

**City of Auburn
Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 1, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Berola with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance of all present.

Clerk Sponsler took roll. Present were Mayor Berola, Clerk Sponsler, Treasurer Williams, Alderman Royer, Alderman Marquis, Alderman Sheppard, Alderman Johnson, Alderman Crissey and Alderman Hemmerle.

Also present were Office Manager Rathgeber, Superintendent Henson, Chief Campbell and Attorney Jarmer.

Alderman Garrett and Alderman Parrish were absent.

Mayor's Comments:

Mayor Berola said that Alderman Parrish is working out of state and would like to attend the meeting via a phone call. Alderman Marquis made a motion to allow Alderman Parrish to join via telephone call, with a second by Alderman Crissey.

AYES: Royer, Marquis, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Parrish, Garrett

Visitor's Comments:

City Clerk's Report:

Clerk Sponsler presented the April 1, 2024 meeting minutes for review and approval. Alderman Marquis made a motion to approve the April 1, 2024 minutes, second by Alderman Crissey.

AYES: Parrish, Royer, Marquis, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Garrett

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Williams presented the bills list from March 18, 2024 through March 29, 2024. A motion was made to approve the bills list by Alderman Marquis, second by Alderman Sheppard.

AYES: Parrish, Royer, Marquis, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Garrett

Treasurer Williams presented the March 2024 Cash Report

AYES: Parrish, Marquis, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle
NAYES: Royer
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Garrett

Treasurer Williams presented the Budget Report through March 29, 2024 for review only.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Jarmer presented the second reading of Ordinance 1543-24, An Ordinance Relating to a Special Use Variance Request for 427 N. 10th Street, Auburn, IL (PIN no. 34-19.0-133-012) for the Operation of a Publicly Regulated Utility. Alderman Royer made a motion to approve Ordinance 1543-24, second by Alderman Sheppard.

AYES: None

NAYES: Parrish, Royer, Marquis, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Garrett

Attorney Jarmer presented the second reading of Resolution 105-24, A Resolution Approving the Installation of One Street Light at 5180 Hogan Road. Alderman Royer made a motion to approve Resolution 105-24, second by Alderman Parrish.

AYES: Parrish, Royer, Marquis, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Garrett

Attorney Jarmer presented the First Reading of Ordinance 1544-24, An Ordinance Approving a Pre-Annexation Agreement.

Execution of Side Letter with International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 965. This is concerning city employees acting as volunteer emergency personnel. This was discussed during executive session and voted on during open session. Alderman Royer made a motion to approve the side letter, second by Alderman Parrish.

AYES: Parrish, Marquis, Sheppard, Crissey, Hemmerle

NAYES: Johnson, Royer

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Garrett

Department Heads

Chief Campbell:

Tate is close to the end of his schooling.

Superintendent Henson:

Update: Roof repairs, playground, walking trail, pond:

There is a bid out for roof repairs at the ball park, the guys are making an attempt to get the playground from East Park to the ball park, they will regroup and hopefully discuss the walking trail/pond this summer. Alderman Crissey asked about steel for the roof and TJ said there is enough money to go that route. The Council agreed that was a good idea.

Christmas lights purchasing, planning, goals:

There have been great reviews from the residents regarding using an outside company for the lights on the square. We have spent over \$30,000. TJ thinks we should start shopping for our own decorations.

Alderman Royer said maybe this year we use a hybrid plan, buy our own decorations, plus work with the company.

Summer Outlook:

TJ is hoping to have the fiber companies out of town by summer. Most of the work this summer will be mowing, concrete repair, safe routes to schools, and East Park. He wants to focus his guys on the town.

Office Manager Rathgeber:

Office Manager Rathgeber told the council that the county was in to inspect the ACC for the Daily Bread program. There was a ripple in the wall, the county said it was okay as long as it didn't open up. Two weeks ago, there was a hole with some rippling. On the north side of the building, water runs toward the building and the roof needs looked at. It was suggested to use Nudo board panels around the entire room.

Committee Reports

Administration-Johnson: Admin meeting to discuss FY25 budget, should have a draft budget ready by the end of the month. They discussed the potential hire of an office administrative assistant, but they are still working on numbers and hope to have more at the next meeting.

Public Works-Parrish: No Report

Public Utilities-Johnson: Superintendent Henson will meet with Bentons on Thursday about North Street.

Health & Safety-Marquis: No Report

Health & Housing: Mr. DeHeve is in attendance. He received a letter about his back yard. He has been working on it, the campers are gone, one small camper is still there, but it runs. There is a maroon truck still that will be gone soon. Chief Campbell said progress has been made. Mayor Berola said as long as progress is being made, that's all we ask of him and he appreciates him coming in tonight to discuss the property.

Parks-Hemmerle:

It was day one of work at Union Park, the construction has begun.

Economic Development-Garrett: Not in attendance

Building Committee-Garrett: Not in attendance

Other Business:

Adjournment:

Alderman Royer made a motion to go into executive session at 7:30 pm, second by Alderman Marquis. A voice vote was taken.

AYES: Parrish, Royer, Marquis, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Garrett

Alderman Royer made a motion to adjourn executive session at 7:42 pm, second by Alderman Johnson. A voice vote was taken.

AYES: Parrish, Royer, Marquis, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Garrett

Alderman Royer made a motion to go back into executive session at 7:43 pm, second by Alderman Marquis. A voice vote was taken.

AYES: Parrish, Royer, Marquis, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Garrett

Alderman Royer made a motion to adjourn out of executive session at 7:52 pm, second by Alderman Marquis. A voice vote was taken.

AYES: Parrish, Royer, Marquis, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Garrett

Alderman Royer made a motion to come back to regular session at 7:53 pm, second by Alderman Johnson. A voice vote was taken.

AYES: Parrish, Royer, Marquis, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Garrett

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Royer at 7:55 pm, second by Alderman Sheppard. A voice vote was taken.

AYES: Parrish, Royer, Marquis, Sheppard, Johnson, Crissey, Hemmerle
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Garrett