



**City Council
Study Session
Municipal Services Special Focus Area
October 13, 2025 - 5:30 PM
City Hall Council Chambers**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Cheryl Rakes called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Auburn City Hall, 25 West Main Street.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Study Session Meeting was held in person and virtually.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present: Deputy Mayor Cheryl Rakes, Hanan Amer, Lisa Stirgus, Tracy Taylor, Clinton Taylor, and Yolanda Trout-Manuel. Councilmember Kate Baldwin arrived at 5:32 p.m.

Mayor Nancy Backus and the following staff members present included: City Attorney Jason Whalen, Assistant Chief of Police Samuel Betz, Director of Community Development Jason Krum, Director of Public Works Ingrid Gaub, Director of Parks, Arts, and Recreation Julie Krueger, Recreation Manager Kevin Witte, Recreation Program Coordinator Monique Hokett, and City Clerk Shawn Campbell.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There were no modifications made to the agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS, AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Auburn Area Connect Chamber of Commerce Council Update (Krum) (10 Minutes)

A presentation to update on events, connections made, and impact made on the community

Executive Director Kacie Bray of the Auburn Area Connect Chamber of Commerce, provided Council with an update on their 2025 Recap including the economic development contract, business connect events, Auburn Area Connects Spotlight awards, ribbon cuttings, golf tournament, ways they are

connecting the Auburn brand, and the new website.

Council discussed the Leadership Institute, success measurements, coordinating with City updates, events promoted, website tracking, collaborating with the City on City-sponsored events, tourism, business retention, Chamber engagement, and Downtown Area in connection with the Chamber.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Teen Programming through Auburn Parks, Arts, & Recreation (Krueger) (15 minutes)

Director Kruger, Manager Witte, and Coordinator Hokett provided Council with a presentation on the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Teen Programs, including the after-school program, transportation to the Recreation Center, community partnerships, Late Night program, teen programs, youth sports program, and staffing.

Council discussed scholarships for events, school partnerships, communications from schools, retention rates, AmeriCorp staffing, busses from West Auburn High School, input from participants, program wishlist, teen takeover, number of teens the faculty could service daily, volunteer staff, teen summer jobs, connection between the Senior Center and the teen center, donations, and needed supplies.

B. 2023-2025 Crime Statistics Update (Caillier) (15 Minutes)

Assistant Chief Betz provided Council with an update on the 2023-2025 Crime Statistics including calls for service, the reporting districts, crime types by district year to date, regional comparison data, average daily population of SCORE, booking by agencies, juvenile crime, shooting incidents in 2025, use of technology, and staffing.

Council discussed the CRT Team, crime reporting, notices of criminals in the area, juvenile crime, decrease in statistics, speeding and street racing, text messages to 911, response times and crime by district. Areas that Council wanted additional information on are time spent on active crime, shooting incidents in 2024 and 2023, and incorporating stats in the Municipal Services SFA Meetings.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION

A. 2026 VRFA Fee Schedule Presentation (Krum) (10 Minutes)

Tim Day, VRFA Deputy Chief, and Mark Horaski, VRFA Chief Financial Officer, provided Council with an overview of the 2026 Valley Regional Fire Authority

(VRFA) Fee Schedule, including the statutory basis for fees, the calculation framework, the incident data, the asset list, development growth, existing asset cost basis, capital improvement plan, future assist cost basis, fee schedule scaling, residential scaling, proposed change to the fee schedule, and the comparison study.

Council discussed the impact on affordable housing, the impact on individual builders, the reduced tax levy on existing taxpayers, billing, and levy dollars.

B. Resolution No. 5860 (Whalen) (15 Minutes)

A Resolution amending the City of Auburn Fee Schedule to adjust for 2026 Fees

Directors Krum, Krueger, and Gaub provided Council with an overview of Resolution No. 5860 including the attempt to have a cost recovery model, and proposed changes to the fee schedule.

Council discussed driving range fees, Traffic Impact Fees, downtown land use fees, and World Cup preparations.

C. Ordinance No. 6995 (Krum) (10 Minutes)

An Ordinance continuing the moratorium enacted on May 10, 2025, pursuant to Ordinance No. 6978 and as amended by Ordinance No. 6995 on the acceptance, processing, and/or approval of applications for building and land use development for Energy Storage System facilities (ESS) proposed to be located in any zone within the City of Auburn

Director Krum and Manager Teague provided Council with an overview of Ordinance No. 6995 including a background of the moratorium, requested extension on the extension of the moratorium, and the proposed timeline.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

APPROVED this 3rd day of November 2025.

CHERYL RAKES, DEPUTY MAYOR

Shawn Campbell, City Clerk