

**City of Auburn  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
&  
PUBLIC HEARING  
On City Manager's Proposed Budget 2011-12**

**June 9, 2011 4:30PM**

The regular meeting of the Auburn City Council was called to order at 4:30PM in City Council Chambers, 24 South St. Auburn NY by Mayor Michael D. Quill.

**Roll Call** – The City Clerk called the roll: Councilor Graney, McNabb, Brower, and Mayor Quill, all Present. Councilor Smith arrived after roll call.

**City Staff Present:** Corporation Counsel, and Interim City Manager John Rossi, Debra A. McCormick, City Clerk, Jenny Haines Planning Director, Steve Selevak, Senior Planner, William Lupien, Engineering Superintendent, Vicky Murphy, Municipal Utilities Director

The Mayor led the **Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a Moment of Silence**

**Mayor Quill opened the PUBLIC HEARING for comment on the proposed Budget.**

Pete Rusicka, 30 Walnut St. Auburn, commented on the budget being presented so late leaving little time to review it. There are no excuses. Council should be responsible.

No other citizen came forward at this time. Mayor Quill announced the Public Hearing would be left open.

**Public to be heard** – Issues other than the proposed budget.

**Joan Sigona 2851 White Birch Lane** stated she was a nurse since 1969 and educator since 1970. She spoke about the proven negative health impacts such as anemia, cancer, leukemia, and liver and kidney disease related to elements found in hydro fracking waste water. She urged Council to ban the city from taking this water in at our facility.

**Greg Sliss 48 Walnut St.** – Spoke about Owasco Lake's watershed and read from the resolution that council passed last week. He thanked council for passing it.

**Diane Miller 33 Meadowbrook Dr. Auburn, a retired nurse,** stated she has family in Pennsylvania where hydro fracking is happening and they are all having health problems related to the drilling. She is horrified that city is taking the risk.

**Jillian Raymond 53 Grant Ave.** – read from the resolution Council passed on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and quoted Vicky Murphy, the City’s Utilities Director, regarding her statement that horizontal drilling is not much different than vertical and Ms. Murphy’s suggestion that Natural gas companies help fund studies on the impact of this waste water. She referenced a statement by Councilor Smith advising not to be wary of developers and questioned their credibility and possibilities that they distort facts.

**Malcolm Miller Meadowbrook Dr.** – read segments of a document that gave information on why it is unacceptable to take this water in Auburn.

**Andrew Miller 217 Woodlawn Ave.** – gave each Councilor a DVD to about the half-truths and deception surrounding the hydro fracking industry.

**Jean Siracusa 35 Charles St.** – spoke about conservation of our natural resources, water in our area. We should not accept waste water when the chemicals in it are not disclosed.

**Doug Ward.210 N Seward Ave.** Thanked Council for voting to protect the watershed.

**Don Dello Stritto 6475 Town hall Rd** Sennett and Auburn business owner – spoke about preserving water quality.

**Walter Haug, Ithaca** – spoke to strongly advise that the city not accept drilling waste water in WWTP.

**Patty Beer 81 Swift St.** - spoke about the consequences of accepting drill water in Auburn and advised not to trust the natural gas industry as they have proven to be dishonest and greedy.

**Terry Cuddy 130 North St.** Thanked Council for support.

**Tom Hayden, New Hope** – spoke to support the vote not to accept drill waste water.

**Pete Rusika, Walnut St.** spoke to complain about a FOIL request that he feels is taking too long for a response.

**Ron Newcomb 305 N. Marvine Ave.** – spoke about the atomic bomb, GIS – Photo voltaic and cells.

### **Proclamation**

The City Clerk read a proclamation from the Mayor recognizing Jun 9<sup>th</sup> as Community Wide Dialogue to End Racism Day in conjunction with Juneteenth Day in the City of Auburn. Laurel Ulyette accepted on behalf of the Community Wide Dialogue committee.

**City Managers Report** – Mr. Rossi, Acting City Manager presented Chief Mike Hammon with a gift, thanked him for his service to the city and wished him well on his retirement. He congratulated Jeff Dygert the new Fire Chief on his promotion.

## **Presentations**

Vicky Murphy, Municipal Utilities Director introduced representatives from the natural gas industry. Benjamin Haith, Palmerton Group, Cherie Messore, Independent Oil & Gas Assoc. Of NY, Dave Parazone, Anschutz Exploration Corp. Talisman Energy USA Inc. A presentation followed. Council discussed the issues of drill waste water with the group.

There were no SEQR or Ordinances.

## **Resolutions**

Land Acquisition Resolution #81 of 2011 authorizing the acceptance of all property acquired by the State of New York for the York Street Reconstruction Project. VOTE: Councilor Graney, McNabb, Smith, Brower, Mayor Quill, aye. **CARRIED.**

Council Resolution #82 of 2011 adopting a Management Personnel Policy. VOTE: Councilor Graney, no; Councilor McNabb, aye; Councilor Smith, no; Councilor Brower, Mayor Quill, aye. **CARRIED. 3-2**

Council Resolution #83 of 2011 authorizing a Public Hearing regarding the Installation of Community Development Block Grant funded sidewalks. VOTE: Councilor Graney, McNabb, Smith, Brower, Mayor Quill, aye. **CARRIED.**

Council Resolution # 84 of 2011 approving the transmittal of a Home Rule message to the New York State Senate and Assembly. VOTE: Councilor Graney, McNabb, Smith, Brower, Mayor Quill, aye. **CARRIED.**

**There were no Local Laws, or Tabled Legislation.**

## **Other Business**

Acting City Manager John Rossi announced that the City had received a check in the amount of \$200,000 from the Stardust Foundation which represented a portion of the investment in the demolition of the Kalet's Building. He thanked the Foundation for their support.

Ron Quill 5 Case Ave was the last speaker for the Budget public hearing. He urged Council to not cut public safety budgets.

Mayor Quill closed the Public Hearing at 7:30PM

Council moved into executive session at 7:55PM and returned at 8:15PM.

Council adjourned at 8:15PM.

