

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 14th and meeting for 4 consecutive Thursday’s - January 14th , January 21st , January 28th & and February 4th 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 6th 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 8th at 7:30 A.M. to discuss The Miracle Enterprise Project taking place here in Auburn; and January 29th 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 150th 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 29th 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 Chamings 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

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 1, 2016 VOL. 34 PAGE 209

City Manager Kroll 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, Mayor LaBonté had an excused absence.

Motion was made by Councilor Stone seconded by Councilor Pross to nominate Councilor Young to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore in the absence of Mayor LaBonté. Passage 6-0 with Councilor Young abstaining.

II. Consent Items - None

II. Minutes

- January 25, 2015 Regular Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Titus and seconded by Councilor Burns accepting the minutes of the January 25, 2016 City Council meeting. Passage 6-0 (Councilor Young did not vote).

III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions

Auburn Police Department Badge Pinning Ceremony

New Hires: Patrol Officer Pedro “Efra” Becerra-Aviles, Patrol Officer Daniel Chabot, Patrol Officer James Davison, Patrol Officer Christopher Saunders.

Promotions: Sergeant Kristopher Bouchard, promoted from Corporal to Patrol Sergeant; Sergeant Matthew Dailey, promoted from Corporal to patrol Sergeant; Sergeant Jason Moore, promoted from Corporal/Detective to Patrol Sergeant; Sergeant Chad Syphers, promoted from Corporal/Detective to Patrol Sergeant.

Certification: Chaplain Roger Cousineau.

Council Communication – Business License Denial (Indeego Spa)

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.

Mamie Ney – Director of Auburn Public Library, invited everyone to attend a Lincoln Birthday Celebration at 3:00 PM on February 12th at the Library. The movie Lincoln will be featured. She also gave special thanks to Tizz Crowley, Councilor Walker, and City Manager Howard Kroll for their help in putting this event together.

City Manager, Howard Kroll, introduced Sabrina Best, our new Recreation and Special Event Director.

V. Unfinished Business – None

VI. New Business - None

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VII. Executive Session - Economic Development matter, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(C).

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Titus to enter into executive session to discuss an economic development matter, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(C). Passage 6-0 (Councilor Young did not vote). Time 7:36 PM.

Mayor Pro Tem Young declared Council out of executive session at 8:11 PM.

VIII. Reports

Councilor Burns – no new committee reports at this time, but he stated that he is looking forward to working with Councilors Stone and Pross on the policy committee (Economic and Community Development).

Councilor Walker - no new committee reports at this time, but he noted that the meeting for the Transportation committee is set up for either the 25th or 26th of February.

Councilor Gilbert - she will be attending three meetings this week but has nothing new to report for this month.

Councilor Young - no committee report at this time.

Councilor Titus – the Finance and Administration Committee will be meeting on February 18th, the Public Safety committee has not scheduled a date yet but should be confirmed soon. He noted that there was a meeting at ATRC having to do with the Downtown Transportation Center tomorrow.

Councilor Stone – he is looking forward to meeting on the 18th with the Finance & Administration Committee. He also noted that he met with his coordinating School Committee member, Bonnie Hayes, and it was a worth-while effort.

Councilor Pross – Last Thursday on the 28th the second Neighborhood Conversation meeting was held at the East Auburn Community School. He facilitated the meeting in the absence of the Mayor. He received positive feedback. The focus was on both the schools and city based projects. They also talked a bit about the East Auburn Community School and how it stands out in terms of its size overall as far as student population goes and how it measures out compared to other elementary schools. One thing in particular that interested him was that the poverty rate at that school is 41%. He encouraged Councilors again to reach out to their corresponding School Committee members, if they haven't already, to talk about issues before budget conversations begin. Lost valley had a wonderful night at the Winter Fest on Friday. He attended with his daughter and it was a fun time. He thanked city staff for doing a great job putting that together and for making it a success. He also thanked Lost Valley for hosting a wonderful night.

City Manager – thanked the Recreation Department staff for Winter Fest, in particular, Jasmine McLoughlin who really made it happen. All in all it was a great event. Norway Savings Bank Arena opened up for free skating. Tomorrow is a meeting at Androscoggin

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Valley Council of Governments, the LATC will be voting on taking proceeds money out of their reserve account to put toward the Downtown Transportation Center. Thursday at Walton School is the next Neighborhood Conversation meeting. He is expecting a good turnout. Also on Thursday the Airport Board meeting will be at 5PM to discuss the budget. He also mentioned the upcoming meetings with Joint Charter Commission. They've hired a firm out of Rochester, New York that will be interviewing, staff, department heads in particular, and the Mayors of both cities.

- 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 Burns and seconded by Councilor Walker to adjourn. All were in favor, the meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM.

A True Copy.

ATTEST _____
Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 22, 2016 VOL. 34 PAGE 212

Mayor LaBonté 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 Walker had an excused absence. All other Councilors were present.

III. Consent Items

3. Order 05-02222016*

Appointing Mary LaFontaine as the Chair of the Registration Appeals Board with a term expiration of 3/1/2020.

4. Order 06-02222016*

Accept and place on file the FY15 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

5. Order 07-02222016*

Accepting the transfer of \$2,050.10 forfeiture assets in U.S. currency to the Auburn Police Department (Superior Court Criminal Action Docket No. CV-15-745 Thomas Murphy).

6. Order 08-02222016*

Confirming Chief Crowell's appointment of Francis M. Carignan as Constable without firearm for the Auburn Police Department.

Motion was made by Councilor Titus to pull order 07-02222016 off the Consent agenda and add it under new business.

Motion was made by Councilor Burns and seconded by Councilor Pross to accept the remainder of the consent items as presented. Passage 6-0.

II. Minutes

- February 1, 2016 Regular Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Stone and seconded by Councilor Titus to accept the minutes of the February 1, 2016 Regular Council Meeting as presented. Passage 6-0.

III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions

- Fund Balance Analysis Presentation – Jill Eastman, Finance Director

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.

Larry Pelletier 129 Second Street – had questions regarding the school department’s fund balance and wondered how it tied into this discussion. The School Department’s fund balance is restricted. The total fund balance does include the School Department’s.

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Dan Herrick 470 Hatch Road – commented that the last time he came before council he had a concern about removing snow just before a warm up. He said he did receive a call from the Director of Public Works but went on to express his dissatisfaction with the answer he was given.

Joe Gray Sopers Mill Road – stated that he would like to see the screen in Council Chambers used more during meetings. He added that new information is presented at meetings after the agenda has already posted and he finds that to be very discouraging. In regards to the 3.5 million dollar deficit, he noted that it is less than 5% of the budget which he said “is not that big of a deal - it can be made up”. He said that he found it striking that in 2011 expenditures were \$70 million and in 2015 it was \$78 million. He said it is too much and “frivolous spending has to stop”.

V. Unfinished Business - None

VI. New Business

1. Ordinance 02-02222016

Adopting the amendments to Chapter 20, Article IV – Housing Code. Public hearing and first reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Pross and seconded by Councilor Stone to adopt the amendments to Chapter 20, Article IV – Housing Code, draft #2 as presented.

Public hearing:

Dan Herrick, 470 Hatch Road questioned who was going to police this. He commented that there are a lot of issues with this proposal and it should be looked at before it is passed.

Larry Pelletier, 129 Second Street stated that he purchased his home in 1982 and has been able to maintain it over the years. He added that it is now in serious need of paint or siding but they cannot afford it at this time. He asked what kind of assistance is out there for residents to be able to maintain their properties.

Joe Gray, Sopers Mill Road commented that the packet is not well organized. Draft 1 and Draft 2 should be separated by a page rather than noted at the bottom of the pages. He went on to comment that he agrees with Mr. Herrick and this ordinance would not be enforceable. He also questioned who determines what is considered “substantial” and what is not? He noted that the city should do something about structural problems, not paint.

Motion was made by Councilor Burns and seconded by Councilor Gilbert to strike section 12-226 on page 7 under Maintenance that states “free from substantial chipping and peeling paint” and refer this issue to Community and Economic Development Committee to further workshop with CDBG and Code Enforcement to come up with a plan regarding the paint issue.

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Passage of amendment 4-2 (Councilors Stone and Pross opposed).

Passage of Ordinance 02-02222016 (draft 2) as amended 6-0. A roll call vote was taken.

2. Ordinance 03-02222016

Adopting the amendments to Chapter 44, Article IV – Solid Waste. Public hearing and first reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Stone and seconded by Councilor Burns adopting the amendments to Chapter 44, Article IV – Solid Waste.

Public hearing:

Larry Pelletier stated that he applauds them for what they are trying to do but wondered how we would be able to enforce this ordinance.

Dan Herrick stated that he cannot see this happening. He had concerns with trash cans in the road, having to purchase trash cans for his tenants and finding a place to store them. He went on to say that he doesn't support this.

Passage 4-2 (Councilors Young and Titus opposed). A roll call vote was taken.

Order 07-02222016* (this item was removed from the Consent Agenda)

Accepting the transfer of \$2,050.10 forfeiture assets in U.S. currency to the Auburn Police Department (Superior Court Criminal Action Docket No. CV-15-745 Thomas Murphy).

Motion was made by Councilor Titus and seconded by Councilor Young to accept the transfer of \$2,050.10 forfeiture assets in U.S. currency to the Auburn Police

VII. Executive Session - None

VIII. Reports

Mayor's Report – he thanked Councilor Young for serving as Mayor Pro Tempore while he was out on medical leave and thanked the rest of the Council and staff for accommodating his slow movement while he was getting himself back to health. He highlighted some of the work that has been happening over the last week or so in Auburn which has brought in out of town money. We hosted the 44th Annual Lion's Tournament at the Norway Savings Bank Arena, and we were part of a nearly 60 game tournament between our facility and the Portland area which brought teams from all over New England and Canada. He stopped in to see how activities were going and found it impressive. There were visitors from Connecticut that went to the mall, spoke with a business there and it turned into a lead for a new advertiser. Also, Auburn played host at

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the Central Maine Community College to the Yankee Small College Conference Basketball Elite 8 tournament. He gave kudos to Dave Gonyea, the men's basketball coach and athletic director, at CMCC. They are starting a hockey program later this year and already have commitments from Quebec and as far away as Sweden. He added that good things are happening and progress is being made.

City Councilors' Reports

Councilor Stone noted that there was a father daughter dance at the Norway Savings Bank Arena. He said he thought it was an innovative use of the facility. The event was sold out.

Councilor Pross reported that Washburn School has a program called "Open Door Wednesdays" which is an opportunity to get families involved and interested the education of the children and in what is happening in the school. He commended Laura Shaw and Michelle Gagne for their good work in instituting this program. He also reported on the February 3rd School Committee meeting.

Councilor Young reported that he attended at both class A and B indoor track. The Portland Press Herald noted that Bates College was located in Auburn. He congratulated the ELHS girls indoor track team for winning the class A Indoor Track Championship. They will be recognized at an upcoming council meeting.

Councilor Titus attended the AVCOG executive committee meeting. They did get the word that Verso Paper will not be going out of business and it looks like they will actually be hiring. He said he also learned that there is a "Sports Commission" through AVCOG. He is hoping they can help to promote the Norway Savings Bank Arena.

Councilor Gilbert was invited to a senior's banquet at Pettengill Park through the Recreation Department. She thought the event was super, stating the Director knocked

herself out putting it together. She added that she is glad to see that Auburn is a senior friendly town.

Councilor Burns reported that the Board of Directors of the Lewiston-Auburn Economic Growth Council met February 5th. He was in attendance as the Council Rep, commenting that it was a good meeting. There was a brief discussion about Auburn Council's ongoing discussions with them regarding the scope of services. The Marketing Committee reported on their ongoing work in a community branding effort.

City Manager Report – He also spoke about the Father-Daughter dance that was held at the Norway Savings Bank Arena. He thanked Sabrina Best and Jasmine McLoughlin from the Recreation Department for their efforts putting the event together. The event was a success and sold out. He also spoke about the large tournaments that were held at the Norway Savings Bank Arena. He congratulated the St. Dom's Women's hockey team for winning their state championship, the ELHS boys alpine ski team for winning their state championship, and the ELHS girls indoor track team for winning their state championship, and the ELHS girls basketball team who won the Eastern Maine finals and will be going on to the state championship this weekend. He spoke about the Industrial

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Park grant. We are trying to get the grant closed out and get our money back. This will be scheduled for a future workshop.

Finance Director, Jill Eastman – January 2016 Monthly Finance Report

Motion was made by Councilor Stone and seconded by Councilor Pross to accept and place on file the January 2016 monthly finance report. Passage 6-0.

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*.

Joe Gray Sopers Mill Road, stated that for the last couple of years a number of residents have been trying to get city staff to “start with yes, as opposed with starting with no” commenting that tonight was a good example of that. He added that “we can't keep looking at the negative things and try to beat everyone in the city down”.

Mamie Anthoine Ney, Library Director wanted to remind everyone of their annual Indoor Farmers Market coming up over the weekend.

X. Adjournment

Motion was made by Councilor Gilbert and seconded by Councilor Burns to adjourn. All were in favor, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

A True Copy.

ATTEST _____
Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk

IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MARCH 7, 2016 VOL. 34 PAGE 217

Mayor LaBonté 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.

IV. Consent Items

1. Order 09-03072016*

Approving the temporary sign request for Park Avenue Elementary Schools April Festival.

2. Order 10-03072016*

Approving the temporary sign request for the Maine Home Show.

3. Order 11-03072016*

Approving the temporary sign request for the Kora Shrine Circus.

4. Order 12-03072016*

Approving the temporary sign request for the Auburn Business Association.

5. Order 13-03072016*

Accepting the transfer of \$1,857.00 forfeiture assets in U.S. currency to the Auburn Police Department (Superior Court Criminal Action Docket No. CR-15-309 Mustafa Abdi).

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Titus to accept the consent items as presented. Passage 6-0-1 (Councilor Burns was not present for this vote).

II. Minutes - February 22, 2016 Regular Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Pross accepting the minutes of the February 22, 2016 City Council meeting. Passage 7-0.

III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions

The Mayor gave recognition to the Edward Little High School Girls Indoor Track Team for their State Championship victory and to the Edward Little High School Boys Alpine Ski Team for also winning the State Championship. The coaches and members of the teams were present.

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.

Mary LaFontaine, Western Avenue – opened by commenting that she loves this community and chooses to live here and we are doing some really great things. She noted that she sat in the Ward 3 Council seat for 4 years and understands the work and understands that decisions that are made are not easy decisions to make and when decisions are made to fund or not fund a program or department, it comes with a cost. She asked that Councilors approach their decisions in a couple of ways. Approach decisions as a whole community,

seek out opinions, fact, data, and historical perspective. Don't listen to just one group. Consider the greater community and future of this community. The business community needs support from both cities. When she moved to L-A in 1988, she saw it as one community. She lives in Auburn, works in Lewiston, and shops, dines, and recreates in both. While many decisions they make are for Auburn specifically, many decisions will be about the greater community. She asked that they consider why decisions were made previously, and honor consistency and dependability. She spoke about property valuations and the work of the Growth Council. She commented that we now have a different leader at the Growth Council and there is good work going on. She spoke about the impact on businesses and the community if Auburn were to defund the Growth Council and asked that they honor the commitment that was made, do complete research, talk to a variety of people before a decision is made.

Alan Hahnel, Chairman of the Board of Lewiston Auburn Economic Growth Council. He wanted to express his concern that Auburn is looking to move backwards in terms of Economic Development in the Lewiston – Auburn Community. He mentioned the topic of rescinding the \$50,000 for the Rail Study. He added that there are rumors that Auburn wants to defund LAEGC, and the message is that Auburn does not care about Economic Development and that perception is not good for the community.

Lincoln Jeffers, Economic Development Director in Lewiston, stated that as a rule, he tries to not speak at Auburn Council meetings but with rumor that Auburn is looking to defund the Lewiston Auburn Economic Growth Council, it compelled him to speak. He spoke in support of the LAEGC and John Holden and the work that is being done. He noted that he agreed with the comments Mary LaFontaine made.

Stephanie Gelinias, Lewiston resident – stated that she believes this is not just an Auburn discussion, as the dialogue that is occurring has ramifications that go well beyond Auburn and Lewiston and beyond. The LA Metro Chamber released a strong support statement for LAEGC stating that they should be allowed to continue doing the important work they are doing. She noted that LAEGC was the first resource she accessed when she started her business years ago and that is where she refers others. She added that now is not the time to withdraw from LAEGC and now is the time for Lewiston and Auburn to support joint efforts.

Gabrielle Russell, a downtown resident of Lewiston and owns a building on Lisbon Street - noted that she grew up in Auburn and works in Auburn. She expressed her strong support for the work that LAEGC is doing now. She reached out to John Holden when she was looking for a tenant for her Lisbon Street building. He responded right away and within 2 weeks she had a lease agreement. She added that she also worked with LAEGC to get a small business loan and noted that she couldn't have made it happen without John Holden and the staff at LAEGC.

Carl Shalene, commented that we need to understand that what is good for Lewiston is good for Auburn and what is good for Auburn is good for Lewiston. He spoke in support of LAEGC adding that Lewiston and Auburn are better together and we need the Growth Council.

V. Unfinished Business

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1. Ordinance 02-02222016

Adopting the amendments to Chapter 20-Housing Code. Public hearing and second reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Titus and seconded by Councilor Walker to adopt the amendments to Chapter 20-Housing Code which would include the amendments made at the 2/22/2016 Council meeting.

Public hearing – no one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-1 (Councilor Pross opposed). A roll call vote was taken.

2. Ordinance 03-02222016

Adopting the amendments to Chapter 44 – Solid Waste. Public hearing and second reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Titus and seconded by Councilor Gilbert to adopt the amendments to Chapter 44 – Solid Waste.

Public hearing:

Larry Pelletier, 129 Second Street asked who will be responsible for enforcing this.

A gentleman that did not identify himself spoke asking who is responsible if tenants do not put their trash out in the trash cans and he went on to talk about enforcement of this proposed ordinance amendment.

Dan Herrick, 470 Hatch Road – asked where this proposal originated adding that he has never heard a complaint about trash strewn across city streets. He also asked who would be responsible for enforcing this.

Motion failed 3-4 (Councilors Walker, Young, Stone, and Titus opposed). A roll call vote was taken.

VI. New Business

3. Ordinance 04-03072016

Adopting amendments for a Form Based Code and Zoning Map for portions of Downtown Auburn and New Auburn. The Form Based Code Text Amendment will replace Article IV, Division 14, Central Business District, Sec. 60-546, amend related sections of the Zoning Ordinance and create 5 new Form Based Code Districts (T-4.1, T-4.2, T-5.1, T-5.2 and T-6). Public hearing and first reading.

The notification on this hearing was sent to property owners within the affected area and 100 feet around the area affected but it was determined afterwards that the ordinance states that notification has to go out to owners within and 500 feet around the affected area. Because of that, this item will be postponed and will be going before the

Planning Board for a further public hearing. An update on this item was provided but action will be postponed until after giving full and proper notice.

Public comment – Chris Branch of Sebago Technics, was representing the Hilton Garden. He spoke in support of the Form Based Code and feels that the area that the Hilton Garden is in would be better fit by being in the T-6 instead of the T-5.2 classification.

Adam Lee, Main St – stated that he commends highly the Form Based Code and encouraged expansion on the T-6 classification in the downtown area.

4. Order 14-03072016

Appointing Board and Committee members as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Council may enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A).

Motion was made by Councilor Burns and seconded by Councilor Walker to appoint Board and Committee members as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Passage 7-0.

5. Order 15-03072016

Approving to discontinue the use of Fund Balance to balance the General Fund budget over the next 2 fiscal years, FY 17 and FY 18 as recommended by the Finance Director.

Motion was made by Councilor Titus and seconded by Councilor Stone to approve to discontinue the use of Fund Balance to balance the General Fund budget over the next 2 fiscal years, FY17 and FY18 as recommended by the Finance Director.

Public comment – no one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

VII. Executive Session

Discussion on a poverty abatement case # 2879-16 pursuant to (36 M.R.S.A § 841) with possible action to follow.

Motion was made by Councilor Burns and seconded by Councilor Titus to enter into executive session to discuss a poverty abatement, pursuant to (36 M.R.S.A § 841) with possible action to follow. Passage 7-0, time in 8:12 PM.

Council was declared out of executive session at 8:32 PM.

Motion was made by Councilor Burns and seconded by Councilor Walker to approve the poverty abatement, case #2879-16 in the amount of \$456.00. Passage 7-0.

Discussion on a real estate matter, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(C).

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Motion was made by Councilor Pross and seconded by Councilor Burns to enter into executive session to discuss a real estate matter, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(C). Passage 7-0, time in 8:34 PM.

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

VIII. Reports

Mayor's Report – Mayor LaBonte wanted to clarify a comment that was made during open session that Auburn is viewed poorly in regards to economic and business development. He stated that nothing is further from the truth. He spends a lot of time interacting and working with businesses and investors in the State. Auburn and Lewiston-Auburn are seen as a place for opportunity. People see Auburn as a place that is wide open for business and there is a lot in the pipeline.

Councilor Young – reported that last week was a busy week. One meeting cancelled, and one gave just a couple hours notice of another meeting. He was unable to attend due to such short notice. He noted that last weekend he visited two out of three caucuses. He was a guest at one and participated at the other. Pictures can be found on Flickr.

Councilor Walker - working with Tizz Crowley on the Denny Sullivan celebration. He encouraged people to check out the City website and Great Falls TV to find out what is happening.

City Manager – noted that next Monday will be first CIP presentation. It will be in draft form, and he is looking for feedback from Council and the public. He also noted that the Council Committee meetings are ongoing.

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 Walker and seconded by Councilor Stone to adjourn. All were in favor, the meeting adjourned at 9:23 PM.

A True Copy.

ATTEST _____
Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk

Mayor LaBonté called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. in the Council Chambers of Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the salute to the flag. All Councilors were present.

V. Consent Items

7. Order 17-03212016*

Amending Order 14-03072016 which was previously adopted at the 3/7/2016 City Council meeting to reflect the corrected term expiration date for the re-appointment of Robert Bowyer (Planning Board) to 1/1/2019 (previously adopted as 10/1/2019 in error).

8. Order 18-03212016*

Confirming Chief Crowell's appointment of Randall Burnham as Constable without firearm for the Auburn Police Department.

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

II. Minutes

- March 7, 2016 Regular Council Meeting

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

III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions

The Mayor provided recognition to the St. Dominic's Academy Girls Hockey Team for winning the State Championship.

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

6. Resolve 03-03212016

Supporting staffs pursuit of the SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) Grant.

Motion was made by Councilor Titus and seconded by Councilor Burns supporting staffs pursuit of the SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) Grant.

Public comment – no one from the public spoke.

Passage 6-1 (Councilor Titus opposed).

9. Ordinance 04-03212016

Amending the ordinance regarding parking standards for junk cars. Public hearing and first reading.

Motion was made by Councilor Burns and seconded by Councilor Walker to amend the ordinance regarding parking standards for junk cars as presented.

Public hearing – Joe Gray, Sopers Mill Road, commented that some residents in outlying areas have unregistered, uninspected vehicles that are used as plow trucks or for personal use on their own property and will never be placed on the road. He said that he has a truck on his property that has a refrigerated rear end that he leaves parked in his yard. The truck doesn't move but he uses the refrigeration portion as a cool room. He added that it is serving a good purpose and not doing any harm and went on to question "why would you want to take that away?" He stated that these changes target certain people.

Passage 5-2 (Councilors Walker and Titus opposed). A roll call vote was taken.

VII. Executive Session - None

VIII. Reports

Mayor's Report – The Mayor reported that he had an opportunity to sit with the management team and staff from Planning and Development, Public Services and the Maine Department of Transportation, to talk about a number of infrastructure projects. They discussed the New Auburn redevelopment efforts, and the Lown Bridge investment the State plans to make and other ways the State might be able to invest with us to implement those neighborhood recommendations. There are good ideas on the table to bring more State money to Auburn. There was significant discussion about Miracle Enterprises and the infrastructure needs on Minot Avenue. He added that staff did an excellent job laying out the case and securing MDOT's quick response to doing what we need to do to pursue State construction money and federal resources. He wanted to publicly give kudos to staff for their work in moving these things forward.

City Councilors' Reports

Councilor Burns – reported on the last meeting of the Council Committee (Community and Economic Development) which was held on March 17th. He stated that they covered a lot of ground, and will be bringing forth four items to move forward to the Council at large. They discussed a proposal from Derek Boulanger putting out an RFP for a solarized power project for Auburn to pool their resources to get discounted solar panels for residential use with the City acting as the facilitator of that process, they went over the draft of the CDBG budget and they opted to move the draft forward to the entire Council for a workshop. They also voted to move forward on the Adaptive Re-Use Ordinance that has been proposed which allows for the re-use of using historical
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buildings, and finally, they discussed the on the ongoing issue for the Transportation Center sewer system. There was also a lengthy discussion with John Holden (President of LAEGC) to discuss their draft marketing plan and the relationship between Council and LAEGC.

Councilor Walker – reported that on March 24th all Neighborhood Watch groups will be meeting at Sherwood Heights School at 6:30PM, on March 29th the United New Auburn Association will be meeting at Rolly’s Diner at 6:00 PM. He added that the Council Committee he is on (Transportation and Environment) is moving forward and making progress with the 9-1-1 mission that they’ve taken on. They are meeting with the County Sheriff. They will be meeting again on the 24th of March at 4:00 PM at Auburn Hall.

Councilor Gilbert - no report

Councilor Titus - no report

Councilor Stone – reported on the Community and Economic Development Council Committee discussion with John Holden regarding LAEGC. He has been getting phone calls, emails, and requests for meetings from many people. He said it was a productive discussion which can be seen on the Great Falls TV website and anyone interested in seeing the discussion should tune in. He said there was a very in depth marketing plan presented by Mr. Holden but the one thing he did not hear was any mention on what LAEGC commits to do in terms of adding dollars to Auburn’s taxable valuation. He said in the future, if we are to continue with LAEGC we’ve got to have some sort of a written commitment from them to generate real taxable dollars.

Councilor Pross – also reported on the discussion with John Holden regarding LAEGC. He also encouraged members of the Community interested in the topic to go to the Great Falls TV website to review the recording of the March 17th meeting. He commented that LAEGC is acting as the agent, by contract, with the Auburn Business Development Corporation with regard to the management of the Industrial Park and has been doing so since the Industrial Park was initially acquired. He said it appears they are wearing two hats; one is working for ABDC and the other for the taxpayers of Auburn to promote economic development. He went on to say that we’ve lost tax revenues and the City of Auburn has suffered as a result of LAEGC’s failure to record a sub division development plan for the Industrial Park (from 2006 to date). Lots are being marketed in that sub-division without a recorded subdivision plan. He added that it calls into question not only state law which prevents marketing a subdivision without a recorded subdivision plan, but it has also cost the taxpayers of Auburn who have taken a large portion of the liability of funding the development over the years for not having those lots individually assessed. He said it raises the question; who the Growth Council is working for in this case - the taxpayers of Auburn or the Auburn Business Development Corporation?

He also provided a School Committee update. At the last School Committee meeting they spent a lot of time talking about the proposed budget scenarios, the Superintendents budget which would be a 4.8% increase from the previous year, they looked at what that

would look like if they stuck to the CPIU and what it would mean in the budget. It would be a reduction of 1.5 million dollars and it would be taking a huge step backwards. That doesn't take into account the revenue they would be losing from the State side for not meeting the State Essential Program and Services (EPS) requirements. They also looked at a budget meeting the EPS which would be an increase of 3% on the school side which would allow them to continue to draw down the State funds they are relying on for revenues. He also sits on the Finance Committee of the School Department and they've been looking closely at cost drivers and ways to gain efficiencies in the future.

Councilor Young – reported on the Transportation and Environmental Council Committee. They were able to move forward on the Woodlot Management Ordinance proposal which will be placed on a future Council agenda. The Committee was not ready to make a recommendation on the Solid Waste and Recycling contract item yet. The Recreation and Special Events Committee item was crossed off the list. The Council Committee has decided to continue with the current ordinance that is in place rather than trying to re-invent the wheel. The Summer Street extension reconstruction project is shovel ready has already been approved by council. There was an update on Route 4 and were told they are still waiting for bids to go out.

City Manager Report – he called Eric Cousens up to provide an update on the Downtown Transportation Center Sewer issues. While installing the water line last fall, they found that they cannot connect into the Esplanade's line as they originally thought because of issues with that line. Another option was a continuation of the line to another manhole closer to the Hilton but there is a 24 inch water main owned by the City of Lewiston which is directly in that path. They looked at gravity flow to Turner Street and found that they would have to go approximately 19 feet deep to achieve gravity flow. After doing some test borings they found that there is ledge which would be very cost prohibitive. The Planning Department has been working with the Sewer District to come up with a pump solution. Three options were discussed. One is a pump system that would serve the future development-the Transportation Center and mainly two other lots in the development, another is a pump station which is much smaller and would be privately owned by the Transportation Center and serves only the Transportation Center, and the 3rd option would be to install a pump station serving only the Transportation Center so a septic system might be an option, however the City would be spending funds on something that does not serve the rest of the development. The pump station that would be publicly owned and taken over by the Sewer District would be able to service the larger development but they would charge the city a fee of \$50,000 on top of the construction cost to accept that pump station. A policy was set several years ago by the Sewer Board not to accept any new pump stations, however an exception was made a few years ago with the Town of Poland who was charged a \$50,000 fee, so precedence has been set in order to accept a new pump station. The Sewerage District is here to serve the sewer customers in the City of Auburn and staff will be asking them to reconsider that and treat Auburn differently.

Finance Director, Jill Eastman – February 2016 Monthly Finance Report

Motion was made by Councilor Stone and seconded by Councilor Pross to accept and place on file the February 2016 monthly finance report. Passage 7-0.

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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, Sopers Mill Road wanted to thank the Councilors for bringing to light the LAEGC issues discussed earlier. He also commented on the schools needing money, yet Council keeps growing government on the City side. He added that they have to stop the spending. He commented on the SAFER grant, stating it is not just \$22,000 for equipment. He asked if anyone has read the SAFER agreement noting that there were so many questions that still had to be answered. He asked if the Summer Street extension project could be held off for another year. He also commented on Code Enforcement stating that Council keeps giving Code Enforcement more authority. He said he knows of at least 4 different people who have tried starting or expanding their businesses and Code Enforcement is stopping them by not allowing them to do certain things. He said he has contacted city staff and administration but he has no patients and wants to “see it ended now”.

X. Adjournment

Motion was made by Councilor Burns and seconded by Councilor Walker to adjourn. All were in favor, the meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

A True Copy.

ATTEST _____
Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk