Special Meeting of the City Council
April 10, 2018
Agenda

5:30 P.M.  City Council Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance

A.  Order 35-04102018
    Approving a Special Municipal Referendum Election to be held on June 12, 2018 and to approve the ballot language as recommended by the Auburn School Department.

B.  Resolve 06-04102018
    Supporting a collaborative effort to achieve cost savings and (or) improved services.
City of Auburn
City Council Information Sheet

Council Workshop or Meeting Date: April 10, 2018

Author: Sue Clements-Dallaire

Subject: Calling a Special Municipal Referendum Election and approving the Referendum Question Language

Information: The School Department would like to include a referendum question on a ballot to voters at the June 12, 2018 Election. The proposed question being:

Do you approve Auburn School Department joining a regional service center with other area school districts in order to improve educational efficiencies and preserve state subsidy, as set forth in an application to be approved by the Commissioner of the Maine Department of Education?

City Budgetary Impacts: The Auburn School Committee recommends that Auburn School Department enter into a Regional Service Center with RSU 16 and MSAD 52. Under new state law, and per the Dept. of Education, “new opportunities are now available to provide support for regional efforts that will improve opportunity and access for Maine students by economizing on and maximizing educational services”.

If voters approve Auburn’s membership in the service center, Auburn School Department will receive an additional $98,467 in state subsidy in FY 19. It is anticipated that Auburn will receive approximately $200,000 in additional state subsidy for FY 20. Additionally, the center itself will receive direct funding of $97,200 in FY 19, which will be used to cover expenses of the service center, thereby benefiting its member districts.

Staff Recommended Action: Recommend passage which will allow voters to decide whether or not they would like the Auburn School Department to join a regional service center with other area school districts.

Previous Meetings and History:

City Manager Comments:

I concur with the recommendation. Signature: 

Attachments:
ORDERED, that the Auburn City Council hereby approves a Special Municipal Referendum Election to be held on June 12, 2018 with the question below as recommended by the Auburn School Department.

Do you approve Auburn School Department joining a regional service center with other area school districts in order to improve educational efficiencies and preserve state subsidy, as set forth in an application to be approved by the Commissioner of the Maine Department of Education?
City Council Meeting Date: April 10, 2018

Author: Peter Crichton, City Manager

Subject: Joint Resolution for City of Auburn and Auburn School Department

Information: The Mayor, School Committee Chairman, Superintendent of Schools, and City Manager have crafted a Joint Resolution in support of a collaborative effort to achieve cost savings and/or improved services. Following approval by the City Council and School Committee, the goal is to have a report from the City Manager and Superintendent of Schools presented no later than June 7th.

City Budgetary Impacts: None

Staff Recommended Action: Approve the Joint Resolution.

Previous Meetings and History: None

City Manager Comments: Recommend approval of the Resolution.

I concur with the recommendation. Signature: ____________________________

Attachment(s): Resolution
WHEREAS the City Council and School Committee recognize that one way to reduce the tax burden on our citizens is through realizing savings within both the Municipal and School budgets.

WHEREAS the City Council and School Committee realize that any cost savings must not diminish the quality of education or services delivered.

WHEREAS the City of Auburn’s Municipal Government and School Department have distinct powers and duties under the City Charter, the elected and appointed leaders of the City and School Department agree that it is important to save taxpayer dollars and (or) improve services whenever possible.

WHEREAS, the City Council and School Committee have certain assets both tangible and intangible, under separate Municipal and School Department control, it is agreed that it is in the best interests of the community for the City and School Department to collaborate to further economic growth, achieve savings for its citizens and businesses, and increase the quality of life and educational opportunities for all of our residents.

WHEREAS this Joint Resolution is consistent with State Law and the Auburn City Charter, which defines the roles and responsibilities of both the City’s elected bodies.

RESOLVED, that jointly the City Council and School Committee direct the Staff of both the City and the School Department, to consider, and when appropriate, develop a plan to collaborate in order to achieve savings and (or) improved services that are consistent with Maine law.

THEREFORE, the City Council and School Committee direct the City Manager and Superintendent of Schools to prepare and deliver their report to a joint City Council and School Committee workshop for consideration no later than June 7th.
IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLVE 06-04102018

Proposed Joint Resolution
City Council, School Committee

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