

**Auburn City Council  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, July 1, 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. Councilor Deb McCormick, Councilor Jimmy Giannettino, Councilor Terry Cuddy, Councilor Tim Locastro and Mayor Quill were all present.

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

- City Manager, Jeff Dygert
- Corporation Counsel, Stacy DeForest
- City Clerk, Chuck Mason
- Police Chief, Shawn Butler
- Fire Chief, Mark Fritz
- City Comptroller, Rachel Jacobs
- Director of Capital Projects and Grants, Christina Selvek
- City Engineer, Bill Lupien
- Police Lieutenant James Slayton

**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** –

**CEREMONIAL PRESENTATIONS** –

**Mayor Quill and members of City Council recognized the Auburn High School**

**Public to be heard:** Mayor Quill asked the Clerk read the public to be heard rules. The following individual spoke:

Dr. Walt Aikman, Liberty Street. Dr. Aikman also consults with the City on an ongoing tree inventory project. Spoke regarding the fact that it is commendable that there are many City departments working together to allow the City to address the impact of the Emerald Ash Borer crisis that has killed several hundreds of trees throughout the City. He also spoke about progress he has made on inventorying trees throughout the City.

## **Approval of Meeting Minutes – none**

### **Reports of City Officials**

#### **A. City Manager's Report**

- The City of Auburn is seeking bids for the following projects:
- Casey Park Skate Park Design-Build Project due July 2, 2021.
- More information on these projects is available on the City of Auburn webpage under the tab "Bids/RFPs"
- The City of Auburn is collaborating with the Cayuga Community Health Network and Arise to offer two housing workshops for landlords and tenants. The first workshop is for the benefit of tenants and will be held July 12 from 9am – 3pm at the West Middle School Apartments' auditorium at 217 Genesee St. The second workshop is designed for landlords and will be held on July 13 from 9am-3pm at the west Middle School Apartments' auditorium at 217 Genesee St.
- This week our Corporation Counsel's Office received an update related to our opioid litigation status.

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

### **Matters to Come Before Council**

#### **A. State Environmental Quality Review Act Resolutions (SEQR)**

#### **B. Ordinances – none**

#### **C. Local Laws – none**

#### **D. Resolutions –**

### **GRANT ACCEPTANCE RESOLUTION #83 OF 2021**

#### **AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FOR THE STATE STREET PUBLIC PLAZA**

By Councilor McCormick

July 1, 2021

**WHEREAS**, the City of Auburn owns and is improving the downtown State Street Public Plaza located at 1-7; and

**WHEREAS**, the redevelopment of 1-7 State Street is listed as a priority in the NYS Brownfield Opportunity Area and within the NYS Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant; and

**WHEREAS**, the community requested the redevelopment the vacant parcel located at 1-

7 State Street into a public space; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Auburn worked with Bergmann Architects, Engineers, Planners to design a public plaza based on community input; and

**WHEREAS**, The City of Auburn applied to the Emerson Foundation for funding for the redevelopment of the State Street Public Plaza; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the application to the Emerson Foundation, the City of Auburn has been awarded a grant in the sum of \$178,114; and

**WHEREAS**, the construction and construction inspection cost of the project is \$1,178, 114, with \$1,000,000 funded through NYS Downtown Revitalization Grant, and \$178,114 from the Emerson Foundation Grant; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of the City of Auburn must be authorized to accept the grant funding and execute all necessary documents in connection therewith prior to commencing the project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBURN AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That the Mayor of the City of Auburn is hereby authorized and directed to execute the contract agreement with the Emerson Foundation, submit project documentation, and otherwise act for the Municipality's governing body in all matters related to the project; and
2. That the City Comptroller is authorized to recognize grant revenue in the amount of \$178,114, and to appropriate the funds into the State Street Public Plaza, Capital Account No. HA99.359.SS;

And, That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Seconded by Councilor Giannettino

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

## **FINANCIAL RESOLUTION #84 OF 2021**

### **AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF AUBURN POLICE DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR FUNDING UNDER THE US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BODY-WORN CAMERA POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM**

By Councilor Giannettino

July 1, 2021

**WHEREAS**, the City of Auburn, NY Police Department is an agency committed to improving law enforcement interactions with the public by advancing work that increases access to justice, supports crime victims and protects the public from crime and evolving threats; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance has released a competitive grant entitled “*Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program*” with the purpose of supporting law enforcement agencies to establish or expand Body-Worn Camera (BWC) programs that would enhance the mission of the Auburn Police Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the recently completed March 2021 “*City of Auburn Collaborative on Police & Community Relations Plan*” states that a lack of funding is the primary barrier to the City of Auburn Police Department’s implementation of a department-wide BWC Policy and Program; and

**WHEREAS**, for the purposes of this US DOJ funding solicitation the City of Auburn Police Department is proposing to acquire BWCs for 60 patrol officers and first-line supervisors for a maximum eligible award of \$120,000 with a required 50% local cash match of \$60,000 for a total BWC grant application budget of \$180,000 over a 3-year period; and

**WHEREAS**, the total cost to implement a department-wide BWC program that integrates with the City’s information technology system and upgraded Taser 7 technology is approximately \$126,000/ annually over a 5 year period that would begin October 1, 2021 with the balance of local cash match sourced from the American Rescue Plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Auburn, New York:

1. That the Mayor, or approved designee, is authorized to submit all documents required for the Grant application on or before the submittal date of July 26, 2021; and
2. Upon award notification, that the Mayor, or approved designee, is authorized to execute the grant agreement, submit all documentation, and otherwise act on all matters related to the grant project and granting Federal Agency; and
3. Upon award notification, that the City Comptroller is authorized to create a capital project account and recognize grant revenues from the US Department of Justice in the amount of \$120,000; and
4. Upon award notification, that the City Comptroller is authorized to transfer the required local cash match in the amount of \$60,000 and the balance of the BWC department-wide implementation program funds in the amount of \$450,000 from the American Rescue Plan capital account over a 5 year period to fund the BWC department-wide program; and
4. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

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		

**FINANCIAL RESOLUTION #85 OF 2021**

**AUTHORIZING VARIOUS OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET TRANSFERS**

By Councilor McCormick

July 1, 2021

**WHEREAS**, the City of Auburn staff is requesting various operating and non-operating budget transfers for the fiscal 2020-2021 year as outlined in attachment A; and,

**WHEREAS**, there is no fund balance being requested for these transfers; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Auburn, New York:

1. That the Auburn City Council does hereby authorize the transfers in Attachment A for the 2020-2021 fiscal year; and,
2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Seconded by Councilor Locastro

Attachment A: 20-21 FY 7/1/2021					
Amount	Account to	Account From	Reason		
\$ 320,639.44	A 3801	Auburn Community Baseball AR	HA8760.440.AR PA	American Rescue Plan Act	Close out Baseball Accounts Receivable
\$ 159,650.20	A99.2891	Transfer from Capital	HA8760.440.AR PA	American Rescue Plan Act	Reimburse Fund Balance for PY COVID Expenditures, not covered by FEMA
\$ 510,652.98	A8760.440.COVID	COVID Expenditures	HA8760.440.AR PA	American Rescue Plan Act	COVID salary cost not covered by FEMA or other funds
\$ 995,417.04	A99.2891	Transfer from Capital	HA8760.440.AR PA	American Rescue Plan Act	General Fund 2020 FY Revenue Loss
\$ 53,473.00	CL99.2891	Transfer from Capital	HA8760.440.AR PA	American Rescue Plan Act	Refuse Collection 2020 FY Revenue Loss
\$ 13,016.00	E99.2891	Transfer from Capital	HA8760.440.AR PA	American Rescue Plan Act	Power Utility 2020 FY Revenue Loss
\$ 1,757,847.00	AL99.2891	Transfer from Capital	HA8760.440.AR PA	American Rescue Plan Act	Solid Waste Fund 2020 FY Revenue Loss
\$ 63,390.00	F99.2891	Transfer from Capital	HA8760.440.AR PA	American Rescue Plan Act	Water Fund 2020 FY Revenue Loss

\$ 633,947.00	AL99.2891	Transfer from Capital	HA8760.440.AR PA	American Rescue Plan Act	Leachate Costs for Alt 1 & Alt 2 plus J&E Electric portions
\$ 535,791.00	AL99.2891	Transfer from Capital	HA8760.440.AR PA	American Rescue Plan Act	
\$ 115,500.00	AL99.2891	Transfer from Capital	HA8760.440.AR PA	American Rescue Plan Act	

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

### **AWARD RESOLUTION # 86 OF 2021**

#### **AWARDING BIDS FOR THE LINCOLN STREET PARKING GARAGE REHABILITATION PROJECT**

By Councilor Cuddy

July 1, 2021

**WHEREAS**, the Auburn Downtown Parking Garage located at 1 Lincoln Street is a public facility that provides critical parking services to collectively aid the City's tourism, travel and hospitality industries and serves as the designated visitor parking for the NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center; and

**WHEREAS**, the parking garage serves as a public facility that supports the response to the COVID-19 public health emergency as designated parking during downtown vaccination clinics; and

**WHEREAS**, in March 2021, a Parking Garage Condition Report outlined significant capital investment involving various structural, architectural, electrical and plumbing improvements needed to extend the useful life of the public facility; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 14, 2021, bids were opened for the Lincoln Street Parking Garage Rehabilitation Project and the following bids were received and are the low bidders:

**General Contract:**

Crane-Hogan Structural Systems Inc. Base Bid

\$ 1,564,220.00

Spencerport, New York

Alternates #1 thru #9

\$ 590,820.00

Total Base Bid with Alternates \$ 2,155,040.00

**Electrical Contract:**

Knapp Electric Inc.

Base Bid

\$ 68,500.00

Auburn, New York

Alternate #2

\$ 9,000.00

Total Base Bid with Alternate #2

\$ 77,500.00

; and

**WHEREAS**, it is recommended by staff and the project consulting firm, Popli Design Group, that the Auburn City Council award the Lincoln Street Parking Garage Rehabilitation Project to the lowest responsible bidders: Crane-Hogan Structural Systems Inc. for General Contract for \$2,155,040.00 and Knapp Electric Inc. for Electrical Contract in the amount of \$77,500.00; and

**WHEREAS**, funding for the Lincoln St. Parking Garage Rehabilitation Project will be partially from the Upstate Revitalization Initiative fund in the amount of \$1,250,000 and from the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Program in the amount of \$982,540 for a total project cost of \$2,232,540.00.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Auburn City Council does hereby award the contract for the Lincoln Street Parking Garage Rehabilitation Project to Crane-Hogan Structural Systems Inc., for the General Contract in the amount of \$2,155,040.00 and Knapp Electric Inc. for the Electrical Contract in the amount \$77,500.00; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the cost of the Resolution in the total amount of \$2,232,540.00 is to be charged to the Welcome Center capital account #HA 1620.440.IM in the amount of \$1,250,000.00 and to the ARPA Projects capital account #HA8760.440.ARP in the amount of \$982,540.00; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor is authorized to sign any and all documents necessary in reference to the award of these bids.

Seconded by Locastro

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

**E. Staff Presentations –**

**TABLED ITEMS – none**

**Public to be heard:**

David Scott, 63 South Street. State he was disappointed that the American Rescue Plan Funding discussion did not include minority owned enterprise assistance.

Dale Bush



## OTHER BUSINESS –

### A. American Rescue Plan Funding Discussion

Mayor Quill opened the floor for Council discussion. Councilor Giannettino handed out a spreadsheet of a list of proposals he had compiled of projects that the Council would like to see funded with the American rescue plan funding. All members of Council discussed the projects. The list of projects is as follows:

	Program initiative:	Allocation:
Neighborhoods and housing initiatives	\$250k for a new program modeled after the first time homebuyers mortgage assistance program that would provide 50 \$5k grants to first time homebuyers that purchase property within City CDBG	250,000.00
Neighborhoods and housing initiatives	\$500k for neighborhood clean-up and revitalization efforts to include housing demolitions and curbside clean-up programs throughout CDBG eligible	500,000.00
Neighborhoods and housing initiatives	\$500k for two programs: 1. home repair grants in houses located in CDBG areas; and, 2. New housing rehabilitation program.	500,000.00
Neighborhoods and housing initiatives	\$250k for tree removal and replanting due to the impacts of the emerald ash borer	250,000.00
Neighborhoods and housing initiatives	\$100k for establishment of a revolving loan program to assist property owners with the removal of dead trees impacted by the emerald ash borer crisis.	100,000.00
Speeding the recovery of the tourism, travel, and hospitality sectors	\$1.25 million to City tourist destination sites all impacted by the pandemic to put towards their future capital needs associated with the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (\$250k each to Willard Memorial Chapel, Schweinfurth Art Center, Cayuga Museum, Auburn Public Theater, Seward House Museum)	1,250,000.00
Speeding the recovery of the tourism, travel, and hospitality sectors	\$250k towards tourist marketing and events for the City of Auburn to include \$50,000 for the 2021 Founders Day event and marketing; \$50,000 toward the 2022 Harriet Tubman bicentennial celebration event and marketing; \$100k match on the Market NY grants 2022-2023; and \$50,000 to the Historic and Cultural Sites Commission for marketing and events.	250,000.00
Speeding the recovery of the tourism, travel, and hospitality sectors	\$250k towards the establishment of a new touring shuttle to be operated out of the ERHC to shuttle tourists on guided tours of our historic and cultural sites coordinated in partnership with the National Park Service and all other Historic and Cultural Sites Commission sites.	250,000.00
Supporting small businesses	\$500k to duplicate a program similar to the program executed with CDBG-CV funding for pandemic impacted small businesses	500,000.00

Auburn City Council Meeting, July 1, 2021

Supporting small businesses	\$500k to boost the small business and micro grant programs being used with CDBG and DRI funds, however, this funding would be available City-wide with emphasis placed on small businesses that set-up in vacant or underutilized property and small businesses that are looking to expand. 25% of the funds would be designated to go to minority or women owned businesses.	500,000.00
Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency	\$1 million fund to deliver grants to human service agencies that have programs that assist those they serve with response to the pandemic (This would be a fund offered to agencies such as Nick's Ride, CAP, BTW, ARISE, etc.)	1,000,000.00
Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency	\$250k for new grant program specifically to food pantries and homeless shelters	250,000.00
Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure,	\$1 million to fund new initiatives in the Owasco Lake Watershed to protect our public drinking water supply	1,000,000.00
Capital Projects for the City of Auburn	\$50k for replacement of sidewalks at Seward Park on South Street; and, • \$100k for replacement of engraved pavers and other improvements to Veterans Memorial Park on Genesee Street	150,000.00
		6,750,000.00
	Amount from above list:	6,750,000.00
	Resolution #85 of 2021 This budget transfer resolution contains the lost revenue reimbursements to the city; expenses not reimbursed by FEMA and the landfill leachate.	6,000,000.00
	Resolution #84 of 2021 APD body camera program	510,000.00
	Resolution # 86 of 2021 Parking Garage Improvements	982,540.00
		14,242,540.00
	Total amount of American Rescue Plan Funding:	21,395,055.00

Auburn City Council Meeting, July 1, 2021

	Remaining American Rescue Plan Funds:	7,152,515.00

**B. NYS Touring Road Discussion**

Mayor Quill opened the floor for Council discussion on the NYS Touring Road funding. Council discussed and it was concluded that the list of projects staff presented in June should be used with the exception of projects including the Arterial roads. Also, Council would like to see the South Street Street lights on the final list, as well as, street light replacement or repainting included for E. Genesee Street.

**Public to be heard:**

David Scott, 63 South Street. State he was disappointed that the American Rescue Plan Funding discussion did not include minority owned enterprise assistance.

Dale Bush, Standart Wood Apts. The 13th Annual Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway of Valor Tribute Ride, sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapters 377, 480 and Chapter 704, also by Blue Knights Chapter 17, is on Saturday, July 17, 2021. The ride is anticipated to drive through the City of Auburn on NYS Route 38 from south to north at approximately 1:30 p.m. through 1:45 p.m. The Ride forms up at the Owego Free Academy on Sheldon Guile Blvd., in Owego, NY, and departs from there at 11 am, riding North on State Route 38 for the 100-mile ride. The first stop for the ride is at the American Legion in Groton, NY, for food and gas before departing at 1 pm, riding again North on Route 38, known as, The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway of Valor. The ride ends at the American Legion in Hannibal, NY. Where there will be food and entertainment.

Executive Session. Councilor McCormick made a motion to enter Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Giannetnno. Council voted to enter an executive session regarding the following matters: Two matters pertaining to potential litigation.

The motion to enter executive session carried 5-0. The Council entered Executive Session at 6:14 p.m. Executive session adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** By unanimous vote the Council adjourned the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m..

Minutes submitted by:

Chuck Mason, City Clerk