



MAYOR
Richard E. Roquemore

CITY ADMINISTRATOR
Michael E. Parks

CITY COUNCIL
Robert L. Vogel, III
Taylor Sisk
Jamie L. Bradley
Josh Rowan

**CITY OF AUBURN
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
February 15, 2024
6:00 PM
Council Chambers
1361 Fourth Avenue
Auburn, GA 30011**

Mayor: Richard Roquemore
Council Member: Bob Vogel-Absent
Council Member: Taylor Sisk
Council Member: Jamie Bradley
Council Member: Josh Rowan

City Staff in Attendance: Michael Parks, Chief Hodge, Joyce Brown, Staci Waters, Officer Roberts, Jack Wilson.

Mayor Roquemore called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Mayor Roquemore acknowledged and welcomed Scout Troup #750 who were all in attendance for the meeting.

Mayor Roquemore said before we begin Chief Hodge would like to recognize one of his Officers.

Chief Hodge stated that he would like to take a few moments before the meeting to give recognition to **Officer Roberts** for saving a young lady's life. Chief asked **Officer Roberts** to come up to the podium. Chief said that he was visited on Monday by a young lady who wanted to tell him a story of how one of our Officers basically saved her life and changed her life. Chief read a synopsis of what happened and what **Officer Roberts** did. Chief stated he wanted to recognize **Officer Roberts** for the Superior Job he did that night in saving that person's life. Chief said on December 6, 2023 approximately 1953 hours, **Officer Roberts** responded to a problem unknown, to a threat of suicide. Basically, for whatever reason a young lady decided to take her own life as some way to escape the pain she was going through, and she did so by sticking a very large knife into her abdomen. **Officer Roberts** was first on the scene and ironically is the only Officer we have that is also a certified EMT. So those of you who do not believe in divine providence take it for what it is worth. **Officer Roberts** immediately addressed the situation by putting a quick clot into the wound. The wound was at least 5 to 6 inches deep. Chief asked **Officer Roberts** how wide he thought it was. **Officer Roberts** responded about 3 inches wide. Unknown to her she was bleeding profusely. Having not done what he did she would have lost her life. So, he was able to bind up the wound and make it safe, make the scene safe for EMS to then be called. It took them 3 to 5 minutes to get there. So, in that time there would have been a catastrophic result of this young lady's life had **Officer Roberts** not stepped in and done what he did. Thank you, Mayor & Council, for allowing me to tell this story and recognize **Officer Roberts** for the job that he did that night. Chief thanked **Officer Roberts**. Everyone clapped. Chief stated that there would be a letter of accommodation put in **Officer Roberts** personnel file. And Chief said no, it doesn't come with a raise. Everyone laughed.

WORK SESSION

Item: **Citizen Comments on Agenda Items**

Mayor Roquemore stated that they would like to move Citizen Comments to the end of the meeting so that citizens can have the benefit of hearing the presentations and discussion on these items. Mayor asked if there are any objections from Council.

Mayor Roquemore said, hearing none, we will have citizen comments at the end of the meeting.

Item: **Commercial Vehicle Ordinance 17.100.050**

Chief Hodge presented.

-for discussion only

Item: **Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement**

Chief Hodge presented.

-placed on March 7, 2024 Council Business Agenda

Item: **Republic Services**

Michael Parks presented.

-for discussion only

ITEMS FOR VOTING

Item: **Ordinance #24-002 to amend the City Charter-Section 2.19 (a) regarding the meeting dates of the Mayor and City Council**

Jack Wilson presented.

Mayor Roquemore asked for a motion to approve Ordinance #24-002 to amend the City Charter as presented.

Motion: Made by **Council Member Sisk** to approve Ordinance #24-002 to amend the City Charter as presented.

Seconded: By **Council Member Bradley**.

Mayor Roquemore asked for any discussion. There was none.

Vote was taken with all members present voting yes.

Item: **Dewatering the RWSP PR15 MOU**

Michael Parks presented.

Mayor Roquemore asked for a motion to approve Dewatering the RWSP PR15 MOU based on staff's recommendation.

Motion: Made by **Council Member Rowan** to approve Dewatering the RWSP PR15 MOU based on staff's recommendation.

Seconded: By **Council Member Sisk**.

Mayor Roquemore asked for any discussion. There was none.

Vote was taken with all members present voting yes.

Item: **Citizen Comments on Agenda Items (3 Minutes Per Speaker)**

Mayor Roquemore asked for any Citizen Comments on tonight's agenda items.

Charles Sewell, 287 Park Place, Auburn, Georgia 30011 commented on Agenda Item #2 Commercial Vehicle Ordinance 17.100.050. Mr. Sewell said that in the 1990's the Zoning Commission was asked to review the ordinance and modify. Stated that the Board Members did research: contacted various vending institutions, mortgage companies, banks, and realtors to find out the effects of commercial vehicles in residential areas. Almost unanimously, not just in the Atlanta area but throughout the state, so-called commercial vehicles bring down the value of the property. Also, you find that there will be a proliferation of vehicles. Once a certain vehicle is allowed, more and more tend to come in, which clearly brings down the value of the home. Mr. Sewell gave an example of how one man's commercial vehicle raised the property value. He stated this is not valid reasoning. But at the time we limited vehicles to a maximum weight. An example of a dump truck with 2 axles could carry a tremendous amount of weight. A 2 ½ ton box truck could come in every night loaded. Not only from the weight but there is also the possibility of hazardous materials in that truck. It could be a danger to the neighborhood: leakage, explosion, fire, etc. Most subdivisions that were built in the 80's have sub-standard streets. They were never built to required standards and some of them, most of them, were adopted basically out of necessity. I know my subdivision.

Attorney, Jack Wilson, let Mayor and Council know that Mr. Sewell had been speaking for 3 minutes.

Mayor Roquemore told Mr. Sewell to go ahead and finish.

Charles Sewell responded that he would finish up. Mr. Sewell stated that rather than describing vehicles as commercial vehicles, set it by weight limits. He said set your limit by the size of the vehicle by weight limit and protect our streets. He said most of these streets have not been paved in years, they are still sub-standard. The defense is that they need their truck because they don't have a vehicle. If they don't have a vehicle, they can't get to any other job that does require them the truck either.

Item: **Executive Session – Pending Litigation, Potential Litigation, and Personnel Matters**

Mayor Roquemore stated that tonight we have a need for an executive session to discuss pending litigation, potential litigation, and personnel matters.

Mayor Roquemore asked for a motion to go into Executive Session as allowed under the Open Meetings Act.

Motion: Made by **Council Member Bradley** to go into Executive Session as allowed under the Open Meetings Act.

Seconded: By **Council Member Rowan**.

Mayor Roquemore asked for any discussion. There was none.

Vote was taken with all members present voting yes.

Jack Wilson: “ During Executive Session the Council met to discuss pending litigation, potential litigation, and personnel matters. There were no votes taken and no evidence received in the Executive Session. The original affidavit and resolution have been signed and I will give them to the clerk to be included in the minutes.

ADJOURNMENT: **Mayor Roquemore** asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Made by **Council Member Sisk** to adjourn.

Seconded: By **Council Member Bradley**.

Mayor Roquemore asked for any discussion. There was none.

Vote was taken with all members present voting yes. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Brown, City Clerk

Read and approved this ____ day of March 2024

Mayor Richard E. Roquemore