

	City Council Study Session Finance, Technology and Economic Development Special Focus Area May 8, 2023 - 5:30 PM City Hall Council Chambers MINUTES Watch the meeting LIVE! Watch the meeting video Meeting videos are not available until 72 hours after the meeting has concluded.
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I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Public Participation

The City Council Meeting was held in person and virtually.

B. Roll Call

Councilmembers present: Deputy Mayor James Jeyaraj, Bob Baggett, Kate Baldwin, Larry Brown, Robyn Mulenga, Cheryl Rakes, and Yolanda Trout-Manuel.

Department directors and staff members present include: City Attorney Kendra Comeau, Senior Staff City Attorney Harry Boesche, Chief of Police Mark Caillier, Utility Billing Services Manager Joan Nelson, Director of Community Development Jeff Tate, Economic Development Manager Jenn Francis, and City Clerk Shawn Campbell.

III. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

The King County Solid Waste RE+ Presentation was removed from the agenda.

A. Executive Session

Deputy Mayor Jeyaraj adjourned into an executive session at 5:33 p.m. per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss Litigation or legal risks of a proposed action or current practice that the agency has identified when public discussion of the litigation or legal risks is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency for 30 minutes. City Attorney Comeau, Special Appointed Legal Council Charlotte Archer, and Director Martinson were required to attend. There was no action after the executive session.

Deputy Mayor reconvened the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS, AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Waste Management 2022 Annual Report Presentation (Thomas) (20 Minutes)

Manager Nelson and Laura Mouser provided Council with an overview of the 2022 Waste Management Annual Report. Ms. Mouser reviewed the community activities Waste Management participates in. They discussed the Waste Management Litter Crew accomplishments, the Recycle Corps Intern Program, Waste Management Educational and Outreach with commercial customers, the Recycle Right Collection Events, amounts of garbage collected, recycling and compost collected in 2022, investments to the Waste Management Recycle Center, and Recycling Center virtual tours.

Council discussed the paid internship program, the amount of garbage collected, the virtual tours, the rules about plastic in recycling, the current Waste Management contract, and commercial composting,

V. AGENDA ITEMS FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION

A. Changing a Land Use Law (Tate) (20 Minutes)

An overview of what it takes to change a Land Use Law

Director Tate provided Council with an overview of what it takes to change Local Land Use Laws. He reviewed what a land use regulation consists of, the Federal and State laws that govern the Land Use laws, the process for changing a Land Use law, and samples of a change to the Code.

Council discussed the Comprehensive Plan updates, vacant buildings, river temperatures, and low impact development.

VI. FINANCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Economic Development Update - 1st Quarter 2023 (Tate) (15 Minutes)

An update on Economic Development Division activity

This portion of the meeting was Chaired by Councilmember Baldwin.

Manager Francis provided Council with an overview of the Economic Development First Quarter Update including an overview of the department, the Auburn Area Chamber of Commerce, marketing campaigns, business connect events, the Downtown Auburn Cooperative and a BIA update, downtown engagement, the Comprehensive Plan Update, business outreach meetings, tourism, Green River College Small Business Center, Good Neighbor Agreement meetings, presentation to the Women's Council of Realtors, preparation for 2023 Civics Academy, and upcoming topics for second quarter.

Council discussed the costs of the marketing campaigns, what brings people to Auburn from the marketing campaigns, vendors for tracking, and

metrics of economic activity.

B. Ordinance No. 6906 (Council)

An Ordinance amending Section 2.08.020 of the Auburn City Code related to the purpose of the City's Independent Salary Commission

Councilmember Baldwin provided a brief history of the process of the ad hoc committee. She provided Council with a overview of the changes proposed by Ordinance No. 6906.

Council discussed the Salary Commission's historical roll with benefits.

Deputy Mayor moved to suspend the Council Rules of Procedure, Rule No. 2.2C and Councilmember Baldwin seconded.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

Deputy Mayor moved to move Ordinance No. 6906 forward to the May 15, 2023, Council Meeting for a vote and Councilmember Baldwin seconded.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

Council Discussed the reason for making the updates to the Code.

City Clerk Campbell informed Council Section 3 of the Council Rules of Procedure states: The City Clerk shall then prepare a proposed agenda according to the order of business, for approval by the Mayor, or their designee. She added Mayor Backus has not approved any items being placed on the Council agenda for the May 15, 2023, Council Meeting. If the Council brings this item forward for action on May 15, 2023, the item will not be published on the Council Agenda in advance due to the Mayor's directive. This directive does not prevent the Council from proceeding with this motion tonight.

C. Ordinance No. 6907 Option A (Council)

An Ordinance relating to the Salary and Employment Benefits of the City Mayor Position, amending Auburn City Code Sections 2.03.020, 2.63.120 and 2.63.160, and providing (in a non-codified section) Employment Benefit Payment Terms for the current City Mayor

Councilmember Baldwin provided Council with the background for Ordinance No. 6907 option A and option B she reviewed the differences between the two options.

Council discussed the accumulation rates, current accumulation of Mayor Backus at this time, and vacation payouts, when the Mayor would be able to receive the payouts, history of the Code updates, implementation at the end of the current Mayor's term, relationships between the Mayor and Council, ensuring a fair and equitable outcome to both the taxpayer and the current Mayor, and ensuring respectful treatment.

Deputy Mayor moved to suspend the Council Rules of Procedure, Rule No. 2.2C and Councilmember Baldwin seconded.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

Deputy Mayor moved to move Ordinance No. 6907 Option B forward to the May 15, 2023, Council Meeting for a vote and Councilmember Trout-Manuel seconded.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-1. Councilmember Brown opposed.

City Clerk Campbell informed Council Section 3 of the Council Rules of Procedure states: The City Clerk shall then prepare a proposed agenda according to the order of business, for approval by the Mayor, or their designee. She added Mayor Backus has not approved any items being placed on the Council agenda for the May 15, 2023, Council Meeting. If the Council brings this item forward for action on May 15, 2023, the item will not be published on the Council Agenda in advance due to the Mayor's directive. This directive does not prevent the Council from proceeding with this motion tonight.

D. Ordinance No. 6907 Option B (Council)

An Ordinance relating to the Salary and Employment Benefits of the City Mayor Position, amending Auburn City Code Sections 2.03.020, 2.63.120 and 2.63.160, and providing (in a non-codified section) Employment Benefit Payment Terms for the current City Mayor

See Ordinance No. 6907 Option A.

E. Audience Participation

Virginia Haugen 2503 R ST SE Auburn 99001
Ms. Haugen expressed her concerns regarding the action taken.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

APPROVED this 5th day of June, 2023.


JAMES JEVARAJ, DEPUTY MAYOR


Shawn Campbell, City Clerk

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at the City Clerk's Office.