loose debris on the property. Alderman Berola indicated that if there is a hole in the roof and it is no livable then we make the property owner make it livable or tear down the structure. A nuisance letter was sent.
 - iv. Terrance Painter, Jr. was at the meeting regarding 415 West North Street, he stated that there was water in the basement and he is in the process of cleaning out the stuff. He is getting it hauled away as soon as he has money. The council asked that he keep them updated on his progress.
- f. Parks – Tanner
 - i. Tanner indicated the batting cage near Trojan Field had been vandalized the lean to supports had been damaged and he is checking on the replacement costs.
- g. Library/Technology – Hemmerle
 - i. The parts for the air conditioning unit were on back order but should be in any day now. There is a Library Board Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 6/18/13 at 7:00 PM.
- h. Executive Session
 - i. Rathgeber made a motion at 8:14 PM to enter into executive session to discuss threatened litigation against the city, second by Kessler. **By voice vote - AYES: Berola, Hemmerle, Johnson, Tanner, Davidson, Gillock, Kessler, and Rathgeber. (8-0).**
 - ii. Rathgeber made a motion at 8:30 PM to exit executive session, second by Hemmerle. **By voice vote - AYES: Berola, Hemmerle, Johnson, Tanner, Davidson, Gillock, Kessler, and Rathgeber. (8-0).**

IX. Adjournment

- a. A motion was made by Rathgeber to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 PM, second by Hemmerle. **AYES: Berola, Hemmerle, Johnson, Tanner, Davidson, Kessler, and Rathgeber and Gillock. (8-0).**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher J. Warwick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christopher Warwick

City Clerk