

**City of Auburn**  
City Council Regular Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 17, 2026

The Auburn City Council met in regular session at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, in the council chambers of Auburn City Hall.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Presiding: Mayor Brown

Present: Council Members Bryan, Randles, Benaka, Trower, Harper

Superintendent Clinkenbeard, City Clerk Magwire, Chief of Police Smart

Absent: City Attorney Luckman

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

**Previous Meeting Minutes**

February 2, 2026, regular meeting minutes reviewed. Council Member Benaka motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Council Member Trower seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimous.

**Question of Bills**

Detailed report of payment of invoices and checks included in meeting packet for all to review. Council Member Bryan motioned to approve the accounts payable ledger of \$95,240.06 including Payroll. Council Member Harper seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimous.

**Citizens Forum**

-Austin Gribble, has been part of the Community since early 2017, goal is to make a positive change in the community by requesting a change in leadership. A group of community members have stepped forward and are requesting to obtain the contracts for the concession stand and the ball diamonds. Ball registration, uniform purchases, and field schedules that will be easily accessible to the community. Ball Association, short term goals, clean up current storage facility, and establish a 501c3 and maintain a nonprofit status. Long term goals are to replace all old gear and obtain new gear, pitching mounds, hitting tees, and pitching machines. Mayor Brown asked if he was speaking for himself or a group of individuals? Speaking for a big group of people. Council Member Bryan asked if it would be taking over current ball association? They would be creating their own Association. Council Member Benaka asked if they were here tonight asking for the Contract to the Ball fields and concession stand for the summer? Yes. They have a consultant that is writing by laws and working on a 501c3. Nothing in the storage facility belongs to the city. They would be part of the flint hills league. Sharon Hester inquired if they had reached out to the Current leadership on the board of the Ball Association to see if they would turn it over. Council Member Benaka have spoken to a few of the individuals, since the 501c3 has lapsed with Auburn Ball Association it would hinder the new association.

-Justin Maxwell here to represent the parents and coaches, and the frustrations they've had over the past few years. The coaches volunteering their time to this association has been difficult. Aim is to put the association back into the hands of the community with full transparency. Asking the City to grant the new association the access and use of the ball fields, concessions, and storage facility.

-Joey Blackwell coached in Auburn for several years. Two teams he's coaching this year have moved to Ken Berry, because of the structure of the association. They have community support.

-Josh Mannell, for the past couple of years he's been trying to help the current association, and it's been a pretty big problem. Done everything he could to help. Think we need to give the new association a chance.

-The new association was encouraged to get bylaws written and in place.

**City of Auburn**  
City Council Regular Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 17, 2026

-Council Member Benaka, grandson hasn't played ball for the last 3 years because of the issues with the association. Hopefully next season he will be playing back in Auburn.

-Russ Hutchison, parent, inquired about the procedure going forward.

-Chris Blackburn, 2 years ago when he tried to implement a new association, there was no support from the current association.

Council Member Randles, motioned to give the new association a contract with the contingency of within 30 days we have a name, bylaws, and any other information the City needs in line. Council Member Trower seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimous. When you get bylaws drafted you will need to get them to the City Clerk.

Melissa Randles, Auburn Fair Board, early in the planning stages, but asking permission to sell alcohol and have the firework show. They have a Circus that is interested in coming in the Monday of Fair Week. They would set up the tent on Monday during school hours, will need access to electrical and water. Permits need to be to the fair board by July 1<sup>st</sup>. September 18 and 19, 2026. Circus will have their own insurance. Fireworks will have their own insurance as well. Council Member Bryan motioned to approve the fireworks, alcohol being served and the Circus on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Council Member Harper seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimous.

Sharon Hester, Auburn Volunteer Association, Easter Egg hunt, March 14<sup>th</sup> will be egg filling in the gymnasium 10 o'clock am. Saturday at 10 o'clock am, there will be a quarter mania at the community center, the paddle money will be going to AVA for the Community Easter Egg Hunt.

**Resolution No. 389**

Council Member Benaka motioned to approve Resolution No. 289 as presented with the correction. Council Member Trower seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimous.

**Council Member Harper**

Council Member Harper presented the updates from Jayhawk on the website. The Resolution on the Mobile Device is recommended to be a lower resolution. Taking opinions on a background color for the mobile version. Council Member Benaka asked if the Logo on the new website could be colored.

Council Member Harper is requesting council approval to purchase a digital voice recorder. Council Member Randles motioned to approve the purchase of the recorder. Council Member Trower seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimous.

**Chief Smart**

Dogs at Large ordinance, and the Fine schedule are different prices. Council Member Benaka motioned to approve the change of the fine for dog at large and unregistered pet to \$50.00. Council Member Randles seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimous. Change the fine schedule.

**City Attorney Todd Luckman**

Tabled until next meeting.

**Superintendent Clinkenbeard**

**City of Auburn**  
City Council Regular Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 17, 2026

Asked for an additional \$2,022.00 to complete the purchase of the new utility truck. Council Member Randles motioned to approve the additional amount of \$2,022.00. Council Member Trower seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimous.

KCC Started their audit today, and tomorrow and will finish up on Thursday.

Crack Sealers are not on Gov deals yet, the city can buy now, Mayor Brown asked if it can be purchased before it goes on gov deals? No, it cannot be.

Needs to know if the City is wanting to hire out someone to fix Paula Artzer and Jay Lutes property or try and do it in house. Get bids from some different companies.

House where the fire was and the House on Harrison north of the shop, and the Chew's house. Joe is in contact with the owner of the School House Fire, he is working on it when he can, it's slow but he is making progress.

**City Clerk**

Reminded Council that the Turnpike zoom meeting is on Wednesday, February 24, 2026, at 1:30 pm.

Council Member Benaka motioned to have Mayor Brown look over the insurance policy. Council Member Randles seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimous.

Council Member Harper motioned to approve moving the council meeting from March 16 to March 23. Council Member Bryan seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimous.

**Code Compliance**

None.

**New Business**

Auburn Parks and Rec, Janet Brown's time on the board has come to an end. Stephanie Mannell was approved to be a new member of the parks and rec board.

Community Clean up day is scheduled for Saturday June 13, 2026, from 4-5 pm.

Brought up an idea of having a clothing exchange. Next meeting is March 9, 2026.

Students ask for the gazebo lights be on for winter formal or prom for their pictures.

Council Member Bryan needs to be able to use the City Clerk for non-city related items. Council Member Bryan is working on a grant for the community center.

**Adjourn**

Council Member Harper motioned to adjourn. Council Member Randles seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimous.

Signature of Approval



Date

2/17/2026