

The City Council of the City of Auburn, Alabama, met in regular session on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 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.

Councilmember Moreman thanked City staff and volunteers for the Love My Block effort in Ward 5 and said the Library is hosting a Star Wars Imperial Gala on May 1.

5. **AUBURN UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS.**

AU SGA Assistant Vice President of External Affairs Jack McMurray updated the Council about events at Auburn University.

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

None.

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

a. Board vacancy announcement. Board of Zoning Adjustment. Unexpired term begins immediately and ends January 20, 2026. Appointment May 20, 2025.

City Manager Crouch announced a vacancy for an unexpired term on the Board of Zoning Adjustment.

8. **CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA.**

City Manager Crouch asked if any items should be removed from the consent agenda for discussion. She reminded the Council that item 8b4 was removed from the agenda on the advice of legal counsel.

Councilmember Griswold removed item 8b2.

Councilmember Adams moved that the items on the consent agenda be adopted.

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

Mayor Anders declared the consent agenda approved.

- a. Minutes. April 1, 2025. **APPROVED**
- b. Contracts and agreements.
  - 1. Kellis Vegetation Management, Inc. Agricultural chemical spraying at Parks and Recreation facilities. \$152,896.07. **Resolution No. 25-070**
  - 2. Toter, LLC. Purchase 1,248 ninety-six gallon roll-out garbage carts. \$73,776.

This item was removed from the consent agenda.

- 3. WDE Officials Association. 2025 Spring and Fall baseball/softball officials. \$104,500. **Resolution No. 25-072**
- 4. Joseph Wilkinson. Real estate purchase agreement for N. College Street easement.

This item was removed from the agenda prior to the meeting on the advice of legal counsel.

- c. Board appointments.
  - 1. Board of Education. One (1) position. Term begins June 1, 2025, and ends May 31, 2030. **Resolution No. 25-073**
  - 2. Historic Preservation Commission. Two (2) vacancies. Terms begin April 21, 2025, and end April 20, 2028. **Resolution No. 25-074**
- b. Contracts and agreements.
  - 2. Toter, LLC. Purchase 1,248 ninety-six gallon roll-out garbage carts. \$73,776.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution authorizes the City Manager to execute a contract with Toter, LLC.

Councilmember Griswold asked questions about garbage carts.

Environmental Services Director Catrina Cook answered the questions.

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. 25-071**

## 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.

Councilmember Parsons introduced the ordinance.  
City Manager Crouch read the ordinance by title.  
Councilmember Parsons moved that unanimous consent be granted to consider the ordinance on its first reading.  
Councilmember Adams 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: Coblenz, Dawson, Griswold, Moreman, Parsons, Taylor, Witten, Adams, and Mayor Anders. Voting no: None.  
Mayor Anders declared the ordinance adopted.

**Ordinance No. 3533**

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 for the City of Auburn and emphasized that these are not new taxes but simply renewals of current taxes.

Councilmember Witten introduced the ordinance.  
City Manager Crouch read the ordinance by title.  
Councilmember Witten moved that unanimous consent be granted to consider the ordinance on its first reading.  
Councilmember Parsons 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: Dawson, Griswold, Moreman, Parsons, Taylor, Witten, Adams, Coblenz, and Mayor Anders. Voting no: None.  
Mayor Anders declared the ordinance adopted.

**Ordinance No. 3534**

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 for the City of Auburn and emphasized that these are not new taxes but simply renewals of current taxes.

Councilmember Parsons introduced the ordinance.  
City Manager Crouch read the ordinance by title.  
Councilmember Parsons moved that unanimous consent be granted to consider the ordinance on its first reading.  
Councilmember 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: Griswold, Moreman, Parsons, Taylor, Witten, Adams, Coblentz, Dawson, and Mayor Anders. Voting no: None.  
Mayor Anders declared the ordinance adopted.

**Ordinance No. 3535**

- b. Annexation. Mitchell Farms 2 Annexation. Approximately 210.88 acres. Lee Road 146 (Moores Mill Road), approximately 0.5 miles east of Society Hill Road. Planning Commission recommendation. Unanimous consent necessary.

City Manager Crouch said this ordinance annexes approximately 210.88 acres.

Councilmember Coblentz introduced the ordinance.

City Manager Crouch read the ordinance by title.

Councilmember Coblentz 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. 3536**

- c. Rezoning. Spring Creek Estates. Approximately 1.11 acres from NC-20 to NC-14. Property located at 615 S. College Street. Planning Commission recommendation. Unanimous consent necessary. Public hearing required. **Ordinance No. 3537**

City Manager Crouch said this ordinance rezones approximately 1.11 acres from NC-20 to NC-14. She added that a public hearing was required.

Councilmember Parsons introduced the ordinance.

City Manager Crouch read the ordinance by title.

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

Councilmember Witten 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.

Mayor Anders opened the public hearing.

The following individuals spoke in opposition to the rezoning:

- Viena Katainen (550 S. Gay Street)
- Cori Reynolds (733 S. College Street)
- Charlie McCurry (802 S. College Street)
- Paul Schrantz (563 S. College Street)

Hayes Eiford of the Samford Group (2449 Moores Mill Road, Suite 120) spoke on behalf of the applicant and said he was available to answer questions from the Council.

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

The Council asked questions about the item.

City Manager Crouch and relevant staff answered the questions.

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

**10. RESOLUTIONS.**

a. Conditional use approval. Planning Commission recommendations. Public hearings required.

1. Boulevard Phase 8. Performance residential use (multiple use development). Property located at the terminus of Gidden Street.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution authorizes conditional use approval a performance residential use (multiple use development). 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 Parsons moved that the resolution be adopted.  
Councilmember Adams seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.  
Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION No. 25-075**

2. Grand Junction. Performance residential use (multiple unit development). Property located at 1027 E. Glenn Avenue.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution authorizes conditional use approval a performance residential use (multiple use development). 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 Parsons moved that the resolution be adopted.  
Councilmember Adams seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.  
Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION No. 25-076**

b. Tax abatement. 2a USA, Inc. 2410 W. Tech Lane.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution authorizes a tax abatement for 2a USA, Inc.

Councilmember Parsons moved that the resolution be adopted.  
Councilmember Adams seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.  
Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION No. 25-077**

- c. Vacation. Sanitary Sewer Easement/Drainage and Utility Easement. GAAL OWNER, LLC. The Graduate Hotel. Property located at 212 W. Magnolia Ave. Public hearing required.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution assents to the vacation of a portion of the 15' sanitary sewer easement and 10' drainage and utility easement located at 212 W. Magnolia Avenue. 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 Coblenz moved that the resolution be adopted.

Councilmember Adams seconded the motion, and the followings members voted aye: Adams, Coblenz, Dawson, Griswold, Moreman, Parsons, Taylor, and Witten. Voting no: none.

Abstaining: Mayor Anders.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION No. 25-078**

- d. CompPlan 2030. 5-year updates. Text changes for every chapter. Future Land Use Plan Amendments. Public hearing recommended. Postponed from January 23, 2025.

City Manager Crouch reminded Councilmembers that they initially postponed consideration of this request to update the CompPlan at the December 17, 2024, meeting to the meeting scheduled for January 21, 2025. Due to an ice/snowstorm, the January 21 meeting was moved to January 23. During that meeting, Councilperson Parsons made a motion for approval and Mayor Pro Tem Witten seconded the motion. A public hearing was opened and closed. After the public hearing, Councilperson Parsons moved to amend the item to remove Growth Changes #5 and #6. Mayor Pro Tem Witten seconded the motion, and all members voted aye. City Manager Crouch said the Council is now considering the approval of the CompPlan 2030 update, as amended by the removal of Growth Changes #5 and #6. Additional amendments by City Council members are in order if so desired and a public hearing is recommended.

Councilmember Dawson moved to amend Growth Change #7 to leave all parcels proposed to be Interstate Commercial as Office Park/Commercial and Industrial Support.

Councilperson Parsons seconded the motion, and all members voted aye to amend the resolution.

Mayor Anders declared the motion carried.

Councilmember Dawson moved to amend Growth Change #3 to leave the areas proposed to be residential as Rural.

Councilperson Parsons seconded the motion, and all members voted aye to amend the resolution.

Mayor Anders declared the motion carried.

Councilmember Griswold moved to amend the text on page 41 to strike the first sentence of the fourth paragraph that reads, "As the population grows, there will be a need to maintain the diversity of the Police Department."

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

Mayor Anders declared the motion failed.

Upon the vote for approval of the resolution, as amended, all members voted aye.

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted, as amended.

**RESOLUTION No. 25-079**

**11. OTHER BUSINESS.**

None.

**12. CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM.**

Beverly Adcock (1960 Lee Road 137, Auburn) spoke about the P.E.I.R. (People Engaged in Recovery) program and said they are here to support the community with substance use disorders.

Robert Wilkins (261 Denson Drive) spoke about the short-term rental ordinance and Council salaries.

Debra Beale (802 Tullahoma Drive) spoke about the Library, Parks and Recreation senior programs and the new pickleball courts.

**13. ADJOURNMENT.**

Councilmember Coblenz moved that the meeting be adjourned.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 PM.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Manager