

**City of Aurora, Ohio**  
**CITY COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 10, 2020**

The Council of the City of Aurora, Ohio met in Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, February 10, 2020 the purpose, a regular public meeting. Council President George Horvat called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Reva Barner  
Kathi Grandillo  
Harold Hatridge  
George Horvat  
John Kudley, Jr.  
James Vaca  
Scott Wolf

Absent: Amy Eckard  
Dennis Kovach

Also Present: Ann Womer Benjamin, Mayor  
Dean DePiero, Law Director  
Tim Clymer, Finance Director  
Brian Byard, Police Chief  
Karen Pope, Director of Personnel/Chief of Staff  
Laura Holman, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Denise Januska, Director of Planning, Zoning and Building  
Harry Stark, Director of Public Services  
Donna Hawks, Clerk of Council  
April Secura, Deputy Clerk of Council

**Reconsider a Prior Action**

Mr. Vaca said the five streetlights he proposed on SR43 from the 900 block to the 1000 block on the hill, were previously denied. He would like the budget amended to include them. He said he would like a line item included in the 2021 budget, in good faith for a trail at Picnic Lake Park.

**MOTION: To reconsider Ord. 2019-214, 2020 Annual Budget**

Mr. Vaca moved; Mr. Kudley seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Clymer said he is not sure, there are funds available and that they may have to pull them from another project. He said as far as creating a line item for 2021; he explained that Council does not approve the projected amounts for five years into the future; they only approved the 2020 budgeted amounts.

Mr. Vaca said he would go along with the \$25,000. He said only four lights may be needed.

**MOTION: To amend the budget by adding \$25,000 for streetlights on SR43**

Mr. Vaca moved; Mr. Kudley seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

Mayor Womer Benjamin said she told Mr. Vaca the budget is very tight and she will look and see if there is something that money is not used for she will do the lights. She said there is no line item and every line item is for very specific purposes. She said the Rainy Day Fund is specifically should there be an economic downturn. She said there is no money for Picnic Lake Park this year. She said she would include it in the budget next year. She said she would work with Mr. Vaca on lights and their location. She said she has committed and on the path for Picnic Lake Park.

Mr. Vaca said it is time to look into the safety of the residents who use SR43. He said Safety Committee discussed the lights 10 years ago.

Mr. Clymer said the appropriate spot for the funds to come from would be Fund 40.

**MOTION: To approve Ord. 2019-214 as amended.**

Mr. Kudley moved; Mr. Vaca seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

**Consideration of Minutes**

**MOTION: Approval of the January 27, 2020 regular meeting minutes**

Minutes not approved, will be done at the February 27 meeting.

**Mary Kidd, Executive Director, Community Focus**

Ms. Kidd introduced herself and briefly discussed what is now available online and on TV.

Mayor Womer Benjamin presented proclamations to the Big Bad Brick Builders Robotics Team from Leighton Elementary on their recent accomplishments; and to Ms. April Secura and Ms. Marty Sickinger of the League of Women Voters in recognition of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the League of Women Voters.

**Executive Session to Discuss Compensation of Pending Litigation**

**MOTION: That Council enter into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G) (3) to discuss pending litigation**

Mr. Kudley moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

Council entered into executive session at 8:00 p.m.

**MOTION: To return to open session**

Mr. Kudley moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

Council returned to open session at 8:22 p.m.

**Mayor's Report**

(Attached)

Mayor Womer Benjamin said the State of the City Luncheon is Wednesday. She said the City is adding an additional shred day this year.

Mayor Womer Benjamin provided a brief recap of those she met with and functions that she attended since the last meeting of Council.

### **Law Director's Report**

(Attached)

Mr. DePiero stated that Council has received the Law Department's Annual Report and if they have any question to reach out.

### **Council President's Report**

(Attached)

### **MOTION: To amend the agenda by adding Ordinance 2020-009**

Ms. Grandillo moved; Mr. Wolf seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

### **Citizens Comments - Legislation**

Ms. Deb Conti, S. Chillicothe Road, commented on Ord. 2019-190 & 2019-191 – she said she is still concerned on how the city will implement and enforce them. She said she does not want to see the city hiring additional employees.

### **Councilman Remarks - Legislation**

Mr. Vaca commented on Ord. 2019-190 – he said he wants to make sure it is utilized and there is no use putting something into effect if it will not be enforced. He said he would like to add to it later on. Ord. 2019-191 – he said he approves of the amendment.

### **Legislation**

#### **Ordinance 2019-190**

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 1317 "PROPERTY MAINTENANCE STANDARDS" OF AURORA'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES

### **MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2019-190**

Ms. Grandillo moved; Mr. Wolf seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

#### **Ordinance 2019-191**

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 1319 "RENTAL REGISTRATION" OF AURORA'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES

### **MOTION: Amend by adding under Definitions (4) "Immediate Family" as provided by the Law Department**

Mr. Vaca moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

### **MOTION: Amend by adding under Registration Requirements (7) regarding immediate family as provided by the Law Department**

Mr. Vaca moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

### **MOTION: To adopt Ord. 2019-191 as amended**

Mr. Vaca moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

**Ordinance 2020-004**

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A TAX ABATEMENT TO AUBURN LAND CO., LTD (ROBECK FLUID POWER CO.) FOR A 100%, 15 YEAR ABATEMENT OF REAL PROPERTY TAXES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CITY'S COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA KNOWN AS CRA I AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE

**MOTION: To adopt Ord. 2019-004**

Mr. Grandillo moved; Mr. Wolf seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, Vaca, Wolf  
NAYS: None

**Ordinance 2020-005**

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING FOR DEDICATION THE WATER LINES, SANITARY SEWER LINES, AND THE ROADWAY FOR BELJON LANE AND CARA COURT, WHICH ARE PART OF THE BELJON PHASE 1 SUBDIVISION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER FOR THE CITY TO BEGIN MAINTAINING THE LINES AND THE ROADWAY

To third reading.

**Ordinance 2020-009**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2020 CHEVROLET TAHOE FROM GANLEY CHEVROLET FOR USE BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, AT A COST OF \$36,276.00, WHICH IS THROUGH THE STATE BID LIST, LESS THE TRADE IN ALLOWANCE OF \$8,500.00 FOR (1) 2012 CHEVROLET TAHOE CURRENTLY OWNED BY THE CITY, FOR A NET COST OF \$27,776.00, TAKING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (#60) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO PURCHASE THE VEHICLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO HAVE IT PROPERLY EQUIPPED WITH K-9 EQUIPMENT

**MOTION: To suspend the rule that requires an ordinance read on three separate occasions.**

Mr. Vaca moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

**MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2020-009**

Mr. Vaca moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, Wolf  
NAYS: None

**Citizens Comments**

Ms. Deb Conti, S. Chillicothe Road, said she appreciates Mr. Clymer answering her questions regarding the NDS. She asked if the city puts a lien on the property to guarantee the sale back. She asked what the average of payback is with the loans.

Mr. Clymer said city places a lien on the home. He said the percentage paid back has to do with the value of the property.

**Council member and Committee Remarks**

Mr. Council thanked Council for their support on his amendment to the budget. He said two streets are off the street survey list.

**Committee Assignment Revision**

**MOTION: To approve Mr. Kudley as Library Board Liaison and Ms. Eckard as Council**

**Representative to the Treasury Investment Board.**

Mr. Vaca moved; Mr. Hatridge seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Horvat announced that Ms. Eckard has resigned from her at Large position on City Council effective March 1, 2020.

**Adjournment**

**MOTION: To adjourn**

Mr. Vaca moved; Mr. Hatridge seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

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George Horvat, Council President

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Donna Hawks, Clerk of Council