

**Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting of the Aurora City Council**  
**City/Town Government Center**  
**Tuesday, October 1, 2019**  
**5:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mayor Gregor, Councilors Worshek, Cromley, and Lakso

ABSENT: Councilor Jofs

ALSO PRESENT: Becky Lammi, Aurora City Administrator; Mike Kearney, Aurora City Attorney; Wayne Thuringer, Aurora Public Works Director; Paula Chapman, Aurora Public Library

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Gregor at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to approve the remaining consent agenda items:**

- 5. Approval of Minutes –** Regular City of Aurora Council Meeting – September 3, 2019  
Special Meeting of City of Aurora Council – September 9, 2019  
Special Meeting of City of Aurora Council – September 16, 2019  
Working Session of City of Aurora – September 17, 2019
- 6. Approval of Receipts –** September 2019 – \$271,857.88
- 7. Approval for Payment –** Disbursements for September 2019 – \$109,794.83  
Payroll for September 2019 – \$59,973.66
- 8. Correspondence –** MN DNR – Sealing of Old Observation Well on City Property.  
St. Louis County Sheriff’s Office – US Census Bureau’s New Construction Program.  
NPC Litigation – Class Action Notice.
- 12. Community Comments –** 06/06/2019 – Conditions of the roads in the Cemetery.  
Resolution: Public Works has forwarded the complaint to the Cemetery Board.  
06/07/2019 – Blight concerns on W 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N.  
Resolution: East Range Police Department has forwarded the property information to Public Works.  
06/09/2019 – Blight concerns on 222 W 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave N.  
Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.  
06/10/2019 – Dead tree on boulevard on N 3<sup>rd</sup> St W.  
Resolution: Public Works will look at removal in the near future.  
06/19/2019 – Potholes on 2<sup>nd</sup> St E.  
Resolution: Public Works has requested the contractor fills the potholes.  
06/21/2019 – Blight concerns on 209 S 3<sup>rd</sup> St W.  
Resolution: East Range Police Department has addressed the concern.  
07/02/2019 – Blight concerns on 20 E 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave N.

Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/02/2019 – Blight concerns on 200 block of W 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.

Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/02/2019 – Blight concern on in alley on 200 block between W 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave and W 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.

Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/05/2019 – Blight concern at 312 S. Main St.

Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/19/2019 – Pot holes between 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave W and 4<sup>th</sup> Ave W, and 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S.

Resolution: Public Works has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/22/2019 – Road repair at 324 S 1<sup>st</sup> St E.

Resolution: Public Works has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/23/2019 – Blight concern in backyards between Arrowhead and Summit.

Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/25/2019 – Blight concern at 321 W 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave N.

Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/26/2019 – Road concerns on W 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N.

Resolution: Public Works has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/29/2019 – Blight concern in backyards between Arrowhead and Summit – 2<sup>nd</sup> form.

Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

08/20/2019 – Blight concern on 709 Summit Street.

Resolution: City Council has received the complaint.

08/22/2019 – Blight concern on 318 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave N.

Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

08/22/2019 – Blight concern on 321 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave N.

Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

09/13/2019 – Blight concern 200 S 6<sup>th</sup> St E.

Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

09/20/2019 – Blight concern on 20 Erie St.

Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

**13. Reports from Boards  
and Commissions –**

Aurora Library Board – August 22, 2019

East Range Joint Powers Board – August 27, 2019

Aurora Volunteer Fire Department – September 11, 2019

Aurora Library Board – September 19, 2019

**Motion carried unanimously.**

AMERICAN BANK OF THE NORTH	790.20
AMERICHEM	2,806.00
AMPTEK INC.	477.00
APG MEDIA OF MN	203.42
AT&T MOBILITY	162.60
BAKER & TAYLOR BOOKS	496.36
BENCHMARK ENGINEERING, INC.	170.00
BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF MN	118.70
BOLTON & MENK, INC.	14,212.50
BRADACH LUMBER	229.89
C.W. DIRTWORKS	2,235.00
CARQUEST AURORA	357.06-V
CHRIS VREELAND	201.18
CINTAS	77.76
CITY OF HOYT LAKES	350.00
CLOQUET RIVER PRESS	25.00
COLDSPRING MEMORIAL	98.00
COLOSIMO, PATCHIN, KEARNEY	2,095.00
CORE & MAIN LP	271.11
CULLIGAN OF NORTHEAST MINNESOT	79.00
CW TECHNOLOGY	2,344.31
EAST RANGE POLICE DEPT	33,364.95
FRONTIER	749.82
GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	56.70
GUARDIAN PEST SOLUTIONS INC.	35.00
HAWKINS INC.	6,161.16
JEREMY TYNJALA	15.77
K & K CLEANING	595.00
L & M - VIRGINIA	220.94-V
LAKESHORE LEARNING MATERIALS	31.34
LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITES	30.00
LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES	55.00
LEAGUE OF MN CITIES	1,941.00

MACQUEEN EMERGENCY GROUP	1,202.69
MAIL FINANCE	217.80
MCMASTER-CARR SUPPLY CO.	205.64
MENARDS - VIRGINIA	480.04
MESABI EAST SCHOOLS - ISD 2711	6,358.23
METRO SALES	454.25
MIDWEST TAPE	58.15
MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCES	34.45
MINNESOTA POWER	7,724.61
MINNESOTA TELECOMMUNICATIONS	349.80
MITEL	172.72
MN RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION	255.00
MTI DISTRIBUTING INC.	136.28
NEO SOLUTIONS INC.	787.50
PETTY CASH	136.11
PONTEM SOFTWARE	776.00
PORTABLE JOHN	255.00
PRAXAIR DISTRIBUTION INC.	109.66
RANGE OFFICE SUPPLY	208.07
RANGE PAPER	120.08
RED TOP CONSTRUCTION LLC	75.00
RICKS BOBCAT SERVICE	850.00
RMB ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORIES	1,335.00
SCHOOL SPECIALTY	124.75
SERVICE SOLUTIONS INC	56.00
SHARON GRESLEY	61.12
SHRED RIGHT	15.00
THE CONTROL COMPANY	480.00
TOMAHAWK FORD	14,073.28
U.S. POSTAL SERVICE (NEOPOST)	250.00
USA BLUE BOOK	75.90
VERIZON	15.64
VERIZON WIRELESS	35.01

VINNY'S TRUCKING	1,300.00
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ZIEGLER INC.	261.63
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#### APPEARANCES / PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Gregor moved 17.1 on the agenda accommodate timing needs.

17.1

Mr. Mugge reviewed the proposal to extend the current contract for 5 years past its current date.

**Moved by Worshek Supported by Cromley to direct City Administrator Lammi and City Attorney Kearney to write up a continuance of the current contract, to be brought to the next council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### REPORT FROM STAFF MEMBERS

Jan Moore, Spruce Up Aurora –

Thank you to everyone who donated this year. This year they had a lot of deer eating the City's flowers, but the flowers still get many compliments from community members and visitors.

Paula Chapman, Library Director –

September was National Library Card Sign-up Month! 15 people signed up for a new library card, and 10 people renewed an expired library card at the Aurora Public Library during the month of September. The Aurora Friends of the Library will hold their popular Fall Fundraiser Books & Media Sale at the library during regular library hours on Thursday, October 17; Friday, October 18; and Monday, October 21. The sale will feature hundreds of hardback and paperback books and movies for children, teens, and adults, as well as magazines, movies, and some audio books and music CD's. All items are priced by donation. The Friends are also offering a couple of Fundraiser specials. Throughout this year's event, they are offering an Aurora Public Library bag for \$15 and it can be filled once for free. On Monday, all remaining items will be offered for \$2/bag—either library bag or grocery-sized bag. Last month's Autumn Landscape Painting workshop was a hit; all 17 spaces were filled. This month, on Friday, October 25 at 10:00 am, artist Jen Anfinson will be holding an introduction to leather-working workshop. Participants will have the opportunity to make their own leather bracelet. Anyone interested should contact the library to reserve a place. 19 adults came to hear Minnesota mystery writer Allen Esken's story "I'm Not Supposed To Be Here: My Implausible Journey to Becoming a Writer" last month, and comments were positive. This month, on Tuesday, October 29 at 6:00 pm, Minnesota author Mark Munger will visit the Aurora Public Library to give a presentation about his Finnish American trilogy. The Aurora Friends of the Library are hosting his visit. The Aurora Public Library book group will meet again on Thursday, October 24 at 6:00 pm. Readers of all ages are invited to come talk about what they have been reading lately and leave with a list of suggestions from others.

#### REPORT FROM COUNCILORS

Councilor Worshek –

Union negotiations – there has been one meeting so far, where they all came together once to share ideas. There is also a concerning number of logs at the old Cina School. Chief Cromley indicated this could be a fire hazard.

**Moved by Worshek supported by Lakso to direct City Administrator Lammi to send a letter to the property owners in regard to the logs. Motion carried unanimously.**

Councilor Cromley –

The Fire Department is participating in Pumpkin Fest on October 12<sup>th</sup>. The Fire Department needs new members. His appreciation goes to Wayne's crew, who did a great job over the summer. He wants everyone to remember that snowplowing is a difficult job.

Councilor Lakso –

Councilor Lakso has noticed that people have been leaving garbage at the recycling center, he asks that people please bring their garbage to the transfer station. He's also noticed that cars have been speeding too much in town, particularly on 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue East to Iron Gate.

#### REPORT FROM MAYOR GREGOR

Mayor's monthly report will be going in the East Range Shopper. There will be a soccer game on the new field on Wednesday, and the football game will be played on the new field on Friday.

#### OLD BUSINESS

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to have the Joint Labor Management Safety Committee look at options for the secondary/exit door for council chambers. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Gregor supported by Worshek to direct City Administrator Lammi and City Attorney Kearney to revise Blight Ordinance 85 90.02 (B), (D), and (E). Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Cromley supported by Lakso to approve the Committee Policy. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Lakso supported by Worshek to approve the Concern Form Policy and Procedure. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to assign Administrator Evaluation Group as Councilor Lakso, Mayor Gregor, and Union Representative. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Gregor supported by Worshek to approve utility write off for parcel no. 100-0030-01500, 100-0077-00410, 100-0030-01640, 100-0075-00030, and 100-0030-00380. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### NEW BUSINESS

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to approve Resolution 2019-17 purchase of St. Louis County Public Works crack sealing in the amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Cromley supported by Lakso to approve the League of Minnesota Cities 2020 membership dues. Motion carried unanimously.**

No action taken on radio advertisement request for Pumpkin Fest.

**Moved by Worshek supported by Lakso to appoint a Utility Committee as follows: Public Works Director Thuringer, City Administrator Lammi, and Councilor Jofs. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to direct City Administrator Lammi, along with Mayor Gregor, to speak with IRRRB about the requirements for a drainage plan in the industrial park/school area. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to approve Resolution 2019-15 establishing an escrow/trust fund for a certain percentage of insurance proceeds for fire damaged property according to Minnesota Statute 65A. Motion carried unanimously.**

Next meeting, Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

**Moved by Worshek supported by Lakso to adjourn the meeting.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

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Doug Gregor, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Becky Lammi, City Administrator