

"Improving the quality of life for Aurora"

AURORA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES *Aurora City Hall, Council Chambers* *Monday, June 9th, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.*

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Marks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. PLEDGE AND PRAYER:

Doris Colwell led the council in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL: Mayor David L. Marks

Councilman Steve Ramirez

Chairman Pro Tem Linda Barton

Councilwoman Lisa Rentfro

Councilwoman Rosemary Henderson

All members were noted present except Councilman Ramirez.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Session held on May 28th at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Pro Tem Barton moved to approve the minutes as submitted from the regular session held on May 28th at 7:00 p.m. Councilwoman Henderson seconded the motion. Motion passed with all members voting aye.

AYE: Henderson, Marks, Rentfro, Barton

NAYES: 0

V. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS for June

Councilwoman Henderson moved to approve the appropriations for June as submitted. Councilwoman Rentfro seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Rentfro, Henderson, Marks

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: Barton (had an invoice in the list)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Heidi Ryan

Heidi Ryan stated that at the last council meeting the Mayor during the Council Forum stated that he had been thinking of charging people for coming in and discussing things with the City Manager or the City Clerk. Ms. Ryan stated the citizens already pay for those services in the form of taxes they pay

She stated government can't do everything without the people's help. Government is founded on being open and transparent. Denying civil liberties and constitutional rights could cause serious issues that this city does not need.

People are encouraged to be active on boards and committees, to have a say, to vote, to help the community, bring innovative ways to get Aurora to be a thriving community again.

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City hall is open to everyone, at any time, for any reason. Taxpayers should be able to talk with anyone in city hall as often as they like. So Mayor I hope that you were talking about this more out of frustration of getting to know the system and not actually pursuing this.

Linda Hull

Linda Hull and Tina Lindeman came to council wanting to renew their contract for fall soccer. They had attended the last park board meeting and stated they felt there were issues they wanted to address. They were informed that they were only going to be able to use the one community field. During the spring session they were allowed to use all five fields. They play approximately 30 games a session and would not be able to do that on one field. Each age group plays on a different size field and being allowed to use one field was not acceptable. They are presently doing fall registrations and need to know if they are going to be allowed to continue using Aurora fields. They stated that the park board president asked them not to state they were going to use Aurora fields until the park board made that decision.

They felt there were 2 issues at hand:

1. They were told that it had been an overwhelming task on Donna's part to schedule both teams. Ms. Hall stated that she had personally worked with the YMCA and Donna to get the schedule worked out and it shouldn't be a big deal if everyone worked together.
2. Field painting. LCYSA was told that they were not to move the field goals unless Steve Woods was present. This did not work out. LCYSA recommended having the YMCA be responsible for painting all fields. This would alleviate the need for them to have to move the goals.

They were informed by Virginia Swaim, park board member that Aurora was not large enough for two teams. LCYSA thought the park board was trying to get rid of them. Ms. Hall stated that if Aurora did not want them to play in the city parks then council needed to inform them of that. This was one of the most successful years for LCYSA according to their number statistics. They had 18 teams all together seven of which were Aurora teams.

It was established that fields in Aurora and Mt. Vernon were used due to the fact that some of the other cities of their players did not have soccer fields.

Councilwoman Rentfro stated that soccer registration was held in June ever year and that LCYSA should have been on the Park Board's June Agenda to discuss their contract.

City Manager Randall substantiated that Ms. Hull had in fact attended the last park board meeting however; due to the fact that it was not on their agenda for discussion the park board was not able to discuss the matter or make any decisions.

VII. COUNCIL FORUM

Chairman Pro Tem Barton asked the Building Inspector if something was going to be done with the house on Olive and Harrison. Building Inspector White stated it was on his list.

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Councilwoman Rentfro stated that all the council, except the Mayor would be attending the Elected Officials Training session in Columbia, Missouri this week.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. *Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 2014-3002 making Ordinance No. 2014-3002 An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri, amending Title I "Government Code" Chapter 105 "Officers & Employees", Article I "General Provisions", Section 105.010 "Appointments of Officers" of the Municipal Code of Ordinances*

City Attorney Petrus established this changed will bring the city's code back into compliance with state regulations. 78.600 RSMo states the employees that the city council hires which did not include the building inspector. In addition, according to the form of government the city presently has council cannot take the authority of hiring and firing employees away from the City Manager. Parameters could be set by council asking to assist the City Manager in those areas but authority could not be taken away from the City Manager.

City Manager Randall stated that when he was interviewed for the position he stated to council that he would work closely with council before any controversial decisions would be made.

Councilwoman Henderson moved to approve the second and final reading of Bill No. 2014-3002 which will now be known as Ordinance No. 2014-3002.

Councilwoman Rentfro seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye on the motion:

AYES: Barton, Henderson, Marks, Rentfro

NAYES: 0

- B. *Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 2014-3003 making Ordinance No. 2014-3003 An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri amending Title I "Government Code", Chapter 130 "Personnel", Article IV "Personnel Policies", Division 3 "Recruitment, Selection, Placement", Section 130.260 "Nepotism" of the Municipal Code of Ordinances*

Chairman Pro Tem Barton moved to approve the second and final reading of Bill No. 2014-3003 which will now be known as Ordinance No. 2014-3003.

Councilwoman Henderson seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Rentfro, Henderson, Marks, Barton

NAYES: 0

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. *Resolution No. 2014-1344 A Resolution of the City of Aurora authorizing a moving agreement with Kevin Fairchild*

The Fire Department had an agreement with the previous owner of the property to mow the property in exchange for being allowed to store equipment on the property. The property has now changed ownership and the fire department is requesting the same agreement with the new owner.

Chairman Pro Tem Barton moved to approve Resolution No. 2014-1344.

Councilwoman Rentfro seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye on the motion:

AYES: Marks, Barton, Rentfro, Henderson

NAYES: 0

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B. *Resolution No. 2014-1345*

A Resolution of the City of Aurora, Missouri authorizing a demolition contract to Hillhouse Services

Building Board of Appeals previously ordered the demolition of six properties. Bids were put out for the demolition of these homes. Hillhouse Services was the lowest bid on all houses except one. Staff recommended one contractor to do the work instead of using multiple contractors.

Chairman Pro Tem Barton moved to approve Resolution No. 2014-1345 awarding Hillhouse Services the demolition bid. Councilwoman Henderson seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Barton, Henderson, Rentfro, Marks

NAYES: 0

X. **REPORTS**

A. *Board Liaison Reports*

Park Board

The board is pursuing solar lighting options for the walking trail in White Park. There will be a 5 k run this Saturday in Crosby Park. Bids will be opened on June 23rd for the White Park Trail. Preparations are underway to do a bid for the replacement of the basketball court in Oak Park.

Theresa Pettit, Park Board President stated that LCYSA had attended their last meeting. However; due to the fact that the soccer contract was not on the agenda the board was unable to discuss the matter with them. The board gave them plenty of time to discuss their issue and they were not cut short of time. They were advised not to use Aurora as a play location until the board was able to make a decision. The board did not want players misinformed if the contract was not approved.

Councilwoman Rentfro stated that if the park board has ever accepted a state grants that puts you under federal guidelines and the board can't deny anyone from using the parks.

Theresa stated a meeting would be set up to discuss the matter. She will copy everyone on the meeting date.

B. *City Attorney Report*

City Attorney Petrus reported that a Supreme Court Ruling has ruled prayer before a council meeting is appropriate.

C. *City Manager Report*

City Manager Randall reported on the following items:

- The Police Department has two new employees.
- Today a car backed into a police vehicle.
- Public Works has started picking up limbs from the previous storm damage.

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- Culverts and ditches are being cleaned. Some low level areas need to be evaluated and the city needs to make some improvements in those areas.
- Public Works has ordered 4 large signs to mark the way to Baldwin Park. This was done in anticipation of future events.
- The Fire Department assessed recent storm damage and reported straight line winds came through our area leaving significant property damage in some areas.
- Several fire department employees are attending summer fire school.
- The deadline has passed for Radio Shack to get a building permit to repair the property. This deadline was assessed by the Building Board of Appeals. The property owner will be referred to Municipal Court.

XI. QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Regina Payne

Regina Payne asked do we not have officers assigned to Marionville. Officers are constantly running up and down old Hwy 60. Deputy Chief Earnest replied that Marionville is down an officer and so is Aurora.

Councilwoman Rentfro stated Marionville wanted their officers in left in their own town. The city only has a mutual aid agreement with them not a merger.

Mayor Marks asked how this information was known. Doris Colwell said because everyone has a scanner. Heidi Ryan stated this is one of the reasons she comes to city hall to talk about whether the city will continue its mutual aid agreement. If they aren't there is a time frame in which Marionville needs to be notified. If we are going to continue the city needs to decide how much they want from Marionville's budget in order to continue the agreement.

Eddie Breeding

Eddie asked if the city still regulated grass height. He felt Elliott and Locust needed to be looked at. The ordinance was changed from 10" to 7". He felt the mowing contract process needed to be cut down. It was taking too long for contracts to issued for mowing lots. They are almost beyond managing.

XII. Closed Session pursuant to 610.021 (1)

Legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives or it's attorney's.

Chairman Pro Tem Barton moved to go into Closed Session pursuant to 610.021 (1).

Time noted 8:20 p.m. Councilwoman Henderson seconded the motion. Motion passed by a roll call vote with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Marks, Barton, Henderson, Rentfro

NAYES: 0

Chairman Pro Tem Barton moved to come out of Closed Session pursuant to 610.021 (1) at approximately 8:34 p.m. Councilwoman Henderson seconded the motion. Motion passed by a roll call vote with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Marks, Barton, Henderson, Rentfro

NAYES: 0

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

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Chairman Pro Tem Barton moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Mayor Marks seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.

APPROVED:



David L. Marks, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kathie Needham, City Clerk, MMC/MPCC