

**Auburn City Council  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, February 8, 2018 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 Mayor Quill.

**1. Roll Call** – The City Clerk called the roll. Mayor Quill, Councilors McCormick, Giannettino, Cuddy, Carabajal 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
- Director of Capital Projects and Grants, Christina Selvek
- Superintendent of Engineering, William Lupien
- Director of Municipal Utilities, Seth Jensen
- Superintendent of Public Works, Mike Talbot
- Police Chief, Shawn Butler
- Senior Planner, Renee Jensen
- Senior Planner, Tiffany Beebee

**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** – none

**5. Ceremonial Presentations and Proclamations** – none

**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. No members of the public spoke.

**AUBURN CITY COUNCIL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING  
THE CITY OF AUBURN'S PROPOSED 2018-2019 ACTION PLAN FOR THE USE  
OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDS**

Notice is hereby given that the Auburn City Council has called a Public Hearing to be held on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at the regular meeting of the City of Auburn City Council that begins at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of collecting citizen input concerning the City of Auburn's Proposed 2018-2019 Action Plan for the use of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds.

Mayor Quill opened the public hearing regarding the City of Auburn's Proposed 2018-2019 Action Plan for the use of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds. No members of the public spoke. The Mayor announced this public hearing would remain open for the remainder of the meeting.

**CITY OF AUBURN CITY COUNCIL - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
Regarding the Proposed Comprehensive Update to the City of Auburn Zoning Code,  
Chapter 305 of the City Code**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that A **PUBLIC HEARING** will be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of February 2018 to be held as part of the regular City Council meeting that begins at 6:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers, 1st Floor, Memorial City Hall, Auburn New York concerning the final draft of the revised City of Auburn Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 305 of the City Code.

Mayor Quill opened the Public Hearing Regarding the Proposed Comprehensive Update to the City of Auburn Zoning Code, Chapter 305 of the City Code. The following members of the public spoke:

Karen Walters, Case Avenue. Ms. Walters thanked the Council members for working with the public to incorporate public feedback on the zoning code changes throughout the process. She had questions on the set back requirements for cell towers and referred to definitions listed on pages 55 and 91 of the document. She stated the further set back listed is better. The Mayor asked the City Manager to look in to the questions that Ms. Walters had and to provide a response to the Council for next week's Council meeting.

Chris Mack, South Street. Chris Mack, 100 South Street. Originally was pposed to rezoning proposed for South Street Historic District and had asked Council to revisit the zoning changes proposed for the historic district. Wanted to thank the Council for listening to the concerns of the South Street residents and making the requested changes.

Jaquelyn Gumtow, Hamilton Avenue. Agreed with the previous speaker Mr. Mack. Wanted to thank the Council for listening to the concerns of the South Street residents and making the requested changes.

The Mayor announced this public hearing would remain open for the remainder of the meeting.

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

### **January 25, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve the January 25, 2018 minutes by Councilor McCormick, seconded by Councilor Carabajal. Motion to approve carried 5-0.

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

### **A. City Manager's Report**

- We are expecting to have a SEQR resolution before Council very soon related to the expansion of the Court St. parking lot. After several meetings with adjacent property owners, the YMCA, and Cayuga County, I believe we now have a plan that will increase parking capacity while addressing the various concerns of the neighbors. The new design will ultimately reduce run off compared to the current configuration and will contain other improvements to the area. The Engineering Department has been working with Cayuga County to jointly tackle the flooding problems that have plagued the Cayuga County Office Building for years. It is our hope that these two projects in conjunction with the Genesee St repaving project will work to collectively solve several issues in that area.

### **B. Reports from members of Council**

Councilor McCormick, Councilor Carabajal and Councilor Giannettino introduced topics that the Council would be addressing with our State representatives when the Councilors attend the upcoming New York Conference of Mayors annual Winter Legislative Conference being held at the State Capitol in Albany on February 11-13<sup>th</sup> 2018. Below is a list of the topics. The Council requested a walk on resolution to support this initiative and no members of Council objected to such a resolution.

The following represents an outline of issues that are impacted by the State Budget that will be adopted by April 1, 2018.

#### **1. WATER AND OWASCO LAKE**

Using resources from the Clean Water Infrastructure Act and the Environmental Protection Fund, the Executive Budget will implement a \$65 million initiative to combat harmful algal blooms in Upstate New York water bodies. The resources will be used to develop action plans to reduce sources of pollution that spark algal blooms, and provide grant funding to implement the action plans, including the installation of new monitoring and treatment technologies. We are appreciative that Owasco Lake has been included in this program and urge full support of the initiative. We also support efforts being made to include other lakes within the Finger Lakes.

#### **2. ADDRESSING THE OPIOID CRISIS**

We support the Governor's proposal to establish an Opioid Epidemic Surcharge. The Executive Budget imposes a new surcharge of 2 cents per milligram of active opioid ingredient on prescription drugs, directing all proceeds to the Opioid Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Fund. This new fund will support on-going efforts to respond to the epidemic. The Budget includes an increase of \$26 million (4.5 percent) in operating

and capital support for OASAS to continue to enhance prevention, treatment and recovery programs, residential service opportunities, and public awareness and education activities. The Governor also recently announced the State will take enforcement action against pharmaceutical opioid distributors for breaching their legal duties to monitor, detect and report suspicious orders of opioids which has fueled this epidemic. Funds from enforcement activities will be used to enhance efforts to combat addiction. We support all of the initiatives and encourage that the funding be allocated throughout each region of the state so that local programs may benefit.

### 3. OPERATING SUPPORT FOR THE EQUAL RIGHTS HERITAGE CENTER

The future operations of the Equal Rights Heritage Center (ERHC) in downtown Auburn will become the city's undertaking and we are working in partnership with the Auburn Downtown Business Improvement District and the Cayuga County Office of Tourism on this. Both of these organizations will become tenants at the new building. We are in discussions with both groups about coordination of a partnership to administrate future operations. We have been researching the operations funding of other tourist welcome centers that have the participation of New York State and have discovered that no two projects are alike. The new welcome center that recently opened at Destiny for example receives state funding for operations through an agreement the mall has with ESD, others in the State receive a contribution towards operations secured by their State representatives. We ask for your assistance in obtaining State funds in this and future State budgets that we can allocate towards the annual operations of this new initiative.

### 4. AIM FUNDING.

The City needs an increase in unrestricted State aid. In 2011 the City of Auburn's Aid & Incentive to Municipalities (AIM) funding was cut and has been held flat ever since. This is the most direct way the state can assist localities with addressing local infrastructure needs. While we certainly appreciate that the Executive Budget does not decrease AIM funding we believe AIM funding should be restored to pre-2011 levels. During the City of Auburn budget year 2010-2011 AIM funding was \$5,311,542, it was then cut and every year since then the City has received \$4,982,093.

5. ARTERIAL ROAD MAINTENANCE FUNDING. The City needs an increased reimbursement for maintenance of state arterial roads. The current reimbursement rate for cities with arterial maintenance agreements of \$0.85 per square yard and this rate was established in 1987. Although costs for fuel, equipment, labor, road salt and maintenance supplies has increased since 1987 there has been no adjustment in reimbursement rates. We recommend an increase of the reimbursement rate to \$1.80/sq yd. This change would cost the state an estimated \$11.8 million/year in addition to current reimbursements, but still represents a savings for the state if it had to fully maintain these roadways. The impact of this for Auburn's 197,225 square yards of road maintenance would be a \$187,364.00 increase (current reimbursement amount is \$167,642, proposed reimbursement amount would be \$355,006)

6. CHIPS. Executive Budget would continue CHIPS funding at current year levels.

Funding is also maintained for the PAVE NY and BRIDGE NY programs. The City supports funding of these essential infrastructure programs and increases to CHIPS and PAVE NY are the most direct way the State can increase assistance for local roads.

7. **DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE.** We support the Executive Budget proposal for a third round of a \$100 million Downtown Revitalization Program, however, we recommend the legislature include the following criteria:

- REDC districts should define a process for selection that clearly and consistently defines application criteria prior to the announcement of the program applications
- REDC districts should provide transparency during the review of the applications, all review meetings should be open to the public and there should be at least one public review meeting that allows applicants to present and discuss their application to the review committee

**9. Matters to Come Before Council**

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

**B. Ordinances - None**

**C. Local Laws - none**

**D. Resolutions -**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION #29 OF 2018**

**URGING AUBURN'S STATE REPRESENTATIVES TO SUPPORT CERTAIN ITEMS  
IN THE 2018-2019 NEW YORK STATE BUDGET**

By Councilor McCormick  
2018

February 8,

**WHEREAS**, On January 2018 Governor Andrew Cuomo released his proposed 2018-2019 Executive Budget for the State of New York;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Auburn relies on revenues received from the State for its annual general fund budget and many infrastructure and capital improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the City Council have identified items of interest to the City pertaining to the proposed Executive State Budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of City Council urge our State representatives to consider the following items:

- Support the Governor's proposal to use resources from the Clean Water Infrastructure

Act and the Environmental Protection Fund to implement a \$65 million initiative to combat harmful algal blooms in Upstate New York water bodies including Owasco Lake, and

- Support the Governor’s several proposals to address the opioid crisis faced throughout the State, and
- Support with obtaining funds to allocate towards the annual operations of the new Equal Rights Heritage Center, and
- Support with increasing the City of Auburn’s Aid & Incentive to Municipalities (AIM) funding, and
- Support with increasing the reimbursement for maintenance of state arterial roads, and
- Support funding of the CHIPS, PAVE NY and BRIDGE NY programs, and
- Support a third round of the Downtown Revitalization Program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the City Council of the City of Auburn expresses its strong support for the above listed items pertaining to the 2018-2019 New York State Budget; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the City Clerk send a certified copy of this resolution to Senator John DeFrancisco, Senator Pamela Helming and Assemblyman Gary Finch.

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	

**E. Staff/Vendor Presentations**

**Community Development Block Grant Action Plan for 208-19 Presentation - Tiffany Beebee, Senior Planner and Renee Jensen, Senior Planner**

Included with the Council agenda is a draft of the Narrative for the 2018-2019 Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The plan is also available on the City's Website. The proposed Annual Action Plan is the fourth of five plans under the 5-year Consolidated Plan. Priorities for this plan, based on public input, are outlined in the narrative. HUD has not released entitlement funding levels for the 2018-2019 program year. Therefore, as a basis for developing this Action Plan, we have used an allocation equal to that of 2017-2018 program year, or \$808,936. The Proposed Action Plan is produced to offer the public the opportunity to comment on the proposed priorities, goals, objectives, and use of the CDBG funds.

Mayor Quill announced the public hearing regarding the City of Auburn's Proposed 2018-2019 Action Plan for the use of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds was still open and asked if there were any members of the public that would like to speak. No members of the public spoke. The Mayor announced this public hearing would now be closed.

#### **F. Tabled Items – None**

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

Mayor Quill reminded the public that the Public Hearing Regarding the Proposed Comprehensive Update to the City of Auburn Zoning Code, Chapter 305 of the City Code was still open and he asked if there were any other individuals wishing to speak.

Cathy Diviney, 100 South Street. Originally was opposed to rezoning proposed for South Street Historic District and had asked Council to revisit the zoning changes proposed for the historic district. Wanted to thank the Council for listening to the concerns of the South Street residents and making the requested changes.

With no other members of the public wishing to speak the Mayor announced this public hearing would be closed.

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

One matter regarding the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation;

Two separate matters regarding the sale, lease or acquisition of real property.

Two separate matters made confidential by Federal or State law. (Section 4503 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules which establishes that a confidential communication between attorney and client shall be privileged. Pursuant to this section, Council will be receiving legal advice from its attorney which fulfills the requirement provided in Section 108(3) of the Public Officers Law allowing this exemption.)

Auburn City Council Minutes February 8, 2018

The motion to enter executive session carried 5-0. The Council entered Executive Session at 6:58 p.m. Executive session adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

**Adjournment:** By unanimous vote the Council adjourned the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

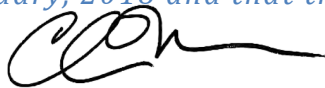
Minutes submitted to the City Council on February 15, 2018 by:

Charles Mason  
City Clerk

On February 15, 2018 a motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2018 Auburn, NY City Council meeting was made by Councilor McCormick, seconded by Councilor Giannettino.

	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 8th day of February, 2018 and that the City Council approved such by the vote listed above.*



*Charles Mason, City Clerk      Date: February 15, 2018*