

## City Council Workshop & Meeting Agenda

February 17, 2026

Auburn Hall, Council Chambers

### 1. 5:30 PM Workshop

File: [1. Revaluation Update - Assessor's Office](#)

File: [2. Maine Waste to Energy \(Mid-Maine Waste Action Corporation\) Funding Requirement](#)

File: [3. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405\(6\) \(D\) for labor negotiations with Police Department Patrol.](#)

File: [4. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405\(6\) \(A\) for the City Manager's quarterly evaluation.](#)

### 2. 7:00 PM Meeting

**Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call** - *Roll call votes will begin with Councilor Walker*

### 3. 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 so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. Passage of items on the Consent Agenda requires majority vote.*

1. **ORDER 17-02172026** – Appointing Peggy Walton to the Homelessness Committee for an unexpired term that ends 08/30/26, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
2. **ORDER 18-02172026** – Appointing Kathy Shaw to the Planning Board, Associate Member, for a term that ends 01/01/28, as nominated by the Appointment Committee
3. **ORDER 19 –02172026** - Appointing Chelsea Eaton to the Planning Board, Associate Member, for a term that ends 01/01/29, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

4. **ORDER 20-02172026** – Appointing Ryan Walker to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board for an unexpired term that ends 09/30/26, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
5. **ORDER 21-02172026** – Appointing Patrick DeFillipp to the Auburn Sewerage District Board of Trustees for a term that ends 3/1/29, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.
6. **ORDER 22-02172026** – Accepting an Asset Forfeiture from the State of Maine Criminal Courts to the Auburn Police Department from an incident dated October 18, 2024.

File: [ORDER 17-21 - Appointments](#)

File: [ORDER 22 - Asset Forfeiture](#)

#### 4. **II. Minutes**

File: [February 2, 2026 DRAFT Meeting Minutes](#)

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

- Recognizing Shanna Cox, Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce President & CEO
- Board/Committee Vacancies & Term Expirations – Emily Carrington, City Clerk

#### 6. **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.*

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

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

File: [ORDER 23-02172026 - Amending Master Fee Schedule to include 2026 EMS Billing Rates.](#)

File: [ORDER 24-02172026 – Granting FSE Class A Restaurant liquor license to El Tequila Mexican Restaurant of Auburn, 245 Center St. Public hearing.](#)

File: [ORDER 25-02172026 - Authorizing Maine Waste to Energy \(Mid-Maine Waste Action Corporation\) Funding Requirement.](#)

File: [PUBLIC HEARING - Prior to drafting CDBG & HOME Consortium Action Plan for Program Year 2026.](#)

#### 9. **VII. Reports**

- a. Mayor's Report
- b. City Councilors' Reports
- c. Student Representative Report
- d. City Manager Report

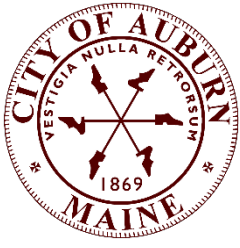
#### 10. **VIII. Open Session**

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**11. IX. Executive Session**

**12. X. Adjournment**

The City of Auburn welcomes everyone. Language assistance, accessibility supports, and other accommodations are available for public meetings upon request.  
If possible, please contact the City Clerk's Office at least 48 hours in advance so we can assist you.



**City of Auburn  
City Council Information Sheet**

**Council Workshop or Meeting Date:** February 17, 2026

**Author:** Karen Scammon, CMA-4

**Subject:** Council update-revaluation

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**Information:** Assessing Department overview and revaluation update

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**City Budgetary Impacts:** none

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**Previous Meetings and History:** Revaluation public outreach beginning in 2024

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**City Manager Comments:** *Phillip Crowell Jr.*

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**Attachments:** Power Point presentation

# The Assessing Team

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- Karen Scammon, CMA-4, Assessor
- Joseph St. Peter, CMA-4, Deputy Assessor
- Azadeh Mashhadi, CMA-2, Appraiser II
- Connor Doberstein, CMA, Appraiser





# Assessor Duties

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Assessors are Agents of the State acting under the direction of the State Tax Assessor when performing assessment duties.

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All duties must adhere to the Maine Constitution, State law, and Case law when valuing property.

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The law requires assessors to inventory and determine the value of all real and personal property, both taxable and non-taxable, in their jurisdiction each year as of April 1.

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The Maine Constitution requires all taxes be apportioned and assessed equally according to just value. (Article IX Section 8)

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The Maine constitution requires assessors make a general valuation of their municipality at least once every ten years.

# Partial list of Assessing responsibilities

- Permit Inspections
- Process/ audit exemption applications
- Administer the Special Land Use Tax Programs
- Monitor terms of TIF properties/update TIF valuations
- Process all land splits/merges
- Provide updates for GIS maps
- Process all abatements/supplementals
- Perform ongoing Sales Ratio Studies
- State reports: Turnaround Document, Municipal Valuation Return, Maine Forestry Service Tree Growth Roster
- Tax Commitment
- Annual canvas of businesses
- Update information in Patriot CAMA system
- Prepare personal property mailings
- Process 706-A business asset forms
- Process all BETE exemption applications
- Process all BETR applications

# TAX RATE FORMULA

**BUDGET**



**ASSESSED  
VALUE**



**TAX  
RATE**





# Calculation of the Tax Rate

Municipality: Auburn

## BE SURE TO COMPLETE THIS FORM BEFORE FILLING IN THE TAX ASSESSMENT WARRANT

1.	Total taxable value of real estate	1	<b>\$2,392,794,555</b> <small>(from page 1, line 6)</small>
2.	Total taxable value of personal property	2	<b>\$96,970,069</b> <small>(from page 1, line 10)</small>
3.	Total taxable value of real estate and personal property (Line 1 plus line 2)	3	<b>\$2,489,764,624</b> <small>(from page 1, line 11)</small>
4. a.	Total exempt value for all homestead exemptions granted	4a.	<b>\$91,846,850</b> <small>(from Page 1, line 14f)</small>
	b. Homestead exemption reimbursement value	4b.	<b>\$69,803,606</b>
5. a.	Total exempt value of all BETE qualified property	5a.	<b>\$231,168,548</b> <small>(from page 2, line 15c)</small>
	b. BETE exemption reimbursement value	5b.	<b>\$129,523,737</b>
6.	Total valuation base (Line 3 + line 4b + line 5b)	6	<b>\$2,689,091,967</b>

### ASSESSMENTS

7.	County tax	7	<b>\$3,385,568.00</b>
8.	Municipal appropriation	8	<b>\$57,329,163.00</b>
9.	TIF financial plan amount	9	<b>\$3,879,149</b> <small>(must match page 2, line 16c + 16d)</small>
10.	Local education appropriation	10	<b>\$20,988,252.00</b>
11.	Total appropriations (Add lines 7 through 10)	11	<b>\$85,582,132.00</b>

### ALLOWABLE DEDUCTIONS

12.	Anticipated state municipal revenue sharing	12	<b>\$7,200,000.00</b>
13.	Other revenues: (All other revenues that have been formally appropriated to reduce the commitment such as excise tax revenue, T.G. reimbursement, renewable energy reimbursement, trust fund or bank interest income, appropriated surplus revenue, etc. (Do not include any homestead or BETE reimbursement))	13	<b>\$17,238,975.00</b>

14.	Total deductions (Line 12 plus line 13)	14	<b>\$24,438,975.00</b>
15.	Net to be raised by local property tax rate (Line 11 minus line 14)	15	<b>\$61,143,157.00</b>

16.	<b>\$61,143,157.00</b> <small>(Amount from line 15)</small>	x	<b>1.05</b>	=	<b>\$64,200,314.85</b>	Maximum Allowable Tax
17.	<b>\$61,143,157.00</b> <small>(Amount from line 15)</small>	+	<b>\$2,689,091,967</b> <small>(Amount from line 6)</small>	=	<b>0.02274</b>	Minimum Tax Rate
18.	<b>\$64,200,314.85</b> <small>(Amount from line 16)</small>	+	<b>\$2,689,091,967</b> <small>(Amount from line 6)</small>	=	<b>0.02387</b>	Maximum Tax Rate
19.	<b>\$2,489,764,624.00</b> <small>(Amount from line 3)</small>	x	<b>0.02288</b> <small>(Selected Rate)</small>	=	<b>\$56,965,814.60</b> <small>(Enter on page 1, line 13)</small>	Tax for Commitment
20.	<b>\$61,143,157.00</b> <small>(Amount from line 15)</small>	x	<b>0.05</b>	=	<b>\$3,057,157.85</b>	Maximum Overlay
21.	<b>\$69,803,606</b>	x	<b>0.02288</b>	=	<b>\$1,597,106.51</b>	Homestead Reimbursement

## Why a Revaluation?



A revaluation is performed with the goal of bringing all property values to 100% of current market value



Values are rebalanced ensuring all property owners pay their fair share of the tax burden



Article IX Section 8 of Maine's Constitution states: "All taxes upon real and personal estate, assessed by authority of this State, shall be apportioned and assessed equally according to just value thereof."

## Why choose now to revalue properties?

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The State certified ratio for Auburn has been dropping over several years

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Exemptions and reimbursements must be adjusted by the declared ratio

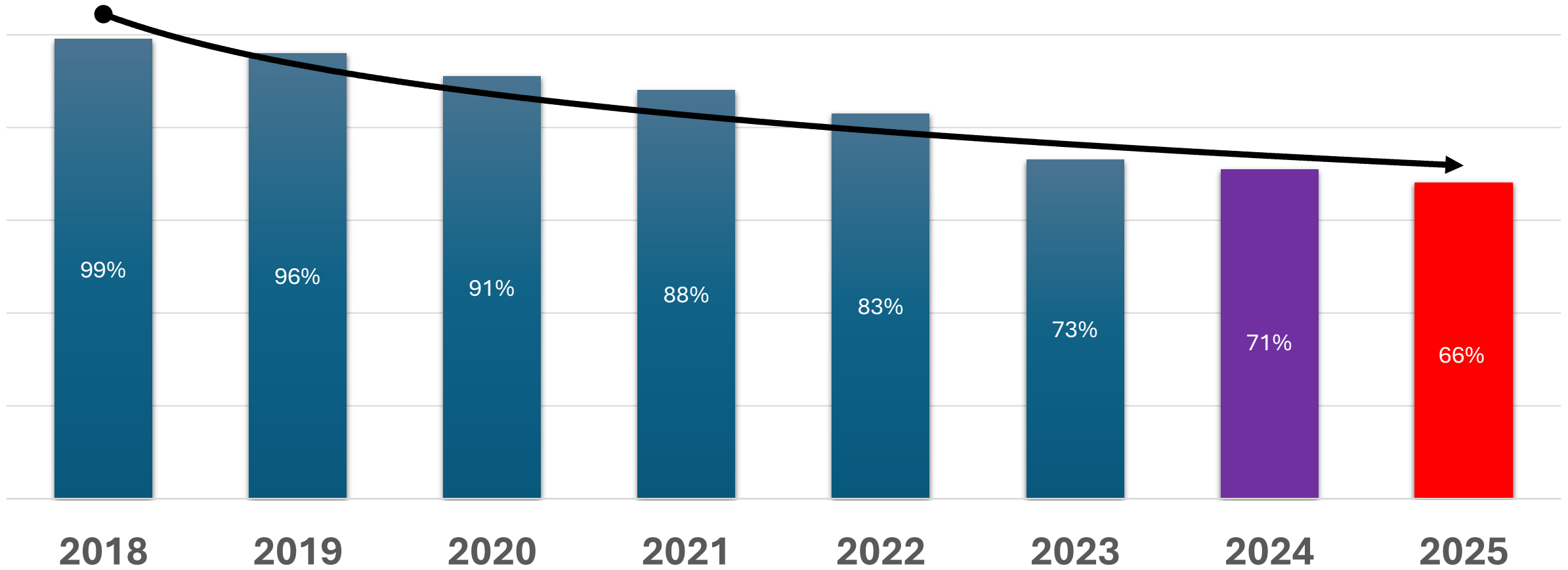
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When the valuation base drops the mil rate increases to cover budget costs

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Taxes increase

## City of Auburn - State Certified Ratio



# The Revaluation Begins



KRT Appraisal and the City of Auburn entered into a revaluation contract September 2024



9486+/- residential, commercial, industrial, improved and vacant parcels will be reviewed



Additionally, KRT Appraisal will review the personal property appraisal methods and depreciation schedules and make any recommendations for updates if needed




Data Collectors began residential inspections November 2024



A large orange circle on the left side of the slide, partially cut off by the edge.

# Public Outreach

- Council workshop – Aug 2024
  - Rolly's Diner – Public Meeting – Aug 2024
  - Senior Center Public Meeting– Sept 2024
  - Karen & Joe – Podcast – Sept 2024
  - Auburn Hall - KRT & Assessing Dept – Nov 2024
  - Newspaper article – Jan 2025
  - Newspaper article – Feb 2025
  - Tax bill insert update – Aug 2025
  - Council workshop – Feb 2026
- 
- A blue dashed line in the bottom right corner, consisting of several curved segments.

# I received a postcard. What happens next?



A KRT Data Collector will be at your property within the next 60 days.



They will knock, introduce themselves, and request an interior/exterior inspection of your property.



If you choose **not** to have an interior inspection, they will ask you to verify information on your current property record card such as floor cover, heat type, heat source, # of bathrooms, any recent updates to the property, etc.



If you are not home when the Data Collectors arrive, they will do an exterior inspection including measuring the exterior and all outbuildings.



They will take an exterior photo.



If you choose not to have an interior or exterior inspection when they visit, they will give you the option to call the Auburn Assessing Department and schedule a convenient time to come back for the

# How Do I Know the Collectors are Legit?

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- Pictures of the Data Collectors and their vehicles are posted on both the City and KRT Appraisal websites
- Collectors wear City of Auburn ID badges with pictures
- Collectors wear vests with the KRT logo and the vehicles have KRT Appraisal magnets
- Data Collectors and their vehicles are registered with the Auburn Police Department
- Collectors carry a Letter of Introduction from the assessor. The Assessing Department and Police Department telephone numbers are listed in the letter







# I work during the day; I am away for the winter ....

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If a Data Collector visits your property, knocks, and gets no response they will proceed to do the exterior inspection of the property.



KRT Appraisal staff is tracking all properties where no one was home at the time of the first visit. A second attempt will be made after 5pm or Saturday after the initial visit.



If the second attempt is unsuccessful, a letter will be sent to the property owner requesting you call and schedule an appointment.



The Assessing Department staff will assist KRT Appraisal with follow up appointments.



We will make every attempt to accommodate your schedule.



# Will my valuation increase or decrease as a result of the inspection?

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If an error or omission is found during the inspection such as basement finish, additional bathrooms, outbuildings, etc., not previously assessed these will be added immediately.

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Conversely, if you no longer have a shed, pool, basement finish, etc., these items will be removed immediately.

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Adjustments for condition of improvements will be also be made immediately. This may result in a temporary increase *or decrease* in valuation.

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City-wide valuation adjustments attributed to the revaluation will be implemented at the conclusion of the revaluation. Values will be set as of April 1, 2027.

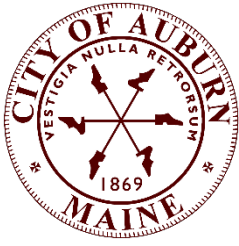
# Data Collection Progress as of January 2026

- Total vacant and improved residential parcels to be visited: 7,481
- Improved residential parcels visited to date: 4,675
- Vacant parcels visited to date: 486
- 69% of all residential have been visited
- 506 properties have had interior/exterior inspections
- 813 properties have provided information at door-no interior inspection
- 81 property owners have refused all requests

# Conclusion

- Values will be set as of April 1, 2027
- Final products; record cards, manuals, valuation support data, etc. will be delivered no later than August 1, 2027
- The Assessing staff must proof the values and data before valuation letters are sent to property owners. This could be a months long process
- Meetings will be scheduled for taxpayers wishing to discuss their updated valuation
- Adjustments will be made if necessary
- It is likely taxpayers will not see the new values until the 2028 tax bills





**City of Auburn**  
**City Council Information Sheet**

**Council Workshop or Meeting Date:** February 17, 2026

**Author:** Phil Crowell, City Manager

**Subject:** Maine Waste to Energy (Mid-Maine Waste Action Corporation) Funding Requirement

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**Background:**

In June 1986, the City of Auburn, along with eleven participating municipalities, created Mid-Maine Waste Action Corporation (Maine Waste to Energy) to manage regional waste disposal. At the MWE Board of Directors meeting on June 19, 2025, the board voted to levy a \$1,000,000 assessment on participating municipalities to address a funding deficiency for plant operations. Under the interlocal agreement, Auburn's proportionate share is 62.2%, which equals \$620,152.13.

**Budget Requirement:**

A condition of this assessment was the adoption of an updated FY26 budget reflecting all incurred and anticipated costs for the plant. On February 11, 2026, the MWE Board of Directors received and approved the final revised FY26 budget.

**City Action:**

An order will be presented to appropriate funds necessary for Auburn's share of the assessment. The City Manager recommends using fund balance proceeds to cover this cost. The City Manager will also provide at the workshop with an update on the financial impact on the proposed FY27 budget.

**Proposed Order:**

*Be it ordered that the Finance Director is hereby authorized and directed to expend fund balance proceeds in the amount of \$620,152.13 to pay the invoice from Maine Waste to Energy for Auburn's proportionate share of the FY26 funding assessment.*

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**City Budgetary Impacts:** \$620,152.13

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**Staff Recommended Action:** Allocate the required funds to pay the MWE invoice.

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**Previous Meetings and History:** NA

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**City Manager Comments:**



I concur with the recommendation. Signature:

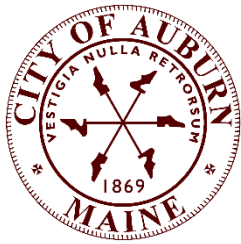
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**Attachments:** MWE ASSESSMENT FEE ALLOCATION SHEET

**MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE STATISTICS**  
**MWE MEMBER TONNAGE/EQUITY %**  
**INCLUDING COMMERCIAL WASTE**  
**02/07/90 - 5/25**

<b>Member Municipalities</b>	<b>%MSW</b>	<b>\$1M Assessment</b>
<b>Auburn</b>	62.02%	620,152.13
<b>Bowdoin</b>	1.87%	18,672.35
<b>Buckfield/Sumner</b>	2.93%	29,333.64
<b>Lovell/Sweden</b>	2.29%	22,878.59
<b>Minot</b>	3.26%	32,572.16
<b>Monmouth/Wales</b>	4.77%	47,656.46
<b>New Gloucester</b>	7.47%	74,658.21
<b>Poland</b>	8.74%	87,390.49
<b>Raymond</b>	6.67%	66,685.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 1,000,000.00</b>





## City of Auburn City Council Information Sheet

**Council Workshop or Meeting Date:** February 17, 2026

**Subject:** Executive Session

**Information:** Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6) (D) for labor negotiations with Police Department Patrol.

**Executive Session:** On occasion, the City Council discusses matters which are required or allowed by State law to be considered in executive session. Executive sessions are not open to the public. The matters that are discussed in executive session are required to be kept confidential until they become a matter of public discussion. In order to go into executive session, a Councilor must make a motion in public. The motion must be recorded, and 3/5 of the members of the Council must vote to go into executive session. An executive session is not required to be scheduled in advance as an agenda item, although when it is known at the time that the agenda is finalized, it will be listed on the agenda. The only topics which may be discussed in executive session are those that fall within one of the categories set forth in Title 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6). Those applicable to municipal government are:

A. Discussion or consideration of the employment, appointment, assignment, duties, promotion, demotion, compensation, evaluation, disciplining, resignation or dismissal of an individual or group of public officials, appointees or employees of the body or agency or the investigation or hearing of charges or complaints against a person or persons subject to the following conditions:

- (1) An executive session may be held only if public discussion could be reasonably expected to cause damage to the individual's reputation or the individual's right to privacy would be violated;
  - (2) Any person charged or investigated must be permitted to be present at an executive session if that person so desires;
  - (3) Any person charged or investigated may request in writing that the investigation or hearing of charges or complaints against that person be conducted in open session. A request, if made to the agency, must be honored; and
  - (4) Any person bringing charges, complaints or allegations of misconduct against the individual under discussion must be permitted to be present.
- This paragraph does not apply to discussion of a budget or budget proposal;

B. Discussion or consideration by a school board of suspension or expulsion of a public school student or a student at a private school, the cost of whose education is paid from public funds, as long as:

- (1) The student and legal counsel and, if the student is a minor, the student's parents or legal guardians are permitted to be present at an executive session if the student, parents or guardians so desire;

C. Discussion or consideration of the condition, acquisition or the use of real or personal property permanently attached to real property or interests therein or disposition of publicly held property or economic development only if premature disclosures of the information would prejudice the competitive or bargaining position of the body or agency;

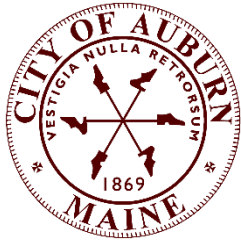
D. Discussion of labor contracts and proposals and meetings between a public agency and its negotiators. The parties must be named before the body or agency may go into executive session. Negotiations between the representatives of a public employer and public employees may be open to the public if both parties agree to conduct negotiations in open sessions;

E. Consultations between a body or agency and its attorney concerning the legal rights and duties of the body or agency, pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers and matters where the duties of the public body's or agency's counsel to the attorney's client pursuant to the code of professional responsibility clearly conflict with this subchapter or where premature general public knowledge would clearly place the State, municipality or other public agency or person at a substantial disadvantage;

F. Discussions of information contained in records made, maintained or received by a body or agency when access by the general public to those records is prohibited by statute;

G. Discussion or approval of the content of examinations administered by a body or agency for licensing, permitting or employment purposes; consultation between a body or agency and any entity that provides examination services to that body or agency regarding the content of an examination; and review of examinations with the person examined; and

H. Consultations between municipal officers and a code enforcement officer representing the municipality pursuant to Title 30-A, section 4452, subsection 1, paragraph C in the prosecution of an enforcement matter pending in District Court when the consultation relates to that pending enforcement matter.



## City of Auburn City Council Information Sheet

**Council Workshop or Meeting Date:** February 17, 2026

**Subject:** Executive Session

**Information:** Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6) (A) for the City Manager's quarterly evaluation.

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A. Discussion or consideration of the employment, appointment, assignment, duties, promotion, demotion, compensation, evaluation, disciplining, resignation or dismissal of an individual or group of public officials, appointees or employees of the body or agency or the investigation or hearing of charges or complaints against a person or persons subject to the following conditions:

- (1) An executive session may be held only if public discussion could be reasonably expected to cause damage to the individual's reputation or the individual's right to privacy would be violated;
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- (4) Any person bringing charges, complaints or allegations of misconduct against the individual under discussion must be permitted to be present. This paragraph does not apply to discussion of a budget or budget proposal;

B. Discussion or consideration by a school board of suspension or expulsion of a public school student or a student at a private school, the cost of whose education is paid from public funds, as long as:

- (1) The student and legal counsel and, if the student is a minor, the student's parents or legal guardians are permitted to be present at an executive session if the student, parents or guardians so desire;

C. Discussion or consideration of the condition, acquisition or the use of real or personal property permanently attached to real property or interests therein or disposition of publicly held property or economic development only if premature disclosures of the information would prejudice the competitive or bargaining position of the body or agency;

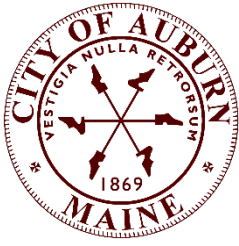
D. Discussion of labor contracts and proposals and meetings between a public agency and its negotiators. The parties must be named before the body or agency may go into executive session. Negotiations between the representatives of a public employer and public employees may be open to the public if both parties agree to conduct negotiations in open sessions;

E. Consultations between a body or agency and its attorney concerning the legal rights and duties of the body or agency, pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers and matters where the duties of the public body's or agency's counsel to the attorney's client pursuant to the code of professional responsibility clearly conflict with this subchapter or where premature general public knowledge would clearly place the State, municipality or other public agency or person at a substantial disadvantage;

F. Discussions of information contained in records made, maintained or received by a body or agency when access by the general public to those records is prohibited by statute;

G. Discussion or approval of the content of examinations administered by a body or agency for licensing, permitting or employment purposes; consultation between a body or agency and any entity that provides examination services to that body or agency regarding the content of an examination; and review of examinations with the person examined; and

H. Consultations between municipal officers and a code enforcement officer representing the municipality pursuant to Title 30-A, section 4452, subsection 1, paragraph C in the prosecution of an enforcement matter pending in District Court when the consultation relates to that pending enforcement matter.



**City of Auburn  
City Council Information Sheet**

**Council Workshop or Meeting Date:** February 17, 2026

**ORDER 17-02172026 through  
ORDER 21-02172026**

**Author:** Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk

**Subject:** Appointments – Boards & Committees

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**Information:** The Appointment Committee met on February 9, 2026 to consider applications received for the following Board & Committee vacancies. The posted deadline to receive applications was February 2. The Appointment Committee has nominated the following:

- Homelessness Committee (Resident with Lived Experience) – Peggy Walton
- Planning Board (Associate Member) – Chelsea Eaton & Kathy Shaw
- Parks & Recreation Advisory Board – Ryan Walker
- Auburn Sewerage District Board of Trustees – Patrick DePhillip

Residents are reminded that vacancies are posted on the City's website, and applications are accepted for posted vacancies until March 2, 2026.

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**City Budgetary Impacts:** N/A

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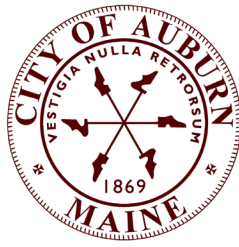
**Previous Meetings and History:** N/A

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**City Manager Comments:**

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**Attachments:** N/A



**ORDER 17-02172026**

# City Council Order

IN COUNCIL

**ORDERED**, that Peggy Walton be appointed to the Homelessness Committee for an unexpired term that ends 08/30/26, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

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**Rachel B. Randall**, Ward One  
**Kelly L. Butler**, Ward Four  
**Belinda A. Gerry**, At Large

**Timothy M. Cowan**, Ward Two  
**Leroy G. Walker, Sr.**, Ward Five  
**Jeffrey D. Harmon**, Mayor

**Mathieu L. Duvall**, Ward Three  
**Adam R. Platz**, At Large  
**Phillip L. Crowell, Jr.**, City Manager



**ORDER 18-02172026**

# City Council Order

IN COUNCIL

**ORDERED**, that Kathy Shaw be appointed to the Planning Board, Associate Member, for a term that ends 01/01/28, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

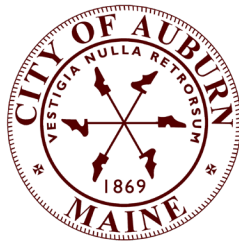
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**Jeffrey D. Harmon**, Mayor

**Mathieu L. Duvall**, Ward Three  
**Adam R. Platz**, At Large  
**Phillip L. Crowell, Jr.**, City Manager





**ORDER 19-02172026**

# City Council Order

IN COUNCIL

**ORDERED**, that Chelsea Eaton be appointed to the Planning Board, Associate Member, for a term that ends 01/01/29, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

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**Rachel B. Randall**, Ward One  
**Kelly L. Butler**, Ward Four  
**Belinda A. Gerry**, At Large

**Timothy M. Cowan**, Ward Two  
**Leroy G. Walker, Sr.**, Ward Five  
**Jeffrey D. Harmon**, Mayor

**Mathieu L. Duvall**, Ward Three  
**Adam R. Platz**, At Large  
**Phillip L. Crowell, Jr.**, City Manager



**ORDER 20-02172026**

# City Council Order

IN COUNCIL

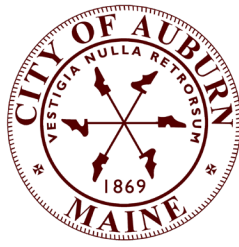
**ORDERED**, that Ryan Walker be appointed to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board for an unexpired term that ends 09/30/26, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

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**Rachel B. Randall**, Ward One  
**Kelly L. Butler**, Ward Four  
**Belinda A. Gerry**, At Large

**Timothy M. Cowan**, Ward Two  
**Leroy G. Walker, Sr.**, Ward Five  
**Jeffrey D. Harmon**, Mayor

**Mathieu L. Duvall**, Ward Three  
**Adam R. Platz**, At Large  
**Phillip L. Crowell, Jr.**, City Manager



**ORDER 21-02172026**

# City Council Order

IN COUNCIL

**ORDERED**, that Patrick DeFillipp be appointed to the Auburn Sewerage District Board of Trustees for a term that ends 3/1/29, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

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**Rachel B. Randall**, Ward One  
**Kelly L. Butler**, Ward Four  
**Belinda A. Gerry**, At Large

**Timothy M. Cowan**, Ward Two  
**Leroy G. Walker, Sr.**, Ward Five  
**Jeffrey D. Harmon**, Mayor

**Mathieu L. Duvall**, Ward Three  
**Adam R. Platz**, At Large  
**Phillip L. Crowell, Jr.**, City Manager



**City of Auburn  
City Council Information Sheet**

**Council Workshop or Meeting Date:** February 17, 2026

**ORDER 22-02172026**

**Author:** Jason D. Moen, Chief of Police

**Subject:** Transfer of forfeiture assets – Jose F. Mota, Jr.

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**Information:** On October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Auburn Police Department executed a search warrant on a camper parked in the driveway of 21 Swett Ave, as well as a residence at 124 Goff Street Apartment 2, as part of a drug trafficking investigation. During the execution of these warrants, Officers seized a .45 caliber Glock 21 Gen 4 handgun, trafficking amounts of illegal drugs as well as drug packaging, scales and cash. The Criminal Courts have forfeited \$513.00 in U.S. currency and the .45 caliber handgun to the Auburn Police Department.

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**City Budgetary Impacts:** The state of Maine, Office of the Attorney General, seeks to transfer \$513 in US currency to the Auburn Police Department.

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**Previous Meetings and History:** None

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**City Manager Comments:**

I concur with the recommendation. Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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**Attachments:**

AARON M. FREY  
ATTORNEY GENERAL



STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
6 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0006

TEL: (207) 626-8800  
TTY USERS CALL MAINE RELAY 711

REGIONAL OFFICES  
84 HARLOW ST. 2ND FLOOR  
BANGOR, MAINE 04401  
TEL: (207) 941-3070  
FAX: (207) 941-3075

125 PRESUMPSCOT ST., SUITE 26  
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103  
TEL: (207) 822-0260  
FAX: (207) 822-0259

14 ACCESS HIGHWAY, STE. 1  
CARIBOU, MAINE 04736  
TEL: (207) 496-3792  
FAX: (207) 496-3291

January 20, 2026

Chief Jason Moen  
Auburn Police Department  
60 Court Street  
Auburn, ME 04210

RE: State of Maine v. Jose F. Mota Jr.  
Androscoggin County Unified Criminal Court  
Doc. No. CR-24-2572  
**Criminal Forfeiture**  
Required Vote of Municipal Officers/ Approval of Transfer of Forfeiture Assets

Dear Chief Moen:

Enclosed please find a draft Approval form for submission to the municipal officers.

Please inform the municipal officers that:

A. 15 M.R.S.A. §5824(3) requires that, before any forfeitable item may be transferred to a State Agency, County or Municipality, the municipal legislative body must publicly vote to accept the item(s) **if subsequently ordered forfeited by the Court;**

B. Under Rules issued by the Department of the Attorney General, a public vote must be made on each forfeiture "approval" and a "continuing resolution" of approval cannot be accepted;

C. As with all forfeitures, an approval of a transfer by the municipal legislative body does not guarantee either that the Defendant(s) In Rem will in fact be forfeited or, if forfeited, that the Court will order the item(s) transferred to the approving Department, Agency, County or Municipality. The municipal legislative body's approval only signifies that, if the Defendant(s) In Rem are in fact ordered forfeited and, if the Attorney General and the Court agree to a transfer of all or part of the Defendant(s) In Rem to a Department, Agency,

County or Municipality based upon the "substantial contribution" of that Department, Agency, County or Municipality, then that entity is in fact, willing to accept the Defendant(s) In Rem or portions thereof. In order to streamline what is otherwise a cumbersome forfeiture process, it is our practice to seek State, county or municipal approval in anticipation of the final order of forfeiture. However, final forfeiture is not guaranteed and both the municipal legislative body and the law enforcement agency involved are **cautioned** that they **should not encumber** funds or property until a Final Order granting them lawful title to the property is delivered to them;

D. Under the provisions of the Forfeiture Statute, if the municipal legislative body fails to approve a transfer in a timely manner, any forfeited items shall be transferred to the State of Maine General Fund.

Assuming your municipal legislative body does grant its approval, kindly see to it that the accompanying form is signed by the appropriate person and is "embossed" with the seal of the municipality. Then, please return the **original** to me for filing, and retain a copy for your records.

My sincere thanks for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John Risler  
Assistant Attorney General

JR/ml  
Enclosure

STATE OF MAINE  
ANDROSCOGGIN, ss

UNIFIED CRIMINAL COURT  
AUBURN  
Docket No. ANDCD-CR-2024-02572

State of Maine

v.

Jose F. Mota Jr.

Defendant;

And

\$513.00 U.S. Currency

Defendant(s) In Rem #1

.45 Caliber Glock 21 Gen 4 Handgun

S/N: AHEF206

Defendant(s) In Rem #2

Municipality of Auburn

Approval of Transfer

15 M.R.S.A. §5824(3)

NOW COMES the Municipality of Auburn, Maine, by and through its municipal officers, and does hereby grant approval pursuant to 15 M.R.S.A. §5824(3) & §5826(6) to the transfer of the above captioned Defendant(s) in Rem, namely \$513.00 U.S. Currency and one .45 Caliber Glock 21 Gen 4 Handgun (S/N: AHEF206), or any portion thereof, on the grounds that the Auburn Police Department did make a substantial contribution to the investigation of this or a related criminal case.

WHEREFORE, the Municipality of Auburn, Maine, does hereby approve of the transfer of the Defendant(s) In Rem, or any portion thereof, pursuant to 15 M.R.S.A. §5824(3) & §5826(6) by vote of the Auburn municipal legislative body on or about

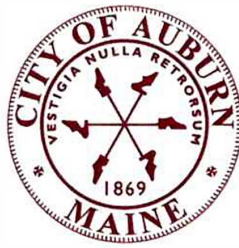
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Municipal Officer

Auburn, Maine

(Impress municipal legislative body seal here)





**ORDER 22-02172026**

# City Council Order

**IN COUNCIL**

**ORDERED**, Accept the transfer of ownership of .45 caliber Glock 21 Gen 4 handgun S/N: AHEF206 Defendant in Rem #2 and \$513 in US currency Defendant in Rem #1 to the Auburn Police Department. (Unified Criminal Court Doc. No. CR-2024-2572)

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**Rachel B. Randall**, Ward One  
**Kelly L. Butler**, Ward Four  
**Belinda A. Gerry**, At Large

**Timothy M. Cowan**, Ward Two  
**Leroy G. Walker, Sr.**, Ward Five  
**Jeffrey D. Harmon**, Mayor

**Mathieu L. Duvall**, Ward Three  
**Adam R. Platz**, At Large  
**Phillip L. Crowell, Jr.**, City Manager



## City Council Workshop & Meeting Agenda

Februaury 2, 2026

Auburn Hall, Council Chambers

### 1. 5:30 PM Workshop

- FY27 Budget - City Manager Phil Crowell & Superintendent Dr. Susan Dorris
- Syringe Service Program - Continued Discussion

### 2. 7:00 PM Meeting

**Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call** - *Roll call votes will begin with Councilor Duvall*

Minutes:

Mayor Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. Student Representatives Abdulahi and Edwards were absent.

### 3. 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 so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. Passage of items on the Consent Agenda requires majority vote.*

### 4. II. Minutes

Minutes:

January 20, 2026 minutes were accepted with the following corrections:

- Motion to ORDER 16 to reflect the item will also be referred to the SNRB with an update to the

Council no later than 2/25/26.

- Correcting the spelling – JA-LYNNE Park

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

File: [January 20, 2026 - Draft Meeting Minutes](#)

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

- **Winter Storm Operations Update - Scott Holland, Public Works Director**

Minutes:

Public Works Director, Scott Holland, presented on Winter Operations. Mr. Holland discussed use of salt and sand on the road; Chief Moen explained the reasoning on closing Goff Hill due to public safety reasons.

Jay Brenchick, Economic Development Director, provided an update on Economic Development for the 2025 year.

Councilor Platz asked about the timing of the reimbursement process for septic inspections. Mr. Cousens answered it was within the quarter that the inspection was performed.

File: [2025 Economic Development Update](#)

File: [Lake Auburn Watershed Subsurface Wastewater \(SSWW\) System Inspections Update](#)

File: [Vacant & Abandoned Buildings Update](#)

**6. 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.*

Minutes:

None.

**7. V. Unfinished Business**

- 1. 1) ORDINANCE 03-01202026 - Granting a 180 day moratorium extension regarding Needle Exchange Services.**

*Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.*

Minutes:

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan.

There was no public comment on this item.

Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

File: [ORDINANCE 03](#)

- 2. 2) ORDINANCE 04-01202026 – Granting a 180 day moratorium prohibiting rent or fee increases at Mobile Home Parks.**

*Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.*

Minutes:

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Butler.

The following spoke during public hearing:  
Frank LeChair, Washington Park Rd  
Juliette St. Amand, Auburn  
Sharon Dickinson, Ja-Lynne  
Laurie N, Canton; Maine Labor Climate Council  
Motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.  
File: [ORDINANCE 04](#)

**8. VI. New Business**

**9. VII. Reports**

- a. Mayor's Report**
- b. City Councilors' Reports**
- c. Student Representative Report**
- d. City Manager Report**

Minutes:

Mayor Harmon attended the grand re-opening of Ottos Pizza.  
Councilor Gerry asked to be excused; left the meeting at 8:23pm.  
Councilor Randall shared that she is getting prepared for the upcoming budget planning discussions.  
Councilor Cowan spoke on the point time count process held in January. Thank you to all involved who helped with this program; lots of hard work went into this.  
Councilor Platz gave an update on the School Department on the upcoming budget planning discussions related to serving on the School Committee as the Mayor's representative; the Council will vote on the overall budget but the School Committee will set the terms of how the money is allocated.  
Manager Crowell shared an update on the Grab and Go program (using ARPA funds); due to changes with GSFB we are unable to continue with a third party vendor. By March 1, this program will end.  
Other resources in the community will be made available.

**10. VIII. 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.*

Minutes:

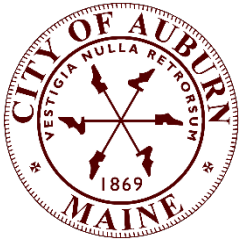
None.

**11. IX. Executive Session**

**12. X. Adjournment**

Minutes:

Councilor Walker moved to adjourn at 8:28pm, seconded by Councilor Cowan.  
Motion passed 7-0.



**City of Auburn  
City Council Information Sheet**

**Council Workshop or Meeting Date:** February 17, 2026

**ORDER 23-02172026**

**Author:** Robert Chase, Fire Chief

**Subject:** Updated EMS Billing Rates

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**Information:**

EMS agencies are limited to a maximum of 5% increase to EMS rates per calendar year.

Insurance companies are required to pay 180% to 200% of the allowable Medicare reimbursement rate, or the established rate, **whichever is lower**.

We routinely adjust our EMS rates to ensure they remain at or above 200% of the Medicare rates to maximize reimbursements from insurance companies.

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**City Budgetary Impacts:** Estimated increase EMS revenue of \$10,000

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**Previous Meetings and History:**

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**City Manager Comments:**

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**Attachments:** : EMS Transport Rate Schedule as of January 1, 2026 (Proposed)  
Letter from Medical Reimbursement Services recommending new rates



## Auburn Fire Department

550 Minot Avenue | Auburn, Maine 04210

[www.auburnmaine.gov](http://www.auburnmaine.gov) | 207.333.6633

### City of Auburn EMS Transport Rate Schedule effective January 1, 2026:

<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>ALL INCLUSIVE RATE</u>
Basic Life Support (A0429)	\$973
Advanced Life Support (A0427)	\$1213
Advanced Life Support Level 2 (A0433)	\$1764
Basic Life Support (Non-Emergency)	\$547
Advanced Life Support (Non-Emergency)	\$608
Specialty Care Transport (PIFT)	\$3087
Loaded Mile (A0425)	\$22 per mile
Paramedic Intercept	\$300
**On Scene	\$300

\*On Scene: Calls in which EMS units respond, have patient contact and provide assessment and/or treatment, but the patient does not get transported.

\*\* Lift Assists: EMS response to residential care facilities will be billed to the facility at the "On Scene" rate

- a) A residential care facility is defined as a facility that provides housing and services to residents who need care, supervision or assistance with activities of daily living.

## MEDICAL REIMBURSEMENT SERVICES

PO BOX 1810, WINDHAM, ME 04062  
December 8, 2025

PHONE (800) 734-6677

City of Auburn,

Below you will see your current rates along with our recommendation for an increase. The recommendation for the increase is due to the State of Maine's act to protect consumers for surprise emergency medical bills or L.D. 2105. It states if you are contracted with an insurance company you will receive 200% of the Medicare allowed amount for the service. It also states if you are under the 200% you can not increase your rates more than 5% each year. Your last rate increase was January 2025.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Recommended</u>	<u>200% Medicare</u>
Miles (A0425)	\$21	\$22	\$18.48
BLS (A0429)	\$926	\$973	\$927.24
ALS (A0427)	\$1,155	\$1,213	\$1,101.10
ALS 2 (A0433)	\$1,680	\$1,764	\$1,593.70
BLS Non Emergency	\$521	\$547	\$579.52
ALS Non Emergency	\$579	\$608	\$695.44
SCT (PIFT) (A0434)	\$2,940	\$3,087	\$1,883.46
*On Scene (no transport)	\$300	\$300	*
Intercept	\$300	\$300	

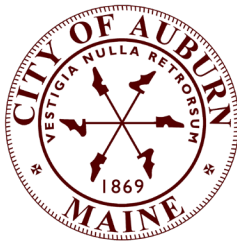
\* On Scene Charge (This is used for ALS supplies, deceased patients that you "work" and other medicine given and the patient is not transported to hospital).

Currently this code is being reimbursed at 70% or 50% bill charges, depending on if member is in or out of network (for Community Health Options)

Based on *Maine Legislation- L.D. 1602 1-A. Reimbursement for non-transport services*, that outlines A0998 rate equal to average rate of A0427 and A0429 (with all respective Geographic coefficients)-plus either at plus in network of 200% or out of network of 180%. Legislation requires payor to comply by 1/1/24.

Please let me know if you have any questions.  
Shawn McPherson





**ORDER 23-02172026**

# City Council Order

IN COUNCIL

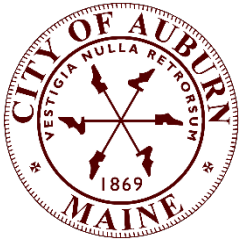
**ORDERED**, to adopt the 2026 EMS transport rate schedule effective January 1, 2026 as presented.

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**Rachel B. Randall**, Ward One  
**Kelly L. Butler**, Ward Four  
**Belinda A. Gerry**, At Large

**Timothy M. Cowan**, Ward Two  
**Leroy G. Walker, Sr.**, Ward Five  
**Jeffrey D. Harmon**, Mayor

**Mathieu L. Duvall**, Ward Three  
**Adam R. Platz**, At Large  
**Phillip L. Crowell, Jr.**, City Manager



**City of Auburn  
City Council Information Sheet**

**Council Workshop or Meeting Date:** February 17, 2026

**ORDER 24-02172026**

**Author:** Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk

**Subject:** Granting El Tequila Mexican Restaurant a FSE Class A License

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**Information:** El Tequila Mexican Restaurant, 245 Center Street, held a State liquor license (Class A Restaurant) which expired January 20, 2026. The City received a State liquor renewal application on January 27, 2026 and the establishment applied for the City food license on January 28, 2026.

The State of Maine BABLO Licensing and Enforcement division has a pending offer for a written consent agreement with the establishment for 5 liquor-related violations in 2025 based off a report provided by Auburn Police Department. These violations include selling to a minor (under age 21), as indicated in the attached application. The Police Department recommends granting the license with the condition that any further violations of serving minors results in license revocation.

The City Council has authority within Title-28 §653 to conduct a public hearing for the consideration of liquor license applications, both new and renewals and Chapter 14 of the City's Code of Ordinances requires a public hearing before the Council for any initial liquor license applications and/or changes to existing licensed establishments. Given the recent history of lapsed licensing and multiple violations, the City Clerk has deferred action to the City Council on this application and has scheduled a public hearing. Should the City Council choose to deny the liquor application based on the findings outlined in Title 28-A §653 (2) (attached), the City Council shall indicate the reasons for the decision and provide a copy to the applicant. Note: A temporary liquor license from the State of Maine was issued to the establishment for the interim until the date of this public hearing and subsequent decision by the City Council. This hearing considers only the establishment's liquor license application, not the City issued food license, which shall be issued concurrently if approved.

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**City Budgetary Impacts:** N/A

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**Previous Meetings and History:** N/A

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**City Manager Comments:**

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**Attachments:** License application, ORDER, Police Report(s)

**§653. Hearings; bureau review; appeal**

**1. Hearings.** The municipal officers or, in the case of unincorporated places, the county commissioners of the county in which the unincorporated place is located, may hold a public hearing for the consideration of applications for new on-premises licenses, applications for transfer of location of existing on-premises licenses and applications for common consumption area licenses. The municipal officers or county commissioners may hold a public hearing for the consideration of requests for renewal of licenses, except that when an applicant has held a license for the prior 5 years and a complaint has not been filed against the applicant within that time, the applicant may request a waiver of the hearing.

A. The bureau shall prepare and supply application forms. [PL 1993, c. 730, §27 (AMD).]

A-1. An applicant for a common consumption area license must certify that the applicant's premises are located within an entertainment district established in accordance with section 221. The municipal officers shall evaluate the merits of each applicant and separately issue or deny a license to each applicant. Applications for an unestablished common consumption area must be submitted jointly by all persons that seek to operate the common consumption area. A person may submit an individual application for a license to operate an established common consumption area. [PL 2019, c. 281, §6 (NEW).]

B. The municipal officers or the county commissioners, as the case may be, shall provide public notice of any hearing held under this section by causing a notice, at the applicant's or applicants' prepaid expense, stating the name and place of hearing, to appear on at least 3 consecutive days before the date of hearing in a daily newspaper having general circulation in the municipality where the premises are located or one week before the date of the hearing in a weekly newspaper having general circulation in the municipality where the premises are located. [PL 2019, c. 281, §6 (AMD).]

C. If the municipal officers or the county commissioners, as the case may be, fail to take final action on an application for a new on-premises license, transfer of the location of an existing on-premises license or common consumption area license within 60 days of the filing of an application, the application is deemed approved and ready for action by the bureau. For purposes of this paragraph, the date of filing of the application is the date the application is received by the municipal officers or county commissioners. This paragraph applies to all applications pending before municipal officers or county commissioners as of the effective date of this paragraph as well as all applications filed on or after the effective date of this paragraph. This paragraph applies to an existing on-premises license that has been extended pending renewal. The municipal officers or the county commissioners shall take final action on an on-premises license that has been extended pending renewal within 120 days of the filing of the application. [PL 2019, c. 281, §6 (AMD).]

D. If an application is approved by the municipal officers or the county commissioners but the bureau finds, after inspection of the premises and the records of the applicant, that the applicant does not qualify for the class of license applied for, the bureau shall notify the applicant of that fact in writing. The bureau shall give the applicant 30 days to file an amended application for the appropriate class of license, accompanied by any additional license fee, with the municipal officers or county commissioners, as the case may be. If the applicant fails to file an amended application within 30 days, the original application must be denied by the bureau. The bureau shall notify the applicant in writing of its decision to deny the application including the reasons for the denial and the rights of appeal of the applicant. [PL 1995, c. 140, §5 (NEW).]

[PL 2019, c. 281, §6 (AMD).]

**2. Findings.** In granting or denying an application, the municipal officers or the county commissioners shall indicate the reasons for their decision and provide a copy to the applicant. A license may be denied on one or more of the following grounds:

A. Conviction of the applicant of any Class A, Class B or Class C crime; [PL 1987, c. 45, Pt. A, §4 (NEW).]

B. Noncompliance of the licensed premises or its use with any local zoning ordinance or other land use ordinance not directly related to liquor control; [PL 1987, c. 45, Pt. A, §4 (NEW).]

C. Conditions of record such as waste disposal violations, health or safety violations or repeated parking or traffic violations on or in the vicinity of the licensed premises and caused by persons patronizing or employed by the licensed premises or other such conditions caused by persons patronizing or employed by the licensed premises that unreasonably disturb, interfere with or affect the ability of persons or businesses residing or located in the vicinity of the licensed premises to use their property in a reasonable manner; [PL 1993, c. 730, §27 (AMD).]

D. Repeated incidents of record of breaches of the peace, disorderly conduct, vandalism or other violations of law on or in the vicinity of the licensed premises and caused by persons patronizing or employed by the licensed premises; [PL 1989, c. 592, §3 (AMD).]

D-1. Failure to obtain, or comply with the provisions of, a permit for music, dancing or entertainment required by a municipality or, in the case of an unincorporated place, the county commissioners; [PL 2017, c. 13, §1 (NEW).]

E. A violation of any provision of this Title; [PL 2009, c. 81, §1 (AMD).]

F. A determination by the municipal officers or county commissioners that the purpose of the application is to circumvent the provisions of section 601; and [PL 2009, c. 81, §2 (AMD).]

G. After September 1, 2010, server training, in a program certified by the bureau and required by local ordinance, has not been completed by individuals who serve liquor. [PL 2021, c. 658, §94 (AMD).]

[PL 2021, c. 658, §94 (AMD).]

**2-A. Common consumption area license applications.** In addition to the grounds for denial set forth in subsection 2, the municipal officers may deny a common consumption area license if:

A. The applicant fails to establish that the common consumption area can be operated without creating a safety risk to the properties within the entertainment district; [PL 2019, c. 281, §7 (NEW).]

B. The applicant fails to obtain or maintain a properly endorsed general liability and liquor liability insurance policy that is reasonably acceptable to the municipal officers and names the local licensing authority as an additional insured; or [PL 2019, c. 281, §7 (NEW).]

C. The use is not compatible with the reasonable requirements of or existing uses in the entertainment district. [PL 2019, c. 281, §7 (NEW).]

[PL 2019, c. 281, §7 (NEW).]

**3. Appeal to bureau.** Any applicant aggrieved by the decision of the municipal officers or county commissioners under this section may appeal to the bureau within 15 days of the receipt of the written decision of the municipal officers or county commissioners. The bureau shall hold a public hearing in the city, town or unincorporated place where the premises are situated. In acting on such an appeal, the bureau may consider all licensure requirements and findings referred to in subsection 2.

A. [PL 1993, c. 730, §27 (RP).]

B. If the decision appealed from is an application denial, the bureau may issue the license only if it finds by clear and convincing evidence that the decision was without justifiable cause. [PL 1993, c. 730, §27 (AMD).]

[PL 1995, c. 140, §6 (AMD).]

**4. No license to person who moved to obtain a license.**

[PL 1987, c. 342, §32 (RP).]

**5. Appeal to District Court.** Any person or governmental entity aggrieved by a bureau decision under this section may appeal the decision to the District Court within 30 days of receipt of the written decision of the bureau.

An applicant who files an appeal or who has an appeal pending shall pay the annual license fee the applicant would otherwise pay. Upon resolution of the appeal, if an applicant's license renewal is denied, the bureau shall refund the applicant the prorated amount of the unused license fee.

[PL 1995, c. 140, §7 (AMD); PL 1999, c. 547, Pt. B, §78 (AMD); PL 1999, c. 547, Pt. B, §80 (AFF).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 1987, c. 45, §A4 (NEW). PL 1987, c. 342, §32 (AMD). PL 1987, c. 623, §8 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 592, §§3,4 (AMD). PL 1993, c. 730, §27 (AMD). PL 1995, c. 10, §1 (AMD). PL 1995, c. 140, §§4-7 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 547, §B78 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 547, §B80 (AFF). PL 1999, c. 589, §1 (AMD). PL 2001, c. 500, §1 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 213, §1 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 81, §§1-3 (AMD). PL 2017, c. 13, §1 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 281, §§6, 7 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 658, §94 (AMD).

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## Application Copy

File Number: 128833

Job Type: Renewal Application

LICENSE # CAR-21-104940	APPLICATION DATE RECEIVED 2026-01-22
LICENSE TYPE On-Premises: Beer, Wine & Spirits	LICENSEE EL TEQUILA MEXICAN REST OF AUBURN
AGENT NAME	EFFECTIVE DATE 2025-01-21
EXPIRES 2026-01-20	STATUS Expired
PREMISES NAME EL TEQUILA MEXICAN RESTAURANT OF AUBURN	
NEW SECONDARY LICENSE(S) None selected	
PREMISES TYPE Class A Restaurant	PREMISES NAME EL TEQUILA MEXICAN RESTAURANT OF AUBURN
OPERATOR EL TEQUILA MEXICAN REST OF AUBURN	
PHYSICAL ADDRESS 245 CENTER ST AUBURN ME 04210-6169	



MAILING ADDRESS

245 CENTER ST AUBURN ME 04210-6169

CONTACT NAME

FELIPE CRUZ

PREFERRED CONTACT METHOD

Email

CONTACT PHONE

(386) 341-2378

ALTERNATE PHONE

FAX

EMAIL

felipetequila6666@gmail.com

QUESTIONS

**On-Premises: Beer, Wine & Spirit**

1. Is your business (including any DBA) registered and in good standing with the Maine Secretary of State?

Answer "No" if you are a Sole Proprietor.

Yes

20210216

2. Does the licensee or applicant(s) have any interest in any other Maine Liquor License?

No

3. Is the applicant/licensee an individual, partnership, or association? (Not a corporation or LLC)

No

4. Are all licensees/applicants residents of the State of Maine?

Yes

5. Is your license for a club with a membership?

No

6. Is your license application for Vessel Corporation?

No

7. Do you have a valid and current health license issued by Maine Department of Health and Human Services OR the Department of Agriculture?

Yes

(document uploaded)

8. Do you have a license from the Office of the State Fire Marshal?  
Contact (207) 626-3870 to determine whether licensure is necessary.

No

9. Will any law enforcement officer directly benefit financially from this license, if issued?

No

10 Is the licensee or applicant for a license receiving, directly or indirectly, any money, credit, thing of value, endorsement of commercial paper, guarantee of credit or financial assistance of any sort from any person or entity within or without the State, if the person or entity is engaged, directly or indirectly, in the manufacture, distribution, wholesale sale, storage or transportation of liquor.

No

11 Is the licensee/applicant(s) directly or indirectly giving aid or assistance in the form of money, property, credit, or financial assistance of any sort, to any person or business entity holding a liquor license granted by the State of Maine?

No

12 What is the full name and date of birth of the person managing this premises?

Felipe Diaz REDACTED

13 Has any of the listed applicants, an immediate family member of an applicant, or an employed manager been denied a liquor license or had a liquor license revoked within the last 5 years?

No

14 Is any of the listed applicants the spouse, father, mother, child or other immediate family member of a person whose liquor license has been revoked or denied in the last 6 months?

No

15 Has any licensee/applicant or employed manager ever been convicted of any violation of the liquor laws in Maine or any State of the United States within the last 5 years?

Yes

El Tequila Auburn 2025, selling to a minor, fines paid

16 Has the licensee/applicant(s) or manager ever been convicted of any violation of any law, other than minor traffic violations, in Maine or any State of the United States?

Yes

Felipe Diaz, OUI, 2024, licenses suspended, fines paid

17 Does the licensee/applicant have any arrangement such as a lease where rent is based on sales, an agreement where another party receives a portion of the revenue or profits from the business, or a right to acquire an ownership interest in the business?

No

18 At which address are your business records located?

245 Center st. Auburn, ME 04210

19 What will be your business hours? Please indicate each day's open and close times.

Sun-Thurs 11am-9pm

Fri & Sat 11am-10pm

20 Please provide the name and distance from the premises to the nearest school, school dormitory and place of place of worship, measured from the main entrance of the premises to the main entrance of the school, school dormitory and place of worship by the ordinary course of travel.

Grace Point Church

Washburn Elementary School

21 Is your application for a Hotel or Bed & Breakfast?

No

22 What is the gross food income for the licensure period that will end on the expiration date?

\$511,000

23 What is the gross income from beer, wine, and spirits for the licensing period ending on the expiration date?

\$178,000

24 Do you have a food menu?

Yes

(document uploaded)

25 How many seats do you have? Include indoor and outdoor seating.

122

26 How many bathrooms do you have available to the public?

2-

1 women's

1 men's

27 Do you currently have any advertising or sponsorship agreements with a wholesale licensee or certificate of approval holder (including agreements for signage, naming rights, event sponsorships or branded areas)?

No

#### DOCUMENTS

TYPE	FILE NAME	DESCRIPTION
Supplemental Ownership Form	templImagecTtk3X.jpg	
Premises Floor Plan	IMG_6116.jpg	
Food Menu	IMG_6616.jpeg	
Food Menu	IMG_6622.jpeg	
Food Menu	IMG_6621.jpeg	

Food Menu	IMG_6620.jpeg
Food Menu	IMG_6619.jpeg
Food Menu	IMG_6618.jpeg
Food Menu	IMG_6617.jpeg
Maine Health or Agriculture License	#17140 License.pdf

#### APPLICANT

EL TEQUILA MEXICAN REST OF  
AUBURN

#### DECLARATION

- ☒ I certify that I am the applicant as described in this application, or that I am duly authorized to submit this application on the applicant's behalf.

All information provided in this application is accurate and correct. I understand that false statements made on this application are punishable by law. Knowingly supplying false information on this application is a Class D Offense under Maine's Criminal Code, punishable by confinement of up to one year, or by monetary fine of up to \$2,000 or by both.



Auburn Police Department  
Incident Report

Incident #: 25AUB-3253-OF  
Call #: 25-130013

Date/Time Reported: 11/28/2025 2105  
Report Date/Time: 11/28/2025 2234  
Status: Incident Closed By Arrest

Involves: Juveniles  
Reporting Officer: Patrol Officer Amirah Daugherty  
Approving Officer: Sergeant Derek Drouin

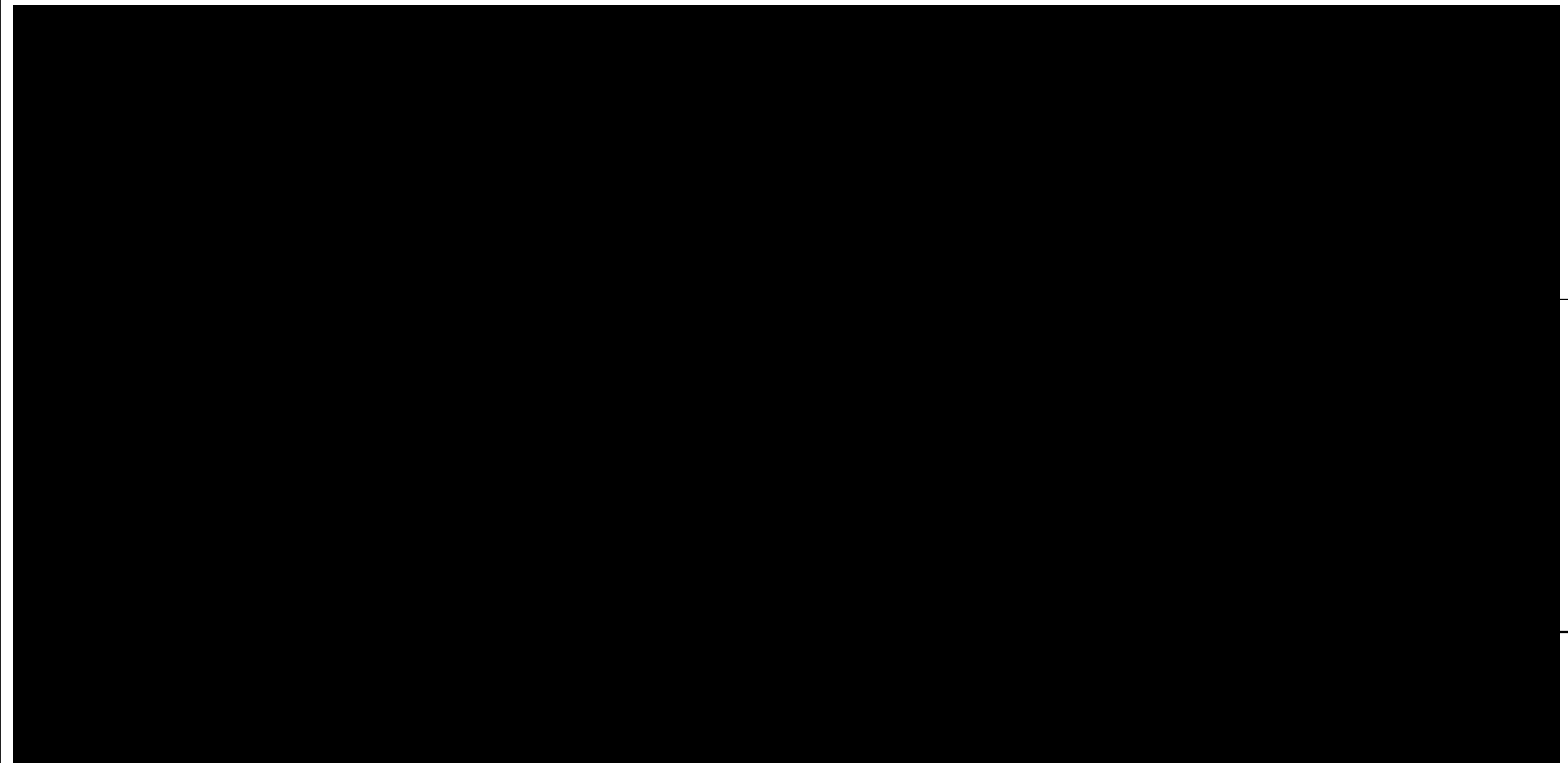
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional Cases: 25AUB-1323-AR

25AUB-1324-AR  
25AUB-1325-AR  
25AUB-1326-AR  
25AUB-1327-AR  
25AUB-1328-AR  
25AUB-1334-AR

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



#	SUSPECT (S)	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
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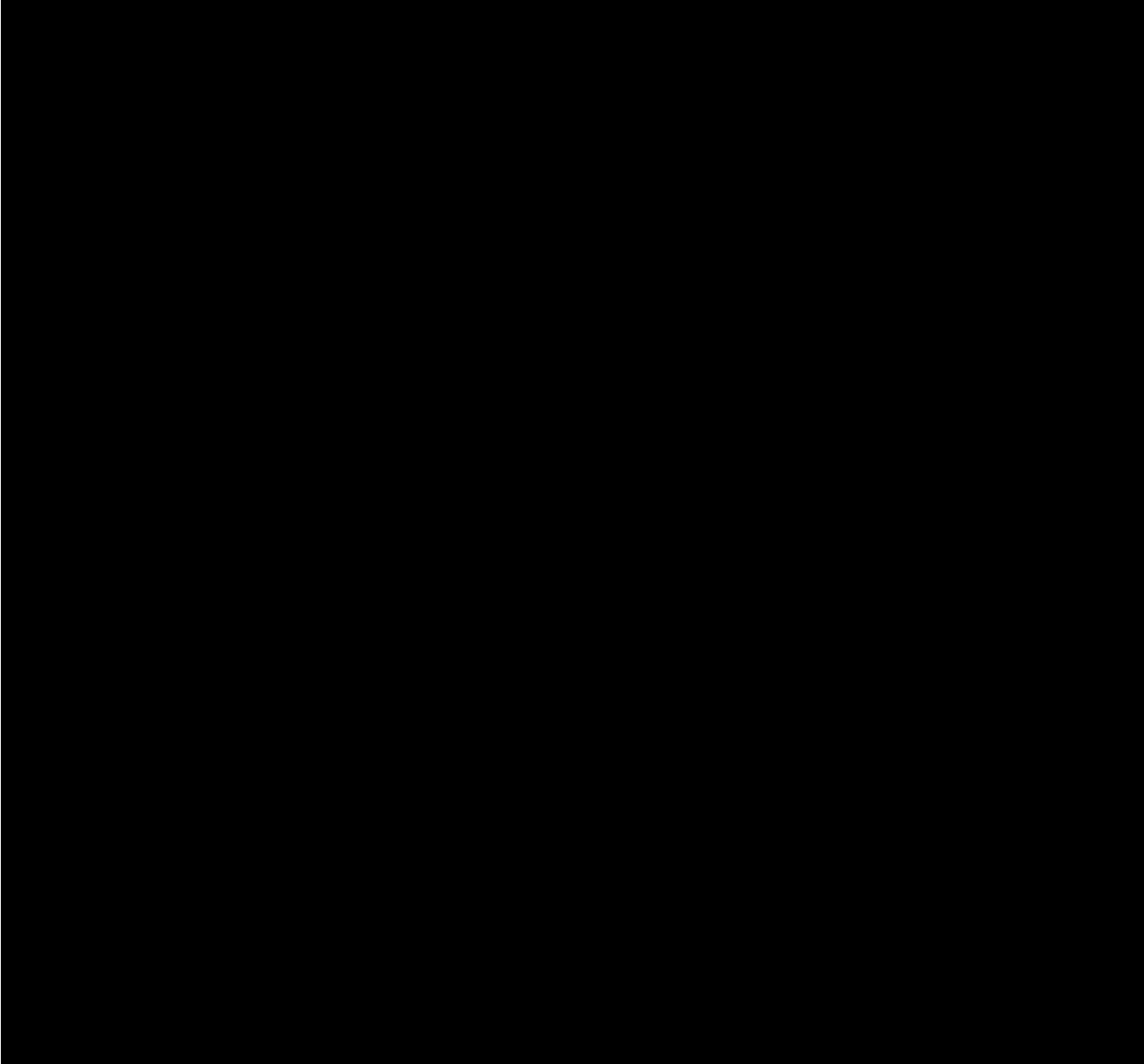


Auburn Police Department  
Incident Report

Page: 2  
01/28/2026

Incident #: 25AUB-3253-OF  
Call #: 25-130013

#	SUSPECT(S)	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
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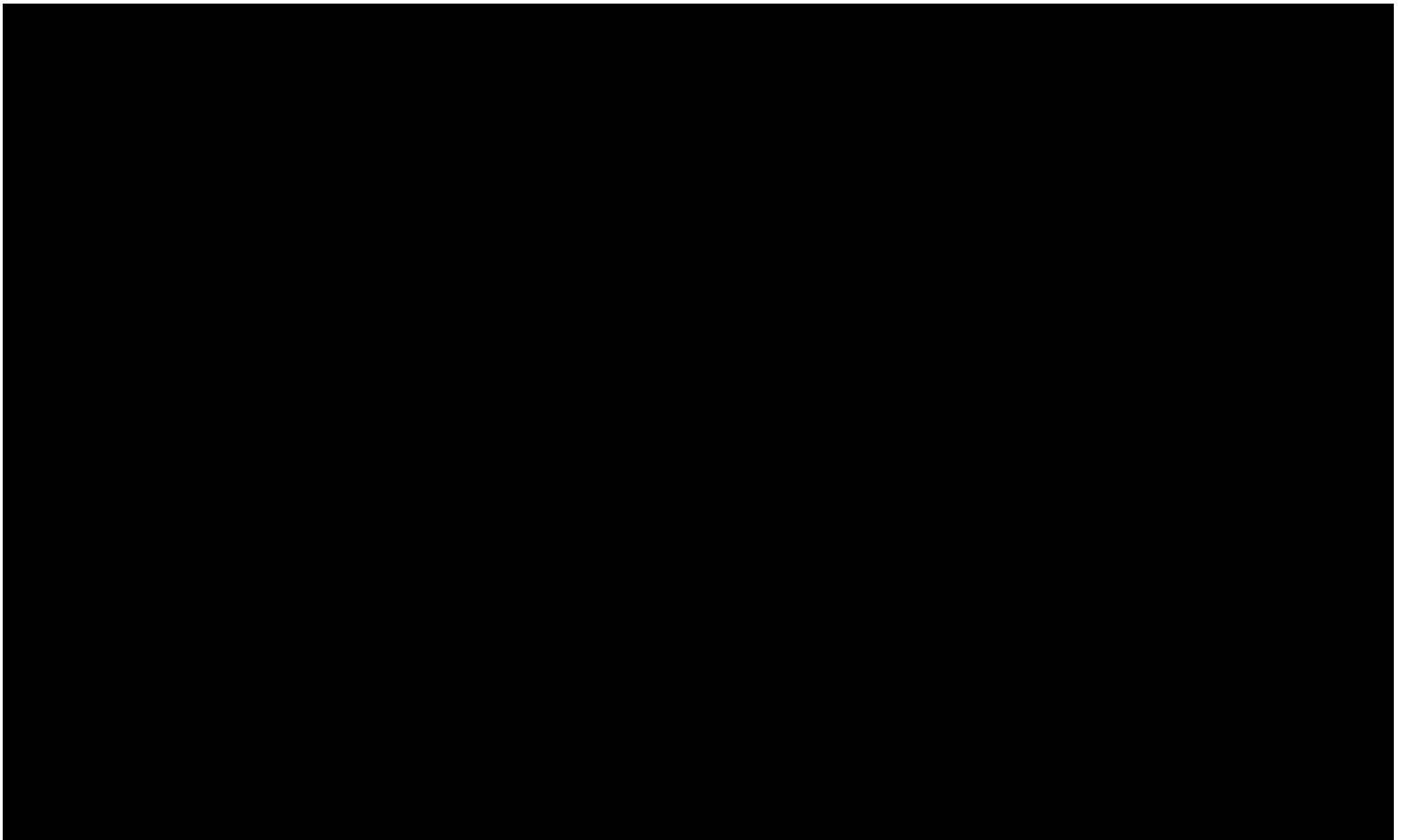


Auburn Police Department  
Incident Report

Page: 3  
01/28/2026

Incident #: 25AUB-3253-OF  
Call #: 25-130013

#	OFFENSE (S)	ATTEMPTED	TYPE	CLASS		
	LOCATION TYPE: Restaurant/Cafeteria EL TEQUILA MEXICAN RESTAURANT [REDACTED]	Zone: Center/Coburn/Newall West				
1	MINOR CONSUMING LIQUOR 9815 28-A 2051.1.B.1 OCCURRED: 11/28/2025 2105	N V	Violation	V		
2	MINOR HAVING FALSE IDENTIFICATION 9827 28-A 2051.1.D-1.1 OCCURRED: 11/28/2025 2105	N V	Violation	V		
#	PERSON (S)	PERSON TYPE	SEX RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
1	EL TEQUILA [REDACTED]	BUSINESS				

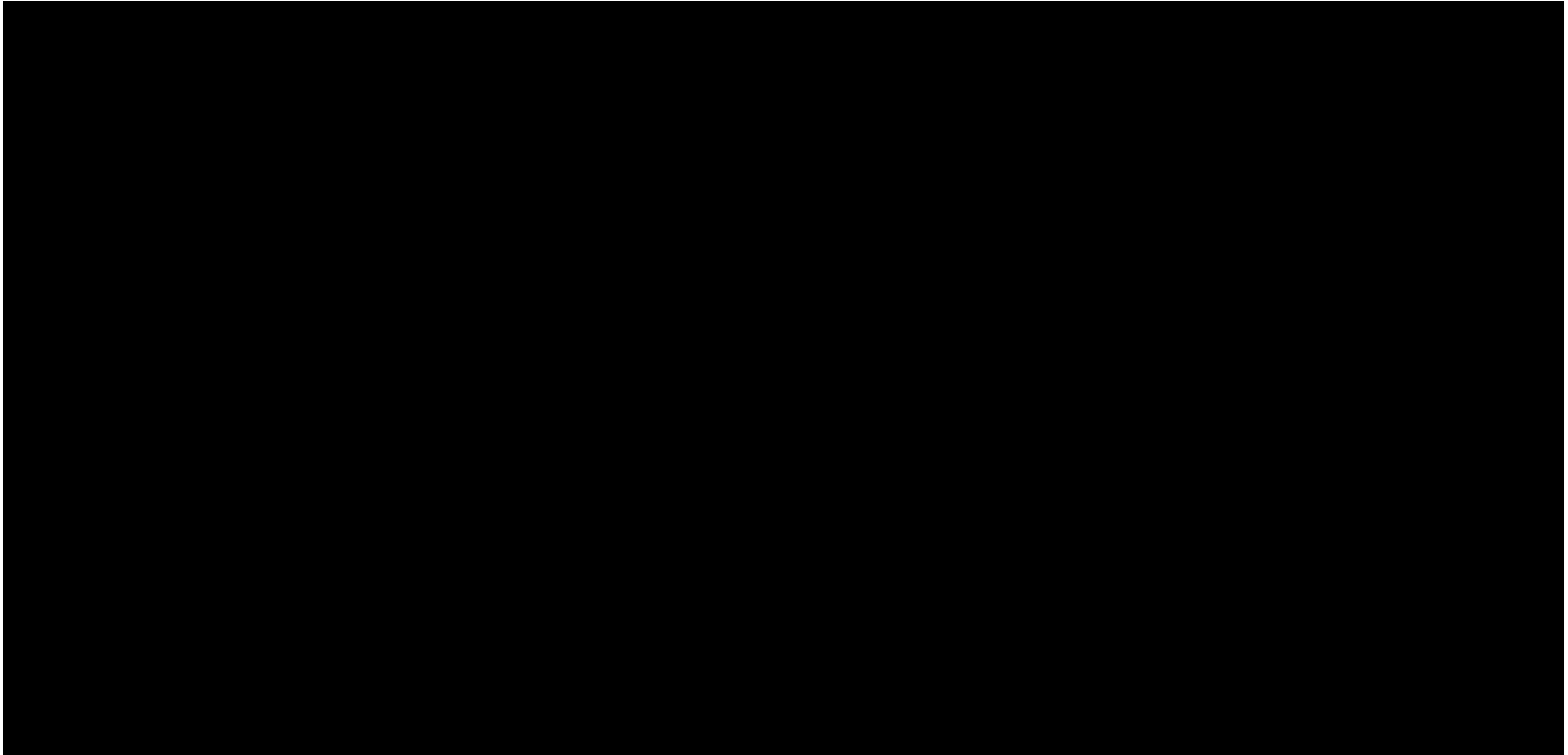


Auburn Police Department  
Incident Report

Page: 4  
01/28/2026

Incident #: 25AUB-3253-OF  
Call #: 25-130013

#	PERSON(S)	PERSON TYPE	SEX RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
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On 11/28/25, at 2105, I, Sergeant Derek Drouin, was assigned as the patrol supervisor when Officer Daugherty was given a tip that there were underage minors being served liquor at El Tequila in Auburn.

I went to the scene to assist with the large number of individuals involved. Officer Daugherty informed me that none of the individuals present were over 21 years of age and that the staff in the business was uncooperative.

I went inside and saw a large group of very young-looking individuals standing with Officers Le and Dyer. I looked at the table where the group of people were sitting. There were margaritas and beers at nearly every seat. Officer Daugherty had spoken to the owner of the business to assist with the investigation. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] assisted with the translation of the staff member that was at the bar, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] said that 6 of the patrons that ordered liquor for the table in question had already left.

I questioned one of the individuals, [REDACTED] said that he ordered two beers and never had to show the server his ID. [REDACTED] said that he knew that this was an easy establishment to buy alcohol as a minor.

I told [REDACTED] what [REDACTED] told me. [REDACTED] then asked [REDACTED] who said that [REDACTED] had presented an ID.

I talked to [REDACTED] again. [REDACTED] then presented three IDs from his shoe. One was a New York ID for a person not involved in the group. One was a fake Maine ID. The last was a fake Pennsylvania ID. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I gave the information to Officer Daugherty and stood by while Officers Le, Dyer, and Daugherty completed paperwork with the involved individuals.

All of the minors were found sober rides home before they left the premises.

My BodyWorn video regarding this case has been shared with Officer Daugherty.

On 11/28/2025, at approximately 2055hrs, I, Officer Daugherty, was working uniformed patrol in the City of Auburn when I was made aware by Lewiston Police Department (LPD) Officer Rock that there were underage people in El Tequila, 245 Center Street, drinking alcohol. I contacted Officer Rock who informed me that her ride along (anonymous), had told her that she had seen on a snapchat story that people she knew were not of legal drinking age were drinking alcohol at El Tequila.

I arrived at El Tequila and informed staff I was there to conduct a liquor law compliance check. I then approached a large table of what looked to me to be minors. The table contained multiple margarita glasses, both full and empty, as well as beer bottles. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] All of the parties that I identified denied ever drinking the alcoholic beverages, stating that the glasses on the table belonged to people who had left. All of those individuals were run for warrants and bail conditions, to which all were negative. [REDACTED]

I spoke to the owner's son, [REDACTED] who advised that he would come into the store, as the owner was out of town. The bartender that was serving the table was identified as [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] at that point had said that only [REDACTED] were given alcoholic beverages, and that the other drinks must have come from six people who left, who passed the drinks to the other minors. I pulled the two girls aside and informed them that I had been told that they had ordered drinks with fake identification cards. They both said that they were not asked for their identification cards while ordering. I looked in their purses and they pulled the cards out of their wallets to show that they did not have fake identification cards. The two of them stated that [REDACTED] were both designated drivers and that they did not order drinks, although the others did order alcoholic drinks.

Officer Dyer and Officer Le assisted me in interviewing and issuing civil summonses to the minors who had consumed alcohol. While doing so, Officer Le was provided with three identification cards from [REDACTED]. Two of the identification cards were fake, one being from Maine and the other from Pennsylvania, [REDACTED]. All three identification cards were taken. I interviewed [REDACTED] who admitted to drinking an entire margarita. I also interviewed [REDACTED] who admitted to drinking a, "sip" of a beer.

All of the minors were provided a court date of 02/25/2026 at 1300hrs, signed their paperwork, and

received their copies. All minors that consumed alcohol were either driven home by a parent that arrived, or another minor that did not consume alcohol.



My BodyWorn device was active and all associated recordings have been shared with the department's Property and Evidence Technician. All photos taken are attached to this report, as well as the receipt for the items that were ordered for the table. Nothing further.

On November 28, 2025, at approximately 2105 hours, Officer Daugherty initiated a liquor law check at El Tequila Mexican Restaurant at 245 Center St. At this time, I was in uniform and on patrol in car (5). Upon arrival at the scene, I observed Officer Daugherty inside speaking to a group of individuals that appeared to be minors, who were sitting at a table with alcoholic beverages. I then stood by the door while Officer Daugherty collected their driver's licenses. I then had the males who were standing in the doorway identify themselves to me as they were associated with the group of individuals at the table.

The group of males that were standing by the door were identified as [REDACTED] [REDACTED] After they were all identified and verified to be under the age of twenty-one, Officer Daugherty spoke to the employee and store manager. At this time, Officer Dyer and Sergeant Drouin arrived on scene to assist. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] While she was speaking to me, I could smell intoxicants coming from her, which led me to believe that she had been drinking alcohol.

During to the course of Officer Daugherty's investigation, it was found that [REDACTED] possessed two false identification cards that indicated that he was of drinking age, and one driver's license that did not belong to him. Due to the amount of involved participants, Officer Daugherty had Officer Dyer and I issue civil summonses to those who were involved. [REDACTED]

This call was recorded on my BodyWorn camera.

On **November 28, 2025**, at approximately 2107 hours, I, Officer Dyer, was in uniform and on patrol in a marked police cruiser (6) when I responded to El Tequila located at 245 Center St. to assist Officer Daugherty, who was there conducting a liquor laws check at the establishment.

Upon arrival at El Tequila, Officer Daugherty and Officer Le were on scene, and multiple suspected juveniles were inside the establishment. The table that the juveniles were at had multiple beer bottles, margaritas, and other alcoholic beverages on the table. I stood by while Officer Le and Officer Daugherty gathered the names of the juveniles.

I then spoke with a male later identified as [REDACTED], who was the waiter for that table. Using a Spanish interpreter, I asked [REDACTED] who had the table had ordered alcohol. [REDACTED] stated that the people who ordered alcohol had left and that he did not serve anyone at the table. I asked if he served any of the juveniles, and he told me that he only served the people who were over 21 years of age.

Officer Daugherty was able to get the owner's information for the restaurant, and his son arrived on scene. I continued to stand by and provide security while Officer Daugherty conducted her investigation. At the conclusion of the investigation, it was found that the majority of the juveniles at the table had ordered alcohol and or consumed alcohol.

[REDACTED]

I then spoke with a male, who denied consuming or ordering alcohol. The male stated he arrived, ordered food, and then the police showed up. I did not see any signs that the male was intoxicated.

[REDACTED]

I then cleared this call, ending my involvement with this case. This incident was captured on my BodyWorn body camera.





**ORDER 24-02172026**

# City Council Order

IN COUNCIL

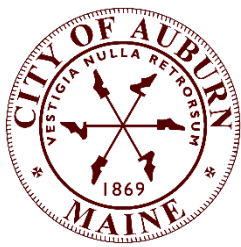
**ORDERED**, that El Tequila Mexican Restaurant of Auburn, 245 Center Street, be granted a FSE Class A Restaurant license following public hearing held on February 17, 2026.

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**Rachel B. Randall**, Ward One  
**Kelly L. Butler**, Ward Four  
**Belinda A. Gerry**, At Large

**Timothy M. Cowan**, Ward Two  
**Leroy G. Walker, Sr.**, Ward Five  
**Jeffrey D. Harmon**, Mayor

**Mathieu L. Duvall**, Ward Three  
**Adam R. Platz**, At Large  
**Phillip L. Crowell, Jr.**, City Manager



**City of Auburn  
City Council Information Sheet**

**Council Workshop or Meeting Date:** February 17, 2026

**ORDER 25-02172026**

**Author:** Phil Crowell, City Manager

**Subject:** Maine Waste to Energy (Mid-Maine Waste Action Corporation) Funding Requirement

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**Background:**

In June 1986, the City of Auburn, along with eleven participating municipalities, created Mid-Maine Waste Action Corporation (Maine Waste to Energy) to manage regional waste disposal. At the MWE Board of Directors meeting on June 19, 2025, the board voted to levy a \$1,000,000 assessment on participating municipalities to address a funding deficiency for plant operations. Under the interlocal agreement, Auburn's proportionate share is 62.2%, which equals \$620,152.13.

**Budget Requirement:**

A condition of this assessment was the adoption of an updated FY26 budget reflecting all incurred and anticipated costs for the plant. On February 11, 2026, the MWE Board of Directors received and approved the final revised FY26 budget.

**City Action:**

An order will be presented to appropriate funds necessary for Auburn's share of the assessment. The City Manager recommends using fund balance proceeds to cover this cost. The City Manager will also provide at the workshop with an update on the financial impact on the proposed FY27 budget.

**Proposed Order:**

*Be it ordered that the Finance Director is hereby authorized and directed to expend fund balance proceeds in the amount of \$620,152.13 to pay the invoice from Maine Waste to Energy for Auburn's proportionate share of the FY26 funding assessment.*

---

**City Budgetary Impacts:** \$620,152.13

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**Staff Recommended Action:** Allocate the required funds to pay the MWE invoice.

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**Previous Meetings and History:** NA

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**City Manager Comments:**



I concur with the recommendation. Signature:

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**Attachments:** MWE ASSESSMENT FEE ALLOCATION SHEET

**MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE STATISTICS**  
**MWE MEMBER TONNAGE/EQUITY %**  
**INCLUDING COMMERCIAL WASTE**  
**02/07/90 - 5/25**

<b>Member Municipalities</b>	<b>%MSW</b>	<b>\$1M Assessment</b>
<b>Auburn</b>	62.02%	620,152.13
<b>Bowdoin</b>	1.87%	18,672.35
<b>Buckfield/Sumner</b>	2.93%	29,333.64
<b>Lovell/Sweden</b>	2.29%	22,878.59
<b>Minot</b>	3.26%	32,572.16
<b>Monmouth/Wales</b>	4.77%	47,656.46
<b>New Gloucester</b>	7.47%	74,658.21
<b>Poland</b>	8.74%	87,390.49
<b>Raymond</b>	6.67%	66,685.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 1,000,000.00</b>



**ORDER 25-02172026**

# City Council Order

IN COUNCIL

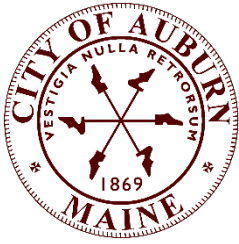
ORDERED, that the Finance Director is hereby authorized and directed to expend fund balance proceeds in the amount of \$620,152.13 to pay the invoice from Maine Waste to Energy for Auburn's proportionate share of the FY26 funding assessment.

---

**Rachel B. Randall**, Ward One  
**Kelly L. Butler**, Ward Four  
**Belinda A. Gerry**, At Large

**Timothy M. Cowan**, Ward Two  
**Leroy G. Walker, Sr.**, Ward Five  
**Jeffrey D. Harmon**, Mayor

**Mathieu L. Duvall**, Ward Three  
**Adam R. Platz**, At Large  
**Phillip L. Crowell, Jr.**, City Manager



## City of Auburn City Council Information Sheet

**Council Workshop or Meeting Date:** February 17, 2026

**Author:** Glen E. Holmes, Director of Business & Community Development

**Subject:** Public Hearing prior to drafting CDBG & HOME Consortium Action Plan for Program Year 2026

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**Information:**

Each year, the Business & Community Development Department conducts a Public Hearing and administers a Community Needs Survey to gather input for the development of the Annual Action Plan, as required by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). The feedback collected through these efforts informs the strategies and activities outlined in the plan.

The Annual Action Plan details the allocation of Auburn's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and the Auburn-Lewiston Consortium's HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds. It is designed to address community needs identified in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, to be adopted in 2026. Based on public input from the survey and hearings, Community Development staff will release a draft Action Plan in April for further public review and City Council consideration prior to adoption.

The community survey can be found on [AuburnMaine.gov](https://auburnmaine.gov). Post cards with a link to the survey is also being delivered to every residential address within the city. For printed copies, translations, or other accommodations, residents can contact the Community Development Office at: [CDBG@auburnmaine.gov](mailto:CDBG@auburnmaine.gov)

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**City Budgetary Impacts:**

Auburn's previous year CDBG allocation was \$485,861. The Auburn-Lewiston HOME Consortium previous allocation is \$462,520. These federal grant dollars cover staff salary/benefits as well as program activities for Business and Community Development programs.

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**Staff Recommended Action:**

Hold Public Hearing and encourage residents to complete the community survey.

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**Previous Meetings and History:**

Release Public Survey - December 2025

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**City Manager Comments:**

I concur with the recommendation. Signature:

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**Attachments:**

n/a