

**Auburn City Council
Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 27, 2017 5:00 P.M.
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 5:00PM in the City Council Chambers 24 South St. Auburn NY by Mayor Quill.

1. Roll Call – The City Clerk called the roll. Councilors McCormick, Giannettino, Cuddy and Mayor Quill were all present. Councilor Carabajal arrived at 5:14 p.m.

The following City Staff was present for the regular meeting:

- City Manager, Jeff Dygert
- Corporation Counsel, John Rossi
- City Clerk, Charles Mason
- Director of Planning and Economic Development, Jennifer Haines
- Director of Capital Improvement Program and Grants, Christina Selvek
- Superintendent of Engineering, William Lupien
- Fire Chief, Joe Morabito
- Police Chief, Shawn Butler
- Superintendent of Public Works, Mike Talbot

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag –

3. Moment of Silent Prayer or Reflection –

4. Public Announcements – none

5. Ceremonial Presentations and Proclamations –

A. Proclamation from Mayor Quill Celebrating the Sesquicentennial Purchase of Alaska by William Seward

WHEREAS Auburnian William Henry Seward was one of the foremost politicians of nineteenth century America, serving as a New York State Senator, Governor of New York, a United States Senator, and Secretary of State in the administrations of Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson; and,

WHEREAS following the Civil War Secretary Seward pursued a long sought after United States acquisition of territory northwest of our country's border referred to as Alaska that was owned and occupied by Russia; and

WHEREAS on March 30, 1867, following negotiations with Russia, Secretary Seward on behalf of the United States agreed to the purchase of the Alaska territory from Russia for the sum of \$7,200,000 representing approximately 2 cents per acre of the 586,000-square-miles of the territory; and

WHEREAS the United States Senate ratified the treaty with Russia regarding the purchase of Alaska on April 9, 1867, and the United States House of Representatives approved the fund appropriation for that purchase on July 14, 1868; and

WHEREAS on October 18, 1867 Russian and American soldiers paraded in front of the governor's house in Sitka, Alaska and following the firing of a dual cannon salute, the Russian flag was lowered and the American flag raised, officially transferring the territory of Alaska from Russia to the United States; and

WHEREAS on January 3, 1959 President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a proclamation admitting Alaska to the Union as the 49th state; and

WHEREAS following Secretary Seward's signing of the Alaska Purchase Treaty skeptics and political opponents criticized the purchase of Alaska as a waste of United States resources and dubbed the purchase as "Seward's Folly" a label that to this day sticks as a notably memorable part of his vast legacy; and

WHEREAS in the century and a half since William H. Seward placed his signature on the purchase treaty our 49th State has become home to 12 major military bases, 24 National Parks including the 5 largest National Parks, our country's 2 largest National Forests; the largest concentration of American Bald Eagles, and some of the highest producing oil and natural gas fields in the United States; and

WHEREAS the purchase of Alaska in 1867 marked the end of Russian efforts to expand trade and settlements to the Pacific coast of North America and was an important step in the United States' rise as a great power in the Asia-Pacific region; and

WHEREAS over time the foresight and strategic importance of Seward's Purchase of Alaska has served in securing the interests of the United States numerous times and continues to maintain its relevance for national security today; and

WHEREAS in 2017 the Seward House Museum will join the people of the State of Alaska to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Alaska Purchase with a year of tributes recognizing this notable Seward achievement; and

WHEREAS, as part of our Nation's recognition of this occasion, on May 13, 2017, the gardens of the Seward House Museum here in Auburn will be the site of the State of Alaska's first public unveiling of a new statue they commissioned of Secretary Seward; and

WHEREAS to continue the year of commemoration this new statue will replicate Seward's own travels and embark on a westward cross-country journey to Juneau, Alaska, where it will thereafter permanently grace the grounds of the Alaskan State House; and

WHEREAS the Seward House Museum will continue to mark this sesquicentennial anniversary of William H. Seward's negotiation and signing of the Alaska Purchase with a year-long series of events, exhibitions and celebrations that will illustrate that Seward's foresight was in fact "A Most Fortunate Folly" for the United States.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michael D. Quill, Mayor of the City of Auburn, New York, on behalf of the members of City Council and the citizens of Auburn do hereby proclaim that the year 2017 is dedicated to the celebration of the

Sesquicentennial Anniversary of William Seward's Purchase of Alaska and call upon the people of Auburn to join the Seward House Museum and the people of the State of Alaska in recognizing Secretary William H. Seward's significant contribution to American history.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Auburn, NY to be fixed this Thirteenth day of May, 2017.

Michael D. Quill, Mayor
City of Auburn, New York

B. Employee of the Year Award for 2016 - Greg Gilfus, Police Department

City Manager Jeff Dygert presented the Employee of the Year Award to Officer Greg Gilfus of the Auburn Police Department. Officer Gilfus addressed and thanked the Council and the Manager.

C. Oath of Office for Police Officers Benjamin Caruso, Morgan Clancy, Paul Flickner by Michael Quill, Mayor and Police Chief Shawn Butler.

D. Worker's Memorial Day Proclamation - Michael D. Quill, Mayor

6. Public to be Heard – Mayor Quill opened the Public to be Heard portion of the Council meeting and the Clerk read the Public to be Heard rules.

Walt Aikman, 17 Liberty Street

Mr. Aikman thanked members of Council and City staff for their work and advocacy on behalf of Owasco Lake. He also asked the members of Council to support tree program funds in the 2017-2018 City budget and talked about the negative impacts the emerald ash borer has had on trees throughout upsate NY.

Dale Bush, Standart Woods

Mr. Bush provided a recap of the Operation Enduring Gratitude trip that he participated in with a group of 60 other veteran's that was organized by volunteers of the local chapter of the Knights of Columbus. He highlighted the many stops the trip made to war memorials in Washington DC and thanked the community for their support of this meaningful program.

Mr. James Best, 17 Florence Avenue

Mr. Best spoke on behalf of the Auburn Civic Band and is the band's director. He asked the Council to include show-mobile and concert support for the Auburn Civic Band in the upcoming 2017-2018 City budget. He stated they would like a contract for the support from the City similar to what they had in previous City budget years.

7. Approval of Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the April 13, 2017 minutes by Councilor McCormick, seconded by Councilor Giannettino. Motion to approve carried 3-0. Councilor Carabajal abstained. Mayor Quill voted present.

8. Reports of City Officials

A. City Manager's Report

- On May 18, 2017 the Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce will be hosting it's annual

awards luncheon. This year's Leadership Cayuga Award will be presented to City of Auburn's own Jennifer Haines, Director of Planning and Economic Development. Congratulations to her on this significant community recognition.

B. Reports from members of Council

9. Matters to Come Before Council

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

B. Ordinances – None

C. Local Laws –

D. Resolutions -

FINANCIAL RESOLUTION #61 OF 2017

**AUTHORIZING A WATER FUND TRANSFER FOR WATER FILTRATION PLANT
MICROCYSTIN TREATMENT AND WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

By Councilor Cuddy

April 27, 2017

WHEREAS, on September 26, 2016, the City of Auburn observed detectable levels of toxins associated with harmful blue green algae blooms in its raw and finished (treated) water; and

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2017, the Auburn City Council approved Financial Resolution #157 of 2016, which authorized funding for a full scale design report and study to study the multiple physical and chemical treatment options at the City's Water Filtration Plant; and

WHEREAS, the City of Auburn hired GHD Engineering to conduct the design report and study, which considered multiple treatment options, estimated construction costs and provided final recommendations in accordance with New York State Department of Health; and,

WHEREAS, the report and study analyzed three permanent treatment options for the City of Auburn including (1) Powder Activated Carbon Treatment; (2) Ozone Treatment; and (3) Extension of the raw water intake to 100 feet of lake depth, which are each estimated to take two (2) years to fully implement; and

WHEREAS, the report and study, also, proposed a temporary treatment system, including equipment, water filtration, and plant modification, to be implemented by the end of July, 2017, in order to immediately and effectively treat the toxins associated with harmful algae blooms in Owasco Lake; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2017, the City of Auburn submitted a draft engineering report to the New York State Department of Health (“NYSDOH”) outlining the City’s intent to implement the temporary powder activated carbon treatment system, which has been endorsed by NYSDOH; and

WHEREAS, in order to immediately implement the temporary treatment system, City Staff must begin purchasing for the equipment and filtration plant upgrade; and

WHEREAS, the hard costs associated with equipment rent to own, equipment installation, building and site modifications, and operation and maintenance for 2017, are estimated to cost \$450,000, and additional costs including, further process evaluation and laboratory work by a professional firm to continue to study and develop the best long-term treatment system, are estimated to cost \$150,000; and

WHEREAS the total funding requirement for the temporary powder activated carbon treatment system and continued engineering support, including a 10% contingency, for 2017 is estimated at \$600,000; and

WHEREAS, on April 26, 2017, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo signed the Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017, which provides reimbursement in the amount of \$600,000 to the City of Auburn to fund the temporary powder activated carbon treatment system; and

WHEREAS, in order for City Staff to implement a fully functioning temporary powder activated carbon treatment system by the end of July, 2017, a funding transfer is required to move ahead with the necessary procurement processes to purchase and implement the temporary measure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Auburn City Council does hereby approve a transfer in the amount of \$600,000 from the Water Fund Balance to the Water Capital Fund Water Filtration Plant Microcystin Treatment and Water Quality Improvement Project

Account #HF8330.440.IH to fund the purchase and implementation of a temporary powder activated carbon treatment system as endorsed by the New York State Department of Health in order to immediately treat the toxins associated with the seasonal harmful algae blooms in Owasco Lake; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this transfer be completed immediately upon approval of this Resolution.

Seconded by Councilor McCormick

	Ayes	Noes
Councilor McCormick	X	
Councilor Giannettino	X	
Councilor Cuddy	X	
Councilor Carabajal	X	
Mayor Quill	X	
Carried and Adopted	X	

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the vote for Council Resolution #61 of 2017 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 27th day of April, 2017 and that the City Council approved such by the vote listed above.

Charles Mason, City Clerk Date: April 28, 2017

E. Staff/Vendor Presentations

- Presentation on Seymour Library Storywalk at Hoopes Park - Lisa Carr, Director
- Monthly Budget Report for March 2017 - Jeff Dygert, City Manager

F. Tabled Items – none

10. Other Business

- Councilor Giannettino stated that the utility poles on Standart Avenue had finally been removed and a pile of yard waste at Hoopes Park was in the process of being cleaned up. He thanked City staff for their work on these matters.

Executive Session. Councilor McCormick made a motion to enter Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Giannettino. Council voted to enter an executive session regarding the following matters:

1. Three items pertaining to the sale or acquisition of real property.

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The motion to enter executive session carried 5-0. The Council entered Executive Session at 6:07 p.m. Executive session adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Adjournment: By unanimous vote the Council adjourned the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Minutes submitted to the City Council on April 27, 2017 by:

Charles Mason
City Clerk

On May 11, 2017 a motion to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2017 Auburn, NY City Council meeting was made by Councilor McCormick, seconded by Councilor Carabajal.

	Ayes	Noes
Councilor McCormick	X	
Councilor Giannettino	X	
Councilor Cuddy	X	
Councilor Carabajal	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 27th day of April, 2017 and that the City Council approved such by the vote listed above.

Charles Mason, City Clerk Date: May 12, 2017