

**Auburn City Council  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, September 14, 2017 6:00 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 6:00PM in the City Council Chambers 24 South St. Auburn NY by Councilor McCormick.

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

**The following City Staff was present for the regular meeting:**

- City Manager, Jeff Dygert
- Corporation Counsel, Stacy DeForrest
- City Clerk, Charles Mason
- Director of Planning and Economic Development, Jennifer Haines
- Superintendent of Engineering, William Lupien
- Police Chief, Shawn Butler
- Assistant Corporation Counsel, Nate Garland
- Senior Planner, Renee Jensen
- Senior Planner, Tiffany Beebee
- Code Enforcement Officer, Brian Hicks

**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** –

**5. Ceremonial Presentations and Proclamations**

**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.

Tim Lattimore, 63 South Street

Mr. Lattimore is the County Legislator for district 13. He discussed topics including the County taking on opioid manufacturers, the downtown welcome center and the Court Street parking lot.

**7. Approval of Meeting Minutes - none**

**8. Reports of City Officials**

**A. City Manager's Report**

- The resolutions tabled last week related to the proposed expansion of the Court St parking lot will not be available to be reconsidered next week as originally expected. I would like to ask that Council allow staff more time to properly address questions related to the SEQR and for me to continue dialogue with neighbors in that area. Once we complete these tasks we will likely present Council with new resolutions that reflect any changes necessary.
- The Owasco River Greenway Trail project is under way. The Canal St. area is marked for trail construction that should be taking place through the next few weeks weather permitting. As we get updated progress reports and photos we will make them available on the city webpage under construction projects.
- Staff met today to discuss several projects that are slated to be underway this spring and will be very visible in downtown and the surrounding area. In the next few weeks we will be making a presentation at a Council meeting to review each of these projects and illustrate how they will improve the look, function and appeal of Auburn. These public projects, along with some expected private construction projects, are going to make Auburn a very busy place come spring and there are likely to be some inconveniences while these long awaited projects take shape. As things progress we will do our best to keep the community informed through City Manager reports, our webpage, social media, and in some cases personal service to those individuals or businesses that are directly impacted.
- This afternoon we received our official approval from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development for our 2017 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Action Plan. The Planning Department has been awaiting this approval and is prepared to begin work associated with this funding immediately. We'd like to thank Senator Schumer and his staff person Joe Nehme, as well as Congressman Katko and his staff for their efforts and advocacy moving this action plan through the HUD process; and Councilor Giannettino for reaching out to our federal representatives for their assistance.

**B. Reports from members of Council**

- Councilor Cuddy discussed a recent meeting of the County Lead Task Force that he and Jenny Haines attended representing the City.
- Councilor Giannettino reported on the most recent Historic and Cultural Sites Commission meeting that was held September 13, 2017. The Commission reviewed very positive results of a new digital marketing campaign they have administered this summer. He also discussed a recent meeting he attended of the Harriet Tubman Downtown Memorial Committee and the ribbon cutting ceremony to unveil the newly renovated APD command center.
- Councilor Carabajal who also serves as a member of the CNY Tomatofest board thanked the City staff and Downtown BID staff responsible for assisting the Tomatofest event

that was held in downtown Auburn on September 8-10, 2017.

- Mayor Quill announced that Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul and NYS Parks Commissioner Rose Harvey would be visiting downtown Auburn on Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 1pm to make an announcement pertaining to the new downtown Welcome Center.

## **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. Staff/Vendor Presentations –**

- **Presentation from Cayuga Community College on Casey Park Softball Fields and Falcon Park - Brian Durant, President of Cayuga Community College and Guy Cosentino, Ex. Dir., Cayuga Community College Foundation President Durant and Mr. Cosentino** presented on Cayuga Community College's proposal to utilize the Casey Park Softball Fields and Falcon Park for the college's women's softball team and a to be established men's baseball team. The college would like to enter into a lease agreement with the City to utilize the facilities. The City Manager reported that these items would be brought before Council for formal Council decision at the September 21, 2017 Council meeting.
- **Zombie and Vacant Properties Remediation and Prevention Initiative by Renee Jensen, Senior Planner; Tiffany Beebee, Senior Planner; Brian Hicks, Code Enforcement Officer; and, Nate Garland, Esq., Assistant Corporation Counsel**  
The City of Auburn received a Zombie and Vacant Properties Remediation and Prevention Grant in the amount of \$138,000 from the Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC). LISC program funds are a result of the February 11, 2016 settlement agreement between Morgan Stanley and the NY Attorney General and support Housing and Quality Improvement and Enforcement Programs in municipalities. City staff presented an update on completed as well as upcoming program initiatives which include: Connecting homeowners at risk of foreclosure to services such as the HOPP program and foreclosure counseling through marketing materials and outreach; hosting a bank summit with information and resources regarding local foreclosure prevention programs which can be provided to their clients; the City Code Enforcement Officer on enforcement issues related to vacant properties in the City of Auburn; and the City's Assistant Corporation Counsel, Nate Garland, presented on the interaction of the local law of Zombie properties and the "new" State statute on zombie properties.

### **F. Tabled Items – none**

**10. Other Business**

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. Matters pertaining to the employment history of particular individuals.

The motion to enter executive session carried 5-0. The Council entered Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. Executive session adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

**Adjournment:** By unanimous vote the Council adjourned the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Minutes submitted to the City Council on September 28, 2017 by:

Charles Mason  
City Clerk

On September 28, 2017 a motion to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2017 Auburn, NY City Council meeting was made by Councilor Giannettino, 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 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 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017 and that the City Council approved such by the vote listed above.*

*Charles Mason, City Clerk      Date: September 29, 2017*