

The City Council of the City of Auburn, Alabama, met in regular session on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at 6:06 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: Tyler Adams, Max Coblenz, Tommy Dawson, Kelley Griswold, Sonny Moreman, Bob Parsons, Connie Taylor, Beth Witten and Mayor Ron Anders. Absent: None. Also present was City Manager Megan McGowen Crouch.

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 and Service Awards.
Video presentation.

Videos were shown to recognize the employee service awards for April 2024.

Employee of the Month		
Jennifer McKibben	Information Technology	
Service Awards		
Amy Brabham	Economic Development	5 years
Marla Smith	Water Resource Management	5 years
Michele Aultman	Environmental Services	10 years
Latasha Golden	Judicial	10 years
Brian Lipe	Police	15 years
Joseph Lockhart	Parks & Recreation	15 years
Sheree Huey	Police	20 years
Retirees		
John Reese	Public Works	12 years
Bryan Wood	Engineering Services	19 years

- b. Committee of the Whole.

Mayor Anders stated that at the Committee of the Whole previously held the Council approved the minutes from the March 19 Committee of the Whole meeting, said item 9b was removed from the regular agenda and nominated individuals to serve on the Historic Preservation Commission, Downtown Design Review Committee, Auburn Public Library Board, and the Cemetery Advisory Board.

- c. Announcements.

Mayor Anders thanked various groups for hosting him over the last two weeks and provided a preview of the events he will attend in the coming days.

Councilperson Griswold congratulated the AU Equestrian Team for winning its 6th SEC Championship.

Councilperson Parson said Outstanding Tree Award nominations can be made through April 21.

4. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS (cont).**

Councilperson Witten thanked the Watershed Division for putting watershed markers in Camden Ridge.

5. **AUBURN UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS.**

Auburn University SGA Co-Director of City Relations Jack Steudle updated the Council about events at Auburn University.

6. **CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS.**

None.

7. **CITY MANAGER'S COMMUNICATIONS.** City Manager Crouch.

City Manager Crouch said item 9b was removed from the agenda and introduced newly hired Parks and Recreation Director Alison Hall and Human Resources Director Elinda Dannar.

8. **CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA.**

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

Councilperson Coblenz removed items 8d(1) and 8d(2).

Councilperson Griswold removed item 8e(4).

Councilperson Coblenz moved that the items on the consent agenda be adopted.
Councilperson Parsons seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.

a. Minutes. March 19, 2024. **APPROVED**

b. Alcohol beverage licenses.

(1) Aramark Educational Services, LLC d/b/a Jordan Hare Stadium. 160 – Special Retail – More Than 30 Days ABC License. 251 South Donahue Drive. **APPROVED**

(2) Aramark Educational Services, LLC d/b/a Neville Arena. 160 – Special Retail – More Than 30 Days ABC License. 250 Beard Eaves Court (Concession Stands). **APPROVED**

(3) Greenawalt Hospitality, LLC d/b/a B and B AU Student Activities Center. 140 – Special Events Retail ABC License. 684 Biggio Drive. **APPROVED**

c. Contracts and agreements.

(1) Arrowhead AL Homes, LLC. Development Agreement. Beehive Road Improvements. \$67,467.69. **Resolution No. 24-060**

(2) First Baptist Church of Auburn. Parking lease agreement. Three-year term effective October 1, 2024. **Resolution No. 24-061**

(3) Stivers Ford Lincoln. Purchase one (1) 2023 Ford Explorer. Finance Department. \$37,458. **Resolution No. 24-062**

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

d. Easements and warranty deeds.

- (1) CAAM Real-Estate, LLC. Accept various public easements. Redivision of Lot 1A-1 and Lot 1A-2 of Walker Carlton Subdivision, a Redivision of Lot 1A. Property located at southeast intersection of Miracle Road and Sarah Lane.
Resolution No. 24-063

This item was removed from the consent agenda.

- (2) Catbird, LLC. Accept public drainage and utility and sidewalk lighting easements. Property located at 120 South Ross Street.
Resolution No. 24-064

This item was removed from the consent agenda.

- (3) James Fukai, Mary Alice Fukai, and Alice H. Bell. Accept sanitary sewer easement. Property located at 1104 South Gay Street.
Resolution No. 24-065
- (4) River Bank & Trust. Accept statutory warranty deed. North Dean Road and East University Drive Intersection Improvements Project. \$14,330.
Resolution No. 24-066
- (5) Sharon Stitch. Accept public right-of-way and drainage and utility easements. Talmage Subdivision - Final Plat. Property located at 2042 Bonny Glen Road. **Resolution No. 24-067**

e. Board appointments.

- (1) Auburn Public Library Board. One (1) position. Term begins April 15, 2024, and ends April 14, 2028. **Resolution No. 24-068 (Marcia Boosinger)**
- (2) Cemetery Advisory Board. One (1) position. Term begins April 15, 2024, and ends April 14, 2028. **Resolution No. 24-069 (Doris Ann Hutchinson)**
- (3) Downtown Design Review Committee. One (1) vacancy. Term begins April 18, 2024, and ends April 17, 2030. **Resolution No. 24-070 (David Hinson)**
- (4) Historic Preservation Commission. Two (2) vacancies. Terms begin April 21, 2024, and end April 20, 2027. **Resolution No. 24-071 (Dan Bush and Nick Hayes)**

This item was removed from the consent agenda.

d. Easements and warranty deeds.

- (1) CAAM Real-Estate, LLC. Accept various public easements. Redivision of Lot 1A-1 and Lot 1A-2 of Walker Carlton Subdivision, a Redivision of Lot 1A. Property located at southeast intersection of Miracle Road and Sarah Lane.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution accepts various public easements from CAAM Real-Estate, LLC.

Councilperson Coblentz said he pulled the item to abstain from the vote.

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

Councilperson Parsons moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilperson Witten seconded the motion, and the following members voted aye: Adams, Dawson, Griswold, Moreman, Parsons, Taylor, Witten and Mayor Anders. Voting no: None.

Abstaining: Coblenz.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 24-063

- (2) Catbird, LLC. Accept public drainage and utility and sidewalk lighting easements. Property located at 120 South Ross Street.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution accepts various public easements from Catbird, LLC.

Councilperson Coblenz said he pulled the item to abstain from the vote.

Councilperson Parsons moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilperson Witten seconded the motion, and the following members voted aye: Adams, Dawson, Griswold, Moreman, Parsons, Taylor, Witten and Mayor Anders. Voting no: None.

Abstaining: Coblenz.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 24-064

- e. Board appointments.

- (4) Historic Preservation Commission. Two (2) vacancies. Terms begin April 21, 2024, and end April 20, 2027. **(Dan Bush and Nick Hayes)**

City Manager Crouch said this resolution appoints Dan Bush and Nick Hayes to the Historic Preservation Commission.

Councilperson Griswold said he pulled the item from the consent agenda to voice opposition to the nomination of Nick Hayes.

Councilperson Witten moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilperson Coblenz seconded the motion, and the following members voted aye: Adams, Coblenz, Moreman, Parsons, Witten and Mayor Anders. Voting no: Dawson, Griswold, and Taylor.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 24-071

9. **ORDINANCES.**

- a. Ad valorem property taxes. Authorization for Lee County Revenue Commissioner to collect. Unanimous consent necessary.

- (1) City taxes - 5 mills for general purposes (General Fund). City taxes - 5 mills for capital projects debt repayment (Special Five Mill Tax).

City Manager Crouch said this ordinance is for the annual renewal of the 5 mills ad valorem property tax for the City of Auburn and emphasized that these are not new taxes but simply renewals of current taxes.

Councilperson Parsons introduced the ordinance.

City Manager Crouch read the ordinance by title.

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

Councilperson Taylor seconded the motion.

Mayor Anders asked if there was an objection to the ordinance being considered on its first reading.

9. **ORDINANCES (cont).**

Hearing no objection from the Council, Mayor Anders declared unanimous consent granted and the ordinance ready for adoption.

Upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted aye: Moreman, Parsons, Taylor, Witten, Adams, Coblentz, Dawson, Griswold and Mayor Anders. Voting no: None.

Mayor Anders declared the ordinance adopted.

Ordinance No. 3480

- (2) School taxes - 11 mills for educational purposes (Special School Tax Fund).

City Manager Crouch said this ordinance is for the annual renewal of the 11 mills ad valorem special school property tax.

Councilperson Coblentz introduced the ordinance.

City Manager Crouch read the ordinance by title.

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

Councilperson Moreman seconded the motion.

Mayor Anders asked if there was an objection to the ordinance being considered on its first reading.

Hearing no objection from the Council, Mayor Anders declared unanimous consent granted and the ordinance ready for adoption.

Upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted aye: Parsons, Taylor, Witten, Adams, Coblentz, Dawson, Griswold, Moreman and Mayor Anders. Voting no: None.

Mayor Anders declared the ordinance adopted.

Ordinance No. 3481

- (3) School taxes - 5 mills for educational purposes (Special School Tax Fund).

City Manager Crouch said this ordinance is for the annual renewal of the 5 mills ad valorem special school property tax.

Councilperson Parsons introduced the ordinance.

City Manager Crouch read the ordinance by title.

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

Councilperson Coblentz seconded the motion.

Mayor Anders asked if there was an objection to the ordinance being considered on its first reading.

Hearing no objection from the Council, Mayor Anders declared unanimous consent granted and the ordinance ready for adoption.

Upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted aye: Taylor, Witten, Adams, Coblentz, Dawson, Griswold, Moreman, Parsons and Mayor Anders. Voting no: None.

Mayor Anders declared the ordinance adopted.

Ordinance No. 3482

- b. Franchise agreement. Dixie Electric Cooperative. Unanimous consent necessary.

This item was removed from the agenda.

10. **RESOLUTIONS.**

- a. Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) - 2024 Annual Action Plan.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution adopts the CDBG 2024 Annual Action Plan.

Councilperson Taylor asked for an overview of the plan.

Community Services Director Al Davis provided an overview of the plan.

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. 24-072

11. **OTHER BUSINESS.**

None.

12. **CITIZENS’ OPEN FORUM.**

Robert Wilkins (261 Denson Drive) spoke about various topics and council procedures.

Martha Shamp (307 Camelia Drive) spoke about the Auburn Public Library.

Sarah King-Collins (875 Cahaba Drive) thanked the Council for all they do, asked about bike lanes and pedestrian paths, and said she would like to be more involved in the community.

13. **ADJOURNMENT.**

Councilperson Witten moved that the meeting be adjourned.
Councilperson Coblenz seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.
The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 PM.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Manager