



**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 22, 2024  
6:00 PM  
Auburn Municipal Complex Council Chambers  
1 Auburn Way, Auburn, GA 30011**

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

City Staff in Attendance: Michael Parks, Chief Hodge, Joyce Brown, Iris Akridge, Josh Campbell, Staci Waters, Jack Wilson.

Also in Attendance: Bel Outwater with the Auburn Public Library

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

**Mayor Roquemore** said that before we get started tonight, Michael Parks, City Administrator, would like to make a presentation.

**Michael Parks** asked Joyce Brown, City Clerk, to come forward. Michael announced that tomorrow will be Joyce Brown's last day with the City. **Michael Parks** on behalf of the City recognized Joyce Brown for her unwavering dedication and over 16 years of exceptional service to the City of Auburn. Joyce was presented with a beautiful vase of flowers and a plaque. **Michael Parks** on behalf of the City also wished her the best of luck going forward.

**ITEMS FOR VOTING**

Item: **Appoint Interim City Clerk**

**Michael Parks** presented.

**Mayor Roquemore** stated that since our current City Clerk is leaving us, we need to appoint an Interim City Clerk.

**Mayor Roquemore** asked for a motion to approve appointing Michael Parks as Interim City Clerk until that position is filled.

Motion: Made by **Council Member Bradley** to approve appointing Michael Parks as Interim City Clerk until that position is filled.

Seconded: By **Council Member Rowan**.

**Mayor Roquemore** asked for any discussion. There was none.

Vote was taken with all members present voting yes.

Item: **WaterFirst Memorandum Of Agreement (MOA)**

**Iris Akridge** presented.

**Mayor Roquemore** asked for a motion to approve WaterFirst Memorandum Of Agreement (MOA) as recommended by staff.

Motion: Made by **Council Member Sisk** to approve WaterFirst Memorandum Of Agreement (MOA) as recommended by staff.

Seconded: By **Council Member Rowan**.

**Mayor Roquemore** asked for any discussion. There was none.

Vote was taken with all members present voting yes.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Item: **Potential City Council Districts (Attached)**

**Michael Parks** presented.

-for discussion only

Item: **Auburn Water Facility Update (Attached)**

**Jim Aton/Hussey Gay Bell** presented.

-for update only

Item: **Rock Creek Intake/Contract**

**Jim Aton/Hussey Gay Bell** presented.

-placed on March 14, 2024 Council Business Agenda

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

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

**Leandro Silva** 372 Auburn Station Drive, Auburn, Georgia 30011 spoke in support of agenda item #3 Potential City Council Districts. He believes that it will not only provide fair representation geographically that meaning the Council Member that represents you is more likely to hit the same pothole that you do on your way home but also based on population. He stated that just because we have a good Mayor and a good Council at the moment doesn't mean that we will have one in the future.

**Beverly Kelley** 316 Golden Rod Ln., Auburn, Georgia 30011 spoke in favor of agenda item #3 Potential City Council Districts. She stated that she is on the School Board here in Barrow County. She feels that we need these representations in these districts so that we can better serve the people.

**Jeremiah Outwater** 305 Bradford Ct., Auburn, Georgia 30011 spoke in support of agenda item #3 Potential City Council Districts. He thanked Council Member Rowan for his efforts on the South side of Auburn. Stated that he lives in an older neighborhood that is 18 to 20 years old off of Kilcrease and Browns Bridge Road. He stated that the more the Rowan Projects keep spinning up and expansion, road traffic, somebody is going to half to represent how traffic flows through and around my neighborhood.

**Robert Yoe** 1531 Wynfield Dr., Auburn, Georgia 30011 spoke with concerns regarding agenda item #3 Potential City Council Districts. Some of the concerns are: Asked if DCA has any recommendations or opinions on a town as small as ours (approx. 8,000 people), is there a need, said he knows that there is no requirement for us to break this City into Districts, Asked what difference it will make, and is there a requirement for a small city, and he asked what is DCA's view on this.

**Mayor Roquemore** responded to Mr. Yoe letting him know that they would take his questions and get back with him. Let him know that Council Member Sisk is still doing research on this and that his questions will not be answered this evening.

**Sylvia Barber** 1220 St. Andrews Dr., Auburn, Georgia 30011 spoke regarding agenda item #3 Potential City Council Districts. Ms. Barber stated that she sees both sides of the concerns. She expressed concerns about Auburn being so small, not being able to vote for other areas, appointing a candidate if no one runs, and who appoints them.

**Charles Sewell** 287 Park Place, Auburn, Georgia 30011 spoke with concerns regarding agenda item #3 Potential City Council Districts. Some of the concerns are: Will a candidate for office be required to live within the district they are to represent? Will this limit citizens to voting only for the candidate of their district? Mr. Sewell stated that for the past 16 years, there have been no citizens interested in running for office, so finding a candidate within a given district may be difficult. Said that for the past 16 years only two council members have lived North of the railroad. All others have lived South or West of the central part of the city. He said that frequent redistricting will be required until the 6 high density developments are completed. He stated that those monies could be better used for the benefit of the citizens. Said that if districts are initiated, council members should be required to live within their district and the Mayor should be At-Large. He stated that citizens should know that they have the ear of ALL council members and not have to rely on just one assigned member to address their concerns. If we can elect candidates of districts other than our own, they should answer to our concerns.

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

Motion: Made by Council Member Bradley to adjourn.

Seconded: By Council Member Rowan.

Mayor Roquemore asked for any discussion. There was none.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Joyce Brown, City Clerk

Read and approved this \_\_\_\_ day of March 2024

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Mayor Richard E. Roquemore