

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**December 14, 2009**  
**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, December 14, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. with Mayor Holmes presiding and City Clerk Joseph G.R. Labrie recording the minutes.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Note: Council Member Nesbitt was not present for roll call but was in attendance at the closed session.

**Council Members Absent:**

**Staff Members Present:** City Manager Robert Richardson, City Attorney Michael Colantuono, Fire Chief Mark D'Ambrogi, Public Works Director Jack Warren, Engineering Division Manager Bernie Schroeder, Transit Analyst Megan Siren, Administrative Services Director Andy Heath, Police Chief Valerie Harris, Senior Accounting Technician Mary Freitas, Deputy City Clerk Anne Cooley and Incoming Deputy City Clerk Amy Lind

By **MOTION** adjourn to a Closed Session under Government Code Section 54957.6: **MOTION: Hanley/Kirby/Approved by Voice Vote**

- (1) **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**  
Agency Designated Representatives: Robert Richardson, David Mackowiak  
Employee Group: All Bargaining Units
  
- (2) **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**  
G.C. 54957

Title: City Manager

**REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

No reportable action

**CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**      Color Guard Auburn Fire Department and  
Auburn Police Department

**MAYOR’S COMMENDATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Holmes asked retiring Deputy City Clerk Anne Cooley to come forward. He read a commendation signed by himself and Vice Mayor Powers for her 20 years of service with the City of Auburn. Vice Mayor Powers presented a letter from the United States Senator Barbara Boxer congratulating Anne on her retirement. She also presented a certificate of recognition to Anne from the State Assembly for 20 years of service. Police Chief Valerie Harris presented a gift on behalf of the Police Department. Mayor Holmes introduced the incoming Deputy City Clerk, Amy Lind.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1.    **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG)**

By **RESOLUTION 09-143** authorize the submittal of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant.

By **MOTION** approve Consent Calendar consisting of only item #1.

**MOTION: Nesbitt/ Powers/Approved 5:0**

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

2    **Public Comment**

Brian Jagger, who lives in Auburn, expressed congratulations to Joe Montoya and The Placer High School Hillman on a fantastic season. Major Holmes added his congratulations also.

3.    **Remarks from the Outgoing Mayor**

Mayor Holmes said it was an honor to serve as Mayor, again, during this time of financial uncertainty. He stated that most of his goals he originally set out to accomplish have been achieved this past year. He said working as a team, the City and City Council have accomplished much in the past year.

Mayor Holmes said after receiving recommendations at the Economic Summit in early 2009, his goal was to promote Auburn as a tourist destination. He said with assistance of the Business District and Chamber of Commerce, Auburn and Beyond Magazine was produced. He commented that this magazine is distributed to many venues outside of Auburn area and receives many positive comments. He outlined the application process to get a number of buildings and institutions in Auburn listed on the National Register of Historic Places. He said a copy has been sent to the State Office of Historical Preservation for comment before a final application is completed. He hopes this will encourage more tourism in the area. He said a hotel/motel association is being formed to jointly promote Auburn.

Mayor Holmes reported on the airport, a vital resource in Auburn. He said new hangers are currently under construction for lease. In 2003, the City purchased 8.3 acres adjacent to the airport. He said one of his goals was to see that property annexed to the City of Auburn. After extended negotiations with the county on a tax sharing agreement, he was happy to report that last week, the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo), approved the annexation unanimously. He said that a group has been formed under the leadership of Council Member Powers to revitalize the Auburn Industrial Park.

He said due to bonds funds, the Auburn Wastewater Treatment plant is going to be upgraded and work is well under way. He said it should be completed by this time next year and will be able to meet wastewater standards. He feels the Regional Plant in Lincoln is still the long term solution.

Mayor Holmes reports that Phase 1 of the Streetscape project is nearly completed in Central Square. He comments that there has been a small disruption to local businesses but the overall result is, and will be, an improvement of business in the area. He notes that both projects are funded with bond funds, not with part of the City general fund.

He said that one of his most personal projects completed this year was to ensure that all City national flags are illuminated at night. He was happy to report that this has been completed.

He feels that Public Works, Police and Fire all responded successfully to the recent snow storm. He is asking the City Manager to re-institute the "employee/ volunteer" of the quarter program. He thanked everyone for the support given to him over the past year.

#### 4. **Council Reorganization**

A. **Nomination and Selection of Mayor**

Mayor J. M. Holmes declared nominations open for the position of Mayor. By **MOTION** approved nomination of Bridget Powers for Mayor.  
**MOTION: Hanley/Approved 5:0**

B. **Nomination and Selection of Mayor Pro Tem**

Mayor Holmes declared nominations open for the position of Mayor Pro Tem. By **MOTION** approved nomination for Bill Kirby for Mayor Pro Tem. **MOTION: Nesbitt/Approved 5:0**

5. **Oath of Office to Newly Selected Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem**

Oath of Office administered by Associate Justice Rick Sims to newly selected Mayor Powers and Mayor Pro Tem Kirby.

6. **Presentation from Newly Selected Mayor**

Mayor Powers presented outgoing Mayor Holmes with a Claude Chana Statue in recognition of his service.

7. **Exchange of Council Seats**

Newly selected Mayor and Council Members were seated in order as set by precedence.

|                       |        |                |
|-----------------------|--------|----------------|
| Outgoing Mayor        | Seat 1 | Mike Holmes    |
| Alphabetically Seated | Seat 2 | Kevin Hanley   |
| New Mayor             | Seat 3 | Bridget Powers |
| Alphabetically Seated | Seat 4 | Bill Kirby     |
| Alphabetically Seated | Seat 5 | Keith Nesbitt  |

8. Annabell McCord, former mayor, read and presented a resolution of commendation to outgoing Deputy City Clerk Anne Coeey.

9. **Mayor's Commendation**

Mayor Powers presented Blake Willick with a resolution to commend his Eagle Scout project at School Park Preserve Community Garden.

10. **Mayor's Address**

Mayor Powers recognized Mayor Holmes for his hard work to keep the city moving in a positive direction over the past year.

She acknowledged her family for traveling from out of state to be at her swearing in. She acknowledged her employers at her regular full time job for being flexible enough to allow for her to be active in the community as a Council Member and now Mayor. She looks forward to serving as Mayor for the next year.

Mayor Powers hopes that the City will be able maintain its fiscal position and not be too impacted by state cuts. She plans to report often on where the City stands in regards to the budget. She hopes while working short staffed within the City, "we can keep our services flowing for public." She said some strategies she would like to encourage are the development of a volunteer academy to help bring the talents of our citizens to City Hall. She said she would like to see employees crossed trained to maximize their efforts within the City. She addressed facing labor negotiations once again this upcoming year and she hopes that the discussions will be treated with respect and quick resolutions as our City tries to pull out of a very difficult economy. She thanked all employees in the City of Auburn for their hard work and dedication during difficult times. She said she plans to work with the city manager to develop new and more effective ways to communication with Auburn citizens and the business community via newsletters, webcasts and possibly even cable television to address what the City is doing, when they are doing it, and why. She said she plans to speak to the community at service clubs and associations to keep the citizens informed on how the City is doing and what is happening in the way of City services.

Mayor Powers highlighted a few of the specific projects on which she plans to work. She welcomed the Boys and Girls Club to Downtown Auburn and plans to support them for many years to come. Phase 1 of the Streetscape project will have a ribbon cutting in January and she encouraged everyone to attend. She reports that it was completed under budget. She said it is the desire of the Economic Development Commission to begin phase 2 of the Streetscape project with the approval of the City Council and have it continue from where phase 1 ends and head towards City Hall along Lincoln Way, making the State Theater a landmark in our community. She said this phase will have less impact on local businesses and the cost will be significantly less.

She said she would like to see an on-site manager to oversee the day-to-day operations at the airport. She also addressed the Industrial Park and tenants' interest in an Industrial Park Business Association that she plans to see through.

She commented that the Sewer Plant construction will continue throughout 2010. She said this project started with a \$20 million dollar

price tag and current costs are just under \$4. 2 million due to the Public Works Department coming up with innovative solutions to create cost savings for citizens.

She expressed that she is excited and humbled to be serving as the Mayor and appreciates everyone's support.

Major Powers adjourned the meeting, without objection, at 6:58 p.m. to the Rose Room for refreshments.

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Bridget Powers, Mayor

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Joseph G. R. Labrie, City Clerk