

**Auburn City Council
Regular Meeting
Thursday, January 17, 2019 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 and Councilors McCormick, Giannettino, Cuddy and 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 Improvements and Grants, Christina Selvek
- Assistant Police Chief, Roger Anthony
- Director of Municipal Utilities, Seth Jensen

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 City Clerk read the announcements.

5. Ceremonial Presentations and Proclamations

The City Clerk read a proclamation from the office of Mayor Quill naming **Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 21, 2019.**

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.

7. Approval of Meeting Minutes -

December 20, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the December 20, 2018 minutes by Councilor Cuddy, seconded by Councilor Giannettino. Motion to approve carried 5-0.

December 27, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the December 27, 2018 minutes by Councilor McCormick, seconded by Councilor Carabajal. Motion to approve carried 5-0.

January 3, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the January 3, 2019 minutes by Councilor Giannettino, seconded by Councilor Cuddy. Motion to approve carried 5-0.

8. Reports of City Officials

A. City Manager's Report

- Update on the Chapman Ave. sewer replacement project. The old sewer between Fitch and Chapman Aves. was installed in the late 1800's and was of a smaller diameter than the adjoining pipes at each end. This reduction in diameter, the poor condition of the 100 year old line and root infiltration has been contributing to localized sewer backups for years. The replacement project should alleviate those problems and wrapped up this week with the exception of landscape restoration that will resume when the weather improves.
- The Auburn Housing Authority currently has an opening for a commissioner position. This is an appointment of the City Manager and we are seeking interested volunteers for the position. Anyone interested can find more information on the city webpage under the tab "City News".
- Our Codes Clean Up Crew will be attending NYS training to earn certification as Code Compliance Technicians (CCT). This will free up other staff by allowing our Clean Up crew to focus on the property maintenance issues they encounter every day and ensure that they have the appropriate training and authority to do so.
- In the coming weeks we will be presenting Council with an update on our Landfill Operations and our transition to a Transfer Station Operation. This change will very likely happen within the next twelve months and will impact the development of next year's budget. We are working hard to make sure the transition is as seamless as possible and that all factors of operation and finance are considered.
- Tomorrow, January 18, 2019, Corporation Counsel will be sending our first batch of tax foreclosure letters out to 25 properties. This provides owners or lien holders with 90 days to pay their back taxes. A second batch of approximately 50 letters is being prepared for delivery in February.
- We are planning on increasing the hourly rate of our minimum wage employees from \$10.40/hr. to \$11.10/hr. This is the new updated minimum wage. As a municipality we are not required to pay at that rate but previously this Council had expressed a desire to provide the same minimum compensation as required in the private sector. This change was anticipated in the development of the current budget.

B. Reports from members of Council

Councilor Cuddy

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 #8 OF 2019
AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE
2019-2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ACTION PLAN**

By Councilor McCormick

January 17, 2019

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Auburn, New York, that it hereby authorizes a Public Hearing to be held before the City Council of the City of Auburn, New York, on January 24, 2019 at 6:00pm at City Council Chambers, 1st floor, Memorial City Hall, Auburn, New York concerning the 2019-2020 Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to advertise this resolution in the official newspaper of the City of Auburn in accordance with the governing State and local requirements.

Seconded by Councilor Giannettino

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

FINANCIAL RESOLUTION #9 OF 2019

AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF ADDITIONAL GRANT FUNDING FOR THE WATER FILTRATION PLANT MICROCYSTIN TREATMENT AND WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

By Councilor McCormick

January 17, 2019

WHEREAS, on April 19, 2018, the City Council of the City of Auburn passed Resolution No. 61, which accepted additional grant funding from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, (NYSEFC), in the amount of \$100,000 for a total project cost of up to \$850,000 to fund the Water Filtration Plant Microcystin Treatment and Water Quality Improvement Project (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the initial project scope has been substantially completed and the City has identified a need to construct a Powder Activated Carbon (PAC) storage facility at the Upper Pump Station with an estimated cost of \$100,000, which would exceed the initial funding award; and

WHEREAS, NYSEFC supports the City’s request for the PAC storage facility and has provided a supplemental award document, committing to fully fund and reimburse the City of Auburn for an amount up to \$950,000 for the Project; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the City of Auburn to formally accept the \$950,000 grant to fully fund the Water Filtration Plant Microcystin Treatment Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Auburn, New York, hereby accepts an amended grant funding award from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation in the amount of \$950,000, to be used to fund the Water Filtration Plant Microcystin Treatment and Water Quality Improvement Project (HF8330.440.IH), which is to be recorded into the Water Filtration Plant Microcystin Treatment - State Aid Account (HF99.359.IH); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor of the City of Auburn, or a designated representative, is authorized to execute the grant assistance contract, submit project documentation, and otherwise act on all matters related to the Project and State assistance.

Seconded by Councilor Giannettino

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

AGREEMENT RESOLUTION #10 OF 2019

AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 TO THE GENERAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE NYS EQUAL RIGHTS HERITAGE CENTER

By Councilor McCormick

January 17, 2019

WHEREAS, on December 7, 2017, the Auburn City Council passed Award Resolution No. 180 of 2017, authorizing a contract with Fahs Construction Group Inc. for general construction work for the Equal Rights Heritage Center (“the Project”) in Downtown Auburn; and,

WHEREAS, Agreement Resolutions #81 and #121 of 2018 previously authorized Change Orders #1 and #2 in an aggregate amount of \$633,163 to Fahs Construction Group Inc.; and,

WHEREAS, due to an accelerated schedule and unfavorable weather conditions during construction, as well as continued scope and design changes to ensure that the building opened in November 2018, additional construction resources were needed; and,

WHEREAS, since construction is substantially completed, the City needs to authorize Change Order No.3 to Fahs Construction Group Inc. in the amount of \$110,000.00 to cover cost increases during final construction of the NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Auburn does hereby approve Change Order No. 3 to Fahs Construction Group Inc. of Binghamton NY, authorizing the additional general construction work for the NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center in the amount of \$110,000 to be charged to the project capital account HA 1620.440.IM; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, or approved designee, of the City of Auburn is hereby authorized to execute any and all necessary agreements and contracts, certifications, and reimbursement requests on behalf of the City of Auburn for said project.

Seconded by Councilor Carabajal

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

COUNCIL RESOLUTION #11 OF 2019

APPROVING THE CITY MANAGER’S JOB PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

By Councilor McCormick

January 17, 2019

WHEREAS, the City of Auburn entered into an agreement with Jeffrey J. Dygert (“Mr. Dygert”) employing Mr. Dygert as Auburn City Manager commencing on October 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the agreement set forth terms and duties of employment including the City Manager’s authority, salary and benefits and further required in Section 3, paragraph A, that the City Council conduct an annual job performance evaluation beginning the first Thursday after Thanksgiving and ending on the first Thursday after Christmas, and requires that the City Council, by majority vote, determines that Mr. Dygert’s performance be deemed satisfactory which will allow for salary benefits pursuant to the agreement; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has completed the evaluation and has determined that Mr. Dygert’s job performance was satisfactory which allows him to receive merit pay increases.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Auburn City Council does hereby determine, by at least a majority vote, that Mr. Dygert’s annual job performance evaluation conducted for the year 2018 is satisfactory and entitles him to receive merit pay increases as specified in the agreement.

Seconded by Councilor Giannettino

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

15. STAFF/VENDOR PRESENTATIONS

NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center (ERHC) presentation by Stephanie DeVito, Executive Director of the Auburn Business Improvement District and Courtney Kasper, Visitor Experience Manager, ERHC.

F. Tabled Items – None

10. Other Business

Councilor Carabajal asked that the pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Genesee Street and Seminary Avenue be investigated in response to a communication she received from a resident about a concern over lack of signage.

Councilor McCormick asked for an update at a future Council meeting on the proposed rental registry.

Councilor Cuddy asked that the Council look in to the proposed privatization of the Veteran's Health Clinic in the City. There is currently a proposal from the Veteran's Administration that would close the center at Auburn Memorial Hospital and move the facility to a privately run facility at an old Rite Aid Pharmacy location on the Corner of Genesee Street and Fulton Street.

Executive Session. Councilor McCormick made a motion to enter Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Cuddy. 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 matters pertaining to the sale, lease or acquisition of real property.

One matter pertaining to collective bargaining.

The motion to enter executive session carried 5-0. The Council entered Executive Session at 6:46 p.m. Executive session adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Adjournment: By unanimous vote the Council adjourned the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Minutes submitted to the City Council on January 24, 2019 by:

Charles Mason
City Clerk

On January 24, 2019 a motion to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2019 Auburn, NY City Council meeting was made by Councilor Cuddy, 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	

Auburn City Council Minutes January 17, 2019

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 17th day of January, 2019 and that the City Council approved such by the vote listed above.

Charles Mason, City Clerk Date: January 25, 2019