

Mayor LaBonté called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. in the Council Chambers of Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the salute to the flag. All Councilors were present.

**I. Consent Items**

**1. Order 01-01042016\***

Appointing Warden's and Ward Clerk's for 2016-2017.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Stone appointing Warden's and Ward Clerk's for 2016-2017. Passage 7-0.

**II. Minutes**

- December 21, 2015 Regular Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Burns accepting the minutes of the December 21, 2015 Council meeting. Passage 7-0.

**III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

- Proclamation – Human Trafficking Awareness Month – Jamie Ricker, Trish Grant and Chief Phil Crowell spoke on human trafficking.

**IV. Open Session** – Members of the public are invited to speak to the Council about any issue directly related to City business which is *not on this agenda*. No one from the public spoke.

**V. Unfinished Business** – None

**VI. New Business**

**1. Order 02-01042016**

Authorizing Issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds and a Tax Levy Therefor. First Reading, Public Hearing.

Motion was made by Councilor Titus and seconded by Councilor Walker to Authorize Issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds and a Tax Levy Therefor as presented.

Public comment – no one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0. A roll call vote was taken.

**2. Resolve 01-01042016**

Supporting Staffs pursuit of the Maine Fire Service Institute (MFSI) 2016 Facilities Grant.

Motion was made by Councilor Stone and Seconded by Councilor Walker supporting Staff's pursuit of the Maine Fire Service Institute (MFSI) 2016 Facilities Grant.  
Passage 7-0.

**3. Resolve 02-01042016**

Supporting Staff's pursuit of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG).

Motion was made by Councilor Burns and seconded by Councilor Walker supporting Staff's pursuit of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant.

Motion was made by Councilor Stone and seconded by Councilor Walker to amend the resolve to include the Auburn Police Department's ATV shall be offered for sale, if the price were acceptable to staff, and proceeds of the sale would go toward the funding of the local match for this grant. Passage 5-2 (Councilor Burns and Councilor Titus in opposition).

Public Comment – Joe Gray, Sopers Mill Road commented that he would like to see the City look at more options before spending money.

Passage of Resolve 02-01042016 as amended 6-1 (Councilor Titus in opposition).

**4. Ordinance 01-01042016**

Adopting the proposed amendment to Part II, Code of Ordinance, Chapter 2, Administration, Article II, Mayor and City Council, Division 2, Rules of Procedure, Section 2-58, Time and place of regular meetings. Public hearing and first reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Burns and seconded by Councilor Walker to adopt the proposed amendment to Part II, Code of Ordinance, Chapter 2, Administration, Article II, Mayor and City Council, Division 2, Rules of Procedure, Section 2-58, Time and place of regular meetings as presented and to dispense the requirement of readings on two separate days.

Public Hearing – no one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0. A roll call vote was taken.

**VII. Executive Session - none**

**VIII. Reports**

**Mayor LaBonté** – Provided an update on the committee structure piece he’s working on and hopes to have an electronic version to staff by tomorrow; dates have been selected for the Neighborhood Conversations starting this Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> and meeting for 4 consecutive Thursday’s - January 14<sup>th</sup> , January 21<sup>st</sup> , January 28<sup>th</sup> & and February 4<sup>th</sup> at various school locations.

**Councilor Young** - Thanked Mayor LaBonté for his appointment to a new committee.

**Councilor Pross** - Thanked Mayor LaBonté for his appointment as Mayor’s Representative to the School Committee. He attended a meeting in December and will be attending one this week. On January 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM there will be a meeting at the West Auburn Congregational Church to look at proposed changes in use to the Summer Street extension. The meeting coincides with the Police Department’s Neighborhood Watch Meeting.

**Councilor Stone** - No report.

**Councilor Titus** - No report.

**Councilor Gilbert** – No report.

**Councilor Walker** – Provided a reminder about the meeting to discuss the New Auburn Village Plan at the Boys and Girls Club this Thursday at 6:00 PM.

**Councilor Burns** – No report.

**City Manager** – Provided a reminder of the Airport Board meeting this Thursday at 5:00 PM to go over the annual budget; LAEGC will be meeting on Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 A.M. to discuss The Miracle Enterprise Project taking place here in Auburn; and January 29<sup>th</sup> the City of Auburn will be holding Winterfest.

**IX. Open Session** - Members of the public are invited to speak to the Council about any issue directly related to City business which is *not on this agenda*.

Joe Gray, Soper’s Mill Road – Inquired about the Committees purpose and asked if the meetings will be open to the public.

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**X. Adjournment**

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Stone to adjourn. All were in favor, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

A True Copy.

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_  
Alison F. Pepin, Deputy City Clerk

**IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 25, 2016 VOL. 34 PAGE 205**

Mayor LaBonté called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M. in the Council Chambers of Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the salute to the flag. All Councilors were present.

**I. Consent Items**

**1. Order 03-01252016\***

Confirming Chief Crowell's appointments of Constables with a firearm for the City of Auburn.

**2. Order 04-01252016\***

Confirming the appointments of Assistant City Manager, Denis D'Auteuil, to the Lewiston-Auburn Transit Committee with a three year term which will expire on January 1, 2019.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Burns to accept the consent items as presented. Passage 7-0.

**II. Minutes**

- January 4, 2016 Regular Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Stone and seconded by Councilor Walker to accept the minutes of the January 4, 2016 Regular Council Meeting as presented. Passage 7-0.

**III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

- Norway Savings Bank Arena Update - Mark Gosselin

**IV. Open Session** – Members of the public are invited to speak to the Council about any issue directly related to City business which is *not on this agenda*. No one from the public spoke.

**Joe Gray Sopers Mill Road** – commented on the Neighborhood Revitalization item that was presented during the workshop stating that he did not believe this initiative would get to the root of the problem noting that he feels that crime isn't actually the root of the problem in those neighborhoods – poverty is. He added that we should focus on the poverty issue. He said he wanted to talk about “an easy way to save nearly \$1 million dollars in the budget” which is through the 9-1-1 center, stating that we pay the County for services that we do not use. He suggested that we develop a policy giving them a deadline to figure out how they can support us with 9-1-1 service. He also suggested that we look at a way for fewer outside entities to control our destiny and to take control of what is inside of our city.

**Dan Herrick 470 Hatch Road** – commented on the snow removal that was done just a few days before we had 50° weather when the snow was melting, noting that this was costly for the tax payers of the City. He would like to know why they did it.

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He talked about the Firefighter Grant that was voted on by Council at the previous Council meeting stating that he hopes the grant doesn't get approved. He spoke about the way items get placed on an agenda and commented that he would like to see tax acquired properties put back on the agenda, as well as Agricultural Zoning.

### **V. Unfinished Business**

#### **1. Order 02-01042016**

Authorizing Issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds and a Tax Levy Therefor. Second reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Stone and seconded by Councilor Walker authorizing the issuance of general obligation refunding bonds and a tax levy therefor.

Public hearing – no one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0. A roll call vote was taken.

### **VI. New Business - None**

### **VII. Executive Session - None**

### **VIII. Reports**

**Mayor LaBonté** – noted that first Neighborhood Conversation meeting was held last Thursday. He said it was not a perfect format but it was helpful and he expects it will get better as they progress. He said he will not be able to attend the next one due to medical reasons, however Councilor Pross and the City Manager will help to facilitate that meeting in his absence. He mentioned that the Danville Junction Grange is up for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. He noted that next year, 2017, marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end or annexation of Danville. There may be opportunities to work with Danville residents, the Grange and the State Preservation office to find a way

to celebrate that milestone anniversary and to celebrate our history. He reported that Auburn has been awarded with a half million dollar grant for Hampshire Street in 2018. He provided documents for Councilors to review on the Council Committees. He would like the committees to kick off with a meeting in February. If all Council Committees are able to meet in February, he would like Council to meet on February 29<sup>th</sup> for Council goal setting and a work plan.

**Councilor Burns** – he thanked staff for taking the time on another Saturday for the Orientation tour which he found very informative.

**Councilor Walker** – his written reports are included in the agenda packet but he wanted to add that tomorrow evening at 6:00 PM at Rolly's Diner, the United New Auburn Association will meet. Guest speaker will be Mamie Ney, the Library Director. The Neighborhood Watch Group will be meeting at the St. Louis Church building at 6:30 on Thursday evening.

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**Councilor Gilbert** – also wanted to thank staff for the Saturday orientation tours.

**Councilor Titus** – agreed with Councilor Gilberts comments as well. He noted that he attended the Joint Charter Committee meeting. The draft charter is on line, and he encouraged residents to check it out. He said he is looking forward to more Neighborhood Conversation meetings. There hasn't been an AVCOG Executive Committee meeting yet – the next meeting is scheduled for February.

**Councilor Stone** – echoed the comments on the orientation tour, and said it was great. The Airport Board met, and a lot of issues are involved in putting together a workable budget. Wednesday morning he is meeting with Bonnie Hayes, Ward 2 School Committee representative to talk about Council and School relations. He will not be able to attend the East Auburn Community Conversation because he will be attending the Chamber of Commerce Annual meeting. He attended the Joint Charter Committee meeting along with Councilor Titus. He said he has a lot of questions and concerns. He urged everyone to take a long, hard look at the proposed by laws.

**Councilor Pross** – echoed the previous comments that were made on the Neighborhood Conversation meeting held last Thursday. The School Committee is deeply into union contract negotiations, which will be a major cost driver of the budget. He has encouraged School Committee members to reach out to their corresponding Councilors as he did to Councilors at the last Council meeting in order to open up the dialogue before we get into budget discussions. He noted that the School Committee did adopt a formal policy regarding the administration of medical marijuana to minor students in the schools which protects the city and schools from liability issues. He commented on a presentation that was given at the previous School Committee meeting. It was an in depth presentation on the proficiency based diploma implementation plan. He also reported that he let the school committee know about the restructuring effort of the Committees of the City Council in order to be more effective policy makers.

**Councilor Young** – he attended the meeting of the Great Falls TV advisory board, and the members thought it would be their last meeting but new members have not been

appointed yet. The by-laws have been drafted and will be presented to the new board for approval and eventually to the City Council. He also noted that the chapters have been added to Great Falls TV website after a transmission failure.

**City Manager Report** – City Manager, Howard Kroll thanked staff and Councilors that attended the Council Orientation workshop and tour on Saturday. He reminded everyone of the upcoming United New Auburn meeting at Rolly's on Thursday. He mentioned that the Joint Charter Commission consultant will be interviewing department heads. He echoed the positive feedback from the Neighborhood Conversations meeting that was held last week at Edward Little. He wanted to remind everyone that Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of this week is our annual Winter Festival. He thanked the Police, Code, and CDBG Department for their NRU (Neighborhood Revitalization Unit) presentation. He noted that Sabrina Best started today as the new Recreation Department Director, and Michael Chammings is the new Economic Development Director for the city.

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**Finance Director, Jill Eastman** – December 2015 Monthly Finance Report

Motion was made by Councilor Titus and seconded by Councilor Stone to accept and place on file the December 2015 monthly finance report. Passage 7-0.

**IX. Open Session** - Members of the public are invited to speak to the Council about any issue directly related to City business which is *not on this agenda*.

No one from the public spoke.

**X. Adjournment**

Motion was made by Councilor Stone and seconded by Councilor Burns to adjourn. All were in favor, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

A True Copy.

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk