

Auburn Housing Authority was incorporated in 1966 and built its first housing development, the Lake Auburn Towne House, in 1969. We now have 11 developments in Auburn and Mechanic Falls with a total of 522 apartments and also operate the federally funded Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. This program allows eligible low income households to rent private market apartments that are not “project-based.” Currently, this program has 538 vouchers under contract because of the federal budget sequester but is authorized to issue up to 590 vouchers provided that full federal funding is restored. Auburn Housing Authority’s mission is to provide decent, safe and affordable housing in good neighborhoods for lower income persons. The Authority shall strive to create opportunities for residents’ self-sufficiency and economic independence, and shall assure fiscal integrity by all program participants.

Pursuant to state law, we have a seven member board, two of whom must be residents of subsidized or assisted housing. Over the years, we have had a broad spectrum of commissioners, representing many interests, including, but not limited to: accountants, insurance agents, teachers, school administrators, social service agency employees, government employees, small business owners, retirees and others.

Auburn Housing Authority typically meets at 7:30 a.m. on the last Wednesday of each month except July, usually for between one hour and an hour and a half. Occasionally there may be a special meeting in addition to the regular meeting schedule to deal with real estate acquisition or something requiring immediate action. Packets of information are usually mailed out the prior Thursday, giving commissioners a few days to review the material, which includes various departmental reports, statistical information, and financial reports, as well as materials pertaining to agenda items. The vast majority of business is conducted in regular (public) session, with occasional exceptions made for confidential discussions allowed under state law held in executive session (pursuant to state law).

Important skills of commissioners include: ability to attend and participate in meetings; willingness to read & interpret sometimes lengthy board packets in advance of meetings; ability to review and interpret sometimes conflicting information to develop policy in cooperation with other board members; maintain a reasonable level of interest in the functions of the authority without interfering in the day to day operations of the agency, which are managed by the executive director and management staff.

Below is a list of our developments:

Lake Auburn Towne House, 74 Lake Auburn Ave. (Elderly) Public Housing  
Family Development, Valerie Circle, Broadview Ave. vicinity (Family) Public Housing  
Barker Mill Arms, 143 Mill Street (Elderly) Section 8 Substantial Rehab  
Merrill Estates, Spring Street, Mechanic Falls (Elderly) Public Housing  
Lincoln School Apts., 56 Sixth Street (Family) Public Housing  
New Auburn Place, 11-15 S. Main St. (Mixed) Market rate owned by ARDC, a 501c3 affiliate  
Auburn Esplanade, 20 Great Falls Plaza (Elderly) Section 8 New Construction  
Broadview Acres, 456 Broad Street (Family) Public Housing  
Vincent Square Apartments, 80 Mill Street (Elderly) LIHTC\*, Privately Owned/Managed by Auburn Housing Authority  
Roak Block, 156 Main Street, (Elderly) Section 8 Substantial Rehab (also includes commercial spaces)  
Webster School Apts., 95 Hampshire Street, (Mixed) LIHTC\*, Privately Owned/Managed by Auburn Housing Authority

\*LIHTC stands for Low Income Housing Tax Credit, which is affordable, but not subsidized housing

