

**Auburn City Council  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, December 2, 2021 5:00 P.M.  
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 5:00 p.m. from the City Council Chambers, 24 South St. Auburn, NY by Mayor Quill.

**ROLL CALL** – The City Clerk called the roll. Mayor Quill, Councilor Deb McCormick, Councilor Jimmy Giannettino, Councilor Terry Cuddy and Councilor Tim Locastro were all present.

**The following City Staff was present for the meeting:**

- City Manager, Jeff Dygert
- Corporation Counsel, Stacy DeForrest
- City Clerk, Chuck Mason
- Fire Chief, Mark Fritz
- Police Chief, James Slayton
- Director of Operations, Auburn City Ambulance, Kezia Sullivan

**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 Announcements**

**East Hill Medical Center** now offers RAPID asymptomatic and symptomatic COVID-19 testing and Moderna and Janssen booster vaccination clinics.

- Testing Clinics will be Mondays through Fridays from 3 p.m. – 4 p.m.
- Booster Clinics will be on Thursdays from 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. (excluding Holidays).

All testing and boosters will be BY APPOINTMENT ONLY and will be held on the 1st Floor of the Metcalf Plaza Building at 144 Genesee St. in downtown Auburn. Free 2 hour parking is offered on Genesee St. and in the Downtown Parking Garage on Lincoln Street. Info:

<https://www.easthillmedical.com/>

Announcement from the Office of Planning and Economic Development, the City of Auburn is commissioning a new concrete skatepark to replace the existing skatepark at Casey Park. To make the design the best it can be, we want to hear from the local community and there are two ways that you can participate:

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1. Take the online survey. Go to [tinyurl.com/caseyparkskatepark](https://tinyurl.com/caseyparkskatepark) to take the online survey for design of the skatepark. Survey is open through December 14, 2021.
2. Attend a public meeting. Come join the City of Auburn and the design team from Grindline Skateparks to learn more about this exciting project, meet the Skatepark designers and contribute your ideas to the design of the skatepark. This meeting will be held Wednesday, December 15, 2021 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Equal Rights Heritage Center, 25 South Street in downtown Auburn.  
BONUS: attendees of this meeting will have a chance to win some pretty awesome swag, including a skateboard deck from KRUDCO Skate Shop.

The City of Auburn has contracted with designer Grindline Skateparks to design a one of kind skate park for our community. Design for the project will be funded utilizing Community Development Block Grant funding. The timeline for construction of the new skate park is dependent on funding availability. Current anticipated timeline is as follows:

November- January 2022: Design Development

February-March 2022: Final Design

March – May 2022: Bid for Construction

July- December 2022: Construction

For more information please contact the City of Auburn Office of Planning and Economic Development by phone at 315-253-3513 or email [rjensen@auburnny.gov](mailto:rjensen@auburnny.gov) or visit the project webpage at

[www.AuburnNY.gov/skatepark](http://www.AuburnNY.gov/skatepark)

### *Christmas Tree Recycling – Cayuga County Trade-A-Tree Program*

Cayuga Recycles, a program of the Cayuga County Planning Department, in conjunction with the Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County, is sponsoring the annual “Trade-A-Tree” program in Cayuga County. Bring in your “used” (real) Christmas tree after the holidays, and they will give you a certificate for a tree seedling to be picked up in the spring! Old trees will be chipped into mulch to be used on county projects, rather than taking up space in landfills. A White Spruce seedling will be given out to anyone who redeems their certificate on May 6, 2022, at the Annual Conservation District Spring Tree & Shrub Sale.

Trees must be free of decorations, tinsel, wraps or any other foreign objects. Trees will be accepted at the Natural Resource Center, 7413 County House Road, Auburn, NY during the following hours:

December 27-29, 2021 from 8 AM – 3:30 PM.

December 30, 2021 from 8 AM – 12 noon.

January 3-7, 2022 from 8 AM – 3:30 PM.

January 10-14, 2022 from 8 AM – 3:30 PM

For more information, please visit their website at [www.cayugaswcd.org](http://www.cayugaswcd.org) or call the Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District at (315)252-4171, ext. 4, or stop by their office located on County House Road in Sennett, Monday - Friday from 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

### **CEREMONIAL PRESENTATIONS –**

**Public to be heard:** Mayor Quill asked the Clerk to read the public to be heard rules. The following individual spoke: Pam O’Cusik of 120 Chapman Avenue spoke of matters pertaining to the Mayor, City Manager and Police.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes -**

November 23, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the November 23, 2021 minutes by Councilor McCormick, seconded by Councilor Locastro. Motion to approve carried 5-0.

## **Reports of City Officials**

### **A. City Manager's Report –**

- Earlier today along with Councilor McCormick attended the Downtown BID Parking Committee meeting and there will be a full report at next week's Council meeting.
- Our City Planning Department just received news that there were no findings or concerns found by auditors from the Department of Housing and Urban Development on a recent audit they completed of the City's Community Development Block Grant program.

### **B. Reports from members of Council**

- Councilor Giannettino reported that he attended the Auburn Police Department's reality based training session this week and he thanked Chief Slaton and the APD officers for allowing him to participate.

## **Matters to Come Before Council**

### **A. State Environmental Quality Review Act Resolutions (SEQR) - none**

### **B. Ordinances – none**

### **C. Local Laws – none**

### **D. Resolutions –**

#### **APPOINTMENT RESOLUTION #118 OF 2021**

#### **APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF THE CAYUGA COUNTY HEALTH INSURANCE CONSORTIUM**

By Councilor Giannettino

December 2, 2021

**WHEREAS**, on November 18, 2021, the City Council passed Agreement Resolution No.117, Authorizing an Updated Municipal Cooperation Agreement with the Cayuga County Health Consortium (the "Agreement"); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to article D section 1 of the Agreement, the City has two seats on the Consortium Board which must be appointed by the City Council; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to article D section 7 of the Agreement, the City can designate an alternate in the absence of one of the Members; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City Manager recommends the appointment of Sean Corcoran, Fire Lieutenant, and Robert Gauthier, City Treasurer as Board Members and Jeramy Hutson, CSEA Representative, as Designated Alternate with voting authority.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Auburn City Council appoints Sean Corcoran and Robert Gauthier as Board Members to the Cayuga County Health Insurance Consortium and designates Jeramy Hutson as the Designated Alternate with voting authority.

Seconded by Councilor Locastro

	Ayes	Noes
Councilor McCormick	X	
Councilor Giannettino	X	
Councilor Cuddy	X	
Councilor Locastro	X	
Mayor Quill	X	
Carried and Adopted	X	

#### **APPOINTMENT RESOLUTION #119 OF 2021**

#### **APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE PUBLIC ART COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF AUBURN**

By Councilor Cuddy

December 2, 2021

**WHEREAS**, the Public Art Commission was originally established by Ordinance No. 5 of 2017, and said Ordinance sets forth the legislative intent, purpose, powers and membership of the Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Public Art Commission are appointed by the Mayor of the City of Auburn with the approval of the majority of the City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council are desirous of reappointing the following individuals to their positions for a term of two (2) years effective December 31, 2021 and terminating December 31, 2023:

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- Devon Roblee, representing professional artists;
- Steve Gamba, representing City at Large and Chair of the Committee.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Auburn that Devon Roblee and Steve Gamba be appointed as members of the Public Art Commission, and that they are appointed for terms as outlined herein.

Seconded By Councilor McCormick

	Ayes	Noes	Excused
Councilor McCormick	X		
Councilor Giannettino	X		
Councilor Cuddy	X		
Councilor Locastro	X		
Mayor Quill	X		
Carried and Adopted	X		

**APPOINTMENT RESOLUTION #120 OF 2021**

**APPOINTING A MEMBER OF THE AUBURN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

By Councilor Locastro

December 2, 2021

**WHEREAS**, the City of Auburn has created the Auburn Human Rights Commission pursuant to the General Municipal Law of the State of New York; and

**WHEREAS**, there currently exists a vacancy for one commissioner position and it is the recommendation of the Human Rights Commission that the following person, whom is a resident of the City of Auburn, shall be appointed as a member of the Commission for a term of three (3) years, namely:

Duan T. Johnson

; and

**WHEREAS**, the member shall serve for a term of three (3) years beginning immediately upon approval of this Appointment Resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following person is hereby appointed as member of the Auburn Human Rights Commission for a term of three (3) years, namely:

Duan T. Johnson

; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said appointment is to become effective immediately upon approval of this Appointment Resolution.

Seconded by Councilor Cuddy

	Ayes	Noes
Councilor McCormick	X	
Councilor Giannettino	X	
Councilor Cuddy	X	
Councilor Locastro	X	
Mayor Quill	X	
Carried and Adopted	X	

**E. Staff Presentations – none**

**TABLED ITEMS - none**

**OTHER BUSINESS –**

**Executive Session:**

Councilor Giannettino made a motion to enter Executive Session, seconded by Councilor McCormick. Council voted to enter an executive session regarding the following matters:

- One matter pertaining to the sale, lease or acquisition of real property.
- One matter made confidential by Federal or State law. (Section 4503 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules which establishes that a confidential communication between attorney and client shall be privileged. Pursuant to this section, Council will be receiving legal advice from its attorney which fulfills the requirement provided in Section 108(3) of the Public Officers Law allowing this exemption.)

The motion to enter executive session carried 5-0. The Council entered Executive Session at 5:24 p.m. Executive session adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** By unanimous vote the Council adjourned the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m..

Minutes submitted by:

Chuck Mason, City Clerk