

City of Auburn
Council Minutes
July 20, 2009

The council meeting was called to order by Mayor Powell at 7:00.

PRESENT: Gillock, J. Powell, Rathgeber, Tanner, Thornton, Svetlik, Berola, Warwick.

ABSENT: M. Kessler, Johnson, Appelt

I. City Clerk's Report- Thornton

- Minutes of the July 6, 2009 were presented for approval. Tanner made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Svetlik seconds. Minutes approved by voice vote.

II. Treasurer's Report- Appelt

- In the absence of the Treasurer, Office Manager C. Powell presented the bills list to the Council for approval for payment. A motion was made by Gillock to approve the bills for payment, Tanner seconds.

AYES: GILLOCK, TANNER, RATHGEBER, SVETLIK, BEROLA, WARWICK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: KESSLER, JOHNSON

- C. Powell presented the financial statement for July for approval, upon a motion by Gillock to accept the statement for approval, second by Svetlik.

AYES: GILLOCK, TANNER, RATHGEBER, SVETLIK, BEROLA, WARWICK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: KESSLER, JOHNSON

III. Attorney's Report- Grischow

- Raylene presented the appropriations ordinance 1293-09 for the second reading. A motion was made by Warwick to approve ordinance 1293-09, prevailing wages, second by Rathgeber.

AYES: GILLOCK, TANNER, RATHGEBER, SVETLIK, BEROLA, WARWICK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: KESSLER, JOHNSON

- Raylene reported on the hearing of July 17, 2009 against Mike Pierce the total amount owed is \$3,161.36 this includes attorney fees, court costs and utilities plus penalties. There was a discussion on waiving some of the fees. This was done in the past and he is arrears again. He doesn't have a good payment record with the City. After discussion Berola made a motion to proceed with the law suit for the total amount, Svetlik seconds.

AYES: GILLOCK, TANNER, RATHGEBER, SVETLIK, BEROLA, WARWICK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: KESSLER, JOHNSON

- The occupants are still in the house on Interurban and it was decided to table anything on this to see the outcome of the problems with the owner.

IV. Visitors

- In the absence of the President of the Zoning Board, Rathgeber gave the zoning board's report of the July 8, 2009 meeting. Rathgeber made a motion to accept the zoning board's recommendation of allowing the Lutheran Church's variance to 13' from east lot line to eaves, providing pins and stakes are present for inspection. Second Berola. There were no neighbors at the meeting to object to this variance.

Ayes: GILLOCK, TANNER, WARWICK, RATHGEBER, SVETLIK, BEROLA
NAYS: NONE
ABSENT: KESSLER, JOHNSON

- **Rathgeber** then reported on the Zoning Committee Meeting of July 15, 2009. The Committee recommended to the Council the zoning ordinance is changed to allow setbacks to be measured from the outside edge of a buildings foundation. The owner of the property would have to go on record concerning the side of the buildings overhang. If overhangs are to be 12" on side yards and/or 16" on front and back yards the setback measurement would then be required to be taken from the farthest outside edge of the overhang. Any structure which protrudes beyond the edge of the foundation, whether or not physically connected, such as but not limited to steps, porches, decks ramps etc must be consider part of the foundation. The attorney was directed by the Council to write this in ordinance form.
- Rathgeber then stated that Building Inspector was seeking guidance on the issue of lining up the front of houses in subdivisions built before 1950. They are recommending to the council that any deviation from the present setback requirements for new subdivisions, regardless of when a subdivision was built should require a variance. The Council felt an ordinance to this effect would relieve some of the concerns of variance coming to the council; it could be handled by the building inspector. The Attorney was directed to draft an ordinance to that effect.
- Another concern of the building inspector was an owner who had a 50' lot plus an 8' frontage strip adjacent to the lot and wanted to build a deck. It was decided to inform the person to go to the County building and have this property combined into one parcel.
- **Beth Sheff**, 505 North 11th Street, was asked to attend the meeting concerning public health letters; was not present.
- **Stan Standefer**, 400 Block Interurban, was asked to attend the meeting concerning public health letters; was not present.
- **Bob Dill** from the Otter Lake Water Commission was at the meeting to talk to the Council to explain what the commission was doing to take care of the problem with the odor and taste of the water. A lengthy discussion followed and they are doing everything possible to take care of the problem. He invited all to come to visit the site. The upgrades on the water plant should be ready sometime in 2010, and he invited all to come then also to tour the plant.
- **Joe Bell** of 717 West Monroe Street was in attendance to ask what could be done about a dumpster on the neighboring church property. He stated that he would like a statement to be put into the minutes, that the only reason he was documenting the

people putting items in the dumpster was for the safety and well being of his family. He is stated he would have to file a lawsuit if nothing was done to stop the dumping. Much discussion, not action taken.

V. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

- Stated he didn't have anything. Before adjournment he stated that Becky Brummett in the Office had a birthday, July 22, 2009 and she had been with the City for 14 years and 4 months

VI. DEPARTMENT HEADS

A. CENTKO

- Nothing other than they were watching the trailer on Sangamon Avenue that had burnt to see that the clean up continued.

B. KARHLIKER

- Karhliker reported that the oil and chipping was done on July 8, 2009.
- He stated that the City engineer and the engineer from Timberbrooke Plat 5 subdivision would do a walk thru on Friday before any one signs off on this subdivision.
- We received one bid to remove the tree at 930 W Jefferson in the amount of \$1,050 from Hemberger Tree Removal. Berola made a motion to accept Hemberger's' bid to remove the tree, Svetlik second the motion.

AYES: BEROLA, GILLOCK, RATHGEBER, SVETLIK, TANNER, WARWICK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: KESSLER, JOHNSON

C. POWELL

- Connie brought up the rental on the Auburn Community Center. Since the rental has been raised it has not been rented as much. She suggested the Council reinstate the regular rental rate. Berola made a motion on the recommendation of Powell, City Office Manager that the rental on the Community Center be lowered to \$50.00 of which \$25.00 will be returned if the Center is cleaned up. Rathgeber seconds.

AYES: BEROLA, GILLOCK, RATHGEBER, SVETLIK, TANNER, WARWICK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: KESSLER, JOHNSON

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. ADMINISTRATION – BEROLA

- Berola had nothing at this time; Rathgeber stated he had the application from the United Community Bank on credit cards for the three department heads. After discussion on the reasoning for the cards and the limit on the cards, a motion was

July 20, 2009

made by Berola to allow credit cards for the three department heads with a limit of \$5,000.00 for each card, Svetlik seconds.

Rathgeber left the meeting at 8:14.

AYES: BEROLA, GILLOCK, SVETLIK, TANNER, WARWICK
NAYS: NONE
ABSENT: KESSLER, JOHNSON, RATHGEBER

Rathgeber came back into the meeting at 8:16.

B. PUBLIC WORKS – JOHNSON

- Johnson was absent

C. PUBLIC UTILITIES – WARWICK

- Warwick informed the council about a drainage problem at 111 Cheyenne Drive, Michael Aldridge. His sump pump drains into the street which is not legal. Aldridge informed the Council he would have the problem corrected before the sale of the property on July 24, 2009. There was further discussion on drainage problems and each situation will be taken care of as they come up.

D. HEALTH AND SAFETY – GILLOCK

- Gillock had nothing to report.

E. HEALTH OFFICER – BEROLA

- Berola stated that Sheff and Standefer both had not finished the clean up on their properties. He suggested that a more reasonable fine be set. Berola made a motion to send letters declaring both Sheff and Standefer properties a nuisance. The will have until August 3, 2009 to bring their properties in to compliance and if not they will be assessed a \$25.00 a day fine until it is done. Rathgeber seconds.

AYES: BEROLA, GILLOCK, RATHGEBER, SVETLIK, TANNER, WARWICK
NAYS: NONE
ABSENT: KESSLER, JOHNSON

F. PARKS - SVETLIK

- Svetlik stated that the Park committee meeting will be July 27, 2009 at 7:00 in the Council Chambers.

G. LIBRARY/ TECHNOLOGY – WARWICK

- Warwick announced a Library Board meeting for July 21, 2009 at 7:00. Centko stated some weeds had been taken care of by a community service person. The pillars will be checked this week.
- He stated that the technology group is still working on the web site.

VI. DEPARTMENT HEADS

- Karhliker stated that he was going to have the guys move all of the picnic tables to the garage due to the abuse to them. The \$500.00 donation to the Township Park was brought up and was tabled due to the fact it was not on the agenda.

July 20, 2009

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- Rathgeber made a motion to adjourn at 8:30. Mr. Bell again asks if the council was going to do anything about his problem. He just would not stop talking. After the Clerk asked for a second twice, Berola second the motion and the motion passed by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary E. Thornton
City Clerk