

# Aurora City Council Minutes

Aurora City Hall  
City Council Chambers  
2 W. Pleasant  
Aurora, Missouri

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 - 6 P.M.

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

## 2. PRAYER AND PLEDGE

Doyle Ferguson led the Council in prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 3. ROLL CALL

Mayor Jason Lewis – Present  
Chairman Pro Tem Dawn Oplinger - Present  
Councilman Doyle Ferguson - Present  
Councilwoman Theresa Pettit - Present  
Councilman Tony Kennedy - Present

## 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

A citizen desiring to speak on an item not on the agenda may do so at this time. Each citizen is limited to three minutes and the Council will not take action or discuss items at this time. Discussion should be limited to matters of City business and public comment is not permitted in regard to personnel matters or on pending legal matters. Items introduced under "Public Comment" may become agenda items at a later date.

Michele Parbury with GRO spoke to council regarding the \$3700 they received from the City of Aurora to use toward fees in the GRO program. She stated that they decided to not continue that program and take matters into their own hands. Asked council if they would like to put the money to use as council sees fit or would they let GRO use for what they see fit such as a Campaign for good things that are happening around the town. Councilwoman Pettit suggested maybe they bring a proposal. Add to the agenda for the next council meeting.

## 5. COUNCIL FORUM

Council Forum provides an opportunity for Council Members to share information with the rest of the Council regarding communications with constituents, meetings attended, request items to be put on the agenda, make requests of staff, or direct questions to staff regarding issues that are not on the agenda.

Chairman Pro Tem Oplinger shared that she attended the Park Master Plan meeting that was held on Tuesday January 18,2022.

Councilwoman Pettit also attended the Park Master Plan meeting, GRO Meeting and had no Southwest Solid Waste meeting.

Councilman Kennedy also attended the Park Master Plan meeting.

Mayor Lewis attended the Southwest Regional Economic Development Roundtable

meeting in Republic, MO and had great discussions.  
Attended the Lawrence County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Meeting in Mt Vernon, MO and had meeting with our Insurance Representative.  
Also attended the Park Master Plan meeting held on Tuesday January 18, 2022.

## **6. CONSENT AGENDA**

Items listed on the 'Consent Agenda' are considered routine and shall be enacted by one motion of the City Council with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired by a member of the Council, that item will be removed from the 'Consent Agenda' and placed on the regular agenda as a final item under 'New Business'.

### **6.I Approval Of Minutes - City Council Regular Session January 11, 2022**

### **6.II January 2022 Appropriations**

Chairman Pro Tem Oplinger made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following Council members voting aye:

AYE: Lewis, Oplinger, Ferguson, Pettit, Kennedy

NAYE:

ABSTAIN:

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

### **7.I Resolution 2022-1832 Aurora Personnel Manual Revisions-Employment Definition**

First discussed on 01/11/2022 City Council meeting – Tabled by Council at that time for legal review by City Attorney. Ken stated nothing to change.

Chairman Pro Tem Oplinger made a motion to approve the Resolution 2022-1832 Aurora Personnel Manual Revisions-Employment Definitions. Councilwoman Pettit seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Lewis, Oplinger, Ferguson, Pettit, Kennedy

NAYES:

ABSTAIN:

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **8.I Oath of Office For New Police Officers and Pinning**

New Police Officer Carold Roberts Jr. was sworn in by City Clerk Kamy Kulow.

### **8.II First Reading – Bill No. 2022-3245 – FY2021 Budget Amendment**

City Manager Jon Holmes addressed Council with an explanation of the differences and the need for a budget amendment.

Councilman Ferguson made a motion to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2022-3245. Mayor Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following Council members voting aye:

AYES: Lewis, Oplinger, Ferguson, Pettit, Kennedy  
NAYES:  
ABSTAIN:

### **8.III Second Reading – Bill No. 2022-3245 – FY2021 Budget Amendment**

Chairman Pro Tem Oplinger made a motion to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance 2022-3245. Councilwoman Pettit seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following Council members voting aye:

AYE: Lewis, Oplinger, Ferguson, Pettit, Kennedy  
NAYE:  
ABSTAIN:

## **9. STAFF REPORTS/ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS**

### **9.I Board Liaison Reports**

Mayor Lewis Went to the hospital board meeting and said they have an open seat on the hospital board.

### **9.II City Manager Report**

City Manager Jon Holmes stated that the School signed the agreement on Saturday and now has two School Resource Officers and the School District is very excited.

Full City Manager Report attached.

## **10. CLOSED SESSION**

*Pursuant to RSMo 610.021*

*1) Legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving public government body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys.*

*(3) Hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded. However, any vote on a final decision, when taken by a public governmental body, to hire, fire, promote or discipline an employee of a public governmental body shall be made available with a record of how each member voted to the public within seventy-two hours of the close of the meeting where such action occurs; provided, however, that any employee so affected shall be entitled to prompt notice of such decision during the seventy-two-hour period before such decision is made available to the public. As used in this subdivision, the term "personal information" means information relating to the performance or merit of individual employees;*

Councilman Ferguson made a motion to move into Closed Session at 6:42 p.m.  
Councilman Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following Council members voting aye:

AYES: Lewis, Oplinger, Ferguson, Pettit, Kennedy  
NAYES:  
ABSTAIN:

Councilwoman Pettit made a motion to move out of Closed Session at 7:52 p.m.  
Councilman Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following Council members voting aye:

AYES: Lewis, Oplinger, Ferguson, Pettit, Kennedy

NAYES:

ABSTAIN:

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilwoman Pettit made a motion to adjourn, time noted 7:52 p.m. Councilman Ferguson the motion. Motion passed with the following Council members voting aye:

AYE: Lewis, Oplinger, Ferguson, Pettit, Kennedy

NAYE:

ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:

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Jason Lewis, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kamy Kulow, City Clerk

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**To:** Mayor Lewis & Aurora City Council  
**From:** Jon Holmes, City Manager, City of Aurora  
**Re:** City Manager Report  
**Date:** 01/25/2022

### **Dept. Items**

#### **Police**

- Full Time Animal Control Officer has been hired and will start on the 24<sup>th</sup>
- COVID continues to work through the PD
- School District approved the SRO Agreement
- Flooring – Previously Discussed – Being installed starting next week

#### **Fire**

- Bay Lighting issues in Station 2 – Retrofitting with LED lights.

#### **Street & Cemetery**

- Liberty Tree trimming
- Culvert and Ditch cleanup in several areas around town
- Street evaluations being conducted for street maintenance this coming season
- Brush Pickup last week
- Cleaning up alleyways and grading/filling potholes as needed

#### **Park**

- Liberty Tree Trimming
- Dog Park – Staff installing water lines.
- Mulch Playground Areas in Parks
- Continuing to work on ADA upgrades from the list that we received from Jane Earnhart

#### **Stormwater**

- Engineers are moving forward with the design work for the culvert work for the crossing at the WWTP. When the design is complete, we will be working toward putting that out to bid and bringing that bid to Council for approval.

#### **Wastewater**

- K&B is waiting for construction supplies to begin work on line replacement

- WW Staff continuing routine cleaning and checking of sewer lines throughout town
- SRF Work is continuing. WWTP Rehabilitation Project: \$4M upgrade - \$2M will be grant funded and the remaining \$2M will be debt through SRF funding.

### **Admin. & Finance**

- Economic Development Report – see separate update
- Chamber Banquet Rescheduled for the spring
- Two-Factor Authentication for City email – Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> that will initiate
- Requests for Proposal/Requests for Qualifications for FY2022
  - **Architect and Engineering Design Services** – Recreation Center – Pending
  - **City Welcome/Monument Sign** – Sent out
  - **Energy Audit RFQ** – Sent out.
  - **City Hall Repairs** – Completed next week
  - **Columbarium** – Completed by month end
- The Aurora School District offered some used iPads if we could use them. We plan on integrating them into our concession stand at the pool and there are a few other areas where they would be beneficial.
- Finance Office Staff have begun year-end work and audit preparation work. Auditors will be here beginning February 2<sup>nd</sup> and plan to be wrapped up by March 4<sup>th</sup>. We will receive the auditor's report in April and it will be presented at the first Council meeting in April by the auditor.
- ARPA Funding Meeting – will be setting to discuss items and how the Council would like us to move forward

### **Human Resources Notes:**

- Updating all employees' personnel files and contact information
- Updating employees DL Reports
- Dept. Head Evaluations – Bringing to Council beginning next few Council meeting

### **Community Development**

- Comp Plan Committee Meeting – January 20<sup>th</sup>

### **Meetings/Events Attended:**

- Regional Economic Development Roundtable – Republic, January 13<sup>th</sup>
- Lawrence County Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting – January 13<sup>th</sup>
- Aurora Hospital Board Meeting – January 13<sup>th</sup>
- Phone Service Meeting – 17<sup>th</sup>
- Park Master Plan Public Community Meeting – January 18<sup>th</sup>
- Comprehensive Plan Meeting – January 20<sup>th</sup>
- Meeting with Heather regarding Health Insurance items – January 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

### **Upcoming Meetings and Events Attending**

- Chamber of Commerce Meeting – January 26<sup>th</sup>
- ***\*Council\* Council Work session – Recreation Center Budget and Financing Discussion – January 31<sup>st</sup>***
- First Friday City/Community Update – Garden Exchange Drive Thru & Event Center - February 4<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 AM
- ***\*Council\* Council Work session – Health Insurance Discussion – February 15<sup>th</sup>***

### **Tentative Upcoming Agenda Items:**

- ARPA Funding Work Session – TBD
- Recreation Center Informational Public Meeting – TBD
- Hospital Board/Council Joint Meeting – TBD