

# Aurora City Council Meeting Minutes

Aurora City Hall  
City Council Chambers

2 W. Pleasant  
Aurora, Missouri

Tuesday, May 10, 2022 - 6 P.M.

5/10/2022 - Minutes

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

*Mayor Lewis called the meeting to order at 06:00 p.m.*

## 2. PRAYER AND PLEDGE

*Councilman Ferguson led the Council in prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.*

## 3. ROLL CALL

*Mayor Lewis - Present*

*Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy - Present*

*Councilwoman Oplinger - Present*

*Councilwoman Pettit - Present*

*Councilman Ferguson - Present*

## 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

*John Medlin addressed Council with concerns in his neighborhood. He has lived there for 41 years and for the last two years he has been harrassed by his neighbors. The neighbors are revving their engines on their cars, trucks and motorcycles all hours of the day and night. It is so loud that it shakes their walls and wakes him from his sleep. Police have been called multiple times regarding this situation but nothing has been resolved. They also park multiple vehicles in their front yard and blast their music so loud everyone can hear it and it has inappropriate language.*

## 5. COUNCIL FORUM

*Mayor Lewis attended the Planning and Zoning meeting, First Friday Coffee, Aurora Open House/Birthday Celebration, AFB Ribbon Cutting.*

*Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy attended the Aurora Open House/Birthday Celebration.*

*Councilwoman Oplinger attended the Chamber Board meeting, Aurora Open House/Birthday Celebration and the AFB Ribbon Cutting.*

*Councilwoman Pettit attended the Aurora Open House/Birthday Celebration and AFB Ribbon Cutting.*

Councilman Ferguson had nothing to report.

5.I. National Police Week Proclamation

Mayor Lewis read the Proclamation of Recognition for National Police Week declaring May 15, 2022 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and honoring Police Chief Wes Coatney, members of the Aurora Police Department and all other law enforcement officers in Lawrence County for the invaluable service they provide.

5.II. National Nurses Week Proclamation

Mayor Lewis read the Proclamation of Recognition for National Nurses Week May 6-12, 2022 honoring and showing appreciation to the nurses that selflessly serve the Aurora Community.

5.III. Discussion - Chamber Banquet Social Hour Request

Shannon Walker with the Aurora Chamber of Commerce addressed Council requesting a Social Hour at the Chamber Banquet on May 21, 2022 from 05:30 p.m. - 06:30 p.m. and dinner starting at 06:30 p.m. It will be in a separate, contained area.

Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to approve the Social Hour request. Councilwoman Pettit seconded the motion. Motion passed with votes documented as follows:

Mayor Lewis - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Ferguson - Aye

5.IV. Discussion - Come And Dine Information For 2022 Season

Barbara Wommack with Come and Dine addressed Council with an update. This is the 14th year for Come and Dine and they served 14,565 meals in 2021. With 2022 current state of the economy, she is looking to serve many more meals this year. She is estimating 16,000 meals costing an average of \$2.00 per meal making her need a total of \$32,000 to make that happen. She stated they have around \$7,000 right now but is short \$25,000 and asking for donations of any amount. All the proceeds helps out the Aurora Community for those in need for food.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion passed with votes documented as follows:

Mayor Lewis - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Ferguson - Aye

6.I. Approval Of Minutes-City Council Regular Session April 26, 2022

*See Consent Agenda*

6.II. April/May 2022 Appropriations

*See Consent Agenda*

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.I. Second Reading Of Ordinance 2022-3246 Amending Chapter 510 "Dangerous And Unsafe Structures"

*Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2022-3246 Amending Chapter 510 "Dangerous and Unsafe Structures". Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion passed with votes documented as follows:*

Mayor Lewis - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Ferguson - Aye

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.I. Oath Of Office And Pinning Of New Police Officer

*New Police Officer, Jordan Williams was sworn in by City Clerk, Kamy Kulow.*

8.II. Community Improvement District (CID) Discussion

*Cory Collins with Hush Blackwell, representative for the developer, addressed Council advising that the Community Improvement District (CID) would apply to the Lyla Corners and Silver Maple Estates developments that are currently in Tax Increment Financing programs. The sales tax within the CID would increase in order for the developer to more quickly recoup development costs. David Martin with Gilmore & Bell, the City's economic development counsel, attended via phone and advised that a 1% tax increase in the CID would help pay off the TIF sooner. He further advised that the City can require City staff members to sit on the CID board and can stipulate whether CID dollars run through the City prior to the developer receiving them. City Council advised Mr. Collins that if the developer should choose to move forward with an official request for the CID, they would review and consider an official proposal.*

8.III. Discussion - Create Here

*James Pettit and Shannon Walker addressed Council explaining what Create Here is. It is a community group that started originally in the GRO program. Revamped to meet the specific needs of Aurora and surrounding communities. Looking for people to start or grow into their own business in the Aurora community. Local businesses that have been here less than 3 years have given their experiences and knowledge to help in knowing the steps to get started, what to expect to help the Create Here group*

gain knowledge. They have made a resource guide to help get started.

8.IV. Special Event Application - Stompin' Out Hunger Color 5K Run/Walk

Carrie Howlett, Community Development Director and Assistant City Manager, addressed Council with a Special Event Application request from Sabra Durham with Harvest Church for September 10, 2022 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. It is a repeat event that happens every year. Same route as last year. Carrie spoke with Jason Jordan in the Street Department and Chief Coatney and neither have any concerns.

Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to approve the Special Event Application-Stompin' Out Hunger Color 5K Run/Walk. Councilwoman Pettit seconded the motion. Motion passed with votes documented as follows:

Mayor Lewis - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Ferguson - Aye

8.V. First Reading Of Ordinance 2022-3253-Amending Section 115.030 "Officer's Oath-Bond"

City Manager, Jon Holmes addressed Council about Amending Section 115.030 "Officer's Oath-Bond", stating that it hasn't been updated since 1996. The way purchases were made back then were by using store credit and getting invoiced once a month but since it has been streamlined and department heads have purchasing cards, it is much easier now to have receipts for everything that is bought at the time. By giving the department heads access to money, he feels they need to be bonded as well. Requesting the bond amounts go from and added as follows:

City Manager, Assistant City Manager, City Clerk, Treasurer, Collector from \$20k bond to \$50k bond

City Mayor from \$10k bond to \$25k bond

Add Department Heads and other City Staff as needed to \$50k bond

Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to approve First Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-3253 Amending Section 115.030 "Officer's Oath Bond". Mayor Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed with votes documented as follows:

Mayor Lewis - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Ferguson - Aye

8.VI. First Reading Of Ordinance 2022-3255 Minor Subdivision/Lot Split Request, LaSalle Property

Carrie Howlett, Community Development Director and Assistant City Manager, addressed Council

*requesting a Minor Subdivision Lot Split. Recommended approval by unanimous vote by the Planning and Zoning Commission at their meeting held Tuesday, May 3, 2022. Formal request made from Terry LaSalle, 230 W Prospect St. for a minor subdivision lot split that is about 6.8 acres that fronts Prospect at that address. Survey showing parcel separated into 4 tracks. Meets City Code and met all requirements. Staff recommendation is approval and Planning and Zoning had a unanimous recommendation.*

*Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to approve First Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-3255 Minor Subdivision/Lot Split Request, LaSalle Property. Councilwoman Pettit seconded the motion. Motion passed with votes documented as follows:*

Mayor Lewis - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Ferguson - Aye

8.VII. First Reading Of Ordinance 2022-3254 Adjusting Pool Fees

*Justin Janes, Parks and Recreation Director addressed Council with new pool rates and fees. Asked Council for any suggestions or guidance. Council agreed the price increase was needed and not to drastic.*

*Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy made a motion to approve First Reading of Ordinance 2022-3254 Adjusting Pool Fees. Councilman Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion approved with votes documented as follows:*

Mayor Lewis - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Ferguson - Aye

8.VIII. Destruction Of Records Request

*City Manager, Jon Holmes addressed Council explaining that this is something that is done on an annual basis under the Records Retention Act.*

*Councilman Ferguson made a motion to approve the Destruction of Records Request. Mayor Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed with votes documented as follows:*

Mayor Lewis - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Ferguson - Aye

8.IX. 2022 Asphalt Milling And Pavement Bid

*Jason Jordan, Public Works Superintendent addressed Council with the outcome of the Asphalt Bidding. Blevins Asphalt was the lowest bid out of all three bids that were brought in. He explained that no one made a bid on the Chip and Seal Bid.*

*Councilwoman Pettit made a motion to approve Resolution No 2022-1855 Asphalt Milling & Pavement Bid to Blevins Asphalt. Mayor Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed with votes documented as follows:*

Mayor Lewis - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Ferguson - Aye

8.X. Resolution 2022-1854 Appointing Membership To The Board Of Zoning Adjustment

*Carrie Howlett, Community Development Director and Assistant City Manager addressed Council with a reappointment application for the Board of Zoning Adjustment for Shannon Walker.*

*Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-1854 Appointing Membership to the Board of Zoning Adjustment. Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion passed with votes documented as follows:*

Mayor Lewis - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Ferguson - Aye

9. STAFF REPORTS/ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

*City Manager Report Attached*

*Economic/Community Development Report Attached*

*Chief Coatney addressed Council with an update of statistics for the police department. Compared to 2021, violent crimes are down 85% and traffic stops increased from 75-80 a month in 2021 to 150-200 in 2022.*

*Increase is due to full staffing and new equipment for the police officers.*

10. ADJOURNMENT

*Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to adjourn, time noted 07:37 p.m. Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion passed with votes documented as follows:*

Mayor Lewis - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Kennedy - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Ferguson - Aye

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