



Date: April 19, 2023

Roll Call: James Slayton, Police Chief
Mark Fritz, Fire Chief
Jeff Dygert, City Manager

Minutes: Will be forthcoming

**The next monthly meeting will be changed to
May 10, 2023 at 9:00 AM**

Complaints:

No new complaints.

Hearings:

None at this time because the Committee is working through some administrative items.

Other Business:

We have had a number of properties over the last few months that we have agreed to keep an eye on for the next six months. We do not need to discuss each one but we do have an update on some of these.

1. **11 Madison Ave.:** Auburn Police Department only had one call for service since the last meeting. Auburn Fire Department and EMS had one call for service for a structure fire on April 10th. The investigation revealed it was accidental in nature however, it was preventable as both the occupant and property manager continually reset the breaker and the breaker did its job. The bottom apartment was condemned and since the fire, the second floor is now condemned. There is some activity at this property because of a dumpster that is on the property and it looks like this property is still occupied even though it is condemned due to vehicles in the yard. We will look into this more.
2. **27-29 Madison Ave.:** Auburn Police Department had a couple of calls for service at 27 Madison Ave. and the calls for service at 29 Madison Ave. were for overdoses, suspicious incidences and neighbor problems. Since then this has been rectified through the Nuisance Committee. Auburn Fire Department and EMS have been there once since the last meeting for the action of shutting both properties down which was determined by the Nuisance

Committee. The property has code maintenance issues with debris in the yard still. We will follow up with Code Enforcement for this.

3. **33 Jefferson St.:** Auburn Police Department has given this property a lot of attention. APD has had 6 warrant attempts at this property out of the 10 calls for service there and two of those were assists with other agencies to rectify problems at this address. Auburn Fire Department and EMS had three calls since the last meeting all for medical concerns such as overdoses and welfare checks.

Justin Huffman, Esq. Huffman Law Firm representative for the owners of 33 Jefferson St.

The owner was successful in getting the warrant of eviction and it will take place on the 30th of the month. Hopefully, this will take care of the problematic tenant.

4. **33 Columbus St.:** Auburn Police Department, Auburn Fire Department and EMS had no new calls for service. Corporation Counsel recommends issuing a letter for Cease and Desist to the owner of the business at 33 Columbus St. as well as a copy to the property owner indicating that the Cayuga County Health Department (CCHD) has violated the business on tobacco sale issues which would place this business within the jurisdiction of this Committee. We are essentially putting the business owner on notice that they should no longer harbor.

Motion to issue a Cease and Desist order for 33 Columbus St.: James Slayton, Police Chief, seconded by Mark Fritz, Fire Chief. All approved.

5. **104 Grant Ave.:** Recommends the same course of action as 33 Columbus St. Auburn Police Department, Auburn Fire Department and EMS had no calls for service.

Motion to issue a Cease and Desist order for 104 Grant Ave.: James Slayton, Police Chief, seconded by Mark Fritz, Fire Chief. All approved.

6. **67 Franklin St.:** Auburn Police Department, Auburn Fire Department and EMS had no calls for service. This business is closed at this time and has remained closed.
7. **44 Wallace Ave:** Auburn Police Department had three calls for service in the month of March. Found individuals inside the property and worked with codes on this. Auburn Fire Department and EMS had one call for service on April 14th for a welfare check for a party potentially passed out in the vehicle. Crews found a male and female that were sleeping in the vehicle. They were uncooperative and were waiting for an occupant inside the house to wake up and let them in.
8. **64 Grant Ave.:** Auburn Police Department, Auburn Fire Department and EMS had no calls for service. This property has changed ownership, currently is vacant and going through updated renovations.

9. **9-11 Case Ave:** Auburn Police Department, Auburn Fire Department and EMS have no calls for service. We are continuing to look into things. This is one of two items we have on the agenda that we have with the feral cat issue.
10. **12 Seminary St. Rear:** Auburn Police Department, Auburn Fire Department and EMS had no new calls for service. This property is going through a foreclosure process and the owner has walked away from the property with little to no communication. We expect this to be foreclosed on in the next few weeks. The plan is to have this finalized next month. The owner of the property was deceased for a while and taxes were not paid.
11. **35 Mary St.:** No new calls for service and renovations are happening. This is a Code Enforcement issue and there has been some progress at this property.
12. **4 Van Patten St.:**

Natalie Richardson, 6 VanPatten St.

4 Van Patten St. neighbors are out of control. The landlord is not monitoring the property. Ms. Richardson has lived at 6 VanPatten St. for 19 years and is getting ready to sell the house because of 4 Van Patten St. They are very loud, and the people are scary. She has been called names by the people that were in the camper before it was taken down. People are there day and night. Drug sales and use have increased and the Police, Fire and Ambulance have been called. A NYSEG worker asked her to call 911 because someone was passed out in a vehicle. She has found bullets in her yard and had to put up a fence to keep them out of her yard because they are ruining her grass. The music is very loud that she can't hear her television. She did ask the neighbors to come but she thinks they are very scared.

The City Manager suggested she call Chief Slayton after the meeting to discuss more.

Auburn Police Department has had five calls for service and made two arrests from those calls. They did spend some time at the residence the night before this meeting to see if they can catch individuals. APD is aware and will continue to monitor it.

Auburn Fire Department and EMS had one call for service for the call Ms. Richardson mentioned above.

Corporation Counsel explained he has had communication with the property owner. This is more of a family member taking advantage of another family member. Corporation Counsel would like to look at the investigations over the past six months to see if they qualify. Thanks to the APD there were certain events that took place that removed some of the problematic tenants that were engaging in unsafe, unneighborly behavior, apparently, this address is again a problem. Corporation Counsel will request the reports from APD for the past six months.

- 13. 34 Franklin St.:** Auburn Police Department, Auburn Fire Department, and EMS had no calls for service. This property and others on the list are properties that belong to an individual of an LLC that is moving through the bankruptcy proceeding. Corporation Counsel explained the bankruptcy case has a hearing next week so we should have more information by the next meeting for the committee. Corresponding with the assistant trustee that some of the excuses from the property owner will not fly, we can view this as a positive.
- 14. 255 Grant Ave.:** Auburn Police Department has had six calls for service ranging from intoxicated individuals to larcenies and suspicious people. We will continue to monitor this property and expect more calls. Auburn Fire Department and EMS had one call for service and as it fills up with more occupants they anticipate more calls. As it currently stands, there are some code issues that are exterior issues that need to be followed up on. Due to the location of this building, it does not create complaints from neighbors and we will continue to communicate with social services.
- 15. 10 Morris St.:** Auburn Police Department, Auburn Fire Department and EMS had no calls for service. Corporation Counsel is waiting for the bank to initiate foreclosure proceedings which have yet to occur. Codes will need to keep an eye on this property due to code issues as the weather gets warmer
- 16. 25 Lafayette Pl.:** Auburn Police Department, Auburn Fire Department and EMS had no calls for service. This property falls under the same ownership as 34 Franklin St. and will work through that.
- 17. 9 E. Genesee St.:**

David Torella owns a business on 2 Seminary Ave.

On the 14th of April, Mr. Torella had a problem with people parking in front of his door, and again on the 17th, as they go into 9 E. Genesee St. Each time he asked them not to park there he is being disrespected. There is an apartment that has a dog in it that continues to bark nonstop. The second and third floor is condemned but people are living there. He doesn't understand how a business can operate without a license. If we can address this situation it would be helpful.

Auburn Police Department did have a conversation with Mr. Torella. APD did send over officers to talk to the owners but it looks like it hasn't changed. They will give more attention to the area. Auburn Fire Department and EMS have had no calls for services.

City Manager's office has received complaints about 9 E. Genesee St. as well as the other smoke shops in this area. APD plans to reimplement officers walking the streets of downtown this summer.

Karen Walter

She doesn't understand how NYS Tax and Finance are not involved. She doesn't understand how receiving consultation and receiving products how they can't be fined for not having sales tax.

Corporation Counsel has been heavily involved with the Office of Cannabis on this issue at this property. The State government is large and powerful and he doesn't foresee this particular problem being the same next time this year. City Manager explains there are certain things we can do at our level of government and things we can't do while waiting for NYS. We understand the frustrations of the people in the neighborhood businesses, owners and residents alike. The APD is doing what it can and with an increased presence there soon we will continue to do what we can at our level of government to address the issues as well

18. 87-89 Frances St.: Auburn Police Department, Auburn Fire Department and EMS had no calls for service. This is a code enforcement property maintenance issue. We will monitor through September 2023.

19. 39 Cayuga St.: Auburn Police Department had one call for service for an order of protection violation. Auburn Fire Department and EMS had no calls for service. This has been a code enforcement and zoning issue that we are watching

20. 45 Columbus St.: Auburn Police Department, Auburn Fire Department and EMS had no calls for service. This is a code enforcement issue. This is a long-standing issue and would like to put more attention to this for some compliance and all residents there. Code enforcement has had some discussions with the owner.

21. 106 Park Place Apt. #13: Auburn Police Department, Auburn Fire Department and EMS had no calls for service. This was a dog issue that was taken care of through the courts and is scheduled to come off our list in April 2023.

For the record, the regularly scheduled meeting for the month of May will be scheduled for May 10, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Motion to adjourn the meeting: James then Mark Fritz, Fire Chief, seconded by James Slayton, Police Chief. All approved.

Adjourned: 9:37

Next Meeting will be held on May 10, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.