

**City of Auburn**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday July 18, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Berola with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance of all present.

Deputy Clerk Ponsler took roll. Present Alderman Hemmerle, Alderman Johnson, Alderman Marquis, Alderman Powell, Alderman Royer, Alderwoman Sheppard, Mayor Berola, Treasurer Williams.

Also present were Superintendent Henson, Chief Campbell, Office Manager Ponsler, and Attorney Moredock.

Absent: Alderman Karhliker

Alderwoman Sheppard presented the meeting minutes from the zoning board that took place on July 13, 2022. The zoning board received a draft solar panel ordinance from Attorney Moredock. The ordinance does not cover commercial solar farms as they would need to be in their own ordinance with specifications. This draft ordinance only covered residents and businesses who wish to put solar panels on their roof. The placement of such solar panels would require a building permit. The ordinance listed that only 25% of a roof could be covered (pulled from a draft ordinance recently done for Forsyth, Illinois). Council members thought that that may be restrictive as a roof here is much smaller and that percentage may need to be adjusted.

Clay Davidson and TJ Henn were in attendance to discuss the property at 1020 West Jackson. The property has received numerous letters to clean up the unsightly accumulations. AS of the council meeting the property faced up to \$600.00 in fines. Alderwoman Sheppard was willing to lower the fine amount to only 10% should the property continue to show progress of being cleaned up. It was noted that an improvement on the property would be done by July 22, 2022, with everything in compliance by the August 1, 2022, council meeting.

**City Clerk's Report:**

Office Manager Ponsler presented the July 5, 2022, meeting minutes for the council's review and approval. Alderman Marquis made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Alderwoman Sheppard.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard, Garrett  
NAYES: None  
PRESENT: None  
ABSENT: Karhliker

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Williams presented the bills list from July 2, 2022, to July 8, 2022

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Marquis, Powell, Sheppard  
NAYES: Royer, Garrett

PRESENT: None  
ABSENT: Karhliker

Treasurer Williams provided the June 2022 cash report for the council review and approval. Alderman Johnson made a motion to approve the June cash report, second by Alderwoman Sheppard.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard  
NAYES: Garrett  
PRESENT: None  
ABSENT: Karhliker

### **Attorney's Report**

Attorney Moredock presented for Second Reading, Ordinance 1518-22, Appropriations Ordinance. A public hearing was held prior to the city council meeting, and no one was in attendance for comments.

Alderman Johnson made a motion to approve Ordinance 1518-22 Appropriations Ordinance, second by Alderwoman Sheppard.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard, Garrett  
NAYES: None  
PRESENT: None  
ABSENT: Karhliker

Attorney Moredock presented the second reading of Ordinance 1519-22, Ordinance Regulating Police Presence at Community Events. This involves serving alcohol on city right of way. It was noted that there was no language pertaining to whether a City of Auburn officer can be hired at a public event when not on shift. A request was made by city council members to also add to the ordinance that Chief Campbell is to approve other police presence at the events as well as determine the number of officers needed based on the size of the event in which City of Auburn officers are unable to cover. This ensures that the police chief is aware of those providing protection for the event.

Alderman Johnson made a motion to approve Ordinance 1519-22, second by Alderwoman Sheppard. The motion was moved to the next council meeting on August 1, 2022, based on the additional changes that were requested to be made to the ordinance before it is in full effect.

### **Department Heads**

Chief Campbell updated the council regarding the Auburn Activities Committee parade that will take place on August 6, 2022, on the east side of town.

On July 22, 2022, various law enforcement agencies will be in town to go over security measures with the school.

Superintendent Henson is in the process of getting additional barricades for the city to have on hand for events or other emergencies.

Jamie Headen from Benton and Associates is in the process of drawing up plans for the Springfield Plastics water line. It has been requested to have a Utilities Committee meeting when those plans are prepared to further outline expectations for both the city and Springfield Plastics for this project.

Petersburg Plumbing is in the final stages of work and a final review of the completed work will be done by the city.

There will be a meeting with IDOT representatives on July 28, 2022, to discuss the traffic light agreement, expectations for repairs, and reimbursements to the city for costs incurred.

The garage is in possession of the trailer that was purchased in the amount of \$8500.00. The only item needed for it will be deck boards.

Office Manager Ponsler reported to the council that part-time office staff Lori Wilson has met the six-month probation requirement and asked for a motion to be removed from probation.

Alderman Johnson made a motion to remove part-time office staff Lori Wilson from probation and approve a sixty-five cent raise effective July 19, 2022, second by Alderman Royer.

AYES: Hemmerle, Johnson, Marquis, Powell, Royer, Sheppard, Garrett  
NAYES: None  
PRESENT: None  
ABSENT: Karhliker

Alderman Johnson had no report for the Administration Committee.

Alderman Karhliker was absent but did send a notice to the mayor that the city is still awaiting further information from IDOT regarding the Safe Routes to School grant.

Alderman Johnson will schedule a joint Administration and Public Utilities committee meeting as soon as Benton and Associates has a drafted plan to present. The city will invite Springfield Plastics to participate as well.

Alderwoman Sheppard had no report for Health and Safety.

Alderwoman Sheppard had already covered the address listed on the agenda.

Alderman Hemmerle brought forth the news to the council that the city had received the OSLAD grant in the amount of \$400,000.00. A parks meeting will be scheduled soon to plan for the project. There is a question into the state as to whether the cost of inflation will be considered in the final award amounts. Alderman Hemmerle did confirm that the city is required to match the funds received.

Alderman Garrett informed the council that Price Cutter (previously Save-A-Lot) will have their grand opening on Wednesday, July 20, 2022, and would invite the council members to attend.

Alderman Garrett offered to work with Mayor Berola to contact an appraiser who could appraise commercial land and provide additional updates to the council at the next meeting.

Alderman Garrett made a motion to adjourn at 8:18 pm, second by Alderman Johnson.

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

NAYES: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Karhliker