

City of Auburn
Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 6, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Berola with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance of all present.

Mayor Berola called for the roll. Present were Mayor Berola, Treasurer Williams, Alderman Powell, Alderman Marquis, Alderman Garrett, Alderwoman Sheppard, and Alderman Johnson. Also present were Superintendent Henson, Office Manager Ponsler, Chief Campbell, and Attorney Moredock.

Absent: Alderman Karhliker

Alderwoman Sheppard made a motion to allow Alderman Royer to attend remotely via phone, second by Alderman Marquis.

AYES: Hemmerle, Powell, Johnson, Sheppard, Marquis, Royer, Garrett
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Karhliker

Skylar Fay, local boy scout, was in attendance to present to the city council his final drawing and plans for the landscaping eagle scout project for the front of the city building. Because it was not on the agenda, Attorney Moredock stated the mayor had the authority to direct approval to a department head for appending for materials for this project. Mayor Berola approved Superintendent Henson to spend funds to support this project.

Robert Bolt II, resident of Auburn attending meeting for another purpose, asked to sponsor the project and would pay for all materials. Mr. Bolt did provide a check to Skylar Fay to support this project.

Mike Tanner from the Lincoln Militia spoke on behalf of the club's location on 5th Street.

Barbershop next door had asked the club if they would be interested in building him a ramp for elderly patrons as well as owner into shop. Mr. Tanner asked the city what specifics would be needed to construct this. The council indicated it must run parallel to the building and all building permit details could be taken care of with the city office and building inspector

Mr. Tanner had visited the Auburn easter egg hunt this year to meet those who put together the event. His club helps sponsor the program done each year in Thayer and stated they had a parade and multiple prizes given away to area youth who attended. He would like to become more involved and draw a larger crowd to Auburn as well as help raise funds to support that event to make it larger like that in Thayer.

Mr. Tanner also spoke of a way to draw funds to help support fireworks display for the town of Auburn. He stated he had assisted doing this work in other towns and a fireworks display is such a large event and gathering and would like to see something like this brought to Auburn.

Mr. Tanner requested Madison Street from 5th Street to 4th Street be closed on June 18, 2022, for motorcycle ride that is stopping in front of their business. The event raises funds for five area children to attend summer camp. He requested to be allowed a temporary liquor license for alcohol to be served on city streets just in front of their building for about 45 minutes. The stop would take place approximately 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

It was noted that the Lincoln Militia club does not currently possess a liquor license and therefore would not qualify for a temporary liquor permit as that is just for those establishments with a current liquor license. Alderman Johnson and Alderman Royer wanted establishment to have a liquor license. Attorney Moredock agreed to look over classification on where to place the club. Mr. Tanner was asked to go to the city office to obtain paperwork in order to obtain proper licensure moving forward.

Mr. Robert Bolt II was in attendance and spoke while Mr. Tanner was at the podium. He was concerned over a recent altercation that took place between himself and members of the Lincoln Militia. He stated that members approached him at his home and then went back to the club location and arrived back at his residence with more club members. However, after further discussion Mr. Bolt II did not wish to pursue the matter as he feels the club is doing good work in the community and he will just work with Mr. Tanner going forward on any matters that he has.

Mr. Steve Baker was also in attendance as a visitor for Springfield Plastics and the potential annexation into the city as well as extending a water line to his business location on West State Route 104. Mr. Baker is in the process of expanding his business and wishes to tap onto the city for water service to potentially lower his fire protection rating for insurance purposes.

Mr. Baker was not opposed to covering the cost to the city to run the water line to his business location on W State Route 104. Additional items would need to be discussed with the city engineer on pressure and the impact to the residents on the west end of Auburn.

A meeting will be scheduled with Mr. Baker, City officials, city engineer, and fire protection evaluator to further discuss the project in order to determine next steps and how best to possibly move forward with the project.

Deputy Clerk Ponsler presented the May 16, 2022, meeting minutes for the council's review and approval. Alderwoman Sheppard made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Johnson.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Powell, Royer, Garrett, and Sheppard

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Karhliker

Attorney Moredock presented for Second Reading Ordinance 1514-22, Declaration of Surplus Materials for the council's review.

Alderwoman Sheppard made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Alderman Marquis

AYES: Hemmerle, Powell, Royer, Garrett, and Sheppard
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Karhliker and Johnson (not present for vote)

Attorney Moredock presented for Second Reading Ordinance 1515-22, Ordinance Regulating Food Trucks. Alderman Royer raised concerns with the ordinance the way it is written and targets businesses by using power on the square. Changes were requested to be made to the ordinance as the council only wanted it to apply to food trucks on city right of way and not on public property. It was specifically noted by Alderman Royer that #8 should include East Park as well as that location also has access to an electric box for power hook up.

Mayor Berola requested a motion to table the ordinance 1515-22 until the next council meeting on 6/20/2022.

Alderman Johnson made a motion to table Ordinance 1515-22 until the next council meeting on 6/16/2022, second by Alderman Garrett.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Powell, Garrett, and Sheppard
NAYES: Royer
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Karhliker

Attorney Moredock presented for First Reading, Ordinance 1516-22, Ordinance Regulating the Private Use of Public Electric Connections. Council wished to still have a clause within the ordinance for waiver and release of liability clause within the ordinance to not hold the city accountable for any issues acquired by utilizing city power source. Additional discussion needed to determine if there would be a fee to use public power outlets.

Attorney Moredock presented First Reading, Ordinance 1517-22, Ordinance Approving the Purchase of Real Property from the Auburn School District. With no questions, the council will have a second reading at the June 20, 2022, meeting.

No executive session needed for pending litigation, but an update will be provided at the next meeting.

Chief Campbell sought council approved to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with for Digi-Ticket which would allow in car tickets and citations. The police would no longer need to buy paper issued tickets and everything now could be done electronically.

Alderwoman Sheppard made a motion to approve the intergovernmental agreement for Digi-ticket, second by Alderman Marquis.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Powell, Garrett, Royer, and Sheppard
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Karhliker

Chief Campbell introduced Charles Barber as a potential candidate for a FT or PT police candidate. If selected, Mr. Barber would be entering the academy for further training. Mr. Barber lives in Pawnee, Illinois and currently serves on their fire department and has collaborated with various members of the Auburn police department on calls.

Superintendent Henson informed the council about the budget line item for FY23 for a trailer for the city garage. He has received three different bids for new trailers. Superintendent Henson wishes to purchase a used trailer. The expense will most definitely exceed the 5000.00 limit for department heads. Superintendent Henson requested for this one purchase for the council approve a limit higher for him to seek out a used trailer to purchase.

Alderman Johnson made a motion to approve Superintendent Henson to spend up to 20,000 for a trailer for the garage, second by Alderman Hemmerle.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Powell, Garrett, Royer, and Sheppard
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Karhliker

Office Manager Ponsler informed the council that the annual city audit will take place the week of June 27th.

Alderman Johnson requested an executive session at the end of the meeting regarding personnel.

In Alderman Karhliker's absence, Alderman Johnson presented the 2022 MFT Maintenance Program for the council to review. Alderman Johnson made a motion to approve the 2022 MFT Maintenance Program not to exceed 152,000, second by Alderwoman Sheppard.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Powell, Garrett, Royer, and Sheppard
NAYES: None
PRESENT: None
ABSENT: Karhliker

Alderwoman Sheppard presented the Health and Safety Committee meeting minutes from a meeting held on June 1, 2022.

The first item of discussion was police department building information. Alderman Garrett and Chief Campbell toured the new Carlinville police department building. The building is a state-of-the-art building and is compliant with all aspects of what our current police department needs. They spoke with engineers who proposed and engineered the Carlinville building. This company would take care of all aspects of the building if/when the city decides to move forward. The Chief advised that he would be able to get blueprints/proposal for approximately \$4995.00. This would give the council a solid number in regard to pricing of the building.

Alderman Garrett made the motion to allow Chief Campbell to spend up to \$5000.00 for drawings and a cost estimate for the new building, second by Alderman Marquis.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Powell, Garrett, Royer, and Sheppard

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Karhliker

The next item on the agenda was for police hires and police academy information. The Chief advised the city received zero applicants that already were certified. In order to recruit officers, the city is going to have to send individuals to the full-time academy. The Chief also hopes to send two officers through part time academy. The new SWIC class would graduate in December. Chief Campbell advised that he has a few applicants are undergoing background checks and if they pass, they would be promising candidates.

Alderwoman Sheppard advised the city council about a few health violations on properties:

Alderwoman Sheppard made the motion to fine 235 W. Harrison 50.00 for the mowing to their property done by the city, second by Alderman Garrett.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Powell, Garrett, Royer, and Sheppard

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Karhliker

215 S. 5th has also been mowed by the city but is in the process of foreclosure. The city office will continue to keep tally on the times mowed to keep track of overall costs.

204 E. Jefferson has also been mowed by the city and is also in the process of foreclosure. The city office will continue to keep tally on the times mowed to keep track of overall costs.

1020 W. Madison was requested to be mowed by Alderwoman Sheppard as the owner is deceased and no contact on who is in charge of the property at this time.

Alderman Hemmerle had no report for Parks.

Alderman Garrett had no additional discussion for economic development other than what had been presented earlier by Springfield Plastics.

Alderman Garrett presented the following locations for sidewalk work to be done this summer:

4th and Madison

6th and Madison

6th and Monroe

7th and Jefferson

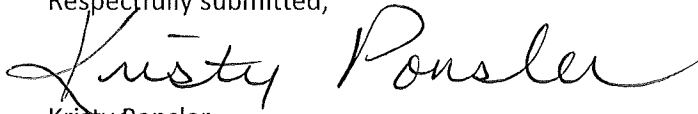
Tree information will be presented at the next meeting.

Alderman Johnson made a motion to go into executive session at 9:17 p.m., second by Alderwoman Sheppard.

Alderman Garret made a motion to exit executive session at 9:39 pm, second Alderman Johnson.

Alderman Garrett made a motion to come back into regular session and adjourn at 9:40 p.m., Alderwoman Sheppard second.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristy Ponsler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kristy Ponsler
Deputy Clerk of Auburn