

The City Council of the City of Auburn, Alabama, met in regular session on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at 6:00 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 Councilmembers 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. Committee of the Whole.

Mayor Anders provided a summary of the Committee of the Whole meeting previously held.

b. 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. He also recognized Boy Scouts in attendance.

Councilmember Moreman recognized Parks and Recreation Director Alison Hall for the Holiday Art Sale.

Councilmember Griswold thanked Mayor Anders for recognizing Veterans and added that resources are available to help veterans who may be struggling.

Councilmember Taylor invited all to attend the Senior Thanksgiving event from 2-5 p.m. on Monday, November 25 at Boykin Community Center.

Councilmember Witten said she recently attended the Lee County Farm City Banquet where Auburn and Beauregard FFA Clubs received awards.

Councilmember Parsons said he recently attended the Lee County Remembrance Day in Opelika and said AHS Senior Kyle King won the annual essay contest.

5. **AUBURN UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS.**

AU 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.

None.

8. **CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA.**

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

There were no items removed from the consent agenda.

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

- a. Minutes. November 5, 2024. **Approved**
 - b. Alcohol beverage licenses.
 1. Aldi, Inc. d/b/a Aldi 197. 050 – Retail Beer (Off Premises Only) and 070 – Retail Table Wine (Off Premises Only). 1617 South College Street. **Approved**
 2. WCB Auburn, LLC d/b/a/ Waldo’s Chicken and Beer. 020 – Restaurant Retail Liquor. 1120 South College Street. **Approved**
 - c. Contracts and agreements.
 1. ACAI Construction Testing, LLC. Construction materials testing and special inspection services. Boykin-Donahue Campus Project. \$96,000. **Resolution No. 24-248**
 2. Doosan Bobcat North America, Inc. Purchase two (2) Bobcat E60 R2-Series Compact Excavators. Public Works Department. \$175,854.80. **Resolution No. 24-249**
 3. Fuller Farm Equipment. Purchase (2) Bush Hog MS3110 Rotary Cutters. Public Works Department. \$30,459.40. **Resolution No. 24-250**
 4. Gulf Coast Truck and Equipment Co., Inc. Purchase one (1) Mack MD7 14' Dump Truck. Public Works Department. \$135,600. **Resolution No. 24-251**
 5. Ingram Equipment Company. Purchase (1) Ford F-550 Dur-a-Lift bucket truck. Public Works Department. \$219,957. **Resolution No. 24-252**
 6. Redstone Harley-Davidson. Purchase three (3) 2024 Harley-Davidson Electra Glide motorcycles. Police Department. \$86,573.73. **Resolution No. 24-253**
 7. Stivers Ford Lincoln. Purchase one (1) 2024 Ford F-550 Super Crew 4x2 Dual Rear Wheels Dump Truck. Parks and Recreation Department. \$68,307. **Resolution No. 24-254**
 - d. Cleveland Brothers, Inc. Reeves Townhomes. Accept various public utility and access easements and drainage and utility easements. Property located at 1287 Ogletree Road. **Resolution No. 24-255**
 - e. Update Personnel Policies. **Resolution No. 24-256**
9. **ORDINANCES.**
- a. John and Annie Torbert. 5.03 acres. Property located at 5035 Sandhill Road. Unanimous consent necessary. Planning Commission recommendation. **Ordinance No. 3522**

City Manager Crouch said this ordinance annexes 5.03 acres.

Councilmember Coblenz introduced the ordinance.

City Manager Crouch read the ordinance by title.

Councilmember Coblenz moved that unanimous consent be granted to consider the ordinance on its first reading.

Councilmember Dawson 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: Griswold, Moreman, Parsons, Taylor, Witten, Adams, Coblentz, Dawson, and Mayor Anders. Voting no: None.
Mayor Anders declared the ordinance adopted.

Ordinance No. 3522

- b. City Code amendment. Article II (Flood Damage Prevention), Chapter 7. Unanimous consent necessary.

City Manager Crouch said this ordinance amends Article II (Flood Damage Prevention), Chapter 7, of the Auburn City Code.

Councilmember Coblentz denied unanimous consent.

Mayor Anders said the item would be considered at the December 3 Council meeting.

10. RESOLUTIONS.

- a. Conditional use approvals. Planning Commission recommendations. Public hearings required.
 - 1. Beehive Lot 5. Commercial support uses (contractor storage yard, mini-warehouse, warehouse, and wholesale distributors). Property located at 3101 Hive Commerce Parkway.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution authorizes conditional use approval for commercial support uses). She added that a public hearing was required.

Mayor Anders opened the public hearing.

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

Councilmember Dawson moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilmember Parsons seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 24-257

- 2. Cherokee Rd MUD Townhomes. The applicant is requesting conditional use approval of an 8-unit multi-family development. The property is located at the terminus of Cherokee road in the Development District Housing (DDH) zone.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution authorizes conditional use approval for a multi-family development. She added that a public hearing was required.

Councilmember Griswold moved to postpone the item to the December 3, 2024, Council meeting.

Mayor Anders seconded, and all members voted aye.

Mayor Anders declared the item postponed to December 3, 2024.

- 3. Mises Institute. Commercial and entertainment use (Hotel with a banquet/meeting room). Property located at 126 Ann Street.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution authorizes conditional use approval for a commercial and entertainment use. She added that a public hearing was required.

Mayor Anders opened the public hearing.

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

Councilmembers Witten and Griswold asked questions about the project.

Planning Director Justice Wahid Cotton answered the questions.

Councilmember Witten moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilmember Parsons seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 24-258

- b. Contract. D & J Enterprises, Inc. Full Depth Reclamation Project. \$3,394,838.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution authorizes the city manager to execute a contract with D & J Enterprises, Inc.

Councilmember Griswold asked for an explanation of full depth reclamation.

Engineering Services Director Alison Frazier explained the process.

Councilmember Parsons moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilmember Witten seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 24-259

- c. Vacation. Orange-Auburn III, LLC. Heart of Auburn. Property located at 329 S. College Street. Public hearing required.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution assents to the vacation of a lighting and utility panel easement located at 369 South College Street. She added that a public hearing was required.

Mayor Anders opened the public hearing.

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

Councilmember Griswold asked what benefit the vacation has for the city.

Engineering Services Director Alison Frazier answered the question.

Councilmember Witten moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilmember Coblenz seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 24-260

- d. Tax Abatement. Nashville Wire Products Manufacturing Company, LLC. Auburn Industrial Park.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution approves a tax abatement for Nashville Wire Products Manufacturing Company, LLC.

Councilmember Coblenz moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilmember Parsons seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 24-261

11. OTHER BUSINESS.

None.

12. CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM.

Mayor Anders and Councilmember Witten made statements about the recent eagles' nest removal by Hughston Homes.

Susan Bolt (1188 East University Drive) spoke about short-term rentals.

Steven Dixon (916 Bibb Avenue) spoke about the eagles' nest.

Carolyn Carr (342 Payne Street) spoke about parking at Dean Road Recreation Center on Election Day.

Jason Haynie (134 Grazia Way) spoke about the eagles' nest.

Rhonda Jackson (1515 VFW Road) read a statement about Item 9b.

Michael Simmons (1978 Wire Road) spoke about the eagles' nest.

Nolan Torbert (4123 Creekwater Crossing) thanked the City Councilmembers for their work.

Sarah Collins (875 Cahaba Drive) asked what the City is doing to provide affordable housing.

John Cochran (878 Cherokee Road) thanked the Council for postponing item 10a2 and suggested extending timelines for public hearing notices.

John Benz (2330 Lee Road 137) spoke about growth and development in Auburn.

Stephen McGentry (58189 US Hwy 431, city not provided) spoke about various topics.

Councilmember Taylor spoke about affordable housing.

Councilmember Coblentz said there will be more discussion and clarification on Item 9b at the next council meeting and he thanked Mayor Anders and Councilmember Witten for all their efforts with the eagles' nest.

Councilmember Witten asked for information about city options regarding the eagles' nest removal.

City Manager Crouch said the permit for removal of the eagles' nest is a federal permit and the City has no legal authority over that matter. She said one of the city attorneys could speak about revocation of business licenses as allowed in the business license ordinance but noted that revocation is only allowed under very limited terms.

City Attorney Paul Clark spoke about the City's business license ordinance and the terms it allows for revocation of a business license.

The Council asked questions about the business license ordinance and Mr. Clark answered the questions.

Councilmember Taylor said she is not a thief and just because someone disagrees with how she voted on an issue that does not make her a thief.

Councilmember Dawson said he is disappointed that Ms. Bolt attacked his character during her comments.

Councilmember Parsons said he is not a thief either and is happy with the short-term rental ordinance.

Mayor Anders said he is grateful for the passion of the community and wished all a Happy Thanksgiving.

13. **ADJOURNMENT.**

Councilmember Witten moved that the meeting be adjourned.
Councilmember Parsons seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Manager