

**City of Auburn
Council Meeting
March 16, 2020**

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

Present: Tom Berola, Julie Barnhill, Chris Warwick, Lori Basiewicz, Jason Garrett, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Bill Karhliker, Joe Powell, Ben Royer and Tracy Sheppard.

Absent: None

Department Heads: Chief Dave Campbell, Attorney Greg Moredock, Superintendent Mike McCarthy and John Edie

Department Heads Absent: City Office Manager Kristy Ponsler

I. Mayor's Comments

A. Tracy Sheppard (telephone)

Mayor Berola informed the Council that Alderman Tracy Sheppard was home with some sickness and has requested that she be able to participate via telephone. A motion was made by Garrett to allow Alderman Sheppard to participate via telephone; second by Royer Vote Aye: Jason Garrett, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Bill Karhliker, Joe Powell, and Ben Royer. NAY: None. PRESENT: None. ABSENT: Basiewicz and Sheppard (6-0-0-2)

B. Covid 19

Mayor Berola discussed with the Council the precautions that the City of Auburn will be taking. The City Office employees are not allowing patrons inside the building and they are encouraged to use the drive-up window for services. The City Garage employees will be on entering homes on the assumption that it is an emergency and will then shower at the firehouse prior to returning the garage and/or home. All clothes will be washed. The Police Office is under the same procedures of if encountering someone that they feel may be sick they will too shower at the firehouse and uniforms will be sent out to be cleaned. Berola instructed Becky Pisarek to cancel all of the reservations for the Community Center through April 2020. Alderman Royer brought up the issue of utility bills not being paid during this critical time. Royer felt that it was best to let citizens know that we are willing to work with them on their utility bill. After lengthy discussion, Attorney Moredock indicated that we would reevaluate the situation on April 6

II. Visitors/Public Comments

A. Southside of Square Business Owners –

The business owners on the southside of the square were in attendance to talk with the Council about doing something with the kids that are loitering and that side of the square. They are crude, rude and getting in the way of them operating their businesses. Mayor Berola informed them that he would make sure that it is zero tolerance and would work with Superintendent McCarthy to place up no loitering signs on the square. Mayor Berola has directed the Chief to begin writing loitering tickets where necessary. Berola indicated that the City of Auburn will not allow this happening.

III. Zoning

March 11, 2020 Zoning meeting was postponed until April 8, 2020.

IV. City Clerk's Report – Barnhill

A. March 2, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Clerk Barnhill presented the meeting minutes from the meeting on March 2, 2020 for the Council's review and approval. A motion was made by Basiewicz to approve the minutes for March 2, 2020, second by Garrett. Vote Aye: Lori Basiewicz, Jason Garrett, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Bill Karhliker, Joe Powell and Tracy Sheppard. NAY: Ben Royer. PRESENT: None. ABSENT: None (7-1-0-0)

V. Treasurer's Report –

A. Bills List March 3, 2020 to March 16, 2020

Treasurer Chris Warwick presented the Bills List from March 3, 2020 to March 16, 2020 for the Council's review and approval. A motion was made by Johnson to approve the Bills List March 3, 2020 to March 16, 2020, second by Basiewicz. VOICE Vote Aye: Lori Basiewicz, Jason Garrett, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Bill Karhliker, Joe Powell, Ben Royer and Tracy Sheppard. NAY: None. PRESENT: None. ABSENT: None (8-0-0-0)

B. February Financial Report

Treasurer Chris Warwick presented the February Financial Report for the Council's review and approval. A motion was made by Karhliker to approve the February Financial Report; second by Basiewicz. Vote Aye: Lori Basiewicz, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Bill Karhliker, Joe Powell and Tracy Sheppard. NAY: Jason Garrett and Ben Royer. PRESENT: None. ABSENT: None (6-2-0-0)

VI. Attorney's Report – Moredock

A. Attorney Moredock informed the Council that the Governor of Illinois has informed that the Open Meetings Act now in place will limit in person contact. The Mayor and Clerk will be in attendance the meeting sight and all others will have to participate via remotely.

B. 1st Reading 1479-20 Ordinance Amending Chapter 13 – Health & Sanitation Article V – Nuisances and offensive Conditions to Prohibit Housing of Multiple Domestic Animals

Attorney Moredock presented to the Council for their review the 1st Reading of 1479-20 Ordinance Amending Chapter 13 – Health & Sanitation Article V – Nuisances and Offensive Conditions to Prohibit Housing of Multiple Domestic Animals.

C. Motorized Bicycles

Alderman Garrett informed the Council that he has had contact with a resident that is complaining about loud motorized bicycles that are running up and down the City roads at all hours of the night. Garrett indicated that he has experienced this as well. Attorney Moredock indicated that he will check into the situation. There are many scenarios that could play into effect here: under the age of 16; certain hours can be restricted; speed of motorized bicycle and engine size. Moredock will prepare some documentation and get back to the Council.

VII. Department Heads

A. Chief Dave Campbell

Chief Campbell provided a brief update on Troy Kissell at the Academy. The Chief indicated that the students will stay in housing for the duration of their training to be compliant with the social distancing order.

B. Superintendent -- Mike McCarthy

Superintendent Mike McCarthy informed the Council that John Edie was in attendance so he can present the information on the replacement of the sewer plant storm pump. Edie indicated that the pump has to be replaced, and it will be coming from Sweden. With that said, he would like to get it ordered as soon as possible. The City will have to pay freight and that price is underdetermined at this time. A motion was made by Royer to approve the replacement of the sewer plant storm pump not to exceed \$45,000; second by Basiewicz. Vote Aye: Lori Basiewicz, Jason Garrett, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Bill Karhliker, Joe Powell, Ben Royer, and Tracy Sheppard. NAY: None. PRESENT: None. ABSENT: None (8-0-0-0)

Superintendent McCarthy also informed the Council that Lewis Electric is supposed to meet him regarding the electrical needs on the square.

C. City Office Manager Kristy Ponsler

Office Manager Kristy Ponsler was absent.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Administration – Johnson

1. Schedule of Administration Meeting to Discuss Technology Needs

Alderman Johnson informed the Council that he would not be setting a meeting to discuss technology needs at this time.

B. Public Works – Karhliker

Alderman Karhliker indicated that he is waiting on IDOT MFT to evaluate bids for the purchase of materials.

C. Public Utilities – Alderman Johnson

Alderman Johnson indicated that he has spoken with Jamie from Bentons and EPA project will be split into 2 phases. 1st phase will be out for bid immediately and the 2nd phase will out to bid with the state fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020.

D. Health & Safety – Alderman Sheppard

Alderman Sheppard indicated that Municipal Court is being held off right now.

E. Health & Housing – Sheppard

Alderman Sheppard indicated that all is well with the property at 201 W. Caldwell – all clean and compliant.

Attorney Moredock did ask if anyone had heard or received payment from Landers as it was due today. The answer from Becky Pisarek was no. Moredock did indicate that he would follow up with Wil Landers about the payment.

F. Parks – Hemmerle

Aldermen Hemmerle informed the Council that he was approached about reimbursing Auburn High School Baseball for field work. Hemmerle informed the Council that he had informed them that they would not be reimbursed, and they then approached Alderman Royer and that is how it was placed on the agenda. Hemmerle did inform the Council that the City would not be reimbursing Auburn High School Baseball for the field work

Focus Group Meeting

Alderman Royer indicated that the U of I felt good about the focus group meetings and will be back in contact soon.

G. Economic Development Committee – Basiewicz

Alderman Basiewicz indicated that she did not have a report.

H. Other Business

IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjournment at 8:20 p.m. was made by Garrett and second by Royer.

VOICE Vote Aye: Lori Basiewicz, Jason Garrett, Larry Hemmerle, Rod Johnson, Bill Karhliker, Joe Powell, Ben Royer and Tracy Sheppard. NAY: None.

PRESENT: None. ABSENT: None. (8-0-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,
Julie T. Barnhill, Clerk