

The City Council of the City of Auburn, Alabama, met in regular session on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chamber of the Auburn Public Safety Building at 141 North Ross Street.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Anders.

Mayor Anders called the meeting to order.

2. **ROLL CALL.**

The following Councilpersons were present: Tommy Dawson, Steven Dixon, Kelley Griswold, Jay Hovey, Bob Parsons, Brett Smith, Connie Taylor, Beth Witten, and Mayor Ron Anders, Jr. Absent: none. Also present was City Manager Buston.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE.**

Mayor Anders invited all present to stand and join the Council in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag and in observing a moment of silence after the Pledge.

4. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS.** Mayor Anders.

- a. Employee of the Month.
David Ponder.
Engineering Services Department.

Mayor Anders read a memorandum from Engineering Services Director Alison Frazier nominating David Ponder as Employee of the Month for March 2020 for his outstanding performance on the job. Mayor Anders presented David with a framed Employee of the Month certificate and a small gift from the Council. He thanked him for his hard work and dedication to the citizens of Auburn.

- b. Service awards.
 - (1) LeAnne Clements.
Environmental Services Department.
5 years.
 - (2) Corey Walp.
Water Resource Management Department.
5 years.
 - (3) Chad Young.
Water Resource Management Department.
5 years.
 - (4) Jarrett Jones.
Parks and Recreation Department.
15 years.
 - (5) Joe Morris.
Public Safety – Police Division.
25 years.

Mayor Anders presented 5-year service pins to LeAnne Clements of the Environmental Services Department, Corey Walp of the Water Resource Management Department and Chad Young of the Water Resource Management Department; and a 15-year service pin and clock to Jarrett Jones of the Parks and Recreation Department.

4. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS (cont).

c. Recognition of retiring employees. Public Safety Department.

(1) Jason Brown. Fire Division. 25 years of service.

(2) Bill James. Administrative Division. 32 years of service.

Mayor Anders presented Jason Brown and Bill James with obelisks commemorating their retirements from the City of Auburn.

d. Committee of the Whole.

Mayor Anders stated that at the Committee of the Whole meeting previously held the Council approved the minutes from the February 18 Committee of the Whole meeting and voted to suspend the rules requiring an interview for the upcoming appointment on the Board of Education.

e. Announcements.

Mayor Anders announced the following:

- Encouraged citizens to fill out the Census
- Attended a ribbon cutting for ID Plastics
- Attended the Auburn University SGA installation banquet on March 1
- Meeting with new Auburn University SGA officers on March 5
- Auburn 2040 is underway and there is still time to join
- City has been in touch with EAMC to discuss the Coronavirus.

Councilperson Griswold said he wanted to acknowledge the concerns raised about the intersection of North Donahue Drive and Farmville Road. He said he looks forward to the City's solution to the problem there.

5. AUBURN UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS.

AU SGA Assistant Director of City Relations Mary Kate Hillis updated the Council about events at Auburn University.

6. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS.

None.

7. CITY MANAGER'S COMMUNICATIONS. City Manager Buston.

a. Board announcements. Appointments April 7, 2020.

(1) Downtown Design Review Committee. One (1) vacancy. Term begins April 18, 2020 and expires April 17, 2026.

(2) Historic Preservation Commission. Three (3) vacancies. Terms begin April 21, 2020 and end April 20, 2023.

(3) Auburn Public Library Board. One (1) vacancy. Term begins April 15, 2020 and ends April 14, 2023.

City Manager Buston announced vacancies on the Downtown Design Review Committee, Historic Preservation Commission and Auburn Public Library Board. He said the appointments would be made at the April 7, 2020 City Council Meeting.

8. **CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA.**

City Manager Buston asked if any items should be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

Councilperson Griswold requested items 8d(1) and 8d(2) be removed from the consent agenda.

Councilperson Witten moved that the items on the consent agenda be adopted.

Councilperson Smith seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.

Mayor Anders declared the consent agenda items adopted.

- a. Minutes. February 18, 2020. **APPROVED**
- b. Tax abatement. Borbet Alabama, Inc. Auburn Technology Park North.
RESOLUTION NO. 20-052
- c. Alcohol beverage licenses.
 - (1) Sidhi Vinayak Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Texaco Stop N Go. Transfer of 050 – Retail Beer (Off Premises Only) and 070 – Retail Table Wine (Off Premises Only) alcohol licenses. Property located at 1700 Opelika Road. **APPROVED**
 - (2) Young Oil, Inc. d/b/a Grub Mart 25. Transfer of 050 – Retail Beer (Off Premises Only) and 070 – Retail Table Wine (Off Premises Only) alcohol beverage licenses. Property located at 1559 South College Street. **APPROVED**
 - (3) Exceptional Foundation of East Alabama d/b/a Eggs on the Plains. 240 – Non-Profit Tax Exempt alcohol beverage license. Special event to be held March 21, 2020. Property located at 1799 Ogletree Road (Ogletree Village). **APPROVED**
- d. Contracts and agreements.
 - (1) Auburn University. Memorandum of Understanding. Extension of Camp Auburn Road and the construction of turn lanes along SR-147 (Shug Jordan Parkway) at the new intersection of Camp Auburn Road.

This item was removed from the consent agenda.

- (2) Alabama Department of Transportation. Construction agreement. Extension of Camp Auburn Road and the construction of turn lanes along SR-147 (Shug Jordan Parkway) at the new intersection of Camp Auburn Road.

This item was removed from the consent agenda.

- (3) Emergency Lighting by Haynes. Purchase Police Interceptor Vehicle Equipment and Installation for fifteen (15) marked and unmarked police vehicles. Public Safety Department – Police Division. \$90,736.16
RESOLUTION NO. 20-055
- (4) Moridge Manufacturing Inc. Purchase four (4) 329B Grasshopper Mowers. \$38,488.20. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-056**
- (5) Barge Design Solutions. Execute Task Order 27. Professional Consulting Engineering Services. Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation – Southside Basins 6 and 16 Project. Amount not to exceed \$57,500.
RESOLUTION NO. 20-057

8. **CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA (cont).**

- (6) Alabama Power. Installation of underground network service for the Wright Street Parking Deck. \$34,717.21. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-058**
- (7) Southern Lighting & Traffic Systems. Replacement of decorative mast arm pole at Moores Mill Road and Grove Hill Road. \$16,050.
RESOLUTION NO. 20-059
- (8) Cutting Edge Lawn Service, LLC. Comprehensive landscape maintenance on all of the City's roadway islands and medians. \$77,640.
RESOLUTION NO. 20-060

e. Easements.

- (1) Core Campus, LLC. Accept various drainage, utility, and sidewalk easements. Hub on Campus on West Glenn. Property located within the block bound by West Glenn Avenue, Thomas Street, Genelda Avenue, and Cox Street. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-061**
- (2) Knight Homes. Accept various drainage and utility easements. The Preserve, Phase 4c. Property located along Farmville Road at Bud Black Road. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-062**

d. Contracts and agreements.

- (1) Auburn University. Memorandum of Understanding. Extension of Camp Auburn Road and the construction of turn lanes along SR-147 (Shug Jordan Parkway) at the new intersection of Camp Auburn Road.

City Manager Buston said this resolution approves a memorandum of understanding with Auburn University for the extension of Camp Auburn Road and the construction turn lanes along SR-147 at the new intersection of Camp Auburn Road.

The Council asked questions about the agreement.

City Manager Buston answered the Council's questions.

Councilperson Witten moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilperson Parsons seconded the motion and all members voted aye.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 20-053

- (2) Alabama Department of Transportation. Construction agreement. Extension of Camp Auburn Road and the construction of turn lanes along SR-147 (Shug Jordan Parkway) at the new intersection of Camp Auburn Road.

City Manager Buston said this resolution approves a construction agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation for the extension of Camp Auburn Road and the construction of turn lane along SR-147 at the new intersection of Camp Auburn Road.

The Council asked questions about the agreement.

City Manager Buston answered the Council's questions

8. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA (cont).

Councilperson Witten moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilperson Smith seconded the motion and the following members voted aye: Dawson, Dixon, Hovey, Parsons, Smith, Taylor, Witten and Mayor Anders. Voting nay: Griswold.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 20-054

9. ORDINANCES.

- a. General Obligation School Warrants. Authorize city to borrow funds to refund the remaining balance of the 2010-A General Obligation School Warrants. \$14,625,000. Unanimous consent necessary.

City Manager Buston said this ordinance authorizes the city to borrow funds to refund the remaining balance of the 2010-A General Obligation School Warrants.

Councilperson Dixon moved that unanimous consent be granted to consider the ordinance on its first reading.

Councilperson Parsons seconded the motion.

Upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted to approve unanimous consent: Dawson, Dixon, Griswold, Hovey, Parsons, Smith, Taylor, Witten and Mayor Anders. Voting nay: None.

Mayor Anders declared unanimous consent granted and the ordinance ready for adoption.

Councilperson Smith moved that the ordinance be adopted.

Councilperson Dixon seconded the motion.

Upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted to adopt the ordinance: Dawson, Dixon, Griswold, Hovey, Parsons, Smith, Taylor, Witten and Mayor Anders. Voting nay: None.

Mayor Anders declared the ordinance adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 3206

- b. Traffic control signs and devices. Establish one (1) stop sign and one (1) 25MPH sign in Gatewood Place Townhomes. Unanimous consent necessary.

City Manager Buston said this ordinance establishes one (1) stop sign and one (1) 25 MPH sign in Gatewood Place Townhomes.

Councilperson Smith moved that unanimous consent be granted to consider the ordinance on its first reading.

Councilperson Dixon seconded the motion.

Upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted to approve unanimous consent: Dixon, Griswold, Hovey, Parsons, Smith, Taylor, Witten, Dawson and Mayor Anders. Voting nay: None.

Mayor Anders declared unanimous consent granted and the ordinance ready for adoption.

Councilperson Smith moved that the ordinance be adopted.

Councilperson Dixon seconded the motion.

Upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted to adopt the ordinance: Dixon, Griswold, Hovey, Parsons, Smith, Taylor, Witten, Dawson and Mayor Anders. Voting nay: None.

Mayor Anders declared the ordinance adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 3207

9. **ORDINANCES (cont).**

- c. Commercial development agreement. Tiger Crossing, W.D. Tiger Crossing – Winn Dixie. Unanimous consent necessary. Public hearing required.

City Manager Buston said this ordinance approves a commercial development agreement with Tiger Crossing, W.D. Tiger Crossing – Winn Dixie. He added that a public hearing was required.

Councilperson Dixon moved that unanimous consent be granted to consider the ordinance on its first reading.

Councilperson Dawson seconded the motion.

Upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted to approve unanimous consent: Griswold, Hovey, Parsons, Smith, Taylor, Witten, Dawson, Dixon and Mayor Anders. Voting nay: None.

Mayor Anders declared unanimous consent granted and the ordinance ready for adoption.

Mayor Anders opened the public hearing.

There being no comments from the audience, Mayor Anders closed the public hearing.

The Council asked questions about the agreement.

City Manager Buston answered the Council's questions

Councilperson Dixon moved that the ordinance be adopted.

Councilperson Smith seconded the motion.

Upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted to adopt the ordinance: Griswold, Hovey, Parsons, Smith, Taylor, Witten, Dawson, Dixon and Mayor Anders. Voting nay: None.

Mayor Anders declared the ordinance adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 3208

10. **RESOLUTIONS.**

- a. Mayor salary increase. Effective November 1, 2022. Public hearing recommended.

City Manager Buston said this resolution increases the mayor's salary effective November 1, 2022. He added that a public hearing was recommended.

Mayor Anders opened the public hearing.

Bruno Ulrich (1518 Stuart Circle) spoke in favor of the pay increases.

There being no further comments, Mayor Anders closed the public hearing.

Councilperson Dawson moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilperson Witten seconded the motion.

The council discussed increasing the mayor's salary.

Councilperson Witten withdrew her second to the motion for approval.

Mayor Anders declared the motion withdrawn.

Councilperson Parsons moved to postpone the item until June 2, 2020.

Councilperson Dixon seconded the motion and the following members voted aye: Dixon, Griswold, Parsons and Taylor. Voting nay: Dawson, Hovey, Smith, Witten and Mayor Anders.

Mayor Anders declared the motion to postpone failed.

10. **RESOLUTIONS (cont).**

Councilperson Dixon moved to amend the resolution to read, "BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Auburn, Alabama that the salary of the Mayor is hereby established in the amount of \$2,613 per month plus up to a 3% cost of living adjustment will be given if such is given to the employees of the City of Auburn effective November 1, 2022."

Councilperson Parsons seconded the motion.

The Council discussed the proposed amendment.

Councilperson Witten moved to amend the proposed amendment to read, "BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Auburn, Alabama that the salary of the Mayor is hereby established in the amount of \$3,000 per month effective November 1, 2022."

Councilperson Griswold seconded the motion and the following members voted aye: Smith and Witten. Voting nay: Dawson, Dixon, Griswold, Hovey, Parsons and Taylor. Abstaining: Mayor Anders.

Mayor Anders declared the amendment failed.

Mayor Anders said the Council would then vote on the original amendment proposed by Councilperson Dixon and requested that Councilperson Dixon repeat the original amendment.

Councilperson Dixon repeated the original amendment as follows: "BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Auburn, Alabama that the salary of the Mayor is hereby established in the amount of \$2,613 per month plus up to a 3% cost of living adjustment will be given if such is given to the employees of the City of Auburn effective November 1, 2022."

The following members voted aye: Dixon. Voting nay: Dawson, Griswold, Hovey, Parsons, Smith, Taylor and Witten. Abstaining: Mayor Anders.

Mayor Anders declared the amendment failed.

Mayor Anders said the Council could move to vote on the original resolution as presented.

Councilperson Witten moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilperson Dawson seconded the motion and the following members voted aye: Dawson, Dixon, Hovey, Smith, Taylor and Witten. Voting nay: Griswold and Parsons. Abstaining: Mayor Anders.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 20-063

- b. City Council salary increase. Effective November 1, 2022. Public hearing recommended.

City Manager Buston said this resolution increases the City Council salary effective November 1, 2022. He added that a public hearing was recommended.

Mayor Anders opened the public hearing.

Mr. Ulrich provided notes to the Council on what he spoke about during the public hearing held for item 10a.

There being no further comments, Mayor Anders closed the public hearing.

Councilperson Witten moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilperson Taylor seconded the motion.

The council discussed increasing the city council's salary.

Councilperson Dixon moved to amend the resolution to read, "BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Auburn, Alabama that the salary of the City Council is hereby established in the amount of \$888 per month (\$10,656 per year) effective November 1, 2022.

There was no second.

10. **RESOLUTIONS (cont).**

The Council continued discussing the matter.

Councilperson Witten moved to amend the resolution to read, "BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Auburn, Alabama that the salary of the City Council is hereby established in the amount of \$800 per month (\$9,600 per year) effective November 1, 2022.

Councilperson Dixon seconded the motion and the following members voted aye: Dixon, Parsons, Witten and Mayor Anders. Voting nay: Dawson, Griswold, Hovey, Smith and Taylor. Mayor Anders declared the amendment failed.

Mayor Anders said the Council could vote on the original resolution.

Councilperson Dixon moved to table the resolution.

Councilperson Dawson seconded and the following members voted aye: Dawson, Dixon, Witten and Mayor Anders. Voting nay: Griswold, Hovey, Parsons, Smith and Taylor. Mayor Anders declared the request to table failed.

Mayor Anders said the Council could vote on the original resolution.

Councilperson Witten moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilperson Parsons seconded the motion and the following members voted aye: Dixon, Taylor and Witten. Voting nay: Dawson, Griswold, Hovey, Parsons, Smith and Mayor Anders. Mayor Anders declared the resolution failed.

- c. Vacation of right-of-way and execute a quit-claim deed. Boulevard Auburn LLC. Unused alley located between Lot 2 of Harper Avenue Subdivision Fifth Addition and Lot 1-AAA of Harper Avenue Subdivision Fourth Addition. The Boulevard Development. Public hearing required.

City Manager Buston said this resolution assents to the vacation of a portion of right-of-way of an unused alley located between Lot 2 of Harper Avenue Subdivision Fifth Addition and Lot 1-AAA of Harper Avenue Subdivision Fourth Addition, and further authorizes the Mayor and City Manager to execute a quit-claim deed relinquishing the property to Boulevard Auburn LLC. He added that a public hearing was required.

Mayor Anders opened the public hearing.

There being comments from the audience, Mayor Anders closed the public hearing.

Councilperson Smith moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilperson Dixon seconded the motion and all members voted aye.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 20-064

- d. Vacation of right-of-way and execute a quit-claim deed. North of Harper Avenue, LLC. Unused alley located between Lot 2 of Harper Avenue Subdivision Fifth Addition and Lot 1-AAA of Harper Avenue Subdivision Fourth Addition. The Boulevard Development. Public hearing required.

City Manager Buston said this resolution assents to the vacation of a portion of right-of-way of an unused alley located between Lot 2 of Harper Avenue Subdivision Fifth Addition and Lot 1-AAA of Harper Avenue Subdivision Fourth Addition, and further authorizes the Mayor and City Manager to execute a quit-claim deed relinquishing the property to North of Harper Avenue, LLC. He added that a public hearing was required.

Mayor Anders opened the public hearing.

There being comments from the audience, Mayor Anders closed the public hearing.

10. RESOLUTIONS (cont).

Councilperson Parsons moved that the resolution be adopted.
Councilperson Dawson seconded the motion and all members voted aye.
Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 20-065

- e. Vacation of right-of-way and execute a quit-claim deed. North of Harper Avenue, LLC. North Ryan Street. The Boulevard Development. Public hearing required.

City Manager Buston said this resolution assents to the vacation of the right-of-way on North Ryan Street and further authorizes the Mayor and City Manager to execute a quit-claim deed relinquishing the property to North of Harper Avenue, LLC. He added that a public hearing was required.

Mayor Anders opened the public hearing.

There being comments from the audience, Mayor Anders closed the public hearing.

Councilperson Smith moved that the resolution be adopted.
Councilperson Dixon seconded the motion and all members voted aye.
Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 20-066

11. OTHER BUSINESS.

None.

12. CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM.

Doug Cooper (1451 Ping Court) spoke about the excellent customer service he has received from various city departments.

13. ADJOURNMENT.

Councilperson Witten moved that the meeting be adjourned.
Councilperson Dawson seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Manager