



# City of Aumsville



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## AUMSVILLE CITY COUNCIL

### Minutes – July 27, 2020

Mayor Clevenger called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM via Zoom Conferencing. Council present was: Mayor Derek Clevenger, Nico Casarez, Angelica Ceja, Larry Purdy, and Della Seney. Council absent was: Councilor Gus Bedwell. City Administrator Ron Harding (CA Harding) and City Clerk Colleen Rogers (CC Rogers) were also present via Zoom. The meeting was video recorded to be released later.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** Mayor Clevenger requested to move item 10B, Council Resignation, to before item 2A. Councilor Casarez moved to approve agenda with the requested amendment. Councilor Ceja seconded. Motion APPROVED 5-0: (Yes: Mayor Clevenger, Councilors Casarez, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

**VISITORS:** There were 11 online attendees. Log in information was provided for members of the community to listen to the discussion.

**Councilor Bedwell Resignation:** Mayor Clevenger called for a motion to formally accept Councilor Bedwell's resignation. Councilor Purdy stated that he appreciated Councilor Bedwell and felt that his involvement in Council has been beneficial. He suggested that, before we just accept the resignation, Council consider inviting Councilor Bedwell to explain a little more about why he resigned. Mayor Clevenger noted that we had three applications for the vacant council position, and it makes sense just to use those applications to fill both positions tonight. After some discussion Councilor Ceja made a motion to accept Councilor Bedwell's resignation effective immediately. Councilor Casarez seconded. Motion APPROVED 3-2: (Yes: Mayor Clevenger, Casarez, and Ceja. No: Councilors Purdy and Seney.)

**Appoint Vacancy Positions:** Applicants Russ Snow, Ryan Bambrick, and Doug Ecclestone were given up to 3 minutes to introduce themselves, tell a little about why they applied to be on Council, and councilmembers asked each of them questions.

Russ Snow was the first to speak. He stated he has 40 plus years of government public service; city, county, state, and federal levels and is currently on the Aumsville Planning

Commission. Mostly in law enforcement positions. He has patience to listen to both sides of an issue, and an ability to get along with people from all walks of life and feels he could represent all citizens. His priorities for the city would be development of the Interchange Development zoned property north of Willamette Valley Baptist Church and he is very interested in public safety issues and ways to improve.

Ryan Bambrick wants to be on Council to keep the city growing and a nice place to live for everyone. He has a degree in business and psychology and is a State Police officer. He was an Aumsville Police officer for a year and a half, before going to work for State Police. He would listen to both sides of the issue, and makes decisions not based on his own opinion or emotions. His priorities for the city are the water treatment plant upgrades and expansion of the city.

Doug Ecclestone wants to be on Council to be part of the city's growth. He is a relationship manager and works with a variety of issues. He stated that he is a solution seeker and problem solver. He brings a sense of humor to the table and feels it can sometimes help lighten the tension when it is a tough issue with different points of view. His priorities for the city are more focus on a youth center and upgrades to the electrical grid.

**Council Deliberations:** Councilmembers thanked all the applicants and discussed what each one could bring to Council. They concurred that all the applicants would do well on Council, but only two can be appointed. After a brief discussion Councilor Purdy made a motion to appoint Russ Snow to one of the vacant positions. Councilor Seney seconded. Motion FAILED 2-3: (Yes: Councilors Purdy and Seney. No: Mayor Clevenger, Councilors Casarez and Ceja.)

Councilor Purdy made a motion to appoint Doug Ecclestone to a vacant position. Councilor Casarez seconded. Motion APPROVED 5-0: (Yes: Mayor Clevenger, Councilors Casarez, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: NONE.)

Councilor Purdy made a motion to appoint Ryan Bambrick to a vacant position. Councilor Ceja seconded. Motion APPROVED 5-0: (Yes: Mayor Clevenger, Councilors Casarez, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: NONE.)

CA Harding stated that the new Councilors will need to take their Oath of Office and orientation before it is official. He will work with them to do this as soon as possible so that they can be voting members at the next Council meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Council reviewed the July 13, 2020 Council meeting minutes. Councilor Casarez stated that the minutes stated that he showed ID with his Aumsville address, but he would like the minutes to reflect that he also went outside during the meeting, on video, to show Council and viewers that he does live in Aumsville. Councilor Casarez moved to approve the consent agenda with the previously mentioned amendment. Councilor Ceja seconded. Motion APPROVED 5-0: (Yes: Mayor Clevenger, Councilors Casarez, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

## **OLD BUSINESS: NONE**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Bethel Baptist Development Agreement. CA Harding gave an overview of the development agreement. He stated that if Council approves the agreement Bethel Baptist Church will move forward with their street improvement project. Once the project is complete and passes inspections, the city would be authorized to distribute stormwater fees collected from the Clover Ct. development to Bethel Baptist for the purpose of stormwater improvements. The city would also waive the 5% development fee. Councilor Seney recused herself from the vote. Councilor Casarez moved to authorize the City Administrator to execute the Developer Agreement between the City of Aumsville and Bethel Baptist Church as presented. Councilor Ceja seconded. Motion APPROVED 4-0: (Yes: Mayor Clevenger, Councilors Casarez, Ceja, and Purdy. No: None. Recused: Councilor Seney)

COVID Relief Fund. CA Harding stated that there are federal reimbursement grant funds available to pay for expenditures that are COVID related. One of the ways staff has discussed that might be an appropriate use of these funds is to put together a \$30,000-50,000 business relief fund using the grant funds and it was discussed. Council consensus was for CA Harding to move forward putting together a draft of the program and bring it to Council at a future meeting.

CA Harding Evaluation. Councilor Seney gave a summary of the City Administrator evaluations that she received from five of the six parties eligible to submit. Overall CA Harding scored as fully effective or exceeds requirements in all categories. Councilor Seney read the comments submitted with the evaluations, most citing that he has done very good job, going above and beyond in most cases. There were some comments to work toward better use of technology tools. She explained that CA Harding is at the top step of his salary range and recommended that Council consider a merit raise or an increase in his salary steps and it was discussed. Councilor Purdy moved to add two steps to the current City Administrator pay scale. He explained the intent is to give two step increases, one this year and one next year to maintain forward movement. Councilor Seney seconded. Motion APPROVED 4-1: (Yes: Mayor Clevenger, Councilors Casarez, Purdy, and Seney. No: Councilor Ceja.) Councilor Ceja clarified that the reason she voted no was because she was hoping to give CA Harding an additional raise now and adding two steps.

### **CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

City Hall COVID-19 update. The construction work on the glass divider in City Hall is completed and both City Hall and Police Department lobbies are now open and providing service.

Utility Billing changes. The vendor that we go through for printing our billing post cards has increased their price significantly. Staff is considering outsourcing our billing statements to the same printer that does our newsletter printing and mailing. The cost is almost the same as our printing cost and the customer would receive a paper statement in an envelope rather than a postcard. It would allow us to add notices or enclosures with the bills. The only downside is there is not a perforated stub. Council consensus was to move forward

with the change and announce in the newsletter, social media, and on the back of the next billing postcard.

Final closeout for last year is almost complete and budget performance for the year is looking good. All funds came under budgeted expenditures. CA Harding stated that our budget is positive, and we should be in good position to weather the COVID impacts that might come.

**MAYOR/COUNCIL REPORTS AND INITIATIVES: None**

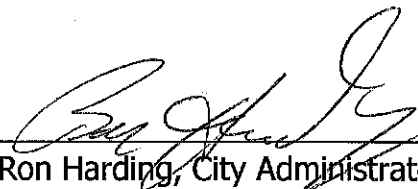
**GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Mayor Clevenger asked Council for input on an idea that Councilor Casarez suggested. Since we can't have a beer garden or the Corn Festival this year, he would like to research doing a growler fill booth at the Corn Giveaway event on August 15th. Specifically, with Gilgamesh Brewery and it was discussed. CA Harding asked Council should they pay a vendor sponsorship fee or a percentage of sales to the city if we were able to get them to participate There would be no consumption on city property. Councilor Casarez moved to approve the city entering into an agreement with Gilgamesh Brewery to be a vendor of limited alcohol to go; for nonconsumption on site. Councilor Ceja seconded. Motion APPROVED: 3-2: (Yes: Mayor Clevenger, Councilors Casarez and Ceja. No: Councilors Purdy and Seney.)

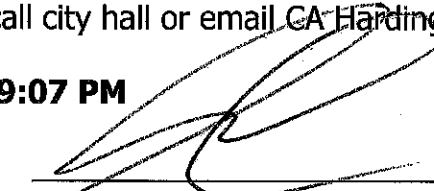
Mayor Clevenger also talked about also having a scavenger hunt in conjunction with the citywide garage sales. CA Harding said that staff had not planned a scavenger hunt, but he would be willing to put one together. CA Harding stated that he has been in contact with the corn grower to make sure we are on track and is hoping the corn will be ready and of good quality but said it's in the hands of the grower and the weather.

**CORRESPONDENCE: Valley Develop Initiative Grant**

CA Harding explained how the grant works to help Aumsville residents get funding to do needed repairs to their homes. There are some funds available and if residents would like to know more about this program, they can call city hall or email CA Harding.

**ADJOURNED WITHOUT PREJUDICE AT 9:07 PM**

  
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Ron Harding, City Administrator

  
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Derek Clevenger, Mayor