

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 2, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 122

Mayor Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the salute to the flag. Councilor Milks had an excused absence. Mayor Harmon and all other Councilors were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

- I. **Consent Items** – All items with an asterisk (*) are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member or a citizen requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.
 1. **Order 01-01022024***
Confirming Chief Moen’s appointment of Aaron Briere, Dalton Geisel, and Ronald Seguin as Constable with firearm/arrest powers for the Auburn Police Department.
 2. **Order 02-01022024***
Authorizing the City Clerk to waive the \$200 business license fee for the food service license for the Danville Junction Grange #65.
 3. **Order 03-01022024***
Setting the time to open the polls at 7:00 a.m. for all 2024 Auburn Elections.

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry and seconded by Councilor Walker for passage of the three consent items.

Passage 6-0.

II. **Minutes** – December 18, 2023, Regular Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Platz to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2023, Regular Council Meeting as corrected.

Passage 6-0.

III. **Communications, Presentations and Recognitions** – None

IV. **Open Session** – No one from the public spoke.

V. **Unfinished Business** - None

VI. **New Business**

1. **Ordinance 01-01022024**
Amending Chapter 60 of the zoning ordinance to include Effective Date and Applicability Date of Ordinance #26-11202023. First reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting and seconded by Councilor Gerry for passage.

Public comment – Stephen Beale, 575 Johnson Road spoke in favor noting that delaying this will allow time for the city to evaluate the quality of the soil and he also spoke regarding the 100-foot buffer adding that it should be continued or made part of further discussion.

Pam Rousseau, 745 West Auburn Road stated that she agreed with the comments made by Stephen Beale 100% and wanted to point out concerns she has with the nearness to the watershed and number of cars going through the watershed. She said she would like that to also be considered.

Keri Myrick, 1010 Summer Street stated that she supports Mr. Beales position regarding to looking at the topography of the gravel pit. She noted that we should take some time and err on the side of caution.

Passage 6-0. A roll call vote was taken.

2. Ordinance 02-01022024

Amending Chapter 60 of the zoning ordinance to include Effective Date and Applicability Date of Ordinance #28-11202023. First reading.

*Motion was made by Councilor Cowan and seconded by Councilor Walker to table this item.

Passage 6-0.

3. Order 04-01022024

Authorizing the City Manager to direct staff to work with the Agriculture Working Group, Sustainability & Natural Resource Board, LAWPC, the Planning Board, and public stakeholders to review the adopted amendments and recommend any changes back to the City Council.

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry and seconded by Councilor Walker for passage.

Public comment – Kathy Shaw, Valley View Farm Sopers Mill Road in Auburn, and Chair of the Natural Products and Ag work group said she looks forward to working with the City Council and staff. She stated that they hold their scheduled monthly meetings on the last week of the month and meetings are held at the Auburn Senior Center.

Stephen Beale, 575 Johnson Road spoke in support of the order and stated that he looks forward to working with staff and consultants who may be relevant to these items.

Motion was made by Councilor Weisner and seconded by Councilor Walker to amend by inserting at end of first sentence in the third paragraph the following language “***no later than the second regular City Council meeting in April 2024***”.

Passage 6-0.

Passage of Order 04-01022024 as amended 6-0.

4. Order 05-01022024

Authorizing staff to waive the permit fees for storm damage repairs.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Whiting for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-0.

5. Order 06-01022024

Approving the allocation of an additional \$1,000,000.00 from the FY2022 Undesignated Fund Balance.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Cowan for passage.

Public comment – Ben Lounsbury pointed out that the agenda used language “undesigned” and should be “undesignated”.

Kathy Shaw, Sopers Mill Road asked what this does to our fund balance.

Pam Rousseau, 745 West Auburn Road asked if this money can go toward things such as the unhoused or affordable housing moving forward.

Passage 6-0.

VII. Open Session – No one from the public spoke.

VIII. Reports

Mayor Harmon thanked the E911 Center, the Fire, Police and Public Works Departments for their work during the flooding event. He thanked the city staff for putting on such a great New Years Eve event, adding that he received many positive comments and lots of people really liked the drone show. Last, he mentioned that there are several board and committee vacancies listed on our website, applications are due by Jan. 4th as the Appointment Committee will be meeting within the next week to consider the applications.

Councilor Platz reported on the School Committee meeting held a few weeks ago. He said there will be another meeting tomorrow, and he will be attending the first Finance meeting of the School Department.

Councilor Walker reported on the New Year’s Eve event that the Age Friendly Committee put on. He said they had a nice luncheon and a good turnout. He announced that there will be an Age Friendly Meeting next Tuesday at 5:30 pm at the Senior Center.

Councilor Weisner reported that he had a great time attending the Airport gathering, he looks forward to working with the board in the future.

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 2, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 125

Councilor Cowan stated that he hasn't had any committee meetings yet, but he is looking forward to those.

Councilor Whiting echoed comments and thanks to the Public Works Department and other staff for their work during the wind and rainstorm.

Councilor Gerry also echoed the great job our city staff did handling the storm. She also thanked our community and neighbors.

City Manager Crowell provided an update on storm recovery. He said that he has received feedback from tree crews and CMP that staff did a great job preparing and assessing sites for damage. He thanked the vendors and sponsors that helped make the New Year's Eve event happen. The anticipated attendance was over 5,000. Staff will provide Council with a report of the event with more accurate numbers.

IX. Executive Sessions – None

VIII. Adjournment

Motion was made by Councilor Cowan and seconded by Councilor Whiting to adjourn.

Unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

*The meeting adjourned without a motion to take proposed Ordinance 02-01022024 from the table.

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST _____

Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 16, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 126

Mayor Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. in the Council Chambers of Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the salute to the flag. All Councilors were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

I. Consent Items

1. Order 07-01162024*

Re-appointing Riley Bergeron to the Planning Board as a full member with a term expiration of 01/01/2027 as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

2. Order 08-01162024*

Appointing Timothy DeRoche to the Planning Board as a full member with a term expiration of 01/01/2027 as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

3. Order 09-01162024*

Appointing Ryan Smith to the Planning Board as a full member with a term expiration of 01/01/2027 as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

4. Order 10-01162024*

Appointing Paul Josephson to the Complete Streets Committee with a term expiration of 01/01/2027 as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

5. Order 11-01162024*

Appointing Barbara (Bonnie) Lounsbury to serve a 4-year term as Chair of the Registration Appeals Board as nominated by the Municipal Clerk.

Items #1, #2, and #3 were removed from the Consent Agenda and moved to New Business per the request of a member of the public (David Trask).

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry and seconded by Councilor Cowan for passage of the remaining two consent items.

Passage 7-0.

II. Minutes – January 2, 2024, Regular Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Milks to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2024, Regular Council Meeting.

Passage 7-0.

III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions - None

IV. Open Session –

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 16, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 127

Evan Cyr, 122 Granite Street, talked about transparency, action taken at a previous meeting to rescind Planning Board appointments, an item that was tabled at the previous meeting, and the appointment process.

Jeff Cote, 465 Merrow Road provided a handout to Councilors and discussed the poor road conditions of Merrow Road.

V. Unfinished Business - None

VI. New Business

Orders 07-01162024, 08-01162024, and 09-01162024 below were removed from the Consent Agenda and placed under New Business.

Order 07-01162024

Re-appointing Riley Bergeron to the Planning Board as a full member with a term expiration of 01/01/2027 as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting and seconded by Councilor Gerry for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

Order 08-01162024

Appointing Timothy DeRoche to the Planning Board as a full member with a term expiration of 01/01/2027 as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry and seconded by Councilor Milks for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

Order 09-01162024

Appointing Ryan Smith to the Planning Board as a full member with a term expiration of 01/01/2027 as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry and seconded by Councilor Whiting for passage.

Public comment – David Trask, 89 Partridge Lane, spoke regarding transparency and inclusivity, action taken by the council to rescind the Planning Board appointments that were voted on at the 12-4-2023 council meeting, and the nomination of Mr. Smith.

Passage 4-3 (Councilors Walker, Weisner, and Milks opposed).

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 16, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 128

1. Order 12-01162024

Approving the liquor license for Burnt Ends Barbeque, LLC. located at 120 Center Street. Public hearing and vote.

Motion was made by Councilor Milks and seconded by Councilor Walker for passage.

Public hearing - No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

2. Order 13-01162024

Amending Order 171-12182023, previously adopted by the City Council on 12/18/2023, correcting the language as outlined in Sec. 26-25 of our ordinance.

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting and seconded by Councilor Walker for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

3. Ordinance 03-01162024

Amending Article V, Division 2, Sections 2-430, 2-431, 2-433, 2-434, 2-435, and 2-441 of Auburn's Code of Ordinances and striking all language referencing the Regulatory Advisory Board. Public hearing and first reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry and seconded by Councilor Cowan for passage.

Public hearing – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-0-1 (Councilor Milks abstained).

4. Ordinance 04-01162024

Amending Article V, Division 2, Sections 2-430, 2-431, 2-432, 2-433, 2-434, and 2-435 of Auburn's Code of Ordinances and reinstating the Board of Assessment Review ordinance. Public hearing and first reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry and seconded by Councilor Whiting for passage.

Public hearing – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-0-1 (Councilor Milks abstained).

5. Ordinance 05-01162024

Amending Chapter 60, Article XV reinstating the Zoning Board of Appeals ordinance. Public hearing and first reading.

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 16, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 129

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Whiting for passage.

Public hearing – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-0-1 (Councilor Milks abstained).

6. Ordinance 06-01162024

Amending Sec. 2-466 of the Auburn Code of Ordinances correcting the Planning Board Compensation language. Public hearing and first reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Cowan and seconded by Councilor Whiting for passage.

Public hearing – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

7. Order 14-01162024

Directing the Sustainability & Natural Resource Management Board to create a solid waste and recycling plan to be presented to the City Council no later than August 19, 2024.

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry and seconded by Councilor Cowan for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

8. Order 15-01162024

Appointing Mayor Jeffrey Harmon to serve on the Maine Municipal Associations' Legislative Policy Committee with a term expiration of June 2024.

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting and seconded by Councilor Cowan for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

VII. Open Session -

Evan Cyr, 122 Granite Street spoke again regarding transparency and letting a tabled item die without providing an explanation, adding that there are residents that are in full support of the delay of the Lake Auburn Watershed zoning ordinances.

VIII. Reports

Mayor Harmon reported that the Auburn Water District Board of Trustees will be meeting tomorrow at the district office.

Councilor Whiting reported that the Auburn Nordic Association has plenty of snow, and he congratulated Miss Condit and Miss Garcia who both had top ten finishes in the Roy Varney Nordic Race.

Councilor Cowan reported that the Lewiston Auburn Transit Committee (LATC) will be meeting in February.

Councilor Platz provided an update on last School Committee meeting adding that more information can be found on the school department's website. He also gave a shout out to Public Works crews for their work with snow clean up.

City Manager Crowell reported that the 1st Legislative Policy Committee session for the Maine Municipal Association will be held later this week. He reported on the orientation process for city staff and announced that the City Council retreat is scheduled for February 3rd from 8:00 a.m. until noon at Auburn Hall, in the Community Room and is open to the public.

December 2023 Finance Report – Kelsey Earle

Motion was made by Councilor Milks and seconded by Councilor Weisner to accept the December Finance Report.

Passage 7-0.

IX. Executive Sessions –

Labor contract discussion, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D).

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting and seconded by Councilor Cowan to go into executive session.

Passage 6-0 (Councilor Walker was not in the room for the vote). Time in – 8:04 pm.

Council was declared out of executive session at 8:40 pm.

Economic development, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(C) where premature disclosure would prejudice the competitive or bargaining position of the City.

Motion was made by Councilor Weisner and seconded by Councilor Walker to go into executive session.

Passage 7-0. Time in – 8:40 pm.

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 16, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 131

Council was declared out of executive session at 9:17 pm.

VIII. Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm.

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST _____
Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 5, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 132

Mayor Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the salute to the flag. All Councilors were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

I. Consent Items

1. Order 16-02052024*

Confirming Mayor Harmon's re-appointment of Leonard Kimble to serve on the Ethics Panel with a term expiration of 11/01/2026.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks for passage of the one consent item.

Passage 7-0.

II. Minutes – January 16, 2024, Regular Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Platz to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2024, Regular Council meeting.

Passage 7-0.

III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions

- Presentation – Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and Credit Enhancement Agreement (CEA) – Glen Holmes
- Communication - Formation of a Mayor's Ad Hoc Committee on the Public Safety Building
- Communication - Formation of a Mayor's Ad Hoc Committee on Housing

IV. Open Session –

Joe Mailey, 82 Webster Street, provided written testimony regarding the new PAL Center to be constructed on Chestnut Street with questions and concerns. He also expressed concerns that notices were sent to building owners in that area and not to the tenants. He stated that he would like to see the City of Auburn enhance some of the mailings or at least discuss it.

Andy Titus, 24 Rubellite Lane, provided comments regarding the upcoming budget and three things that should be looked at. The tax levy, the fund balance, and salaries. He added that he would like to see any future surpluses of the fund balance to go toward the tax levy.

V. Unfinished Business

1. Ordinance 03-01162024

Amending Article V, Division 2, Sections 2-430, 2-431, 2-433, 2-434, 2-435, AND 2-441 of Auburn's Code of Ordinances and striking all language referencing the Regulatory Advisory Board. Second reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry, seconded by Councilor Cowan for passage.

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 5, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 133

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

2. Ordinance 04-01162024

Amending Article V, Division 2, Sections 2-430, 2-431, 2-432, 2-433, 2-434, and 2-435 of Auburn’s Code of Ordinances and reinstating the Board of Assessment Review ordinance. Second reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Cowan for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

3. Ordinance 06-01162024

Amending Sec. 2-466 of the Auburn Code of Ordinances correcting the Planning Board Compensation language. Second reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Platz, seconded by Councilor Cowan for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

VI. New Business

1. Order 17-02052024

Amending the Future Land Use Plan map in the Comprehensive Plan to designate City Assessor’s Parcel I.D.’s 174-004, 174-004-001 and 174-004-002 land use as Suburban Development District.

Motion was made by Councilor Cowan, seconded by Councilor Walker for passage.

Public hearing – No one from the public spoke.

Failed 1-6 (Councilors Gerry, Whiting, Cowan, Milks, Weisner, and Platz opposed).

2. Ordinance 07-02052024

Amending the zoning map of the City of Auburn entitled “City of Auburn, Zoning Map, dated May 16, 2016,” revised through its current date and revisions, as provided under Sec. 60-5 of the Zoning Ordinance by amending approximately 11 acres of Parcel ID 174-004-001, located on Riverside Drive, from the Agriculture and Resource Protection (AGRP) zoning district to the Low-Density Rural Residence (RR) zoning district. Public hearing and first reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Whiting for passage.

Public hearing – No one from the public spoke.

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting and seconded by Councilor Gerry to postpone this item indefinitely.

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 5, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 134

Passage 5-2 (Councilors Cowan and Walker opposed).

3. Ordinance 08-02052024

Amending the zoning map of the City of Auburn entitled “City of Auburn, Zoning Map, dated May 16, 2016,” revised through its current date and revisions, as provided under Sec. 60-5 of the Zoning Ordinance by amending City Assessor’s Parcel I.D.s 174-004, 174-004-001 and 174-004-002, located on Riverside Drive, from the Agriculture and Resource Protection (AGRP or AG) zoning district to the Low-Density Rural Residence or Rural Residence (RR) zoning district. Public hearing and first reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Gerry for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting and seconded by Councilor Gerry to postpone this item indefinitely.

Passage 6-1 (Councilor Walker opposed).

4. Order 18-02052024

Setting the date for a public hearing for a Dangerous Building located at 46 Fair Street.

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Walker for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

5. Order 19-02052024

Ratifying the Fire Department’s contract agreement (wages).

Motion was made by Councilor Weisner, seconded by Councilor Milks for passage.

Public comment - No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

6. Order 20-02052024

Authorizing the use of \$89,306.42 from the fund balance to support the 2024 Lewiston Auburn Warming Center to be located in the City of Lewiston.

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry, seconded by Councilor Whiting for passage.

Public comment – Andy Titus, 24 Rubellite Lane, said he had questions on how the break down of costs were determined, and if it is to be used as a warming center for the unhoused or an immigrant resource center.

Passage 7-0.

VII. Open Session -

Greg Whitney, President of the Drop-in Center thanked the council for their support on this project and provided some examples of what they have seen at the Drop-in Center when people stop in.

VIII. Reports (Mayor, City Council, City Manager)

Mayor Harmon reported that he and Mr. LaBonté had an opportunity to visit with the Auburn Lewiston Civil Air Patrol Squadron that uses the Airport noting that Auburn resident, Sean Hagerty was promoted to Cadet Lieutenant Colonel and received the General Eaker Award for which less than one percent of Civil Air Patrol Cadets in the country receive, adding that this is a significant honor. He congratulated him on his achievement. He stated that he also attended a coalition of organizations and citizens concerned with homelessness. There were over 80 attendees.

Councilor Platz reported on the upcoming School Committee and Facilities meetings to be held on Wednesday, and the School Finance Committee will be meeting next week. He also announced that a new Business Manager was named at the last School Committee meeting. Amanda Kocher was offered the Business Manager position. The current Business Manager is retiring.

Councilor Walker reported that he attended the Waste to Energy meeting and provided an update.

Councilor Weisner thanked the Public Works Department for their hard work with the recent storms and long hours they've been working.

Councilor Cowan reported that the Sustainability and Natural Resource Management Board (SNRB) met today to discuss a recycling plan which will come back to the Council at a later date. He also noted that the Lewiston Auburn Transit Committee (LATC) is meeting this Thursday.

Councilor Whiting recognized "Mac" McPeake who was in the "25 Years Ago Today" column in the Sun Journal, for his efforts reading to kids and he thanked him for his efforts.

Councilor Gerry stated that she would like to discuss the Grab and Go Program at a future Council meeting and if needed, she would like to see more money allocated toward it.

City Manager Crowell reported that Androscoggin County was included in the National Disaster Declaration and Monday April 1st is the deadline to file claims. He said he will ask FEMA to come to our next council meeting so they will be available for anyone who would like to meet with them. He said they are also located at the Lewiston Armory. He also announced that a celebration will be hosted at the Donald Gay Performing Arts Center at the new Edward Little High School called Common Threads 2024 which celebrates diverse fashion, food and music. Admission is free. More information will be coming out.

IX. Executive Session - Economic development, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(C) where premature disclosure would prejudice the competitive or bargaining position of the City.

This item was taken up during the workshop.

X. Adjournment

Motion was made by Councilor Weisner, seconded by Councilor Milks to adjourn.

Passage 7-0, and the meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm.

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST _____
Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk

IN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING FEBRUARY 12, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 137

Mayor Harmon called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers of Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the salute to the flag. All Councilors were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

I. New Business

1. Order 21-02122024

Amending Order 20-02052024, adopted by the City Council on 2/5/2024 authorizing the use of \$62,500.00 from the fund balance to cover no more than 50% of actual third-party expenses paid by the City of Lewiston to the operator of the 2024 Lewiston Auburn Warming Center to be located in the City of Lewiston.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

II. Adjournment

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks to adjourn the meeting. Passage 7-0, the meeting adjourned at 5:33pm.

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST _____
Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 20, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 138

Mayor Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the salute to the flag. Councilor Milks had an excused absence. All other Councilors were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

I. Consent Items

1. Order 22-02202024*

Appointing Philip Savignano to serve on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board with a term expiration of 10/01/2025 as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

2. Order 23-02202024*

Appointing Robert Hayes to serve as an associate member of the Planning Board with a term expiration of 01/01/2026 as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

3. Order 24-02202024*

Appointing Denis Bergeron to serve on the Sewer District Board of Trustees with a term expiration of 03/01/2025 as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

4. Order 25-02202024*

Re-appointing Thomas Moulin to serve on the Sewer District Board of Trustees with a term expiration of 03/01/2028 as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

5. Order 26-02202024*

Appointing Denis Bergeron to serve on the Water District Board of Trustees with a term expiration of 03/01/2028 as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry and seconded by Councilor Whiting for passage of the five consent items.

Passage 6-0.

I. Minutes

February 5, 2024 Regular Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Weisner to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2024 Regular Council meeting.

Passage 6-0.

February 12, 2024 Special Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Cowan to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2024 Special Council meeting.

Passage 6-0.

II. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions

- FEMA Presentation - Allen Renn, Samuel Harvey, and Brian Beard

- Innovation Designation – Jay Brenchick, Eric Cousens, Glen Holmes

III. Open Session – No one from the public spoke.

IV. Unfinished Business - None

V. New Business

1. Public Hearing - CDBG & HOME Consortium Action Plan for Program Year 2024

No one from the public spoke.

VII. Open Session -

Mark Butler, New Gloucester spoke regarding the letter he received from Auburn's Assessing Department.

Tammy Dumais, Cony Property Management commented and read a letter in response to the letter they received from Auburn's Assessing Department.

Donald Poisson, Chicoine Avenue spoke regarding concerns with the letter he received from Auburn's Assessing Department.

Dan Herrick, 470 Hatch Road reiterated the comments made by Donald Poisson and asked what initiated this letter.

Andy Titus, 24 Rubellite Lane also commented on the letters that went out, and on taxation, revaluations, and how we determine value.

VIII. Reports

Mayor Harmon reported that the Water District Board of Trustees will be meeting tomorrow at 4:00 pm at the Water District office on Court Street. He also announced that there will be meetings of the City Council every Monday in March as we work through the City Budget.

Councilor Gerry stated that she attended the PAL fundraiser at Burnt Ends Restaurant adding that it was a nice event, and the food was great.

Councilor Whiting offered congratulations to the Edward Little High School ski and swim teams.

Councilor Weisner announced that the 911 Committee will be meeting this Thursday at 8:00 am here at Auburn Hall. He also stated that our thoughts go out to the Androscoggin County Deputy Sheriff who recently sustained a gunshot wound while on duty.

Councilor Walker announced that a meeting (United New Auburn Association) will be held on February 27th at Rolly's Diner at 6:00 pm. City Manager Phil Crowell will be the guest speaker and will be discussing the upcoming budget. On February 29th the

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 20, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 140

Neighborhood Watch Committee will be meeting at 6:00 pm at the Sixth Street Congregational Church. Guest speaker will be Lt. Anthony Harrington (Auburn Police Department).

Councilor Platz reported on the School Department's Finance Committee meeting. He added that the school department is transitioning to the Munis software system; the Superintendent search is underway; and the School Committee budget process is underway.

Manager Crowell reported that the Ad hoc Committee's agendas and minutes will be posted on our website if anyone would like to follow the work that is being done. He also reported that we are still working on a new website platform. There may be some changes to the current website as we migrate to the new system.

IX. Executive Sessions

1. Economic development, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(C) where premature disclosure would prejudice the competitive or bargaining position of the City. Possible action to follow.

Motion was made by Councilor Cowan and seconded by Councilor Platz to enter into executive session.

Passage 5-0 (Councilor Walker was not in the room for the vote). Time 7:48 pm.

Council was declared out of executive session at 8:04 pm. No action was taken.

2. Economic development, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(C) where premature disclosure would prejudice the competitive or bargaining position of the City.

Motion was made by Councilor Cowan and seconded by Councilor Whiting to enter into executive session.

Passage 6-0. Time 8:04 pm.

Council was declared out of executive session at 8:56 pm.

- X. Adjournment** - Motion was made by Councilor Weisner, seconded by Councilor Cowan to adjourn.

Passage 6-0, and the meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST _____
Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MARCH 4, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 141

Mayor Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the salute to the flag. Councilor Milks had an excused absence. All other Councilors were present.

I. Consent Items

1. Order 27-03042024*

Re-appointing Robert Cavanagh, full member position, and Renee Cote, alternate member of the Registration Appeals Board as nominated by the Democratic party. Term expirations of March 1, 2027.

2. Order 28-03042024*

Appointing Warden's and Ward Clerks for the March 5, 2024, Presidential Primary Election.

3. Order 29-03042024*

Setting the date to hold a Special Election to fill the vacated School Committee At-large seat for Tuesday, July 9, 2024.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Cowan for passage of the three consent items.

Passage 6-0.

II. Minutes – February 20, 2024, Regular Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Whiting to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2024, Regular Council meeting.

Passage 6-0.

III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions

- Communication - FERC Response (Eric Cousens)

IV. Open Session – No one from the public spoke.

V. Unfinished Business

1. Ordinance 05-01162024

Amending Chapter 60, Article XV reinstating the Zoning Board of Appeals ordinance. Public hearing and Second reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry, seconded by Councilor Whiting for passage.

Public hearing – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-0. A roll call vote was taken.

VI. New Business

1. Order 30-03042024

Authorizing the City Manager to execute a purchase and sale agreement for property located at 150 Minot Avenue.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Cowan for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-0.

2. Order 31-03042024

Authorizing the execution of an amended Intermodal Facility lease.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Weisner for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-0.

3. Order 32-03042024

Authorizing the City Manager to execute a purchase and sale agreement for property located at 14 & 16 Newbury Street.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Whiting for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-0.

4. Resolve 01-03042024

Responding to the Planning Board request for information on the delayed applicability date for Ordinance 01-01022024.

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry, seconded by Councilor Walker for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-0.

5. Ordinance 07-03042024

Removing Appendix A from Auburn's Code of Ordinances. Public hearing and first reading.

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MARCH 4, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 143

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Walker for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-0. A roll call vote was taken.

6. Ordinance 08-03042024

Adopting language that was inadvertently removed from the code of ordinances (Chapter 52, Traffic and Vehicles, sections 52-238, and 52-239). Public hearing and first reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Cowan, seconded by Councilor Walker for passage.

Public hearing – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-0. A roll call vote was taken.

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Walker to suspend the rules to take up the second reading at tonight's meeting.

Passage 6-0.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Whiting to amend so the ordinance takes effect immediately upon Council action.

Passage 6-0.

Passage of Ordinance 08-03042024 as amended, 6-0. A roll call vote was taken.

7. Order 33-03042024

Directing staff to draft zoning map and text ordinance amendments to Chapter 60, Zoning and prepare the items for public hearing and a recommendation by the Auburn Planning Board pursuant to Chapter 60, Article XVII, Division 2, Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map.

Motion was made by Councilor Gerry, seconded by Councilor Weisner for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-0.

VII. Open Session – No one from the public spoke.

VIII. Reports

Mayor Harmon reported that he and Councilor Whiting participated in the Grand Opening of Michaels located at the Shaw's Plaza. He also reported that he participated in a "Read to Me" challenge at Sherwood Heights school.

Councilor Gerry reported on her recent visit to the shelter at the Calgary Church in Lewiston.

Councilor Whiting reported that the Auburn Public Library will hold an art auction from 10:00 am until noon on March 16th.

Councilor Cowan reported on his visit to the Pleasant Street drop-in-center adding that he is appreciative of the volunteers and encourages anyone involved with youth groups to consider volunteering to help.

Councilor Weisner reported on his visit to the shelter at the Calgary Church adding that it was great to see where the funds are going to support this facility.

Councilor Walker reported on the Waste to Energy meeting. He noted that they are having a problem with one of the big burners and the inner wall is falling apart, which is an expensive fix.

Councilor Platz provided an update on the School Committee meeting. Budget discussions have begun. He also reported that there is a vacancy for one of the At-large School Committee members and encouraged people to consider running for the position. He commented on the passing of Gus LeBlanc, an educator, and coach in the community who recently passed away, asking everyone to keep him in their thoughts.

City Manager Crowell reported that planning is underway for the Lobster Fest event, which will be held on May 11th. He announced that at the March 18th Council meeting there will be a seed giveaway. On March 7th the elected officials will be doing a joint meet and greet gathering with officials from the City of Lewiston at the Hilton Garden Inn at 5:30 pm. He reported on the Skate with a Cop event that was held last week at the Norway Savings Bank Arena, adding that there was a good turnout with over 100 kids participating.

IX. Executive Sessions – Personnel matter, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Sec. 405 (6)(A).

Motion was made by Councilor Weisner and seconded by Councilor Cowan to enter into executive session.

Passage 6-0. Time 7:46 pm.

Council was declared out of executive session at 8:18 pm.

X. Adjournment - Motion was made by Councilor Cowan, seconded by Councilor Weisner to adjourn.

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MARCH 4, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 145

Passage 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST _____
Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MARCH 18, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 146

Mayor Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. in the Council Chambers of Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the salute to the flag. Councilor Platz had an excused absence. All other Councilors were present.

I. Consent Items

1. Order 34-03182024*

Re-appointing Chris Carson to the Sustainability and Natural Resource Management Board as nominated by the Natural Products and Agriculture Working Group. Term expiration of 04/01/2027.

2. Order 35-03182024*

Appointing Steve Buchanan to the Board of Assessment as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Term expiration of 03/31/2027.

3. Order 36-03182024*

Appointing Gerald Samson to the Board of Assessment as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Term expiration of 03/31/2027.

4. Order 37-03182024*

Appointing Kathy Shaw to the Board of Assessment as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Term expiration of 03/31/2026.

5. Order 38-03182024*

Appointing Tina Eugley to the Age Friendly Community Committee as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Term expiration of 06/01/2027.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Gerry for passage of the five consent items.

Passage 6-0.

II. Minutes – March 4, 2024, Regular Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Whiting to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2024, Regular Council Meeting.

Passage 5-0-1 (Councilor Milks abstained).

III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions

- Disenfranchised Business Enterprise (DBE) Plan FFY24/25/26
- Use of City Property – 143 Hampshire Street Parking Area
- Communication - The Mayor's Ad-hoc Committee on Homelessness

IV. Open Session – No one from the public spoke.

V. Unfinished Business

1. Ordinance 07-03042024

Removing Appendix A from Auburn's Code of Ordinances. Second reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Weisner for passage.

Public comment – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-0. A roll call vote was taken.

VI. New Business

1. Order 39-03182024

Disposition of building located at 46 Fair Street under dangerous building statute. Public hearing for parties with interest in property.

Public hearing –

Paul Farnsworth, 208 Oak Hill Road, stated that the property has been unsafe for quite some time and has been open and exposed to the elements. He spoke in support of the demolition.

Marty Doherty, 194 Oak Hill Road said he was excited when someone took this project on because it is a beautiful property right by the water, but it's gone on for too long. He expressed various concerns and said he doesn't trust that the renovations will happen and recommends the demolition of the property.

Janice Conant, 199 Oak Hill Road, stated that as of today there is still trash and broken glass, debris, and nails on the outside which could have been cleaned up months ago. She stated that it is lucky that nobody has gotten hurt.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Milks for passage.

Motion was made by Councilor Milks, seconded by Councilor Whiting to postpone this item until the next regularly scheduled Council meeting (April 1).

Passage 4-2 (Councilor Walker and Gerry opposed).

2. Order 40-03182024

Adopting the City of Auburn's fee schedule.

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting and seconded by Councilor Walker for passage.

Passage 6-0.

VII. Open Session – No one from the public spoke.

VIII. Reports

Mayor Harmon reported that a Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission meeting was held earlier this week where WRS Environmental provided the results of their study regarding the phosphorus control in the Lake. Anyone who is interested can go the Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission website and search for the March 13th meeting. He also reported that the Ad hoc Committee on homelessness met last Thursday and will be meeting every two weeks for the next few months.

Councilor Whiting reported on the ice out on the Lake adding that it is the earliest ice out on the Lake that he can remember.

City Manager Crowell reported on two items that are coming up. The Conservation Working Group will be holding a webinar on Tuesday, March 19th at 6:30 pm, and the Natural Products and Agricultural Working Group will hold a Land Use Forum on Saturday, April 13th from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

IX. Executive Sessions – None.

X. Adjournment - Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks to adjourn.

Passage 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST _____
Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk

IN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MARCH 25, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 149

Mayor Harmon called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. in the Community Room of Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the salute to the flag. All Councilors were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

I. New Business

Resolve 02-03252024

Authorizing the submission of the Community Resilience Partnership application and designating the City Manager, or his designee to be the primary point of contact, to coordinate planning, implementation, and monitoring of energy and resilience projects.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Whiting for passage.

Passage 7-0.

II. Adjournment

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks to adjourn the meeting. Passage 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 5:37 pm.

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST _____
Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk