

## 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. 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

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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.

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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 –**

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).

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**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.

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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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

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

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

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**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.

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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.

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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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

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**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.

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**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 27<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> the

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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 11<sup>th</sup>. He announced that at the March 18<sup>th</sup> Council meeting there will be a seed giveaway. On March 7<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm, and the Natural Products and Agricultural Working Group will hold a Land Use Forum on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 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

## IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING APRIL 1, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 150

Mayor Harmon 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 41-04012024\*

Setting the date for the School Budget Validation Referendum Election (June 11, 2024).

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

Passage 7-0.

### II. Minutes

#### March 18, 2024, Regular Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Cowan to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2024, Regular Council Meeting.

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

#### March 25, 2024, Special Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Whiting to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2024, Special Council Meeting.

Passage 7-0.

### III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions

- Recognition - Camden Goddard - 2024 MRPA Citizen Volunteer Award Recipient
- Communication – Request for Lake Stewards of Maine funding from the City of Auburn for FY2024

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

### V. Unfinished Business

#### 1. Ordinance 01-01022024

Amending Chapter 60 of the zoning ordinance to include Effective Date and Applicability Date of Ordinance 26-11202023. Public hearing and second reading.

Public hearing – No one from the public spoke.

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

Failed 3-4 (Councilors Milks, Weisner, Walker, and Gerry opposed). A roll call vote was taken.

#### 2. Order 39-03182024

**IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING APRIL 1, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 151**

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

This item was postponed during the last regular Council meeting (3/18/2024).

Motion was made by Councilor Milks, seconded by Councilor Walker to reopen the public hearing.

Passage 7-0.

Martin Doherty, 194 Oak Hill Road stated that he is disappointed, and he thought this would be a clearer effort, adding that it seems like the same story over and over, and over again. He does not agree with moving forward with the renovation of this property. He said he thinks demolition is the way to go.

Motion was made by Councilor Cowan, seconded by Councilor Walker to amend Exhibit A, Findings of Fact to conform with the edits shown in the agenda packet from pages 37-40.

Passage 7-0.

Motion was made by Councilor Weisner, seconded by Councilor Milks to amend the order of demolition to conform with the edited order of demolition provided at the start of the meeting.

Passage 7-0.

Passage of the main motion as amended, 7-0.

Councilor Platz was not present during the 3/18/2024 meeting. However, for the record, he confirmed that he has reviewed the materials and the testimony from that meeting in addition to the minutes of that meeting.

**VI. New Business**

**1. Order 42-04012024**

Authorizing the City Clerk to consolidate to one polling place for the July 9, 2024, Special Municipal Election. Public hearing and vote.

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

Public hearing – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

**2. Order 43-04012024**

Adopting the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

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

Passage 7-0.

**3. Order 44-04012024**

Approving the Mass Gathering for the Auburn Lobster Festival event scheduled for Saturday, May 11, 2024. Public hearing and vote.

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

Public hearing – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

**4. Order 45-04012024**

Approving the temporary liquor license for an Incorporated Civic Organization for the Lobster Festival event scheduled for Saturday, May 11, 2024. Public hearing and vote.

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

Public hearing – No one from the public spoke.

Passage 7-0.

**5. Order 46-04012024**

Approving the Annual Report to the Maine State Housing Authority for Tax Year 4/1/2023-3/31/2024.

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

Passage 7-0.

**6. Resolve 03-04012024**

Adopting the Androscoggin County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan 2024.

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

Passage 7-0.

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

**VIII. Reports**

Mayor's Harmon reported on the Burnt Ends BBQ ribbon cutting, the Civic Leadership seminar at USM (Portland campus), and the Vietnam Veteran Memorial service that was held last Friday in Lewiston.

Councilor Cowan reported on the Mayor's Ad hoc Committee on Homelessness adding that their next meeting is on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April at the Senior Center. He also reported that the next LATC meeting is also scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup>.

**IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING APRIL 1, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 153**

Councilor Milks reported on the Ad hoc Water Committee meeting he attended and provided some of the results from the WRS study on phosphorus levels.

Councilor Platz thanked the School Committee for their budget presentation during the workshop. He reported that he attended the Brown Tail Moth seminar that was held at the Senior Community Center stating it was very informative, and he reported that the Conservation Working Group put out a nice YouTube video on backyard pollinators.

City Manager Crowell announced that there will be a Land Use Forum on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Senior Community Center. He also noted that there will be an additional budget workshop scheduled for Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>.

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

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Cowan to enter into executive session.

Passage 7-0. Time 7:52 pm.

Council was declared out of executive session at 8:22 pm.

**X. Adjournment**

Motion was made by Councilor Cowan, seconded by Councilor Gerry to adjourn. Unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

**A TRUE COPY**

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



**IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING APRIL 16, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 154**

Mayor Harmon 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.

**I. Consent Items**

**1. Order 47-04162024\***

Appointing Election Clerks to serve a two-year term (May 1, 2024, through April 30, 2026).

**2. Order 48-04162024\***

Authorizing the City Clerk to waive the \$60 Temporary Food Service licensing fee for the Auburn Exchange Club for the Lobster Festival Event scheduled to be held on May 11, 2024.

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Milks for passage of the two consent items.

Passage 7-0.

**II. Minutes – April 1, 2024, Regular Council Meeting**

Motion was made by Councilor Walker and seconded by Councilor Platz to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2024, Regular Council Meeting.

Passage 7-0.

**III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

- Memo to City Council from the Planning and Permitting Director
- Proclamation in recognition of City Clerk Sue Clements-Dallaire who will be retiring on May 3, 2024.

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

**V. Unfinished Business - None**

**VI. New Business**

**1. Executive Session - Discussion on a poverty abatement case #PA 2024-001 pursuant to (36 M.R.S.A § 841) with possible action to follow (Order 49-04162024).**

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks to enter executive session pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 841.

Passage 7-0, time in 7:12 pm.

Council was declared out of executive session at 7:24 pm.

**IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING APRIL 16, 2024, VOL. 37 PAGE 155**

Motion was made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Walker approving the poverty abatement, case # PA 2024-001 in the amount of \$2,842.61. This is Order 49-04162024.

Passage 7-0.

**2. Order 50-04162024**

Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Carroll Materials LLC and direct payments made under the lease into the Intermodal Facility Special Revenue Account.

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

Passage 7-0.

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

**VIII. Reports**

Councilor Gerry wanted to speak on the record regarding her vote at the last Council meeting regarding development on the Gracelawn property.

Councilor Whiting commented that the City of Auburn has had excellent City Clerks over the years, and he has personally known Leroy Linnell, Mary Lou Magno, Sue Clements-Dallaire, adding that they were all outstanding city clerks, and he is optimistic that our new City Clerk (Emily Carrington) will be as well.

Councilor Cowan reported that another meeting was held with the ad hoc committee on homelessness and if anyone is interested in hearing more about that, please let him know.

Councilor Weisner thanked the Public Works crew for the ride along they took him on and he thanked the Public Works staff for their hard work during the last storm.

Councilor Walker commented on Gracelawn zoning item adding that the city has been working hard on what can go there and the tests that have been done have been positive and he stated that moving forward we will likely see that whole area developed.

Councilor Platz congratulated Dr. Susan Dorris, who will be the new Superintendent of the Auburn School Department. He provided a budget update from the last School Committee meeting adding that the School Committee will be voting at the budget at the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

City Manager Crowell took a moment to introduce Auburn's new City Clerk, Emily Carrington. He announced that April 20<sup>th</sup> at 10pm the Conservation Working Group will hold a Clean-up event and people can sign up on our website. Tomorrow at the Hasty Gym from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm the Auburn Police Department is hosting a "Cocoa with a Cop" event for kids that are on school vacation. The National Collegiate Roller Hockey

national championship is being held in Auburn at the Norway savings Bank Arena. There will be games all week and it's a chance for kids to skate with the players. Last, the street sweeping schedule is on our website so residents will know what the schedule is.

**IX. Executive Sessions**

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

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks to enter into executive session.

Passage 7-0, time 7:38 pm.

Council was declared out of executive session at 7:53 pm.

**Order 51-04162024**

**Ordered**, that the City Council authorizes the City Manager to execute the purchase of property located at 67 Kittyhawk Avenue, Auburn, Maine in the amount of \$1,350,000.00 which will be appropriated from the fund balance.

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

Passage 7-0.

**Order 52-04162024**

**Ordered**, that the City Council authorizes the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Auburn Lewiston Municipal Airport for the implementation of the right of first refusal of the property located at 67 Kittyhawk Avenue, Auburn, Maine.

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

Passage 7-0.

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

Motion was made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks to enter into executive session.

Passage 7-0, time 8:01 pm.

Council was declared out of executive session at 8:22 pm.

**X. Adjournment**

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

Passage 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

**A TRUE COPY**

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

**IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MAY 6, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 158**

**5:30 PM Workshop - Executive Session**

Councilor Walker moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA 405(6)(E) to discuss a legal matter. Milks seconded motion to enter Executive Session. Motion passed 7-0. City Council came out of Executive Session at 6:40pm.

**IN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MAY 6, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 158**

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.

**I. Consent Items**

Councilor Weisner moved to remove **Order 66-05062024\*** and **Order 67-05062024** from Consent. Councilor Milks moved to remove **Order 66-05062024\*** from Consent. The Mayor declared these items removed from Consent and placed under New Business.

1. **Order 53-05062024\*** - Appointing Edward Little High School sophomore, Houda Aden to serve as City Council Student Representative with a term expiration of 6/30/2026.
2. **Order 54-05062024\*** - Appointing Edward Little High School junior, Anaya Egge to serve as City Council Student Representative with a term expiration of 6/30/2025.
- 3.
4. **Order 55-05062024\*** - Appointing Emmanuel Babine to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiration of 5/1/2025, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
5. **Order 56-05062024\*** - Appointing Katie Boss to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiration of 5/1/2026, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
6. **Order 57-05062024\*** - Appointing Michael Dixon to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiration of 5/1/2027, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
7. **Order 58-05062024\*** - Appointing Stanwood "Joe" Gray to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiration of 5/1/2027, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
8. **Order 59-05062024\*** - Appointing Chelsea Eaton to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiration of 5/1/2026, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

9. **Order 60-05062024\*** - Appointing Gerald Samson to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiration of 5/1/2025, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
10. **Order 61-05062024\*** - Appointing Elisabeth Collier to serve on the Board of Assessment with a term expiration of 3/31/2025, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
11. **Order 62-05062024\*** - Appointing Mary LaFontaine to serve on the Board of Assessment with a term expiration of 3/31/2026, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
12. **Order 63-05062024\*** - Appointing Corey Kinnan to serve on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board with a term expiration of 10/01/2024, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
13. **Order 64-05062024\*** - Appointing Elisabeth Collier to serve on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board with a term expiration of 10/1/2024, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
14. **Order 68-05062024\*** - Confirming Chief Moen's appointment of Annemarie Iadarola as Constable with firearm for the Auburn Police Department.

On motion for passage by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Gerry, the remaining items on the Consent Calendar as shown above passed 7-0.

#### **Minutes – April 16, 2024, Regular Council Meeting**

Motion to approve the minutes made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 7-0.

#### **II. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

- Presentation - Child Abuse and Neglect Data presented by Community Concepts, Inc., presented by Melissa Wakefield (Maine Families Program Manager) and Melissa Robinson (Prevention Council & Community Coordinator for Androscoggin County)
- Communication - Funding Requests (Lifelight, Kennebec Behavioral Health, Land Trust, Lake Stewards of Maine).

The Mayor declared that any Councilors looking to support funding requests will need to move to amend the budget appropriation resolve.

- III. **Open Session** – *Members of the public are invited to speak to the Council about any issue directly related to City business or any item that does not appear on the agenda.*

The following spoke:

Pamela Rousseau, W Auburn Rd; thanked the City for brush pick up.

**Unfinished Business - None**

IV. **New Business**

15. **Order 65-05062024\*** - Appointing Adam Lee to serve on the Lewiston Auburn Railroad Corporation for a three-year term (April 2024 through April 2027).

Removed from the Consent Calendar by motion of Councilor Weisner.

Councilors discussed the process of how nominations to this committee come before the Council for appointment. Councilors Walker and Weisner requested more information about appointees in the future.

Mayor Harmon spoke on the process of appointments for different committees. The LARC nominations are made upon recommendation of the City Manager. City Manager Crowell stated this committee is not a City committee and the organization's by-laws state this the appointment is to be made by the municipality. City Manager Crowell stated the City is following a process it has historically followed and no conflict of interest exists for those nominated and the Council may wish to consider a policy amendment if it wishes to change the process for nomination and appointment to this committee in the future.

Motion for passage by Councilor Platz, seconded by Councilor Gerry.

Motion failed 3-4 (Gerry, Milks, Walker, Weisner, Walker opposed).

16. **Order 66-05062024\*** - Appointing Jessica Donovan to serve on the Lewiston Auburn Railroad Corporation for three-year term (April 2024 through April 2027).  
Removed from the Consent Calendar by motion of Councilor Weisner.  
  
Motion for passage by Councilor Platz, seconded by Councilor Whiting.  
Motion passed 4-3 (Milks, Walker, Weisner opposed).
  
17. **Order 67-05062024\*** - Appointing Jonathan LaBonté to vote the shares held by any shareholder for the Lewiston Auburn Railroad Corporation.  
Removed from the Consent Calendar by motion of Councilor Milks.  
Councilors requested more information about this appointment in the future.  
Motion for passage by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Gerry. Motion passed 7-0.
  
1. **Order 69-05062024** - Initiating ordinance amendment process to Chapter 60 – Zoning Article XVI. – Administration and Enforcement Division 2. Site Plan Review and Section 60.2 Definitions.  
Motion for passage by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Weisner.  
Motion passed 5-2 (Milks, Gerry). This item will be forwarded to the Planning Board for recommendation.
  
2. **Ordinance 09-05062024** - Amending Chapter 60, Article IV, Division 12 General Business District be amended by including “manufacture, compounding and assembling of articles using Maine derived forest products, agricultural products, or other natural resource inputs” as a Special Exception use with a condition that the site must be located within the Maine Forest Bioproducts Advanced Manufacturing Tech Hub Overlay District. Public hearing and first reading. ROLL CALL VOTE.  
Motion for passage by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Cowan.



This item was opened for public hearing. The following spoke:

Pamela Rousseau, W Auburn Rd

Public hearing was closed.

Motion passed 5-2 (Milks, Walker opposed).

3. **Ordinance 10-05062024** - Creating the Maine Bioproducts Advanced Manufacturing Tech Hub Overlay District Map. Public hearing and first reading. ROLL CALL VOTE.

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

This item was opened for public hearing. There was no comment. Public hearing was closed.

Motion passed 5-2 (Milks, Walker opposed).

4. **Order 70-05062024** - Adopting the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget of the Auburn School Department.

Motion for passage by Councilor Platz, seconded by Councilor Whiting.

Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Weisner opposed). The FY25 School Budget Validation Referendum election will be held on June 11, 2024.

5. **Resolve 04-05062024** - Adopting the Appropriations Resolve for Fiscal Year 2025. Public hearing and first reading. *Passage requires an affirmative vote of 5 Councilors at the second reading.*

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

Councilor Gerry moved to amend the Resolve to the cut Councilor and Mayor's pay to \$1,800 per year for Councilors and the Mayor's salary to \$3,000. Councilor Whiting seconded.

The Mayor clarified this amendment would not impact the FY25 budget. A roll call vote on the amendment was requested by Councilor Gerry. The amendment failed 1-6 (Whiting, Cowan, Milks, Weisner, Walker, Platz opposed).

This item was opened for public comment. There was no comment.

Councilors discussed the budget.

Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Weisner opposed).

6. **Order 71-05062024** - Initiating ordinance amendment process to Sec. 60-2 Definitions, Article XIII Division 2-Phosphorous Control, Article IV Division 3-Low Density Country Residential District, and Division 4-Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District including

adoption of associated zoning maps, all within Chapter 60 of the Code of Ordinances (these changes relate to Subsurface wastewater systems and residential development within the watershed).

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

This item was opened for public comment. There was no comment.

Councilor Milks moved to table this item to a date certain until more information can be provided at a workshop. Seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 4-3 (Whiting, Cowan, Platz opposed).

Mayor Harmon and Councilors discussed the process of initiating ordinance amendments.

Councilor Gerry moved to reconsider the vote to table, seconded by Councilor Whiting. Motion to reconsider the vote to table passed 4-3. (Walker, Weisner, Milks opposed).

The motion to table was returned for action. Mayor called for the vote on the motion to table. Motion to table failed 3-4 (Gerry, Whiting, Cowan, Platz opposed).

Motion for passage passed 4-3 (Milks, Weisner, Walker opposed).

7. **Order 72-05062024** - Approving the liquor license for the Hilton Garden Inn. Public hearing.

This item was opened for public comment. There was no comment.

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

Motion passed 7-0.

8. **Order 73-05062024** - Appointing Emily F. Carrington as Registrar of Voters for the City of Auburn with a term expiration date of December 31, 2024.

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

Motion passed 7-0.

- VII. **Open Session** - *Members of the public are invited to speak to the Council about any issue directly related to City business or any item that does not appear on the agenda*  
None.

VIII. **Reports**

- a. **Mayor's Report** – Mayor Harmon reported on recent meetings of the AVCOG General Assembly and the Androscoggin Commissioners. The Mayor represented the City at the Inauguration of the new Bates College president, Garry W. Jenkins.
- b. **City Councilors' Reports** - Councilor Gerry deferred to Councilor Cowan; Councilor Whiting congratulated all who won awards at the Central Maine Community College

Foundation meeting; Councilor Cowan shared an upcoming meeting of the Committee on Homelessness; Councilor Milks corrected a mistake he made on the development of the gravel pit and stormwater run-off; Councilor Weisner passed; Councilor Walker noted an upcoming meeting of the Age Friendly Committee including an event at the Auburn Library on May 18th from 1-3pm to give away clothing to residents in need; Councilor Platz gave an update from the Conservation Working Group regarding No Mow May and approval of the two new Student Representatives to the Council who will be joining the Council on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

- c. **City Manager Report** – City Manager Crowell welcomed the two new Student Representatives to the Council. Orientation for the Student Representatives will be held this Thursday and sworn in at the meeting on May 20. Mr. Crowell introduced City Clerk Emily Carrington and provided the Council with a 30 day update on the status of 46 Fair Street. Mr. Crowell reminded the public of the LobsterFest event this weekend. Councilor Walker asked the City Manager for an update on St. Louis Church.
- d. **January 2024 Finance Report** – Kelsey Earle, Finance Director, presented the report.

**IX. Executive Sessions** – None

**X. Adjournment**

On motion by Councilor Milks, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded by Councilor Platz. Motion passed 7-0. Council adjourned at 8:58pm.

**A TRUE COPY**

**ATTEST**

Emily F. Carrington  
City Clerk

**5:30 P.M. City Council Workshop**

- A. FY25 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
- B. Amending “Appendix A Fees and Charges” regarding reimbursements, refunds & waivers
- C. Executive Session – Pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6)(D) regarding School Maintenance Union contract. *Passage requires 3/5 majority vote to enter executive session.* Moved to enter executive session by Councilor Platz, seconded by Councilor Milks. Motion passed 7-0. Entered Executive Session at 6:30PM. Council came out of Executive Session at 6:45pm.

**7:00 P.M. City Council Meeting**

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.

**I. Consent Items**

None.

- II. Minutes** – Accepting the May 6, 2024 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Moved for passage by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Platz. Motion passed 7-0.

**III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

- City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to City Council Student Representative Anaya Egge
- Mayor Harmon read the PrMaine Arbor Week Dave Griswald of the Forestry Committee spoke on this item.
- Communication - Funding Request (Day One) - The Mayor noted if any Councilor would like to support this funding request, an amendment would need to be made to the budget resolve item later on the agenda.

- IV. Open Session** – *Members of the public are invited to speak to the Council about any issue directly related to City business or any item that does not appear on the agenda.*

None.

**V. Unfinished Business**

1. **Ordinance 09-05062024** -- Amending Chapter 60, Article IV, Division 12 General Business District be amended by including “manufacture, compounding and assembling of articles using Maine derived forest products, agricultural products, or other natural resource inputs” as a Special Exception use with a condition that the site must be located within the Maine Forest Bioproducts Advanced Manufacturing Tech Hub Overlay District. *Passed public hearing/first reading on May 6, 2024. Second reading and final passage. ROLL CALL VOTE. Passage requires majority vote.*

*Moved for passage by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Whiting. No comment from public. Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.*

**IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING MAY 20, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 166**

- 2. Ordinance 10-05062024** - Creating the Maine Bioproducts Advanced Manufacturing Tech Hub Overlay District Map. *Passed public hearing/first reading on May 6, 2024. Second reading and final passage. ROLL CALL VOTE. Passage requires majority vote.*

Moved for passage by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Gerry. No public comment.

Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

- 3. Resolve 04-05062024** - Adopting the Appropriations Resolve for Fiscal Year 2025. Passed public hearing and first reading on May 6, 2024. *Second reading and final passage. Passage requires an affirmative vote of 5 Councilors.*

Moved for passage by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks.

No public comment.

Councilor Gerry spoke in opposition to the budget.

Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Weisner opposed).

**VI. New Business**

- 1. Order 74-05202024** - Adopting the annual CDBG/HOME Consortium Action Plan. *Public hearing. Passage requires majority vote.*

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

There was no comment from the public.

Motion passed 7-0.

- 2. Order 75-05202024** – Adopting the revised CDBG-CV Budget. *Public hearing. Passage requires majority vote.*

Motion for passage by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Platz.

There was no comment from the public.

Motion passed 7-0.

- 3. Order 76-05202024** – Authorizing the City Clerk to waive the \$60 Temporary Food Service fee for Phoenix No Limits Karate for a fundraising event to be held on June 08, 2024. *Passage requires majority vote.*

Motion for passage by Councilor Gerry, seconded by Councilor Walker. No public comment.

Councilor Platz requested proof of registered non-profit status to be included in future waiver requests. Motion passed 7-0.

- 4. Order 77-05202024** – Authorizing the City Clerk to waive the \$200 business license fee for Auburn Suburban Baseball and Softball. *Passage requires majority vote.*

Motion for passage by Councilor Gerry, seconded by Councilor Walker. No public comment.

Motion passed 7-0.

5. **Resolve 05-05202024** - Approving the Auburn Water District bond request in the amount of \$626,939 to be used for the purchase of a Vactor Truck. *Passage requires majority vote.*  
Motion for passage by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks. No comment from the public. Councilor Platz clarified this was a separate item from the CIP Vactor Truck request from Public Works.  
Motion passed 7-0.

- VII. **Open Session** - *Members of the public are invited to speak to the Council about any issue directly related to City business or any item that does not appear on the agenda*  
None.

VIII. **Reports**

a. **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Harmon represented Auburn at the Auburn Business Association annual meeting – Bob Brainerd was recognized as Citizen of the Year. Recognized businesses opening in the City. Attended Community Day in partnership with Public Works with Lewiston, welcomed members of the community who attended that event. Recognized the success of LobsterFest. Recognized Cynthia McFadden on her retirement. The Water District Board of Trustees meeting will be held this week.

b. **City Councilors' Reports**

Councilor Gerry thanked the City Manager for his response on staffing over the last 10 years. Councilor Whiting recognized Lief Walker as valedictorian of ELHS. Councilor Cowan spoke on public safety and substance abuse; there has been a 16% decrease in the number of deaths. Noted the next meeting of the homelessness committee. Councilor Milks stated an Auburn Sewer District trustee meeting will occur on Tuesday at 4pm. Councilor Walker thanked CDBG for a successful clothing give away event. Over 125 people showed up, over 3,000 pieces of clothing were given away. Thank you to the Senior Age Friendly Committee and Edward Little seniors for help. This event will also be held in the fall. Mentioned a few public meetings occurring in the community. Councilor Platz congratulated Anaya Egge; informed Council of the School Committee's recent actions including vacating the lease at 1830 Lisbon St (previously the Sheriff's Center which is now a non-profit) and filing 7 \$5,000 applications for DOE Construction Applications to assist in rehab of physical buildings and assets of the school department. The Mayor commented if this is in conjunction with another project; Councilor Platz would follow up. The Conservation Working group will be meeting this week.

c. **City Manager Report**

Welcomed Anaya Egge and spoke on the role of the Student Representatives. Recognized National Public Works week. On June 2, there will be a dedication of the ballfields at Pettengill Park.

d. **February 2024 Finance Report** – Kelsey Earle, Finance Director

The Finance Director spoke that there are no concerns; permitting revenues has a positive revenue year to date. There was a notable decrease in utilities due to the changes from the Energy and Facilities department.

IX. **Executive Session**

None.

X. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 7:50pm. Motion made by Councilor Platz, seconded by Milks.

Motion passed 7-0. *Council re-entered Workshop to complete CIP item on Public Works and Engineering.*

**A true copy attest**

Emily Carrington, City Clerk

**5:30 P.M. City Council Workshop**

**A. Executive Session** pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6)(C) for discussion of an economic development matter. Motion made by Councilor Gerry, seconded by Councilor Walker. Passed 5-0. Council came out of Executive Session at 6:38pm.

Mayor Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:00P.M. in the Council Chambers of Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the salute to the flag. Councilor Weisner was absent.

**I. Consent Items:**

1. **ORDER 78-06032024\*** - Appointing Donna Wallace to the Age Friendly Community Committee for a term that expires June 1, 2027, as recommended by the Appointment Committee.
2. **ORDER 79-06032024\*** - Appointing Lawrence Pelletier to the Age Friendly Community Committee for a term that expires June 1, 2027, as recommended by the Appointment Committee.
3. **ORDER 80-06032024\*** - Appointing Dana Morrell to the Age Friendly Community Committee for a term that expires June 1, 2027, as recommended by the Appointment Committee.
4. **ORDER 81-06032024\*** - Appointing Cynthia Larrabee to the Age Friendly Community Committee for a term that expires June 1, 2027, as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

Motion for passage of all consent items by Councilor Milks, seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 6-0.

**II. Minutes – May 20, 2024, Regular Council Meeting**

Motion to adopt the minutes by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 6-0.

**III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

None.

**IV. Open Session**

- Malcolm Arthur Henry, Poliquin Ave – expressed a concern in the neighborhood; the City Manager will follow up directly.
- John Soule, Court St – Encouraged voters to reject the Lewiston school budget.

**V. Unfinished Business**



**VI. New Business**

1. **ORDER 82-06032024** - Authorizing the City's general obligation bonds in the amount of \$16,615,750 to finance the City's FY25 Capital Improvement Program. First reading. ROLL CALL VOTE. Passage requires an affirmative vote of 5 Councilors at the second reading.

Motion for passage by Councilor Milks, seconded by Councilor Whiting.

There was no public comment.

Councilor Platz moved that the 3<sup>rd</sup> item on the CIP order regarding record restoration be changed from \$100,000 to \$50,000 following the workshop discussion. Seconded by Councilor Walker. The Council recommended that this request be included in the operational budget of the City Clerk's office going forward.

Motion passed 5-1 (Gerry opposed).

Motion for passage, as amended, passed 5-1 (Gerry opposed).

2. **ORDER 83-06032024** – Authorization for the City Manager to execute the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Auburn and the IAMAW AFL-CIO Union for Custodians and Maintenance covering 07/01/2024 to 06/30/2027. Passage requires majority vote.

Motion for passage by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Platz.

No comment from public. Motion passed 6-0.

5. **ORDER 84-06032024** – Initiating Zoning Map amendment in the area of 550 Minot Avenue from T4.2B to General Business. Passage requires majority vote.

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

No comment from public. Motion passed 6-0.

6. **ORDER 85-06032024** – Initiating Zoning Map amendment in the Gracelawn Road/Pit Area from General Business to Multi-Family Suburban. Passage requires majority vote.

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

No comment from public. Motion passed 5-1 (Gerry opposed).

**VII. Open Session**

**VIII. Reports**

**a. Mayor's Report** – Attended the Memorial Day Remembrance at Veterans Park with Councilors Whiting, Weisner, and Walker. Attended the dedication of the Pettingill Park softball fields in memory of Joe Walker and Tricia Asselin. Recognized the Pride march held down Auburn and into Lewiston held this past weekend.

**b. City Councilors' Reports** – Councilor Gerry attended ELHS graduation and congratulated new graduates. Councilor Whiting shared a quote in memory of Joe Walker. Councilor Walker thanked the City and everyone involved in recognizing Joe and Tricia and shared that on June 11, Age Friendly Committee will meet at the Senior Center. Councilor Platz followed up on the School Department's recent budget changes.

**Student Representative Report** – Representative Egge recognized ELHS students who graduated; had a 95% graduation rate.

**c. City Manager Report** – Commented on the balloon festival; August 16-18 and will be known as the Lewiston-Auburn Balloon Festival. The Parade will start in Auburn. Classic Car Show will be held in Lewiston; along with a beer garden and vendors in Festival Plaza. There was \$10,000 appropriated to the festival; this will be allocated to the new balloon festival. More updates will be forthcoming.

**d. March 2024 Finance Report – Kelsey Earle, Finance Director** – Motion to accept finance report by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks. Motion passed 6-0.

**IX. Executive Session** pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6)(A) for a personnel matter. Passage requires 3/5 majority vote to enter Executive Session. Motion to enter at 7:36pm by Councilor Gerry, seconded by Councilor Milks. Motion passed 6-0. Council adjourned following Executive Session.

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST:**

Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk

## **IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING JUNE 17, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 172**

At 5:30pm, Councilor Gerry moved to enter executive Session pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6)(C) for discussion of an economic development matter. Seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 7-0. Council came out of executive session at 6:37pm.

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

### **II. Minutes – June 3, 2024 Regular Council Meeting**

Motion made by Councilor Walker to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilor Platz. Motion passed with 6 votes in favor, 1 abstention (Weisner).

### **III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

Mayor Harmon announced the School Budget Referendum Certified Official Results from the June 11, 2024 election. The school budget passed.

Mayor Harmon read the Proclamation for World Refugee Day 2024.

### **IV. Open Session**

There were no speakers from the public.

### **V. Unfinished Business**

**1. Order 82-06032024** - Authorizing the City's general obligation bonds in the amount of \$16,565,750 to finance the City's FY25 Capital Improvement Program. Amended and passed first reading on June 6, 2024. Public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE. Passage requires an affirmative vote of 5 Councilors at the second reading.

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

The Mayor opened the item for public hearing. There was no comment. The Mayor closed the public hearing. The Finance Director clarified the interest rate is 3.5%. Motion passed 6-1 (Gerry opposed).

### **VI. New Business**

**1. Order 86-06172024** – Authorizing the City Clerk to waive the \$60 business license fee for the Age Friendly Community Committee's concessions stand in Festival Plaza on Wednesday evenings from June 26, 2024 through August 21, 2024. Passage requires majority vote.

Motion for passage by Councilor Gerry, seconded by Councilor Walker. Councilor Walker explained this would be in conjunction with the concert series on Wednesday evenings. Motion passed 7-0.

### **VII. Open Session**

There were no speakers from the public.

### **VIII. Reports**

**IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING JUNE 17, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 173**

a. **Mayor's Report** - The Mayor spoke of attending several ribbon cuttings for local businesses. Attended the Auburn Adult Education graduation. Attended portrait unveiling at Bates in Lewiston. Announced there will be a special city council meeting on 6/24 at 5:30pm for two items – septic issues and homeless services.

b. **City Councilors' Reports** - Councilor Whiting thanked Police and Fire for outstanding job this weekend. Councilor Cowan said there was a meeting of the ad-hoc homeless committee happening this week. Councilor Weisner thanked Police and Fire, asked for an update on the L/A Balloon Festival. Councilor Walker commented on the Age Friendly's concessions stand in Festival Plaza starting on 6/26. Councilor Platz recognized passing the School Budget, thanked the School Department for putting together a responsible budget.

c. **Student Representative Report** - None.

d. **City Manager Report** - Gave a brief Capital Infrastructure Projects Update (this item was moved from the Workshop agenda). The PAL center is being built; ground breaking ceremony will occur on July 12. Goal is to have this completed by July 2025. Beginning Engine 2 building behind current building. Public Safety Facility ad-hoc committee met with Landry French and will tour the Scarborough Public Safety facility; to begin site work and ready for move-in in late 2027. 67 Kittyhawk timeline is to be move in ready in 2028 for Fire Services. A team is monitoring the heat and weather concerns for this upcoming week, expected weather in the 90s; a cooling center will be at the Norway Savings Bank Arena and Library will be available during normal business hours. Thanked the public safety staff and other staff and surrounding partners for responding to the crisis this weekend. Updated the Council on the L/A Balloon Festival; funds are currently being raised, vendors are being secured, Liz Allen (Communications Director) will be coordinating for Auburn.

e. **April 2024 Finance Report** was presented by Kelsey Earle, Finance Director. Motion to accept the report made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks. Passed 7-0.

Councilor Cowan made a motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6)(A) for City Manager's annual review at 7:28pm, seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 7-0.

The Council came out from executive session at 7:40pm.

**X. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks. Motion passed 7-0.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST

Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk

## IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING JULY 1, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 174

At 5:30pm, Councilor Milks moved to enter executive session pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6)(A) for a personnel matter. Seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 7-0. Council came out of executive session at 6:55pm.

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

### **I. Consent Items** - None

### **II. Minutes** – June 17, 2024 Regular Council Meeting

Motion by Councilor Walker to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 7-0.

### **III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions** - None

### **IV. Open Session**

There were no speakers from the public.

### **V. Unfinished Business**

None.

### **VI. New Business**

The Mayor limited public comment to three minutes per speaker.

**1. ORDINANCE 11-07012024** - City Council initiated a text amendment to Chapter 60 Article XIII Division 2- Phosphorous Control. The proposed amendments pertain to septic system installation, maintenance and replacements and new development. This amendment is pursuant to Chapter 60, Article XVII Division 2- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. *First reading.*

Motion for passage by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Walker. The Mayor opened this for public comment. There was no comment.

Motion made by Councilor Whiting to amend ORDINANCE 11 to match the phosphorus calculation tables established by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection Watershed Planning and Management Program to recognize the reduced developable acreage in the watershed and the associated phosphorus allocations as follows:

1. In the Definition of Acceptable Increase, change .5 to .08.
2. In the Definition of Future Area to be Developed change 1,180 to 435.
3. In the definition of Per-acre phosphorus allocation change .047 to .020

Motion to amend seconded by Councilor Cowan. No discussion. The motion passed 7-0. Motion for passage, as amended, passed 7-0.

**IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING JULY 1, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 175**

**2. ORDINANCE 12-07012024** - City Council initiated a text amendment to Chapter 60 Article IV Division 3- Low Density Country Residential District. The proposed amendments pertain to septic system installation, maintenance and replacements and new development. This amendment is pursuant to Chapter 60, Article XVII Division 2- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. *First reading.*

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

There was no public comment.

Motion passed 7-0.

**3. ORDINANCE 13-07012024** - City Council initiated a text amendment to Chapter 60 Article XII Division 4-Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District. The proposed amendments pertain to septic system installation, maintenance and replacements and new development. This amendment is pursuant to Chapter 60, Article XVII Division 2- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. *First Reading.*

Motion for passage by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Platz.

The following spoke:

Jay Bishop, Auburn

Steven, Johnson Rd

Annette Lausier, Elm St

Motion passed 7-0.

**4. ORDINANCE 14-07012024** - Consider adopting the Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District Septic Systems Inspection Map. This map will be referred to in Chapter 60 Article XII Division 4 Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District and will be considered in accordance with Chapter 60, Article XVII Division 2- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. *First reading.*

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

There was no public comment.

Councilor Cowan moved to amend ORDINANCE #14 adopting the Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District Septic Inspection Map as recommended by Planning Board, by:

1. removal of the Septic Site location dots on the map, and
2. replacing the dates on the map legend and the with the labels Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 in the same sequential order as originally proposed.

Motion to amend seconded by Councilor Gerry. Motion passed 7-0.

Passed as amended 7-0.

**5. ORDINANCE 15-07012024** - Consider adopting the Official Lake Auburn Overlay District 400 ft. Setback to Lake, Stream, and Brook for Subsurface Wastewater Fields map. This map will be referenced in Chapter 60 Article XII Division 4-Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District and will be considered in accordance with Chapter 60 Article XVII Division 2- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. *First reading.*

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

There was no public comment.

Motion passed 7-0.

**6. RESOLVE 6-07012024** - Resolve calling on the Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission to Fund Subsurface Wastewater System Inspections in the Lake Auburn Watershed. *Passage requires majority vote.*

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

There was no public comment.

Motion passed 7-0.

**7. ORDINANCE 16-070102024** - City Council initiated a zoning text amendment to Chapter 60, Division 2 Site Plan Review pursuant to Chapter 60, Article XVII Division 2-Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. *First reading.*

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

There was no public comment.

Motion passed 7-0.

**8. ORDINANCE 17-07012024** – Consider a zoning map amendment to convert City Assessor’s Parcel I.D.s 201-034 and 209-035 with addresses of 526 and 550 Minot Ave from T-4.2B-Traditional Neighborhood Development zoning district to General Business II zoning district. The City Council introduced this proposal in accordance with Chapter 60, Article XVII Division 2- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. *First reading.*

Motion for passage by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Platz.

There was no public comment.

Motion passed 7-0.

**9. ORDER 87-07012024** – Allocating \$70,000 in ARPA funds for Auburn housing study. *Passage requires majority vote.*

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

There was no public comment.

Motion passed 6-1 (Walker opposed).

**10. ORDER 88-07012024** – Allocating \$40,000 in ARPA funds for food insecurity. *Passage requires majority vote.*

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

There was no public comment.

Motion passed 7-0.

**11. ORDER 89-07012024** – Repurposing 121 Mill Street as a community resource center. *Passage requires majority vote.*

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

The following spoke:

Kathleen Light, 143 Mill St

Dan Campbell, Hotel Rd

Greg Whitney, President of Drop In Center

Peter Floyd, VP Operations of Drop In Center

Lynn Ward, Hotel Rd

Bets Mallette, 254 S. Main St

Jennifer Eugley, Auburn

Nicole Rush, Durham

Julia Kimball, Randolph

MJ Monahan, Durham

John Davidson, Treasurer of Drop In Center

Nora Malloy, Lewiston

Ginny Starbird, Lisbon

Amy Smith, Durham

Patricia Wyler, Auburn

Bill Lowenstein, Auburn

Marian Claxton, Danbury Dr

Ken Bragg, Lewiston

Carol Holmes, Academy St

Dave Bilodeau, High St

Catherine Ryder, Lewiston

Art Dingley, Danville Corner Rd

William K, Auburn

Carmen Brochu, South Portland

Deigo Brochu, Drop In Center

Bruce Nadeau, Auburn

Fred Brodeaur, 83 Sixth St

Sasha Anastasoff, South Portland

Motion passed 5-2 (Walker, Milks opposed).



**12. ORDER 90-07012024** – Allocating \$438,702.83 in ARPA funds for the 121 Mill Street Resource Center and relocating the Business & Community Development Department. *Passage requires majority vote.*

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

There was no public comment.

Motion passed 6-1 (Walker opposed).

**VII. Open Session**

Dale Carlson, Gray

Michael Lemay, Auburn

David Bilodeau, High St

Bruce Nadeau, Auburn

**VIII. Reports**

**a. Mayor's Report** - Attended the Auburn Public Library dinner. Attended the grand opening of the Northeast Bank Center. Gave a brief update on 911 consolidation.

**b. City Councilors' Reports** - Councilor Weisner wished everyone a happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July and reminded the public of the special election on July 9. Councilor Walker wished everyone a happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Councilor Platz updated the Council on the most recent actions of the School Committee.

**c. Student Representative Report** – Representative Egge was absent.

**d. City Manager Report** - Spoke on the dedication of Philbrick Square. July is National Parks and Recreation Month; the city will be promoting its local parks and recreation department programs. Attended the Chamber annual awards event. Recognized Panolam Surface Systems. Mentioned wrapping up the FY24 fiscal year with a high note for permitting. Updated the Council on the status of 46 Fair St. Reminded the public that Auburn Hall will be closed July 4 and 5. The PAL Groundbreaking ceremony will occur on July 12.

**e. May 2024 Finance Report**

**IX. Executive Session** – None.

**X. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Weisner, seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 7-0. Council adjourned at 9:40pm.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk

## **IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING JULY 15, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 179**

Mayor Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:00P.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**

None.

### **II. Minutes – July 1, 2024 Regular Council Meeting**

Mayor Harmon submitted to the City Clerk a list of corrections of names of speakers during public comment and one clerical error. Councilor Milks moved to adopt as amended, seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 7-0.

### **III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

Official Results of the July 9, 2024 Special Election to fill At-Large School Committee seat

### **IV. Open Session**

None.

### **V. Unfinished Business**

1. **ORDINANCE 11-07012024** - City Council initiated a text amendment to Chapter 60 Article XIII Division 2- Phosphorous Control. The proposed amendments pertain to septic system installation, maintenance and replacements and new development. This amendment is pursuant to Chapter 60, Article XVII Division 2- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. Amended and passed first reading on July 1, 2024. Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.

The following spoke:

Stephen Beale, Johnson Rd

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting. Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

2. **ORDINANCE 12-07012024** - City Council initiated a text amendment to Chapter 60 Article IV Division 3- Low Density Country Residential District. The proposed amendments pertain to septic system installation, maintenance and replacements and new development. This amendment is pursuant to Chapter 60, Article XVII Division 2- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. Passed first reading on July 1, 2024. Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.

There was no comment from the public.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

**3. ORDINANCE 13-07012024** - City Council initiated a text amendment to Chapter 60 Article XII Division 4-Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District. The proposed amendments pertain to septic system installation, maintenance and replacements and new development. This amendment is pursuant to Chapter 60, Article XVII Division 2- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. Passed first reading on July 1, 2024. Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.

There was no comment from the public.

Councilor Weisner moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

**4. ORDINANCE 14-07012024** - Consider adopting the Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District Septic Systems Inspection Map. This map will be referred to in Chapter 60 Article XII Division 4 Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District and will be considered in accordance with Chapter 60, Article XVII Division 2- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. Amended and passed first reading on July 1, 2024. Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.

There was no comment from the public.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

**5. ORDINANCE 15-07012024** - Consider adopting the Official Lake Auburn Overlay District 400 ft. Setback to Lake, Stream, and Brook for Subsurface Wastewater Fields map. This map will be referenced in Chapter 60 Article XII Division 4-Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District and will be considered in accordance with Chapter 60 Article XVII Division 2- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. Passed first reading on July 1, 2024. Second reading/public hearing.ROLL CALL VOTE.

There was no comment from the public.

Councilor Cowan moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting. Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

**6. ORDINANCE 16-070102024** - City Council initiated a zoning text amendment to Chapter 60, Division 2 Site Plan Review pursuant to Chapter 60, Article XVII Division 2-Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. Passed first reading on July 1, 2024. Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.

There was no comment from the public.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting. Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

**7. ORDINANCE 17-07012024** – Consider a zoning map amendment to convert City Assessor’s Parcel I.D.s 201-034 and 209-035 with addresses of 526 and 550 Minot Ave from T-4.2B-Traditional Neighborhood Development zoning district to General Business II zoning district. The City Council introduced this proposal in accordance with Chapter 60, Article XVII Division 2- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map. Passed first reading on July 1, 2024. Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.

There was no comment from the public.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

## **VI. New Business**

**1. ORDER 91-07152024** – Appointing an MMA Legislative Policy Committee Representative. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Weisner moved to insert the name of Matthew Garside to the order and pass as amended. Seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 7-0.

**2. ORDER 92-07152024** – Confirming the appointment of Denis D’Auteuil as Assistant City Manager. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting. Motion passed 7-0.

**3. ORDER 93-07152024** – Confirming the appointment of Martin Moreau, Justin Le, Marie West, and Amirah Daugherty as Constables with firearm/arrest powers for the Auburn Police Department. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Milks moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 7-0.

**4. ORDER 94-07152024** – Approving the temporary liquor license for an Incorporated Civic Organization for the Lewiston-Auburn Balloon Festival event to be held in Festival Plaza on August 17, 2024 from 12:00pm until 5:00pm. Public hearing. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 7-0.

## **VII. Open Session**

None.

## **VIII. Reports**

**a. Mayor’s Report** – Mayor Harmon thanked staff for the Philbrick Square dedication ceremony held on July 7. Thanked all involved with the PAL Center groundbreaking ceremony held on July 12.

**b. City Councilors' Reports** – Councilor Whiting commented on the informative Absolutely Auburn podcast series. Councilor Cowan commended on the Philbrick memorial event and PAL center groundbreaking ceremony. Gave an update on the homeless committee. Councilor Milks commented on the PAL center groundbreaking ceremony. Councilor Weisner commented on the PAL center groundbreaking ceremony and asked for clarification regarding the ability for the public to attend the 9-1-1 committee meeting on Thursday at 4:00pm. Mayor Harmon responded to the inquiries. Councilor Walker commented on the 9-1-1 committee, neighborhood watch meeting and the Age-Friendly Community Committee's concessions stand on Wednesday evenings in Festival Plaza. Councilor Platz gave an update on the School Committee and commented on ELHS graduation rate and congratulated Sam Boss on his work for the recent award of a \$3.5 million grant to Auburn for environmental and conservation improvements.

**c. Student Representative Report** – None.

**d. City Manager Report** – Welcomed Denis D'Auteuil as the new Assistant City Manager, recognized the work of Sam Boss and the work of many on the award of the \$3.5 million grant; thanked everyone for attending the recent ceremonies recognizing fallen officer Norman Philbrick and the groundbreaking of the PAL center.

**IX. Executive Session** – None.

**X. Adjournment**

Councilor Milks moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 7-0; Council adjourned at 7:42pm.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST

Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk

## **IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING AUGUST 5, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 183**

Mayor Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:00P.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 95-08052024\* – Appointing Mayor Jeffrey Harmon to serve as the Auburn Representative for Maine Municipal Association's 2024-2026 Legislative Policy Committee, and appointing City Manager, Phillip L. Crowell, as alternate.

2. ORDER 96-08052024\* - Casting Auburn's ballot for the Maine Municipal Association's Vice President & Executive Committee members.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage of the Consent Items, seconded by Councilor Whiting. Motion passed 7-0.

### **II. Minutes – July 15, 2024 Regular Council Meeting**

Councilor Walker moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 7-0.

### **III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

#### **IV. Open Session**

Larry Pelletier, Second St – Expressed concerns about dog waste, fireworks, and unleashed dogs

#### **V. Unfinished Business**

#### **VI. New Business**

1. ORDER 97-08052024 – Establishing an ad-hoc committee to review city fees and bring forward a recommendation of changes to the City Council for adoption. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Milks moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 7-0.

2. ORDER 98-08052024 – Adopting changes to EMS billing rates. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 7-0.

#### **VII. Reports**

a. Mayor's Report – Attended the Opioid Response Summit with Governor Mills.

b. City Councilors' Reports – Councilors Gerry and Cowan gave an update on the homeless committee. Councilor Milks spoke about an upcoming fundraising event titled the Matt Closson scholarship fund at Lost Valley. Councilor Weisner reminded the public about the balloon festival later taking place August 16-18.

**IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING AUGUST 5, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 184**

- c. Student Representative Report - Representative Egge encouraged the public to attend the Balloon Festival and said many ELHS student clubs will be present.
- d. City Manager Report – Acknowledged National Night Out to be held on August 6.

**VIII. Open Session**

Stephen Beale, Johnson Rd

**IX. Executive Sessions –**

Councilor Walker moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6)(A) to discuss a personnel matter. Seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 7-0; Council entered Executive Session at 7:15pm.

Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6)(E) to consult with the City attorney regarding the City's legal rights and duties concerning a pending litigation matter. No action to follow. Passage requires 3/5 majority vote to enter executive session.

Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6) (A) to discuss annual evaluation of the City Manager. No action to follow. Passage requires 3/5 majority vote to enter executive session.

Council came out of Executive Session at 8:19pm.

**X. Adjournment**

Councilor Milks moved to adjourn at 8:20pm, seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 7-0.

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST**

**Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk**

## IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING AUGUST 19, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 185

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

### **I. Consent Items**

1. ORDER 99-08192024\* – Appointing Edward Little High School Junior, Mubarik Abdulahi, to serve as City Council Student Representative with a term expiration of 6/30/2026, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
2. ORDER 100-08192024\* - Appointing Whitney Poulin to serve on the Auburn-Lewiston Municipal Airport Board of Directors for the unexpired term ending 1/1/2026, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
3. ORDER 101-08192024\* - Appointing Dana Staples to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term that expires 5/1/2027, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
4. ORDER 102-08192024\* - Appointing Robert Hayes to serve on the Planning Board for the unexpired term ending 1/1/2027, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Walker moved for passage of all Consent Items, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 7-0.

### **II. Minutes** – August 1, 2024 Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting. Motion passed 7-0.

### **III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

Ralph Harder of the Sustainability and Natural Resource Management Board presented the Solid Waste & Recycling Plan

### **IV. Open Session**

Bonnie Lounsbury, Auburn

### **V. Unfinished Business**

### **VI. New Business**

1. ORDER 103-08192024 – Accepting the Solid Waste & Recycling Plan as presented by the Sustainability and Natural Resource Management Board. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 7-0.

2. ORDER 104-08192024 – Property donation acceptance of Carrier Court (Parcel ID 184-032-000-000). Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 7-0.



**IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING AUGUST 19, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 186**

3. ORDER 105-08192024 – Reallocating Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) funds for Airport projects. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Gerry. Motion passed 7-0.

4. ORDER 106-08192024 – Adopting the process for appointments to the Comprehensive Plan Committee. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting. Motion passed 7-0.

5. PUBLIC HEARING - CDBG Action Plan Amendment for Program Year 2024. *No action.*

Mayor Harmon opened the item up for public comment. There was no comment from the public. Mayor Harmon closed the public hearing.

**VII. Reports**

a. Mayor’s Report – Thanked city staff for a successful National Night Out event; attended the recent opening of Preble Street program serving Lewiston & Auburn.

b. City Councilors’ Reports – Councilor Gerry thanked all involved with the backpack giveaway at the PAL center and Blackie’s vegetables for providing food. Councilor Whiting thanked city staff for paving Boothby St. Councilor Cowan thanked all involved with organizing the many events around the city recently. Councilors Weisner and Walker thanked all involved with organizing the balloon festival. Councilor Platz gave an update on the School Committee and a grant awarded as part of the “Full Plates, Full Potential” program.

c. Student Representative Report – Representative Egge was absent.

d. City Manager Report – Addressed tax bill delay, bills will be going out this week. Addressed that brush drop off location at Gracelawn is now closed and residents are invited to drop off their brush for free at the drop off site in Poland. Thanked staff involved in organizing the many events.

**VIII. Open Session**

John Ruccolo, Shepley St

**IX. Executive Session**

Councilor Platz moved to enter executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6) (A) to discuss City Manager’s annual review. No action to follow. Motion seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 7-0. Council entered executive session at 8:04pm.

Councilor declared out of executive session at 8:31pm.

**X. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Milks. Motion passed 7-0. Council adjourned at 8:32pm.

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST**

**Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk**

## **IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING SEPTEMBER 3, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 187**

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 Gerry had an excused absence. Mayor Harmon and all other Councilors were present.

### **I. Consent Items**

1. ORDER 107-09032024\* – Confirming Chief Moen’s appointments of Constable without firearms/arrest powers for the Auburn Police Department and Constable with firearm/arrest powers within the City of Auburn.

Councilor Walker moved for passage of Consent Items, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 6-0.

### **II. Minutes**

August 19, 2024 Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Walker moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 6-0.

### **III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

- Proclamation recognizing International Paper on their 50th anniversary read by Mayor Harmon
- Presentation regarding recent tax bills by City Manager Phil Crowell and Finance Director Kelsey Earle

### **IV. Open Session**

Greg Cuetara, 518 Old Danville Rd

Gary Tetreault, Hazel St

### **V. Unfinished Business**

#### **VI. New Business**

1. ORDER 108-09032024 – Initiating Planning Board review of proposed zoning amendments to the Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District related to Agriculture and Forestry.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 6-0.

2. ORDER 109-09032024 – Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease of City owned Property to Auburn Riverwalk, LLC.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting. Motion passed 6-0.

Councilor Whiting moved to add ORDER 110-09032024 to the agenda, stating the following:

ORDERED, that the City Council extend to the City Manager salary and benefit changes to match exempt employees effective July 1, 2024. Seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 6-0.

Councilor Whiting moved that it BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the City Council extend to the City Manager a one year contract extension as specified by his current contract. Seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 6-0.

**IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING SEPTEMBER 3, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 188**

**VII. Reports**

- a. Mayor's Report – Mayor Harmon spoke on the first meeting of the City Fee Review Committee; attended a meeting of MMA LPC.
- b. City Councilors' Reports – Councilor Whiting shared that the Inter-library Loan program is now reinstated after a hiatus since June 2024; Councilor Milks spoke on taxes of residential vs. Commercial properties and stated revaluation is akin to appraisal. Councilor Platz spoke on updates from the School Committee, including the need to fix a leak in the new ELHS gym and a 1.44% increase in the total student enrollment.
- c. Student Representative Report – Representative Egge shared that September is Mental Health Awareness month and asked the City to share resources for mental health.
- d. City Manager Report – Confirmed the City would be providing resources for mental health and spoke on recent events in the city, recognizing city staff. The City has hired a new Planning Coordinator, Natalie Thompson. The groundbreaking ceremony for 186 Main Street will be held next week. The City is looking for a Christmas tree.

**VIII. Open Session**

Gary Tetreault, Hazel St

Executive Sessions previously scheduled on the agenda were held after workshop.

**X. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 8:05pm made by Councilor Milks, seconded by Councilor Walker.

Motion passed 6-0.

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST**

**Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk**

**IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING SEPTEMBER 16, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 189**

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 Cowan was absent. Mayor Harmon and all other Councilors were present.

**I. Consent Items**

**Councilor Milks removed ORDER 111 from the Consent agenda (placed under New Business).**

**2. ORDER 112-09162024\*** – Appointing Misty Edgecomb to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for a term that expires 10/1/2026, as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

**3. ORDER 113-09162024\*** – Appointing Corey Kinnan to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for a term that expires 10/1/2026, as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

**4. ORDER 114-09162024\*** – Appointing Haley Warden to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for a term that expires 10/1/2026, as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

**5. ORDER 115-09162024\*** – Appointing Elisabeth Collier to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for a term that expires 10/1/2026, as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

**6. ORDER 116-09162024\*** – Appointing Maureen Hopkins to the Planning Board, Associate Member, for the unexpired term ending 1/1/2026, as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

**7. ORDER 117-09162024\*** - Approving the renewal of an Auto Graveyard/Junkyard permit for Randy's Auto, 899 Broad St.

**8. ORDER 118-09162024\*** - Approving the renewal of an Auto Graveyard/Junkyard permit for M&P Auto, Inc., 227 Merrow Rd.

**9. ORDER 119-09162024\*** - Approving the renewal of an Auto Graveyard/Junkyard permit for Prolerized New England Company, LLC., 522 Washington St. North.

**10. ORDER 120-09162024\*** - Approving the renewal of an Auto Graveyard/Junkyard permit for Isadore T. Miller, 79 & 80 Hotel Rd.

**Councilor Weisner removed ORDER 121 from the Consent agenda (placed under New Business).**

Councilor Walker moved for passage of the Consent Items, seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 6-0.

**II. Minutes** – September 3, 2024 Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Milks moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilor Platz. Motion passed 5-0-1 (Gerry abstained).

**III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

- City Clerk to administer Oath of Office to Student Representative Mubarik Abdulahi
- Proclamation recognizing the 125th anniversary of Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and recognizing September 29 as VFW Day
- Revaluation Presentation – Assessor’s Office

**IV. Open Session**

Earl Bickford, New Auburn  
Paul Witten, Harvard St  
Gil Pinard, 425 Stevens Mill Rd  
Kathy Shaw, NP & Ag Committee  
Anthony, Auburn  
David Griswold, Auburn

**VI. New Business**

**1. ORDINANCE 18-09162024**– Zoning map amendment to convert certain parts of City Assessor’s Parcel I.D.s 289-001, 277-026 and 289-002 with addresses of 369 Mount Auburn Ave, 225 Gracelawn Road, and 125 Gracelawn Pit Road from the General Business zoning district to the Multifamily Suburban zoning district. First reading. Passage requires majority vote. ROLL CALL VOTE.

The following spoke:  
Stephen Beale, Durham

Councilor Whiting moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Platz. Motion passed 5-1 on a roll call vote (Gerry opposed).

**2. ORDER 122-09162024** – Appointing a Voting Delegate and alternative Voting Delegate for the MMA Annual Business Meeting. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Gerry. Motion passed 6-0.

**3. ORDER 123-09162024** – Creation of the Mayor’s Bona Fide Agricultural, Recreational, and Natural Resources Land Use Ad-Hoc Committee. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting.

Councilor Weisner moved to amend the order to add a requirement that there be two members appointed from the public. Seconded by Councilor Gerry. The motion passed 4-2 (Milks, Whiting opposed).

The order passed as amended, 4-2 (Milks, Walker opposed).

**4. ORDER 124-09162024** – Amending APPENDIX A (Fees and Charges) to include Fee Reimbursement/Refund Policy as presented at the May 20, 2024 Workshop. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting. Motion passed 6-0.

**5. ORDER 125-09162024** – Authorizing reimbursement of a zoning petition fee to Robert Gagnon in accordance with ORDER 124-09162024. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Milks moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Gerry. Motion passed 6-0.

**6. ORDER 126-09162024** - Authorizing Assistant City Manager, Denis D’Auteuil, to serve as the alternate municipal official member on the Androscoggin County Budget Committee, representing County Commission District 5 for budget years 2024/2025. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Milks moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 6-0.

**7. ORDER 111-09162024\*** – Appointing Arthur Wing to the Auburn Housing Authority Board of Commissioners for a term that expires 10/1/2029, as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Milks stated he would like to repost the position for more applications.

Councilor Gerry voluntarily recused herself from the vote as a resident of Auburn Housing, although no conflict of interest was found to exist among the Council.

Motion for passage of ORDER 111 failed 2-3 (Milks, Weisner, Walker opposed; Gerry recused). The City Clerk will repost the position for more applications.

**8. ORDER 121-09162024\*** - Approving the renewal of an Auto Graveyard/Junkyard permit for Don’s No Preference Towing, dba Morris Auto Parts, 940 Washington St. North.

Councilor Weisner moved to amend ORDER 121 to adopt the conditions, as provided in a staff memo. Seconded by Councilor Gerry. Motion passed 5-0 (Walker absent).

## **VII. Reports**

**a. Mayor’s Report** – Recognized the Fire Department response to recent fires; addressed groundbreaking of 186 Main St, and the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. Attended International Paper’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary event, and city employee appreciation lunch held on 9/11.

**b. City Councilors’ Reports** – Councilor Gerry commented on a recent meeting of the Homeless Committee. Councilor Whiting commented on the trails and outdoor facility off Stetson Rd. Councilor Milks welcomed Student Representative Mubarik Abdulahi. Councilor

**IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING SEPTEMBER 16, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 192**

Weisner welcomed Student Representative Mubarik Abdulahi, recognized the Fire Department, and recognized citizens expressing concerns over tax increases. Councilor Walker encouraged everyone to think about next year's budget. Councilor Platz shared an update from the School Department on Auburn Schools enrollment numbers.

**c. Student Representative Report** – Student Representative Egge encouraged people to register to vote. Student Representative Abdulahi thanked everyone for the welcome.

**d. City Manager Report** – Welcomed Student Representative Mubarik Abdulahi and recognized the Fire Department; commented on the success of the Blues & Brews festival with over 1,200 people attending.

**VIII. Open Session**

Earl Bickford, New Auburn

**IX. Executive Session**

**X. Adjournment**

Councilor Milks moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion to adjourn passed 6-0; Council adjourned at 9:07pm.

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST**

**Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk**

## IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING OCTOBER 7, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 193

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. City Manager Phil Crowell was absent; Assistant City Manager Denis D'Auteuil was present. Student Representative Egge was absent. Mayor Harmon and all Councilors were present.

### **I. Consent Items**

*Councilor Milks removed #3 through #12 from the Consent Items, to be placed under New Business.*

1. ORDER 127-10032024\* - Confirming the appointments of Election Wardens and Ward Clerks for the November 5, 2024 State-wide General/Referendum Election.
2. ORDER 128-10032024\* - Confirming Chief Moen's appointment of Joshua Perkins as Constable without firearms/arrest powers for the Auburn Police Department.
13. ORDER 139-10032024\*– Appointing Riley Bergeron and Paul Jacques, of the Planning Board, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Planning Board.
14. ORDER 140-10032024\* - Appointing John Ruccolo to the Complete Streets Committee for an unexpired term that expires 1/1/2025, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
15. ORDER 141-10032024\* - Appointing Patrick DeFilipp to the Auburn Sewer District for an unexpired term that expires 3/1/2026, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Motion for passage of remaining Consent Items by Councilor Cowan, seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 7-0.

### **II. Minutes** – September 16, 2024 Regular Council Meeting

Motion to accept the minutes by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Whiting. Motion passed 6-0-1 (Cowan abstained).

### **III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

- Proclamation recognizing the Month of October as Manufacturing Month
- Proclamation recognizing the Month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- Reminder: Absentee voting now available; ballots may be requested until October 31
- Auburn Fire Department Recognition – *This item was postponed to the 10/21 agenda.*

### **IV. Open Session**

None.



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**V. Unfinished Business**

1. ORDINANCE 18-09162024 - Zoning map amendment to convert certain parts of City Assessor's Parcel I.D.s 289-001, 277-026 and 289-002 with addresses of 369 Mount Auburn Ave, 225 Gracelawn Road, and 125 Gracelawn Pit Road from the General Business zoning district to the Multifamily Suburban zoning district. Second reading/public hearing. Passage requires majority vote. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Motion for passage by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Walker. The Mayor opened this item for public comment. There was no comment. Mayor Harmon closed the public hearing at 7:10pm. Motion passed 6-1 (Gerry opposed) on a roll call vote.

**VI. New Business**

1. ORDER 142-10032024 – Appointing two City Councilors to the Comprehensive Plan Committee.

Councilor Gerry nominated Councilor Whiting. Councilor Platz nominated Councilor Cowan. Councilor Milks nominated Councilor Weisner. Councilor Walker nominated Councilor Milks. Councilor Weisner nominated Councilor Gerry. Councilor Gerry declined the nomination. Mayor Harmon asked Councilors to vote in favor as nominations were read. On a vote of 4 Councilors in favor for each nomination, Councilor Whiting and Councilor Cowan were appointed.

2. ORDER 143-10032024 – Authorizing acceptance of the 2024 Byrne Jag Grant in the amount of \$17,209.00 for the Auburn Police Department. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Walker. The motion passed 6-1 (Weisner opposed).

3. ORDINANCE 19-10032024– Adopting revised MMA General Assistance Ordinance and 2024/2025 GA Maximums. First reading. Passage requires majority vote. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Walker. There was no comment. Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

4. ORDER 144-10032024 - Casting a vote for Councilor Leroy Walker to represent County Commission District 6 on the Androscoggin County Budget Committee. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Gerry moved to suspend the rules to allow this item to be added to the agenda, seconded by Councilor Milks. Motion passed 7-0.

Councilor Whiting moved for passage of ORDER 144-10032024, seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 7-0.

**IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING OCTOBER 7, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 195**

*Below are the items which were removed from Consent Items (Councilor Milks).*

3. ORDER-129-10032024\* - Appointing Rex Rhoades, Ward 1, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting.

Councilor Milks moved to postpone this item to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in November 2024 (November 18, 2024). Seconded by Councilor Weisner. Councilor Platz asked for discussion on the motion. A vote to postpone without discussion was held and retracted by Mayor Harmon, as it was stated that discussion on the motion was allowed. Councilor Milks stated he wished to postpone this item to November 18, 2024 and to amend ORDER 08192024 to allow for more applicants. The motion to postpone ORDER 129-10032024 passed 4-3 (Gerry, Whiting, Cowan opposed).

4. ORDER-130-10032024\* - Appointing Rebecca Swanson Conrad, Ward 2, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Milks moved to postpone this item to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in November 2024 (November 18, 2024). Seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 4-3 (Gerry, Whiting, Cowan opposed).

5. ORDER-131-10032024\* - Appointing John Cleveland, Ward 2, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Milks moved to postpone this item to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in November 2024 (November 18, 2024). Seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Whiting opposed).

6. ORDER-132-10032024\*- Appointing Adam Lee, Ward 2, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Milks moved to postpone this item to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in November 2024 (November 18, 2024). Seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Whiting opposed).

7. ORDER-133-10032024\*- Appointing Denis Bergeron, Ward 2, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Milks moved to postpone this item to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in November 2024 (November 18, 2024). Seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Whiting opposed).

8. ORDER-134-10032024\*- Appointing Mathieu Duvall, Ward 3, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Milks moved to postpone this item to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in November 2024 (November 18, 2024). Seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Whiting opposed).

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9. ORDER-135-10032024\*- Appointing Kelly Butler, Ward 4, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Milks moved to postpone this item to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in November 2024 (November 18, 2024). Seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Whiting opposed).

10. ORDER-136-10032024\*- Appointing Bruce Rioux, Ward 5, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Milks moved to postpone this item to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in November 2024 (November 18, 2024). Seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Whiting opposed).

11. ORDER-137-10032024\*- Appointing Jane Costlow, Ward 5, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Milks moved to postpone this item to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in November 2024 (November 18, 2024). Seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Whiting opposed).

12. ORDER-138-10032024\*- Appointing Dana Staples, Ward 5, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Milks moved to postpone this item to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in November 2024 (November 18, 2024). Seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Whiting opposed).

Councilor Milks moved to suspend the rules to take up an item not on the agenda. Seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Whiting opposed).

Councilor Milks moved to amend ORDER 106-08192024 to extend the date to accept applicatiосn to November 8, 2024. Seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry Whiting opposed).

### **VII. Reports**

**a. Mayor's Report** – Mayor Harmon commented on the ice rink; Lost Valley's Oktoberfest event; MMA meeting, and Manufacturing Month.

**b. City Councilors' Reports** – Councilor Whiting commented on the expanding trails and lift at Lost Valley. Councilor Cowan spoke on great presentation regarding EMS. Councilor Weisner recognized Auburn Water District for swift repairs to water main breaks these past few weeks. Councilor Walker informed the public of the Halloween event at Anniversary Park on 10/27, and the work of the Age Friendly Community Committee. Councilor Platz gave two School-related updates, the first regarding the hiring of a new events coordinator for the School, and the second regarding a student hit by Fairview School and how the School and City are working to improve safety.

**c. Student Representative Report** – Representative Mubarik Abdulahi recognized an upcoming event at the Riverwalk at 5:30pm.

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**d. City Manager Report** – Mr. D’Auteuil shared news that the fire which occurred at Mt. Auburn Ave and destroyed a housing project will be rebuilt. He shared an update on 46 Fair St, and noted that County Budget meetings have started.

**VIII. Open Session**

Stephen Beale, Durham  
David Bilodeau, Auburn  
Anthony Cararro, Auburn  
Reed Lizotte, Leavitt St

**IX. Executive Session**

**X. Adjournment**

Councilor Walker moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Milks. Motion passed 7-0. Council adjourned at 8:43pm.

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST**

**Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk**

## **IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING OCTOBER 21, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 198**

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. Student Representative Abdulahi was absent (excused). All Councilors were present.

### **I. Consent Items**

1. ORDER 145-10212024\* - Appointing Arthur Wing to the Auburn Housing Authority Board of Commissioners for a term that expires 10/1/2029, as recommended by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting. Motion passed 7-0.

### **II. Minutes** – October 7, 2024 Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Walker moved for acceptance of the minutes, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 7-0.

### **III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

Mayor Harmon read a memo submitted by the Natural Products & Agriculture Working Group thanking the City for its support of the Farm & Forest event held over the weekend. Over 200 people attended.

City Manager Crowell, Mayor Harmon, and Chief Robert Chase recognized the Auburn Fire Department for their outstanding work in response to several low-frequency, high-risk emergencies and fires lately. Several members of the Fire Department were in attendance.

Mayor Harmon presented a plaque to owners of Republic Jewelry and Collectibles in recognition of the business' 40th anniversary.

Mayor Harmon read the proclamation for 2024 Extra Mile Day and presented an award to the Volunteers at The Drop-In Center.

### **IV. Open Session**

None.

### **V. Unfinished Business**

1. ORDINANCE 19-10032024– Adopting revised MMA General Assistance Ordinance and 2024/2025 GA Maximums. Second reading/public hearing. Passage requires majority vote. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Mayor Harmon opened the public hearing. There was no comment. The public hearing was closed.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Gerry. Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

2. ORDER 146-10212024 – Amending ORDER 106-08192024 regarding the City's Comprehensive Plan Committee. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Milks moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Weisner.

## IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING OCTOBER 21, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 199

Councilors discussed the merits of the proposed amendment.

Motion failed 3-4 (Gerry, Whiting, Platz, Cowan opposed).

### **VI. New Business**

1. Public Hearing – CDBG/HOME Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) Program Year 2023. No action.

Mayor Harmon opened the public hearing at 7:52pm. There was no comment and the public hearing was closed. No action was taken by the Council.

2. ORDER 147-10212024 - Authorizing the City's general obligation bonds in the amount of \$983,000 to finance the School Department's FY25 Capital Improvement Program. First reading. ROLL CALL VOTE. Passage requires an affirmative vote of 5 Councilors at the second reading.

Councilor Whiting moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 6-1 (Gerry opposed) on a roll call vote.

### **VII. Reports**

a. **Mayor's Report**- Mayor Harmon recognized the self-serve fuel option now available at the airport. Attended the Preble St. Homelessness Conference with the City Manager. Attended the Farm & Forest tour hosted by the Natural Products & Agriculture committee. Attended recent tours of manufacturing plants in recognition of Manufacturing Month. Reminded the public of the upcoming community meeting for citizens to give input on the Washington St. Corridor on 10/23 at 5:30pm. Reminded the public that absentee voting is ongoing at Auburn Hall and residents may vote absentee until 10/31 without special circumstances.

b. **City Councilors' Reports** – Councilor Whiting thanked the manufacturing plants for offering tours. Councilor Cowan thanked the Economic Development department for organizing the tours of the manufacturing plants and commented on the upcoming meeting of the Homeless Committee on Thursday. The Homeless Committee is close to producing a report. Councilor Weisner attended the self-serve fuel event at the airport, there was great attendance. Asked the City Manager for an update on the Solid Waste plan, especially on recycling and compost. Councilor Walker thanked everyone who attended the recent clothing giveaway hosted by the Age Friendly Committee, over 425 people attended at the Library and over 5,000 pieces of clothing were given away. Reminded the public of UNAA's Halloween event on 10/27 from 1-3pm in Anniversary Park. Councilor Platz gave a few updates from the School Department; Asst. Superintendent was announced, Scott Annear. School recently approved \$67,300 from previous bond for submeters for the new geothermal system at the High School, this could earn a tax credit up to \$3 million in net savings.

c. **Student Representative Report** – Representative Egge acknowledged the Lewiston tragedy one year ago and thanked public safety for all they do to keep the community safe.

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d. **City Manager Report** – Recognized the 1 year Lewiston Remembrance event occurring on 10/25. Thanked Landry French for including students of the PAL center in their recent “topping off” ceremony. Recognized Halloween events taking place, Trunk or Treat, and the Drug Take Back event at Bedard Pharmacy and the Sandbuckers for Seniors program.

e. **July 2024 Finance Report – Kelsey Earle, Finance Director**

Motion to accept the Finance Report by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Milks. Motion passed 7-0.

**VIII. Open Session**

None.

**IX. Executive Session**

None.

**X. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 7-0. Council adjourned at 8:12pm.

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST**

**Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk**

## **IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING NOVEMBER 4, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 201**

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. Student Representative Egge was absent. Councilor Milks was absent.

### **I. Consent Items**

#### **II. Minutes** – October 21, 2024 Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Walker moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 6-0.

### **III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

#### **IV. Open Session**

Bruce Nadeau, Truman Ave

#### **V. Unfinished Business**

#### **VI. New Business**

**1. ORDINANCE 20-11042024** – Amending Chapter 12 Article IV.- Housing Code regarding property maintenance and vacant buildings. First reading. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Councilor Cowan moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Platz. Motion passed 4-2 on a roll call vote (Walker, Gerry opposed).

**2. ORDER 148-11042024** - Amendment to ORDER 106-08192024 regarding the City's Comprehensive Plan Committee. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 6-0.

**3. RESOLVE 7-11042024** – Supporting an “interim trail” for the Casco Bay Trail. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Weisner moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Platz. The following spoke on this item:

Bruce Sleeper

Peter Kohl, Topsham

Joe Pelliccia, Auburn

Jeremiah Bartlett, Shepley St/Complete Streets Committee

Motion to postpone item until December 16, 2024 meeting made by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Gerry. Motion passed 6-0. Item will return to the Council agenda at the December 16, 2024 meeting.



## IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING NOVEMBER 4, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 202

**4. ORDER 149-11042024** – Amending ORDER 123-09162024 extending the reporting deadline for the Mayor’s Ad-Hoc on Bona Fide Agricultural, Recreational, and Natural Resources Land Use Committee from November 18, 2024 to December 16, 2024. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Walker. The following spoke:

John Cleveland, Auburn

Motion passed 6-0.

### **VII. Reports**

**a. Mayor’s Report** – Mayor Harmon gave an update on the City’s fee review committee; attended Washington St presentation; attended Safe Voices presentation; attended recent manufacturers association meeting; reminded residents to vote in the general election tomorrow, November 5.

**b. City Councilors’ Reports** – Councilor Weisner reminded the public to vote. Councilor Walker thanked all who attended the New Auburn Halloween event, over 500 people attended. Reminded the public that the Age Friendly Community Committee will be hosting a Thanksgiving dinner. Councilor Platz congratulated the new named principal at ELHS, Valerie Ackley and reminded residents to vote.

**c. Student Representative Report -**

**d. City Manager Report** – Reminded residents to vote and thanked the City Clerk for all the work that goes into election preparation. LATC will be offering free transportation.

**e. 2024 August Finance Report – Gina Klemanski, Deputy Finance Director**

This item will be reviewed at a future meeting due to the absence of the Finance Director and Deputy Finance Director.

### **VIII. Open Session**

**IX. Executive Session** pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6) (E) to consult with the City’s attorney regarding a legal matter. *No action to follow. Passage requires 3/5 majority vote to enter Executive Session.*

Councilor Whiting moved to enter executive session, seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 6-0. Entered executive session at 8:09pm. Came out of executive session at 9:20pm.

### **X. Adjournment**

Platz moved to adjourn, seconded by Cowan. Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST**

**Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk**

## IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING NOVEMBER 18, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 203

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. Student Representative Abdulahi was absent.

### I. Consent Items

None.

### II. Minutes – November 4, 2024 Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 6-0-1 (Milks abstained).

### III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions

1. Auburn State Legislatures Invitation – State Representatives-Elect Adam Lee, Quentin Chapman, and Laurel Libby joined the City Council meeting to report on upcoming initiatives of the Legislature, including: Solar subsidies, homelessness, drugs, multimodal transportation and road safety, budget, and senior tax relief. City Councilors and the Mayor expressed their areas of focus surrounding bills regarding state-revenue sharing, education, homelessness, support for veterans, tax relief programs, and consideration of funding and administration of laws passed.

### IV. Open Session

None.

**V. Unfinished Business** - *Councilor Platz moved to have ORDER 150 & ORDER 151 moved from New Business to Unfinished Business in order to keep all appointments to the Comprehensive Plan Committee consecutive. Motion passed by unanimous consent.*

**1. ORDER-129-10032024** - Appointing Rex Rhoades, Ward 1, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Postponed at the October 7, 2024 Meeting.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Milks).

**2. ORDER-130-10032024** - Appointing Rebecca Swanson Conrad, Ward 2, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Postponed at the October 7, 2024 meeting.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Platz. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Milks).

**3. ORDER-131-10032024** - Appointing John Cleveland, Ward 2, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Postponed at the October 7, 2024 Meeting.

Councilor Platz moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Milks).

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**4. ORDER-132-10032024-** Appointing Adam Lee, Ward 2, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Postponed at the October 7, 2024 Meeting.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Platz. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Milks).

**7. ORDER-133-10032024-** Appointing Denis Bergeron, Ward 2, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Postponed at the October 7, 2024 Meeting.

Councilor Platz moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Milks).

**8. ORDER-134-10032024-** Appointing Mathieu Duvall, Ward 3, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Postponed at the October 7, 2024 Meeting.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Platz. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Milks).

**9. ORDER-135-10032024-** Appointing Kelly Butler, Ward 4, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Postponed at the October 7, 2024 Meeting.

Councilor Platz moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Whiting. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Milks).

**10. ORDER-136-10032024-** Appointing Bruce Rioux, Ward 5, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Postponed at the October 7, 2024 Meeting.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Walker. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Milks).

**11. ORDER-137-10032024-** Appointing Jane Costlow, Ward 5, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Postponed at the October 7, 2024 Meeting.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Platz. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Milks).

## IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING NOVEMBER 18, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 205

**12. ORDER-138-10032024-** Appointing Dana Staples, Ward 5, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee. Postponed at the October 7, 2024 Meeting.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Walker. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Milks).

**13. ORDER 150-11182024-** Appointing Virginia Keel, Ward 4, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Weisner moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Milks).

**14. ORDER 151-11182024-** Appointing Heidi Bertels, Ward 1, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Platz moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Gerry. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Milks).

**15. ORDER 147-10212024 -** Authorizing the City's general obligation bonds in the amount of \$983,000 to finance the School Department's FY25 Capital Improvement Program. Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE. Passage requires an affirmative vote of 5 Councilors.

Councilor Whiting moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Gerry) on a roll call vote.

**16. ORDINANCE 20-11042024 -** Amending Chapter 12 Article IV.- Housing Code regarding property maintenance and vacant buildings. Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Councilor Whiting moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

### **VI. New Business**

**1. ORDER 152-11182024 -** Appointing Kryston Chapman, Associate Member, to the Zoning Board of Appeals, for a term that expires 5/1/2026, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Walker. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 7-0.

**2. ORDINANCE 21-11182024 -** Lake Auburn Watershed Text/Map Amendments. First reading. ROLL CALL VOTE. Passage requires majority vote.

Councilor Whiting moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-1 (Gerry) on a roll call vote.

## IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING NOVEMBER 18, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 206

### VII. Reports

**a. Mayor's Report** – Thanked the City Clerk and election staff for a successful election. Recognized Police Chief Jason Moen for his recent installment as Maine Chiefs of Police Association's newest President. Recognized Good Food Council at lafoodplan.com. Thanked the Assessor's office for 2<sup>nd</sup> public meeting on the upcoming revaluation.

**b. City Councilors' Reports** – Councilor Whiting congratulated the Mustangs on their soccer championship title. Councilor Cowan gave a brief update on the Homeless Committee. Councilor Weisner asked for an update from the Recycling Committee on composting; RFPs on Solid Waste Plan are expected to be released this week and there will be a 30 day deadline to submit RFPs which the bid will then be coming to Council – updates will be forthcoming in early January. Councilor Walker mentioned the Thanksgiving dinner hosted at the Senior Center on Thursday at 11am. Tree lighting at New Auburn Sullivan Park on December 7 at 5:30pm. Councilor Platz gave an update on the School Committee's upcoming labor union contracts following an article in the SunJournal; an architect is being sought for facility renovations over the next 10 years, and the School Committee will soon be presenting initial draft for the upcoming budget season.

**c. Student Representative Report** - Representative Egge congratulated peers at ELHS who performed in recent play "Anything Goes".

**d. City Manager Report** – Recognized Chief Moen for the leading the Police Department through attaining CALEA accreditation. On Sunday, 12/8 the Auburn Tree Lighting will occur; Parade will start from Rolly's diner to Festival Plaza.

### VIII. Open Session

Quentin Chapman, 51 Eastman Ln  
John Cleveland, Davis Ave

### IX. Executive Session

None.

### X. Adjournment

Councilor Weisner moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Platz. Motion passed 7-0.  
Council adjourned at 8:08pm.

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST**

**Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk**

## **IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING DECEMBER 2, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 207**

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 and Student Representatives were present.

### **I. Consent Items**

### **II. Minutes – November 18, 2024 Regular Council Meeting**

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 7-0.

### **III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions**

### **IV. Open Session**

### **V. Unfinished Business**

1. **Ordinance 21-11182024** - Lake Auburn Watershed Text/Map Amendments. Second reading & public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Councilor Whiting moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Walker. Mayor Harmon opened the public hearing at 7:03pm. The following spoke:

Stephen Beale, Johnson Road  
Evan Cyr, Granite St

Mayor Harmon closed the public hearing at 7:09pm.

Motion for passage 7-0 on a roll call vote.

### **VI. New Business**

1. **Ordinance 22-12022024** – Proposed amendment to Sec. 52-320 regarding prohibited parking on Eighth Street. 1st reading. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Councilor Walker moved for passage and moved to amend to replace “Both sides” with “The northerly side of the street”, seconded by Councilor Gerry. There was no comment from the public. Motion to amend passed 7-0.

2. **Ordinance 23-12022024** - Text Amendments related to 30-A M.R.S. §§ 4364, 4364-A and 4364-B (L.D. 2003). 1 st reading. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Councilor Whiting moved to postpone to December 16, 2024, seconded by Councilor Gerry. Motion passed 7-0.

3. **Ordinance 24-12022024** - Proposed amendment to Chapter 14 regarding Blasting. 1st reading. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Councilor Weisner moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Gerry. The following spoke:

Anthony, Everett Rd, Poland

## IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING DECEMBER 2, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 208

The Mayor recommended staff bring forward an amendment at second reading that addresses holiday/weekend blasting exemptions as it may apply to hobby mining.

Motion for passage 7-0 of first reading on a roll call vote.

### **VII. Reports**

**a. Mayor's Report** – Mayor Harmon attended New Beginnings open house in Lewiston; opening of Sweetser Health and Healing Center and recognized Kelsey Earle for being recognized by the Chamber of Commerce as one of the community's "40 under 40" for the finance division.

**b. City Councilors' Reports** – Councilor Whiting mentioned the upcoming Holiday Bazaar at the Library and "read to a dog" event. Councilor Cowan gave an update on the Homeless committee, next meeting will be held next week. Councilor Walker thanked everyone who helped with the Thanksgiving Dinner at the Senior Center, over 105 people attended. Reminded the public of the New Auburn Tree Lighting on December 7 at 5:30pm hosted by the United New Auburn Association. Councilor Platz gave updates from the School Committee's budget schedule.

**c. Student Representative Report** – None.

**d. City Manager Report** – Mentioned the Auburn Tree Lighting occurring on December 8 at Festival Plaza and Holiday Parade. Recognized the PAL Center in their Thanksgiving meal giveaway event, and Student Representatives on their podcast for Absolutely Auburn which will air next week.

### **e. 2024 August & September Finance Reports – Kelsey Earle, Finance Director**

Councilor Cowan moved to accept the 2024 August Finance Report, seconded by Councilor Milks. Motion passed 7-0.

Councilor Whiting moved to accept the 2024 September Finance Report, seconded by Councilor Milks. Motion passed 7-0.

### **VIII. Open Session**

Jason Levesque, Youngs Corner Rd

Evan Cyr, Granite St

Michael Charest, Sixth St

### **IX. Executive Session**

Councilor Weisner moved to suspend the rules to add an Executive Session to the agenda, seconded by Councilor Gerry. Motion passed 7-0.

**IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING DECEMBER 2, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 209**

Councilor Weisner moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 Section 405 (6) (C) in regards to economic development matter related to the sale of 15 Academy St. Passed 7-0. Council entered executive session at 7:56pm. No action to follow.

**X. Adjournment**

Council came out of executive session and moved to adjourn by unanimous consent.

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST**

**Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk**



## IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING DECEMBER 16, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 210

Mayor Harmon opened the meeting at 7:00pm in Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance. Student Representative Mubarik Abdulahi was absent.

*Councilor Walker requested ORDER 155 be removed from the Consent agenda. This item was moved to the third item under New Business.*

### Consent Items

- a. **ORDER 153-12162024\*** – Appointing Richard Whiting and Timothy Cowan to the AVCOG General Assembly, as nominated by Mayor Harmon.
- b. **ORDER 154-12162024\*** - Appointing Denis D’Auteuil to the AVCOG Executive Committee (alternate), as nominated by Mayor Harmon.
- c. **ORDER 156-12162024\*** - Appointing Edmond Bearor to the Planning Board (Associate Member) for a term that expires 1/1/2028, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
- d. **ORDER 157-12162024\*** - Appointing John Ruccolo to the Complete Streets Committee for a term that expires 12/31/2027, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
- e. **ORDER 158-12162024\*** - Appointing Heather Barnett to the Complete Streets Committee for a term that expires 12/31/2027, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
- f. **ORDER 160-12162024\*** - Appointing Evan Cyr to the Zoning Board of Appeals (Associate Member) for a term that expires 5/1/2025, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
- a. **ORDER 161-12162024\*** - Appointing Emily F. Carrington as Registrar of Voters for the City of Auburn for a term that expires 12/31/2026.
- b. **ORDER 162-12162024\*** - Appointing Kryston Chapman (Member) & Quentin Chapman (Alternate) as Republican representatives to the Voter Registration Appeals Board for terms that expire 3/1/2027, as nominated by the Auburn Republican Committee.

Motion for passage of the Consent agenda by Councilor Gerry, seconded by Councilor Walker.  
Motion to pass Consent agenda passed 7-0.

## IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING DECEMBER 16, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 211

### II. Minutes – December 2, 2024 Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Weisner moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilor Platz. Motion passed 7-0.

### III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions

- Mayor Harmon announced a Special City Council meeting to be held Thursday, December 19 at 5:30pm at Auburn Hall Council Chambers for one item (reallocating ARPA funds).
- Bona Fide Agricultural, Recreational, and Natural Resources Land Use Committee Report

John Cleveland gave the report.

### IV. Open Session

John Nutting, Leeds – National Shattering Silence Coalition

### V. Unfinished Business

1. **RESOLVE 7-11042024** – Supporting an “interim trail” for the Casco Bay Trail. *Postponed on November 4, 2024 and workshopped on December 2, 2024. Passage requires majority vote.* Motion for passage by Councilor Cowan, seconded by Councilor Platz.

The Mayor opened this item for public comment. The following spoke:

Patty Barber, Town of Oxford

Joe Pelliccia, Josslyn St

Bruce Sleeper, Portland – TrainRiders NorthEast

Chet Woodbury, York

Debbie Poloquin, Lewiston

Emily Paskewicz, Brunswick

Jennie Johnson, Auburn

Itona , Auburn

Ben Lounsbury, Auburn

Ted Morith, Lewiston

Bill Phillips, Auburn

Lisa Morin, Turner

Garrett Hoffman, High St

Kathy Shaw, Valley View Farm

Sue Martin, Davis Ave

Motion passed 6-1 (Gerry).

## IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING DECEMBER 16, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 212

2. **ORDINANCE 22-12022024** – Proposed amendment to Sec. 52-320 regarding prohibited parking on Eighth Street. *Amended and passed first reading on December 2, 2024. Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.*

Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Walker. Mayor Harmon opened the public hearing. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

3. **ORDINANCE 23-12022024** – Text Amendments related to 30-A M.R.S. §§ 4364, 4364-A and 4364-B (L.D. 2003). *First reading. Postponed on December 2, 2024. ROLL CALL VOTE.*

Councilor Platz moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. The Mayor opened this item for public comment. The following spoke:

Jason Levesque, Youngs Corner Road

Evan Cyr, Auburn

Motion passed 6-1 (Milks) on a roll call vote.

4. **ORDINANCE 24-1202024** – Proposed amendment to Chapter 14 regarding Blasting. *Passed first reading on December 2, 2024. Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.*

The Clerk circulated a revised Substitute Ordinance 24 with corrections to Sec. 14-704.

Councilor Whiting moved to adopt Substitute Ordinance 24, seconded by Councilor Weisner. The Mayor opened the item for public hearing. There was no comment. Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

5. **ORDER 163-12162024** – Accepting the Mayor’s Ad-Hoc on Bona Fide Agricultural, Recreational, and Natural Resources Land Use Committee Report. *Passage requires majority vote.*

Councilor Whiting moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan.

Motion passed 4-3 (Walker, Milks, Weisner).

### New Business

1. **ORDER 164-12162024** – CDBG & HOME Consolidated/Action Plan Amendment for Program Year 2024. *Public hearing. Passage requires majority vote.*

Motion for passage by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Weisner. The Mayor opened the public hearing. There was no comment. Motion passed 6-0 (Walker absent).

2. **RESOLVE 8-12162024** – Approving and ratifying the application of a \$1,000,000 HUD Section 108 Loan Guarantee for the Development of the Auburn Community Resource Center located at 121 Mill Street. *Passage requires majority vote.*

Motion for passage by Councilor Cowan, seconded by Councilor Gerry. There was no public comment. Councilor Milks asked for more information regarding the liability to taxpayers. Councilor Platz asked about the timeline and interest rate. Motion passed 6-1 (Walker).

## IN COUNCIL WORKSHOP & MEETING DECEMBER 16, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 213

3. **ORDER 155-12162024\*** - Appointing Maureen Hopkins to the Planning Board (Member) for a term that expires 1/1/2028, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

Motion for passage by Councilor Gerry, seconded by Councilor Platz.

The following spoke:

David Trask, Partidge Ln

Evan Cyr, Auburn

Councilor Milks asked the process for appointing Mr. Trask. Mayor Harmon clarified that the Appointment Policy does not allow for the Council to make substitutions to recommendations made by the Appointment Committee, the Council may vote to appoint or fail to appoint the recommendation. If the Council fails to appoint, the City Clerk will repost the position.

Motion fails 3-4 (Platz, Weisner, Milks, Walker). The Clerk will repost the position.

### **VII. Reports**

**a. Mayor's Report** - Mayor thanked staff for a great tree lighting event; attended the holiday luncheon for staff; the Comp Plan Committee will be kicking off tomorrow for the first meeting; attended Merrow Road project meeting, there were many questions from residents and positive feedback.

#### **b. City Councilors' Reports**

Councilor Whiting noted the passing of Eleanor Cummings. Councilor Milks noted the next meeting of the Auburn Sewer District; budgets will be discussed. Councilor Weisner wished everyone a Merry Christmas and happy holidays and happy new year. Councilor Weisner wished all Merry Christmas and happy new year. Councilor Platz gave an update on the School Committee.

**c. Student Representative Report** – None.

**d. City Manager Report** – The City will begin outlining the schedule for the FY26 budget. The City Manager will be meeting with the School Superintendent in preparation for the joint workshop on January 6. Addressed recruitment of city staff for various positions and retention of staff.

**e. Quarterly Corrective Action Report as part of the 2024 October Finance Report was presented by Kelsey Earle, Finance Director.** Motion to accept the report by Councilor Milks, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Passed 7-0.

**VIII. Open Session**

Jason Levesque, Youngs Corner Road  
Evan Cyr, Auburn

**IX. Executive Session**

**X. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Wesiner, seconded by Councilor Milks. Motion passed 7-0 and adjourned at 9:54pm.

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST**

Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk

**IN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING DECEMBER 19, 2024 VOL 37 PAGE 215**

Mayor Harmon opened the special meeting at 5:30pm in Auburn Hall. Student Representatives Anaya Egge and Mubarik Abdulahi were absent. Councilor Whiting was absent.

**New Business**

1. **ORDER 145-12192024** - Reallocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds in the amount of \$308,226.37.

Staff projects recommended for consideration:

- Project #52 – 121 Mill Street Community Resource Center: Increase original allocation of \$438,702.83 by \$208,226.37 for total of \$646,929.20
- Project 23 – Small Area Master Planning: Increase original allocation of \$300,000.00 by \$100,000 for total of \$400,000.00

Councilor Weisner moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan.

Councilor Walker moved to strike the recommended allocation to Project 52 and instead allocate the \$208,226.37 toward Project 6 (Lake Grove Municipal Beach). Seconded by Councilor Milks.

Motion passed 6-0, as amended.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Cowan, seconded by Councilor Weisner. Motion passed 6-0. Council adjourned at 5:36pm.

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST**

Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk