

The City Council of the City of Auburn, Alabama, met in regular session on Tuesday, July 22, 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, Kelley Griswold, Sonny Moreman, Bob Parsons, Connie Taylor, Beth Witten, and Mayor Ron Anders. Absent: Tommy Dawson. 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 Griswold said that Councilmember Dawson asked him to express his support and thanks to the APD in solving the recent double-homicide and offered his appreciation for the task force that helped bring the case to a close.

Councilmember Coblenz recognized the Auburn 11U baseball team for winning the USSSA Rec Baseball All-Star World Series.

5. **AUBURN UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS.**

AU SGA Executive Vice President of Outreach Vera Smith T updated the Council about events at Auburn University.

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

Robert Wilkins (261 Denson Drive) spoke in favor of the item increasing the salaries of city councilmembers.

Susan Bolt (1188 East University Drive) spoke in favor of the item increasing the salaries of city councilmembers.

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.

Councilmember Parsons removed item 8f from the consent agenda.

Councilmember Griswold removed item 8c from the consent agenda.

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

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

Mayor Anders declared the consent agenda approved.

- a. Minutes. July 8, 2025. **APPROVED**
- b. Alcohol beverage licenses.
 1. Petra Acra Lutrotes, LLC d/b/a Beignets and Brew. 040 – Retail Beer (On or Off Premises) and 060 – Retail Table Wine (On or Off Premises). 147 North College Street. **APPROVED**
 2. Singh62, Inc. d/b/a Tandoori Flame Pizza. 040 – Retail Beer (On or Off Premises). 196 North Donahue Drive. **APPROVED**
- c. Restructure Housing Rehabilitation Loan. Dorothy Conway. Property located at 1137 Wrights Mill Road.

This item was removed from the consent agenda.

- d. Easements.
 1. Alabama Alpha Mu Fraternal Association. Accept public sanitary sewer easements. 550 West Magnolia Avenue. **Resolution No. 25-140**
 2. Cleveland Brothers, Inc. Accept various public drainage and utility easements. Redivision of Lot 1-A, Woodson-Brentwood Subdivision. 2625 Hamilton Road. **Resolution No. 25-141**
- e. Board appointments.
 1. Greenspace Advisory Board. Two (2) positions. Terms begin August 8, 2025, and end August 7, 2029. **Resolution No. 25-142 (James Brady & John Whitworth)**
 2. Planning Commission. Two (2) positions. Unexpired terms begin immediately and end July 31, 2026, and July 31, 2028. **Resolution No. 25-143 (Vanessa Echols & Jenifer Lovvorn)**
- f. City Council and Mayor Pro Tempore salary increase. Effective November 1, 2026.

This item was removed from the consent agenda.

- c. Restructure Housing Rehabilitation Loan. Dorothy Conway. Property located at 1137 Wrights Mill Road.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution restructures a housing rehabilitation loan.

Councilmember Griswold asked questions about the loan.

City Manager Crouch and Community Services Director Al Davis 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. 25-139

- f. City Council and Mayor Pro Tempore salary increase. Effective November 1, 2026.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution increases the salary for the City Council and Mayor Pro Tempore effective at the start of the next Council term which begins November 2026.

Councilmember Parsons provided a summary of the previous discussions on the salary increase.

Councilmember Griswold said he does not support the increase and noted that Councilmember Dawson was also not in favor of an increase.

Councilmember Cobelntz moved that the resolution be adopted.
Mayor Anders seconded the motion, and the following members voted aye: Adams, Coblentz, Moreman, Parsons, Taylor, Witten, and Mayor Anders. Voting no: Griswold.
Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 25-144

9. ORDINANCES.

None.

10. RESOLUTIONS.

- a. Conditional use approvals. Planning Commission recommendations. Public hearings required.
 1. Grand Junction Event Space. Commercial and entertainment use (event space as a component of a mixed-use development). Property located at 1027 East Glenn Avenue.

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

Councilmember Witten moved that the resolution be adopted.
Councilmember Adams seconded the motion.

Councilmember Adams asked questions about the item.

City Manager Crouch and Planning Director Justice Wahid Cotton answered the questions.

Councilmember Adams moved that the resolution be postponed to the August 19 Council Meeting.
Councilmember Parsons seconded the motion, and all members voted aye.
Mayor Anders declared the resolution postponed to the August 19, 2025, Council Meeting.

City Manager Crouch said the public hearing will be held on August 19, 2025.

2. Interlude Auburn. Performance residential development (multiple-unit development). Property located at 1397 North Dean Road.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution authorizes conditional use approval for a performance residential 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.

Councilmembers asked questions about the item.

City Manager Crouch and Planning Director Justice Wahid Cotton answered the questions.

Councilmember Witten moved that the resolution be adopted.

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

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 25-145

- b. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan/2025 Annual Action Plan.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution approves the CDBG 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan/2025 Annual Action Plan.

Councilmembers asked questions.

City Manager Crouch and Community Services Director Al Davis answered the questions.

Councilmember Parsons moved that the resolution be adopted.

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

Mayor Anders declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 25-146

- c. Tax Abatement. Korea Fuel Tech America, Inc. 272 Technology Parkway.

City Manager Crouch said this resolution authorizes a tax abatement for Korea Fuel Tech America, Inc.

Mayor Anders asked for information on this tax abatement and others recently authorized.

Economic Development Director Phillip Dunlap spoke about industry expansions.

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. 25-147

11. OTHER BUSINESS.

None.

12. CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM.

Regina Ware (601 Lee Road 202, Salem, AL) spoke about her experience with homelessness and in support of the City's CDBG programs.

Joe Davis (311 Lancaster Avenue) spoke about outreach programs at Auburn United Methodist Church and in support of the City's CDBG programs.

Kathy Molnar (2080 Estate Drive) spoke about outreach programs at Auburn United Methodist Church and in support of the City's CDBG programs.

Johnnie Dowdell (1216 Combs Avenue) thanked the Council for addressing her concerns on Martin Luther King Drive.

Susan Bolt (1188 East University Drive) spoke about the short-term rental ordinance.

Linda Dewitt (1139 East Magnolia Drive) asked questions about recent federal law enforcement operations locally.

Doris Spinks (400 Richland Road) asked for information on having speed bumps placed on her road.

Robert Wilkins (261 Denson Drive) spoke about public records requests.

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

Harriett Huggins (631 South Dean Road) read an article from the Bitter Southerner about libraries.

Sarah Collins (875 Cahaba Drive) spoke in support of the library.

Cathleen Giustino (1203 Hickory Lane) asked questions about recent federal law enforcement operations locally.

Mayor Anders asked about how the city can help Ms. Spinks with her traffic concerns.

City Manager Crouch said the city is looking into her request and working to enforce speeds on her road.

Mayor Anders asked for follow-up on the recent federal law enforcement operations.

Police Chief Cedric Anderson addressed the ongoing federal criminal investigation and related multi-jurisdictional operation that took place in Auburn and several Alabama counties recently.

Councilmember Parsons addressed Ms. Shamp's comments.

Councilmember Moreman said the City Council does not ban books and added that he does believe some material should be in age-appropriate areas of the library.

Councilmember Parsons asked questions about new legislation that puts new requirements on libraries.

Library Director Cynthia Ledbetter answered the questions.

Councilmember Taylor asked questions about traffic patterns on Richland Road.

City Manager Crouch answered the questions.

13. ADJOURNMENT.

Councilperson Coblenz moved that the meeting be adjourned.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Manager