ITEM 2

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
April 11, 2011
REGULAR SESSION

The Regular Session of the Auburn City Council was held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, California on Monday, April 11, 2011 at 6:20 p.m. with Mayor Kirby presiding and City Clerk Joseph G.R. Labrie recording the minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL:

Council Members Present: Bridget Powers, Kevin Hanley, J. M. Holmes, Keith Nesbitt, Bill Kirby

Council Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: City Manager Robert Richardson, City Attorney Michael Colantuono, Community Development Director Will Wong, Senior Planner Reg Murray, Public Works Director Bernie Schroeder, Administrative Services Director Andy Heath, Police Chief Valerie Harris and Police Captain John Ruffcorn.

By **MOTION** adjourn to a Closed Session under Government Code Section 54957:6
MOTION: Holmes/ Powers/ Unanimously Approved by Voice

(1) **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**
G.C. 54957.6

Agency Designated Representatives: Robert Richardson, Patrick Clark

Employee Group: All Bargaining Units

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION
No reportable action.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as presented by consensus of the Council.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **Warrants**

By **RESOLUTION 11-44,** ratify and approve payments of warrants # 76776 - 77183 totaling $1,954,237.82.

2. **Minutes**

By **MOTION** approve City Council Minutes of March 14, 2011 and March 28, 2011.

3. **Quarterly Report of Investments – Quarter Ending December 31, 2010**

Receive, review and file the "City of Auburn Quarterly Investment Report" for the quarter ending December 31, 2010.

********** End of Consent Calendar **********

By **MOTION**, approve the consent calendar.
MOTION: Holmes/ Nesbitt/ Approved 5:0

4. **Public Comment**

Police Chief Valerie Harris and Mayor Kirby read a proclamation for National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

Council Member Nesbitt reported there was a great turnout for the Amgen Fundraising event April 2nd.

REPORTS

5. **Planning Commission Consensus Memo - Priority Planning Issues in 2011**

Senior Planner Reg Murray presented this item. He reviewed three priority issues: (1) Continue monitoring the parking in Old Town and Downtown for the application of policy recommendations derived from the Walker Parking Study, (2) Update the Zoning Ordinance, including an update of the sign ordinance and the creation of hillside development standards, and (3) develop a Trails Master Plan.

Council Members then asked questions about: (1) special projects list, (2) priorities of the Planning Commission and Staff, (3) the sign ordinance update and (4) hillside development standards.

6. **Annual SACOG Blueprint Project Comparison Report – 2010 Calendar Year**

Reg Murray presented this item. He explained the Blueprint Comparison Report is developed by Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) and is intended to promote good growth concepts for more livable communities. He identified projects within the City of Auburn that represent some of the policies and concepts contained in the report: (1) Tuscan Palms Townhomes, (2) Baltimore Ravine Specific Plan, (3) Auburn Streetscape Project, and (4) Mercy Auburn Senior Apartments.

Council Member questions followed regarding funding for the Mercy Auburn Senior Apartments.

7. **City Council Committee Reports**

Council Member Nesbitt reported that the events leading up to Amgen are coming together. He provided dates and locations for many of them.

Council Member Holmes reported that he attended a briefing with Congressman McClintock's staff regarding drafting of federal legislation for wastewater treatment plant responsibilities.

Council Member Holmes reported that as of the end of March the Carnegie Library Building is officially on the National Register of Historical Places.

Council Member Holmes reported two Auburn businesses received awards at the Placer County Economic Development breakfast.

Council Member Powers also reported on the Placer County Economic Development breakfast awards.

Council Member Holmes reported that SEDCorp approved adding a private sector representative to their board.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

8. **Reconsideration of Relaxing Temporary Sign Regulations**

Community Development Director Will Wong presented this item. He explained approximately 2 years ago the Council initiated a program to relax temporary signs for certain commercial areas within the City. He said in July of 2010, the Council terminated the program. Recently the City sent letters of enforcement to business owners.

Council Member Nesbitt said termination of the program was due to recommendations from business owners. He said because of the current economic situation this program the Council should consider resuming the program.

Council Member Powers asked if any business associations have submitted formal requests to the City asking for this program to be reinstated.

Council Member Holmes asked about enforcement procedures. He said businesses should have been contacted in person before receiving the notification letter.

Council Member Hanley asked about signage options for new businesses in Auburn. He also asked about enforcement of temporary sign regulations during the Amgen Tour of California (ATOC).

Will Wong explained the process of permanent sign approval for new businesses.

Mayor Kirby asked about the timing of enforcement. He also asked about enforcement as it relates to the ATOC event.

Reese Browning, a business owner in Auburn, spoke in favor of continuing the relaxation of the temporary sign regulations and revisiting the sign ordinance.

Dave Johnson, a business owner in Auburn, spoke in favor of the ability to use temporary signage to promote his business.

Council Member comments followed addressing: (1) the consensus of Old Town Business Association (OTBA) and Downtown Business Association (DBA), (2) letters of enforcement, (3) updating the sign ordinance, and (4) the period of time to relax sign regulations.

By **RESOLUTION 11-45**, repeal Resolution 10-88 and provide the Community Development Director with authority to utilize prosecutorial discretion in the application of the temporary sign requirements of the City of Auburn for one year.

By **MOTION**, direct the Community Development Department to work with the Community to develop a revised sign ordinance within one year.
MOTION: Hanley/ Nesbitt/ Approved 5:0

9. **Proposed Schedule for Charter City Hearings**

Council Member Hanley said he would like to hold three informational hearings over a 3-month period starting in June to determine whether the question of adopting a City Charter should be placed on the ballot in 2012. He said to get the conversation started he would like to have a draft *Home Rule for Auburn Charter* created.

Council Member Holmes asked why the issue would not be included in the regular election in November 2012. He also asked if a committee would be formed to draft the Charter.

Dennis Dean, a resident of Sacramento County, asked about the agenda format for these informational items in June, July and August.

Samantha Draper, a researcher for Carpenters Local 46, said three public hearings are not adequate for the voting public to be educated on the issue of a Charter City.

Alex Lantsberg, a researcher for Carpenters Local 46, spoke about prevailing wage law as it relates to Charter Cities.

Council Member Powers asked about workshops held by the City Manager.

City Manager Robert Richardson said there will be special reports from each operating department to the Council. He said the three informational meetings he mentioned initially are the only ones scheduled until he knows more about the state budget and current labor negotiations.

Keith Nesbitt said he supports the three upcoming meetings and said the council could always decide that further meetings are necessary at a later time.

Mayor Kirby confirmed that a charter city status gives the citizens more flexibility then the current status of Auburn as a general law city.

By **MOTION**, direct the City Manager to include on the council agenda for the June 13, July 11 and August 8, 2011 meetings, a discussion item as to whether the City of Auburn should place a Charter on a 2012 election ballot.
MOTION: Hanley/ Holmes/ Approved 5:0

Mayor Kirby adjourned the meeting, without objection, at 8:03 p.m.

William W. Kirby, M.D., Mayor

Joseph G. R. Labrie, City Clerk