

City of Auburn
City Council Meeting Minutes
July 14, 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: Councilors Smith, Graney and Mayor Quill, Present.

City Staff Present: Debra A. McCormick, City Clerk, Acting City Manager John Rossi, William Lupien, Engineering Superintendent, Gary Giannotta, Police Chief and Linda Harisiss, Comptroller

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

Public to be heard –

The following people spoke during the public to be heard:

Terry Cuddy, 130 North Street – Thanked Council for voting to stop taking natural gas drilling wastewater into the municipal sewage treatment plant.

Don DelloStretto, 6475 Townhall Road, Sennett, NY – Thanked Council for banning the natural gas drilling wastewater at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. DelloStritto also thanked Council for a great Memorial Day weekend.

Dr. Mary McLaughlin, 89 York Street – Asked Council to consider donating the old fire station on Frederick Street to Common Ground, an organization which provides permanent housing for homeless persons through a program called “Safe Havens”.

Tim Lattimore – Thanked the APD in its ability to act expeditiously in an attempted kidnapping. Mr. Lattimore inquired as to when the Budget would be online. Mr. Lattimore also requested a breakdown of construction and sanitation tonnage taken in at the landfill. He has concerns with regard to the construction debris not being able to produce methane gas.

Philip Allen – Homeless in the City of Auburn. Spoke in favor of Dr. McLaughlin’s proposal for the Frederick Street Fire Station as a homeless shelter.

Thomas Raymond – Auburn – Spoke on behalf of the homeless of Auburn. Mr. Raymond also spoke in favor of Dr. McLaughlin’s proposal for a homeless shelter as he doesn’t believe that Chapel House could meet all the needs of the homeless.

Roland E. Crouch, Genesee Gardens – Spoke in favor of Dr. McLaughlin’s proposal for a homeless shelter at the Frederick Street Fire Station and asked the City to consider her proposal.

Presentations

Public Announcements

City Managers Report

None.

Resolutions

Award Resolution #98 of 2011 awarding the bid for the 2011 C.D.B.G Sidewalk Program VOTE Councilors Graney, Smith, and Mayor Quill AYE. **CARRIED.**

Land Acquisition Resolution #99 of 2011 authorizing the City to acquire a parcel of land at 49 Fitch Avenue. VOTE Councilors Graney, Smith, and Mayor Quill AYE. **CARRIED.**

There were no Local Laws or Tabled Resolutions.

Other Business

Councilor Smith inquired as to whether sewer rates would be increased to replace the \$600,000 lost revenue at the re-treatment plant. Interim City Manager Rossi advised that the sewer rates would be increased and was reflected in the new Budget but could not comment on an increase in next year's Budget. Councilor Smith also stated that Council ignored the experts who said that there was not one shred of evidence that there were any toxins released from the waste treatment plant. He believes the decision was made out of emotion and fear. Councilor Smith read a letter he received from the Lab Director/Technician at the Waste Water Treatment Plant advising that all tested results were well within DEC and EPA guidelines.

Councilor Smith requested the numbers for the sales tax revenue by the first of August.

Councilor Smith also requested a parking update meeting regarding parking spaces for business owners and other parking issues.

Councilor Graney requested an update on the tree stump removal. Interim City Manager John Rossi advised that he will speak with Mike Talbot and request an update on this matter.

Mayor Quill questioned Council regarding the parking logistics at places like Metcalf Plaza and Genesee Mall where there are more than two occupancies and wondered if any thought had been given as to how the City will handle that. Acting City Manager Rossi advised that a meeting with BID and Police Chief Giannotta would be forthcoming to address these issues, with the emphasis being on the ground floor retail spaces as opposed to a professional office.

No executive session requested.

Council adjourned at 5:10 P.M.