

**Auburn City Council  
Business Meeting  
Thursday, September 11, 2014 6:00PM  
City Council Chambers  
Memorial City Hall  
24 South St.  
Auburn, NY 13021**

**Minutes**

The meeting of the Auburn City Council was called to order at 6:00PM in the City Council Chambers 24 South St. Auburn NY by Mayor Quill.

**1. Roll Call** – The City Clerk called the roll. Mayor Quill, and Councilors McCormick, Camardo, Cuddy, and Ruzicka were all present.

**The following City Staff was present:**

- City Manager, Doug Selby
- Corporation Counsel, John Rossi
- City Clerk, Charles Mason
- City Comptroller, Laura Wills
- Director of Municipal Utilities, Vicky Murphy
- Superintendent of Public Works, Mike Talbot
- Senior Building Maintenance Mechanic, Mark Storrs

**2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag** – Mayor Quill led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Moment of Silent Prayer or Reflection** – Mayor Quill asked for a moment of silent prayer.

**4. Public Announcements** –

The Clerk read the following:

A. The regular meeting of the Auburn Industrial Development Authority will be held on Wednesday, September 17, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the First Floor Conference Room of 2 State Street in Auburn, NY 13021.

B. Phase III of the 2014 City of Auburn Road Improvement Program will begin tomorrow (Friday, September 12th). The contractor Paul F. Vitale will be milling and/or working on the following streets:

1. Yale Ave – (Lake Ave to Kearney Ave)
2. Westwood Dr. – (Clymer St to Ashbaugh Ave)
3. Thornton Ave – (Clymer St to Dead End)
4. Clymer St – (Thornton Ave to Dunning Ave)
5. Center St – (Dunning Ave to Thornton Ave)

6. Easterly Ave – (Westlake Ave to Woodruff Pl)
7. Woodlawn Ave – (Fort St to Ross Pl)

At this point in time Phase I of the program is complete. Remaining Phase II work consists of some intersection paving, some driveway paving and various concrete corner ramps which will be completed over the next couple weeks.

#### **5. Ceremonial Presentations and Proclamations**

**Proclamation** – The City Clerk read a Proclamation from Mayor Michael D. Quill proclaiming September 11, 2014 as Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance in the City of Auburn to commemorate all of the victims who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001.

**6. Public to be Heard** – The Mayor opened the Public to be Heard portion of the Council meeting and the Clerk read the Public to be Heard rules. No members of the public spoke.

#### **7. Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

A. September 4, 2014, City Council meeting minutes.

Motion to approve by Councilor McCormick, seconded by Councilor Cuddy.

The motion carried 5-0. Councilors McCormick, Camardo, Cuddy, Ruzicka and Mayor Quill all voting aye.

#### **8. Reports of City Officials**

**A. City Manager's Report** – The City Manager reported on the following:

- Update on the N. Division Street hydro-electric plant that has been idle for over a year. The City has removed, repaired, and reinstalled the turbine. Revenues to the city from the operation of the plant over its first year of operation should help the City recover the costs associated with this repair.
- A work session on five year financial modeling for the City budget will be held at the September 25, 2014 Council meeting
- A work session on plans for enforcement of excavations made to City streets will be held at the September 25, 2014 Council meeting

**B. Reports from members of Council**

- **Councilor McCormick** reported that the memorial service for the 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the events of September 11, 2001 was held earlier in the morning on the South Lawn of City Hall. She commended all that had a part in organizing the event and thanked them for their service.

#### **9. Matters to Come Before Council**

**A. State Environmental Quality Review Act Resolutions (SEQR) – None**

**B. Ordinances – None**

**C. Local Laws – None**

**D. Resolutions –**

**E. Tabled Legislation - None**

**F. Staff/Vendor Presentations - None**

**• Cayuga Economic Development Agency Presentation by Executive Director Andrew Fish.**

Mr. Fish presented Council with a five year forecast of potential job creation and other demographic statistics that may be used to assist the Council with its five year financial modeling projections.

**• City of Auburn Historic Sites Commission Presentation.** The Historic Sites presentation was postponed to the October 9, 2014 Council meeting.

**• Power Utility Fund - Landfill to Gas Cogeneration Facility Report presentation.** Laura Wills, City Comptroller, and Vicky Murphy, Director of Municipal Utilities, presented a review of the Power Utility Fund that reviewed the most recent months of the fund since the City took complete ownership of the Landfill to Gas Cogeneration Facility (Co-Gen). The presentation led to discussion and debate among the Council members of two general topics: 1. The decision of switching the Wastewater Treatment Plant from power produced by the City's Co-Gen Facility to power provided by New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG). 2. A historical review of decisions made by previous City Councils pertaining to the acquisition of the Co-Gen facility. Mark Storrs, Senior Building Maintenance Mechanic for the Wastewater Treatment Plant was called on by Mayor Quill to offer his thoughts on the topics being discussed. Following Mr. Storrs' comments and after further debate and discussion among the Council members, Councilor Ruzicka made a recommendation that a future work session be held with the Auburn Municipal Power Agency to discuss issues further. Mayor Quill asked the Council if they supported Councilor Ruzicka's recommendation and Councilor Camardo and Ruzicka supported such a meeting; Councilors McCormick, Cuddy, and Mayor Quill did not support the recommendation. Councilor Camardo stated he would like for the City to look at having a complete analysis of the history of the Co-Gen facility and have that analysis reported to the Council, he would like the analysis to be conducted by an independent set of eyes.

**• City owned Radio Tower Presentation.** Laura Wills, City Comptroller and Mike Burns, City Assessor presented Council with an overview of the status of the City owned Radio Tower located at 85 Osborne Street. Private individuals have recently expressed interest to the City in leasing or purchasing the tower from the City and the presentation reviewed those offers. After discussion among the Council members the City Manager was asked to prepare a report that would identify pros and cons of each of the private individual's offers.

• **Presentation on a proposal for a Refuse Collection Enforcement Program.** Superintendent of Public Works Mike Talbot presented to Council a proposal for changes to City Code language that would assist the City in creating a new Refuse Collection Enforcement Program. He reviewed current enforcement procedures and discussed the addition of a part-time enforcement position that would be focused on refuse collection enforcement. Councilor Camardo stated if any money is going to be spent on a new enforcement position he believes that money should be spent to put a new position in the City's Code Enforcement office so that the Code Enforcement office would have more ability to enforce the entire City code. This issue will return before the Council for further Council discussion at the September 25, 2014 Council Work Session. A first reading of proposed City Code changes will be scheduled for the October 2, 2014 Council meeting and final votes on the proposals will be scheduled for the October 16, 2014 Council meeting.

• **Strategic Planning Work-session II.** Doug Selby, City Manager, led the Council through the most recent version of a potential City vision and mission statement. This presentation included Council input that was obtained during the first Strategic Planning Work-session that was held at the August 14, 2014 Council meeting.

#### **10. Other Business**

**A. Councilor Camardo** asked the Superintendent of Public Works if he could speak on the topic of street excavations by the City. Mr. Talbot reported that there were several street excavations this year due mainly to water line replacements and that the City is making progress on completing those repairs through a coordinated effort of City Departments and a private contractor.

**Adjournment:** By unanimous vote the Council adjourned the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted to the City Council on September 12, 2014 by:

Charles Mason  
City Clerk

Minutes of the City Council Meeting, City of Auburn, NY, September 11, 2014

On September 18, 2014 a motion to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2014 Auburn, NY City Council meeting was made by Councilor McCormick, seconded by Councilor Cuddy.

	Ayes	Noes
Councilor McCormick	x	
Councilor Camardo	x	
Councilor Cuddy	x	
Councilor Ruzicka	x	
Mayor Quill	x	
Carried and Adopted	x	

*I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the minutes of the proceedings of the City Council of the City of Auburn, N.Y., at a regular meeting thereof, held in the Council Chambers, Memorial City Hall, in said city, on the 11th day of September, 2014 and that the City Council approved such by the vote listed above.*

*Charles Mason, City Clerk      Date: September 19, 2014*