

**Auburn City Council
Work Session Meeting
Thursday, February 20, 2014 6:00PM
City Council Chambers
Memorial City Hall
24 South St.
Auburn, NY 13021**

Minutes

The meeting of the Auburn City Council was called to order at 6:00PM in the City Council Chambers 24 South St. Auburn NY by Mayor Michael Quill.

Roll Call – The City Clerk called the roll. Councilor McCormick, Camardo, Cuddy, Ruzicka and Mayor Quill were all present.

The following City Staff was present:

- City Manager, Doug Selby
- Corporation Counsel, John Rossi
- City Clerk, Charles Mason
- Director of Engineering, Bill Lupien
- Director of Planning, Jenny Haines
- Fire Chief, Jeff Dygert
- Director of Municipal Utilities, Vicky Murphy
- Senior Code Enforcement Officer, Brian Hicks

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag - Mayor Quill led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silent Prayer or Reflection - Mayor Quill asked for a moment of silent prayer.

Public to be Heard –

- Tom Gabak, 106 N. Lewis St. Auburn, NY
Mr. Gabak spoke in his capacity as the City's Water and Sewer Infrastructure Supervisor. He discussed the importance of our City's water and sewer infrastructure. Stated that this has been a tough winter and support for and investment in the infrastructure is important to the City.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- A. February 13, 2014, City Council meeting minutes.
Motion to approve by Councilor Camardo, seconded by Councilor McCormick.
The motion carried 5-0. Councilors McCormick, Camardo, Cuddy, Ruzicka, and Mayor Quill all voting aye.

Presentations and Proclamations –

The following presentations were made before Council:

A. Council Resolution #28 of 2014 Bonding Sister Cities for the Legacy of Harriet Ross Tubman

Motion to approve sponsored by Councilor McCormick, seconded by Councilor Camardo. The resolution carried 5-0. Councilors McCormick, Camardo, Cuddy, Ruzicka, and Mayor Quill all voting aye.

Mayor Quill then presented a Proclamation and copy of the Resolution to the Rev. Paul Carter from the Harriet Tubman Home.

The Rev. Paul Carter spoke to thank the Council and spoke regarding the the importance of preserving and promoting the Tubman legacy. He also stated that hopefully the Federal government will move forward with proposed legislation to incorporate Tubman sights in Auburn and Maryland into the United States National Park Service.

Laurel Ullyette spoke on behalf of the Harriet Tubman Boosters Club. She thanked the Council and stated that hopefully this may generate additional tourism and support for Harriet Tubman among the 3 cities.

Public Announcements – None

City Manager's Report - The City Manager reported:

- On the issue of the successful sale of bond anticipation notes that cover the purchase of the Landfill Gas Electric Generation Facility, Franklin Street construction, other road projects, and the purchase of miscellaneous vehicle equipment.
- On the issue of scheduling a joint City of Auburn and Cayuga County Legislature meeting. A tentative date has been set for March 26, 2014 at 6pm. Exact location to be determined, possibly the community college.
- On the issue of upcoming Council budget work sessions. The following dates were proposed for upcoming sessions: Thursday, March 13th as part of the weekly Council meeting; Saturday, March 15th as a special Council meeting to be held from 9am-11am; Thursday, March 20th as part of the weekly Council meeting; and, Saturday, March 22nd as a special Council meeting to be held from 9am-11am. The Council discussed the location of the meetings with the two potential locations being the Council Chambers at City Hall or the third floor conference room at City Hall. The Council members had differing views on the locations of the meetings. After discussion it was determined that the Council Chambers would be adequate for the Thursday meetings and the Saturday meetings may be able to be held at the third floor conference room of City Hall, with Council Chambers being used if a large crowd of people from the public were in attendance.

State Environmental Quality Review Act Resolutions (SEQR) –

- A. SEQR Resolution #29 of 2014 Determining a Type II Action for Improvements to the City's Water Supply and Distribution System

Motion to approve sponsored by Councilor Ruzicka, seconded by Councilor Cuddy. The resolution carried 5-0. Councilors McCormick, Camardo, Cuddy, Ruzicka, and Mayor Quill all voting aye.

Ordinances –

A. Adoption of Bond Ordinance #1 of 2014 Authorizing the Issuance of \$3,400,000 Serial Bonds for the City Water Supply and Distribution System

Motion to approve sponsored by Councilor Cuddy, seconded by Councilor McCormick.

Council discussed.

Councilor Camardo then offered an amendment. The amendment was to add the following language to Bond Ordinance #1 of 2014: If the City's application for zero percent financing from the State Environmental Facilities Corporation is not approved, Bond Ordinance # 1 of 2014 will be brought back to the City Council for further review. Councilor Ruzicka seconded this amendment. The amendment was defeated. Councilors McCormick, Cuddy, and Mayor Quill all voting no, Councilors Camardo and Ruzicka voting Aye.

Council discussed.

Mayor Quill then made a motion to table Bond Ordinance #1 of 2014, seconded by Councilor Camardo. The motion to table carried 5-0. Councilors McCormick, Camardo, Cuddy, Ruzicka, and, Mayor Quill all voting aye.

Resolutions –

A. Agreement Resolution #30 of 2014 - Authorizing a Professional Engineering Services Agreement with CRA for the City Water Supply and Distribution System Improvement Project

Motion to approve sponsored by Councilor Ruzicka, seconded by Councilor Camardo.

Council discussed.

Councilor McCormick then made a motion to table Agreement Resolution #30 of 2014, seconded by Councilor Camardo. The motion to table carried 5-0. Councilors McCormick, Camardo, Cuddy, Ruzicka, and, Mayor Quill all voting aye.

B. Council Resolution #31 of 2014 Authorizing the Mayor to Sign an Asset Purchase Agreement

Motion to approve sponsored by Councilor Camardo, seconded by Councilor Ruzicka. The resolution carried 5-0. Councilors McCormick, Camardo, Cuddy, Ruzicka, and, Mayor Quill all voting aye.

C. Council Resolution #32 - Transferring Parking Meter Enforcement Functions and Personnel From the Department of Public Works to the Auburn Police Department

Motion to approve sponsored by Councilor Camardo, seconded by Councilor McCormick. The resolution carried 5-0. Councilors McCormick, Camardo, Cuddy, Ruzicka, and, Mayor Quill all voting aye.

D. Appointment Resolution #33 of 2014 Appointing a Member of the Board of Assessment Review

Motion to approve sponsored by Councilor McCormick, seconded by Councilor Camardo. The resolution carried 5-0. Councilors McCormick, Camardo, Cuddy, Ruzicka, and, Mayor Quill all voting aye.

E. Resolution #34 - Requesting the services of the State Financial Restructuring Board for Local Governments

Motion to approve sponsored by Councilor Ruzicka, seconded by Councilor Camardo.

Council discussed.

Councilor Cuddy then made a motion to table Resolution #34 of 2014, seconded by Councilor McCormick. The motion to table the resolution carried 3-2. Councilors McCormick, Cuddy, and, Mayor Quill all voting aye. Councilors Camardo and Ruzicka voting no.

Local Law- None

Tabled Legislation- None

Other Business

A. Codes Department Transfer to the Fire Department Discussion

The City Manager invited Fire Chief Dygert and Planning Director Haines to present to the Council various alternatives developed. The Council discussed. It was decided that the topic should be brought back to Council at a future meeting.

B. Councilor Camardo had the following issues: 1. Requested presentation materials for presentations to the Council to be provided to the Council earlier so that Councilors may have time to review. 2. Asked the City Manager for his opinion on the State Financial Restructuring Board and stated he strongly encourages Council to move this forward. 3. Stated that he had driven the day before on Franklin Street and that the City needs to keep on the contractor to fill potholes in an effort to keep the road in better condition during the construction. 4. Reported that he discussed with Tom Gabak and the Fire Chief better methods to use for draining fire hydrants after he had witnessed a hydrant being drained on Grant Avenue being drained and causing icy conditions. 5. Enquired about the City advertising for applications for the position of Senior Planner. Would like the Council to take a look at the filling of this position and recommended considering a

Senior Clerk position instead. Also stated he would like to see the Senior Clerk position shared between the Planning Office and the Codes Office.

C. Councilor McCormick stated she supports filling the Senior Planner vacancy.

D. Councilor Cuddy stated he supports filling the Senior Planner vacancy.

E. Councilor Ruzicka stated that the Council needs to look at matters in light of the City's current fiscal circumstances. He stated the City needs to be cautious about adding people and thinks filling the vacancies at the City Police Department are a priority.

F. Mayor Quill stated he would like to move forward with filling the Senior Planner vacancy.

G. Councilor Camardo asked about setting a meeting with CEDA and the Chamber of Commerce to discuss moving economic development topics forward

H. Councilor Ruzicka asked for an answer about an individual in the Clerk's office that recently received a raise. The Manager reported the matter involved the appointment of the Registrar.

I. Councilor McCormick announced that the Owasco Watershed Lake Association was hosting a 'State of the Lake' seminar on Saturday, March 1, 2014 from 9am-12pm at the Bisgrove Auditorium at Cayuga Community College. She also stated that in her capacity as a new Councilor she recently toured the City's Water Filtration Facility. The day she visited happened to be a day when there were many issues with equipment at the facility and with water line breaks throughout the City. This visit for here highlighted the critical importance of making repairs to our water treatment facilities.

J. Mayor Quill asked the City Manager for an update on the City's outstanding payment to Cayuga County for the 911 emergency communication system. Councilor Camardo suggested the City request a long term payment arrangement with the County. It was decided the Manager would follow up on this. The Mayor announced that on Thursday, February 27, 2014 at 5pm there would be a caucus for the Democratic members of the Council.

K. Councilor Ruzicka asked about a Re-Cap. The City Manager and Planning Director Haines reported that they had looked into Councilor Camardo's request that the fill removed from the Hoopes Park pond be used at the old Dunn & McCarthy site. The City is awaiting an answer for this from the State DEC.

L. Executive Session. Council voted to enter an executive session regarding matters pertaining to:

1. Contract negotiations (NYS Public Officers Law, Article 7 §105-e. Collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law);
2. Potential sale of City owned land (NYS Public Officers Law, Article 7 §105-h. The proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities, or sale or exchange of securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof.); and,
3. Matters pertaining to the appointment of particular personnel. (NYS Public Officers Law, Article 7 §105.1.f. The medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.)

Motion to enter an executive session was made by Councilor McCormick, seconded by Councilor Camardo. The motion carried 5-0. Councilors McCormick, Camardo, Cuddy, Ruzicka, and Mayor Quill all voting aye. Council entered into executive session at 8:12 p.m.

Council returned from executive session and by unanimous vote adjourned the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Minutes submitted to the City Council on February 21, 2014 by:

Charles Mason
City Clerk

On February 27, 2014 a motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2014 Auburn, NY City Council meeting was made by Councilor Camardo, seconded by Councilor McCormick.

	Ayes	Noes
Councilor McCormick	x	
Councilor Camardo	x	
Councilor Cuddy	x	
Councilor Ruzicka	x	
Mayor Quill	x	
Carried and Adopted	x	

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the minutes of the proceedings of the City Council of the City of Auburn, N.Y., at a regular meeting thereof, held in the Council Chambers, Memorial City Hall, in said city, on the 20th day of February, 2014 and that the City Council approved such by the vote listed above.

Charles Mason, City Clerk Date: February 28, 2014