

City Council Workshop & Meeting
July 20, 2026
Auburn Hall, Council Chambers

Mayor Harmon opened the meeting at 7:00pm and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. All Councilors were present.

I. Consent Items

1) ORDER 66-07202026– Submitting ballot for the appointment of Matthew Garside, Town of Poland, to serve on the 2026-2028 MMA Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) for District 20.

2) ORDER 67-07202026 – Appointing members to the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

3) ORDER 68-07202026– Appointing Owen Robinson as the Student Representative to the Council for a term ending June 30, 2028, as nominated by the Appointment Committee.

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

II. Minutes – July 6, 2026 Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Walker moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Cowan 7-0.

III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions

- Oath of Office for Student Representative to Council

IV. Open Session

None.

V. Unfinished Business

1. ORDINANCE 12- 06152026 - Amending Chapter 14, “Business Licenses and Permits”, of the City’s Code of Ordinances, to adopt regulations regarding syringe service programs. Passed first reading 6/15/26; amended and postponed after public hearing 7/6/26. Continuation of second reading. ROLL CALL VOTE. Passage requires majority vote.

Mayor Harmon recapped the events of this item from July 6, including the public hearing held on July 6, and described the process for the evening. The main motion for passage is on the floor, postponed from July 6.

Councilor Randall moved to suspend the rules and allow public comment. Mayor Harmon noted this was not the time for the motion; motion did not receive a second. Motion failed.

Subject matter experts were asked to approach the Council. Councilor questions from July 6 were asked to the subject matter experts:

Glen Holmes, Community Development Director

Gordon Smith, Esq; Director of Opioid Response

Ann Sites, Director, Infectious Disease Prevention State of Maine

Alana Simon, Viral Hepatitis Harm Reduction

Angela Blier, Spurwink

Councilors asked staff and subject matter experts questions.

Councilor Randall moved to suspend the rules and allow a second public hearing on the item. Seconded by Councilor Gerry. Motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Harmon opened the public hearing.

Councilor Platz asked the public to keep comments under three minutes.

Lisa Jones, Lewiston

Kathy Light, 143 Mill St

Bruce Bickford, 64 Cameron Ln

Stephanie Vail, Saco

Amanda Guerette, 20 Cherry Vale Cir

Holland Michaud, 87 Manley Rd

Thomas Campbell, 1 Fairview Ct

Erin Soule, Lewiston

Peter, Victory Rd

Nancy Sevigny, Orchard St

Matthew Harris, 369 Turner St

Dee Chapman, Vivian St

Melissa Lee, Pownal Rd

Stan Harmon, 435 Court St

Justin Young, Washington St

Jeffrey Walkins, Auburn

Leslie Gary, Pownal Rd

Rudy Wing, Penley Corner Rd

Andrew Jones, Lewiston

Linda Lee, Pownal Rd

Kimberly Craig, Pownal Rd

Steve Milks, Alderwood Rd
Quentin Chapman, Eastman Ln

Mayor Harmon closed the public hearing.

Council discussion continued.

Councilor Cowan moved to amend the ordinance to adopt the redline as shown on the attached draft, impacting Section 8(M) regarding individualized assessments to determine quantity of syringes provided. Seconded by Councilor Randall. Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Walker).

Main motion for passage, as amended. Motion passed 5-2 (Gerry, Walker) on a roll call vote.

2. ORDER-64-07062026 – Amending the City’s Master Fee Schedule (APPENDIX A) regarding license fees for Syringe Service Programs. Postponed 7/6/26. Passage requires majority vote.

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

No comment.

Motion passed 6-0 (Walker absent).

VI. New Business

VII. Reports

- a. Mayor’s Report – Gave an update on the Comp Plan and upcoming meeting in July.
- b. City Councilors’ Reports – Councilor Platz welcomed Owen Robinson. Gave a brief update on use of School CIP funds and working together with the City.
- c. Student Representative Report – Rep Robinson thanked Mayor Harmon, City Manager and Council for the appointment. Rep Edwards gave an update on school sports.
- d. City Manager Report – The City of Auburn has rolled out a new automated trash pick up service; this is the second week of collection and it is rolling out well. The public should call Public Works with any questions.

VIII. Open Session

None.

IX. Executive Session was taken up during Workshop.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Walker, seconded by Councilor Randall. Motion passed 6-0 (Gerry absent). Council adjourned at 10:25pm.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST

Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk