

**City of Auburn**  
**Monday, January 4, 2021**  
**Minutes**

Mayor Berola called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Clerk Barnhill called roll call.

**Present in Council Chambers:** Tom Berola, Julie Barnhill, Rod Johnson, Joe Powell and Ben Royer

**Present via ZOOM Teleconferencing:** Chris Warwick, Jason Garrett, Larry Hemmerle, Bill Karhliker, Mike Marquis, Tracy Sheppard, Chief Dave Campbell, Superintendent TJ Henson, Attorney Greg Moredock and Office Manager Kristy Ponsler

**Absent:** None

**I. Mayor's Comments**

The Mayor indicated that tonight's meeting will happen via ZOOM Teleconferencing due to statewide COVID-19 pandemic

**II. VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A. No visitors or visitor comments.

**III. ZONING**

Alderman Sheppard indicated no report.

**IV. CITY CLERK'S REPORT – BARNHILL**

**A. December 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Clerk Barnhill presented the December 21, 2020 meeting minutes for the Council's review and approval.

Motion by Royer second by Johnson to approve the December 21, 2020 meeting minutes. (8-0-0-0)

AYES: Garrett, Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer and Sheppard

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

**V. TREASURER’S REPORT – WARWICK**

**A. Bills List December 22, 2020 to January 4, 2021**

City Treasurer Chris Warwick presented the Bills List for December 22, 2020 to January 4, 2021 to the Council for their review and approval.

Motion by Johnson second by Sheppard to approve the Bills List for December 22, 2020 to January 4, 2021. (8-0-0-0)

AYES: Garrett, Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer and Sheppard

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

**B. Pursuant to Ordinance 1061-96, Section 19 ½-10, Incentives to New Businesses – Refund Bewitching Botanicals \$1500 Taxes from October 2019 to October 2020**

City Treasurer Chris Warwick presented the information regarding Incentives to New Businesses – Refund Bewitching Botanicals \$1500 Taxes from October 2019 to October 2020 to the Council for their review and approval. The City of Auburn promotes new business incentives by refunding 1% of their sales tax for the first year in business.

Motion by Garrett second by Royer to approve Pursuant to Ordinance 1061-96, Section 19 ½-10, Incentives to New Businesses – Refund Bewitching Botanicals \$1500 Taxes from October 2019 to October 2020. (8-0-0-0)

AYES: Garrett, Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer and Sheppard

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

**VI. ATTORNEY’S REPORT**

**A. Discussion of the Expiration of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act**

Attorney Moredock shared with the Council the expiration of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. Moredock shared that this act requires that employers provide paid sick leave and expanded family and medical leave. This act expired on December 31, 2020.

**VII. DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**Campbell**

Chief Dave Campbell informed the Council that 1<sup>st</sup> responders will be receiving vaccines on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Campbell also informed the Council that Officer Lavin is doing a great job.

**Henson**

Superintendent TJ Henson informed the Council that the sanitary sewer pump seal is out and needs repair. The cost associated with repairing the sanitary sewer pump seal is \$7212.99 with Vandevanter Engineering.

Motion by Johnson second by Karhliker to approve the sanitary sewer pump repair cost not to exceed \$7300 to Vandevanter Engineering. (8-0-0-0)

AYES: Garrett, Hemmerle, Johnson, Karhliker, Marquis, Powell, Royer and Sheppard

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

Henson also indicated to the Council that John Edie will be putting together some bids for electrical. Henson informed the Council that water meters will be put in the ground beginning Wednesday or Thursday, pending weather.

**Ponsler**

Office Manager Kristy Ponsler indicated that she is working with the software company to add a line for the purpose of the new \$11 fee that will begin on January bills.

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Administration – Johnson**

Alderman Johnson indicated that he needed to set up a joint Public Works/Administration meeting. That meeting has been set for Tuesday, January 12, 6:30 p.m.

**Public Works – Karhliker**

Alderman Karhliker indicated no report other than the joint meeting Alderman Johnson just set up.

**Public Utilities – Johnson**

Alderman Johnson will also have a Utilities Committee meeting in coordination with Administration and Public Works on January 12<sup>th</sup>. He would like to discuss the city garage equipment plan that has previously been created.

**Health & Safety – Sheppard**

Alderwoman Sheppard indicated that she did not have a report at this time but did need to set up a meeting. The Health & Safety meeting is set for Wednesday, January 13, 6:30 p.m.

**Health & Housing – Sheppard**

Alderwoman Sheppard indicated no report

**Parks – Hemmerle**

Alderman Hemmerle indicated that he did not have a report at this time but did need to set up a meeting. Parks Committee will meet immediately following the Health & Safety Meeting on Wednesday, January 13.

**Economic Development**

Economic Development Representative Chris Warwick indicated that he did not have a report at this time.

**IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

Alderman Garrett addressed the Council with his interest and concerns about investing money and earning interest. These topics will be discussed at the joint Administration/Public Utilities/Public Works committee meeting on Tuesday, January 12.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Garrett second by Hemmerle to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. Passed by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Barnhill  
City Clerk