

**Auburn City Council
Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 23, 2023 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 and Councilor Ginny Kent, Councilor Jimmy Giannettino and Councilor Terry Cuddy were present. Councilor Tim Locastro was excused.

The following City Staff was present for the meeting:

- City Manager, Jeff Dygert
- City Clerk, Chuck Mason
- Corporation Counsel, Stacy Tamborinno
- Comptroller, Rachel Jacobs
- Director of Capital Projects and Grants, Christina Selvek
- Police Chief, James Slayton
- Director of Municipal Utilities, Seth Jensen
- Fire Chief, Mark Fritz
- Assistant Civil Engineer, Scott McIntyre

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 –

The next meeting of the City Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Monday, February 27, 2023 at 7pm in the Council Chambers, Memorial City Hall, 24 South Street, Auburn.

Ceremonial Presentations –

WHEREAS, a mark of a great City is how it treats it's most vulnerable citizens; and

WHEREAS, Chapel House opened in the fall of 2007 under the direction of Holy Family Church as a compassionate response to homelessness in our community; and

WHEREAS, a group of volunteers in 2007 with creative minds and a vision for a community homeless shelter in Auburn came together to embark on establishing their vision; and

WHEREAS, once a shelter for homeless men operating out of the gymnasium of the former Holy Family School, Chapel House has grown, offering emergency shelter to both men and women, serving the homeless population in our City by providing emergency shelter to more than 3000 individuals; and,

WHEREAS, Chapel House, Inc., a 501©3 nonprofit corporation that relies on the support of dedicated staff and community volunteers who refuse to stand idly by while others suffer through bitterly cold nights for lack of housing; and

WHEREAS, Chapel House is a tireless advocate for the homeless population, not only providing emergency food and shelter, but working cooperatively with other community agencies to promote self-sufficiency, personal growth, and social responsibility; and

WHEREAS, Chapel House has established itself as the premier provider of emergency housing, serving individuals who are low to moderate income in our community, including Veterans; and,

WHEREAS, it is the sense of this City Council that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, it is appropriate to publicly proclaim and commend the organization for the edification and emulation of others;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Michael D. Quill, Mayor of the City of Auburn, New York, on behalf of the members of City Council, encourage all citizens of Auburn to celebrate this significant achievement upon the **15th Anniversary** of Chapel House, Inc. establishment, and, do hereby proclaim February 23rd, 2023, as

CHAPEL HOUSE DAY

in the City of Auburn, New York.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Auburn to be affixed this Twenty Third day of February 2023.

Michael D. Quill, Mayor

City of Auburn, New York

The Mayor presented Shawn Lynch representing Chapel House with a Proclamation for the organizations 15 years of service addressing homelessness to the Auburn Community. Mr. Lynch is the Chapel House's longest serving employee.

Public to be heard – The City Clerk read the rules for the Public to be Heard and the following individual spoke: Steve Shermack of Standard Woods spoke to address a recent visit to the City Council meeting from NYS Senator May.

Approval of Meeting Minutes –

February 9, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the February 9, 2023 minutes by Councilor Giannettino, seconded by Councilor Kent. Motion to approve carried 5-0.

Reports of City Officials

City Manager's Report –

- The City of Auburn is currently accepting bids for the construction of the Casey Park Skate Park. Bids are due March 15.
- The City of Auburn is currently accepting bids for the Auburn Police Department drone. Bids are due March 10.

- We have also released a Request For Proposals (RFP) for Deferred Compensation Plan Administration. Those responses are due back March 17.

Reports from members of Council –

Matters to Come Before Council

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

B. Ordinances – none

C. Local Laws – none

D. Resolutions – none

E. Staff or Vendor Presentations –

DRAFT Strategic Recovery and Capital Plan FY 2023 Presentation by Christina J. Selvek, Dir. of Capital Projects Background: The City of Auburn authorizes Bond Ordinances each spring in preparation for Serial Bond and BAN borrowing in July to finance projects from the annual capital plan. Planning for the annual capital plan begins each year in December with input and project requests from City Departments. These capital requests are reviewed and prioritized in January/ February with the City Comptroller and City Manager and presented to City Council for initial discussion and feedback. Based upon annual priorities and needs the City will consider bond ordinances starting in March to April so as to fund projects and programs that are time sensitive for competitive bidding and the upcoming construction season. In May 2022, the City of Auburn received the second payment of \$10,697,527.50 in State/ Local Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), a part of the American Rescue Plan. This program is managed through the US Department of Treasury and the Final Rule which became effective on April 1, 2022. The Final Rule describes the eligible and ineligible uses of funds. Starting in 2022 the City combined the annual CIP plan with the City's SLFRF Strategic Recovery Plan to provide additional community outreach and information about these funds. For FY2023-24 the CIP General Fund borrowing recommendations stay well below the \$2 million limit. CIP priority requests include fleet vehicles, highway and ROW improvements, city buildings, and water and sewer improvements. The City is eligible to receive Federal BIL funds for the CSO Facility Improvement Project. To comply with BIL funding requirements, the City will need to authorize a bond ordinance for this project prior to June 2023. Following the presentation to City Council on February 23th, the annual CIP will be submitted for review in the March 3rd Council meeting agenda packets and proposed for adoption at the March 16th meeting. Concurrently, bond ordinances and corresponding SEQR resolutions are being prepared for City Council consideration starting in April. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of these important City capital improvement projects and associated bond authorization. If you need additional information or have questions about any of these projects, please feel free to contact me at (315) 253-5397 or email cselvek@auburnny.gov.

Road Program 2023 Presentation – by Scott McIntyre, Engineering Department. (see attached presentation slides)

Bar Graph Reports for January 2023 – by Jeff Dygert, City Manager

TABLED ITEMS - none

OTHER BUSINESS –

- Councilor Kent made a statement recognizing the one-year anniversary of the start of the war in Ukraine.
- Mayor Quill discussed the windows at Memorial City Hall and requested the City Manager look into maintenance for both the interior and exterior.

Second Public to be Heard.

- Dr. Walt Aikman of Liberty Street discussed the good news that NYS DEC has announced a new round of grant funding for Urban Forestry which can hopefully allow the City to apply for funding that can assist with response to the devastation caused by the emerald ash borer. He also stated that he has recently found an invasive species the hemlock woolly adelgid insects on some City hemlock trees and its his first time seeing this in the City. He also discussed State Legislation that has been proposed, bill numbers A3226/S1856 which would ban some pesticides that allow us to control the invasive species. He has expressed his concerns to our State representatives.
- Timothy Donovan discussed his support for repaving the arterial and is glad to hear the State of New York is looking to do the project in a couple years.

ADJOURNMENT: By unanimous vote the Council adjourned the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m..

Minutes submitted by: Chuck Mason, City Clerk