

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Auburndale held August 4, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Room of City Hall, after having been properly advertised, with the following members present: Mayor Dorothea Taylor Bogert, Vice Mayor Alex Cam, Commissioners: Keith Cowie, Jordan Helms, and Bill Sterling. Also, present were: City Manager Jeffrey Tillman, City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr., City Clerk Brandon Henry, and Police Chief Terry Storie.

Mayor Dorothea Taylor Bogert declared a quorum present, and the Meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Kevin Chisholm, Move Church, and a salute to the flag.

Motion by Vice Mayor Cam, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, to approve Minutes of the City Commission Meeting of July 21, 2025. Upon vote, all ayes.

City Manager Jeffrey Tillman announced that the Back to School Bash was a success and thanked Parks and Recreation Department staff. The Police Department had a car wash over the weekend, raising over \$650 for the Police Explorer Program.

Brian Toune, 503 E Moore Drive, presented the City with a donation from the "Tuesday Thursday Pickleball Gang of Auburndale".

Mayor Taylor Bogert thanked Mr. Toune.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked if there was public comment on any item not on the agenda. There was no public comment.

City Manager Tillman recognized Auburndale High School and Boy's State graduate Kamarion Cole, who was in attendance. He is a student at Florida A&M University and is currently interning for the City of Winter Haven.

Mayor Taylor Bogert thanked him for his attendance.

1. ORDINANCE #1833 AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP – HAIRE LANE

Community Development Director Julie Womble said as a result of annexation in June 2025, the City has received a request to amend the Future Land Use on +/- 8.73 acres from Polk County Future Land Use of Linear Commercial Corridor (LCC) to City of Auburndale Future Land Use of Commercial Corridor (CC) and establish a Zoning classification of Planned Development-Commercial 1 (PD-C1). The proposed use is for a 34,375 sq. ft. warehouse for tent making and distribution. She presented a graphic depicting the proposal.

As required by the Land Development Regulations (LDR's) for Planned Developments, this request is accompanied by a binding site plan. The requested Future Land Use of Commercial Corridor (CC) and the Zoning classification of Planned Development-Commercial 1 (PD-C1) are compatible with the City of Auburndale Comprehensive Plan and all Land Development Regulations.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the Future Land Use and Official Zoning Amendments - Haire Lane (7-0, 07/08/2025). Staff recommends approval.

City Manager Tillman said the Proposed Ordinances were prepared by the Community Development Department and reviewed by the City Manager and City Attorney. The proposed Ordinances were approved on first reading July 21, 2025, and are being considered for second and final reading. Staff recommends approval of proposed Ordinance #1833 amending the Future Land Use Map and Ordinance #1834 amending the Official Zoning Map – Haire Lane Property.

City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr. read Ordinance No. 1833 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 752, THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, BY AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP RECLASSIFYING A PARCEL OF LAND**

TOTALING +/- 8.73 ACRES FROM POLK COUNTY FUTURE LAND USE CLASSIFICATION LINEAR COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR (LCC) TO CITY OF AUBURNDALE FUTURE LAND USE CLASSIFICATION COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (General Location: US Hwy. 92 and Haire Lane), by title only.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Helms, to approve Ordinance #1833 amending the Future Land Use Map – Haire Lane, as read on second and final reading by title only. Upon vote, all ayes.

2. ORDINANCE #1834 AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP – HAIRE LANE

City Manager Tillman said staff recommends approval.

City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr. read Ordinance No. 1834 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 764, THE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, BY AN AMENDMENT TO THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP BY ESTABLISHING AUBURNDALE ZONING MAP CLASSIFICATION OF PLANNED DEVELOPMENT-COMMERCIAL-1 (PD-C1) ON A PARCEL OF LAND TOTALING +/- 8.73 ACRES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (General Location: US Hwy. 92 and Haire Lane),** by title only.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Helms, seconded by Commissioner Sterling, to approve Ordinance #1834 amending the Official Zoning Map – Haire Lane, as read on second and final reading by title only. Upon vote, all ayes.

3. FINAL PLAT APPROVAL – EVEREST VILLAGE

Community Development Director Julie Womble said the City has received a request from Charles Booker, PE/Traditions Engineering, on behalf of MF Partners, LLC, to plat the Everest Village property. The property is located on W. US Highway 92, west of the Polk County Parkway.

In July 2021, the City re-established an expired Planned Development-Commercial 1 (PD-C1) on the subject site, known as the Everest property, and a rehabilitation hospital was constructed on the east side of the site.

In December 2024, an amendment was made to change the underlying Future Land Use of Neighborhood Activity Center (NAC) to Medium Density Residential on +/- 32.39 acres of the property and modify (+/-17.12 acres) of the approved Planned Development-Commercial 1 (PD-C1) to Planned Development-Housing 2 (PD-H2). The approved Zoning designations allow for a 96-bed assisted living facility with a clubhouse and 12 duplexes with 2 dwelling units each (24 units) for a total of 120 dwelling units in addition to the medical site. The Binding Site Plan of the project served as the preliminary plat. The development meets or exceeds all Land Development Regulations. She presented a graphic depicting the proposal.

As provided for in the Land Development Regulations (LDR's), the developer is requesting Final Plat approval. The developer's engineer has certified that all necessary improvements to the development have been constructed and installed according to the Land Development Regulations. Dedication in the plat indicates the ownership and maintenance of all private facilities, private drainage, sanitary sewer facilities and storm water drainage. Approval of the Final Plat allows the developer to sell the lots and begin construction pursuant to the Developer's Agreement with Everest Realty 9, LLC approved by the City Commission August 19, 2024.

City Manager Tillman said staff recommends acceptance of the Final Plat for the Everest Village.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked City Attorney Murphy if he had any comments.

City Attorney Murphy answered no.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Vice Mayor Cam, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, to approve the Final Plat for the Everest Village.

Commissioner Sterling asked to clarify the number of buildings and units.

Community Development Director Womble provided clarification.

Commissioner Sterling asked for further clarification as to the number of units in relation to the assisted living facility.

Community Development Director Womble provided further clarification.

Commissioner Cowie asked if the conditions put in place during the zoning amendment approval are still in place, including notations about the road?

Community Development Director Womble answered yes.

Commissioner Sterling asked so the development behind the subject property can come through there?

Community Development Director Womble said they were always allowed to – she believes they had a private easement agreement between the property owners that had nothing to do with the City. All the City did during the zoning amendment was make sure the site plan aligned with the corrected road that was described in the easement.

Mayor Taylor Bogert said she also thinks they put an entrance in the back.

City Attorney Murphy said it was an access. Community Development Director Womble concurred.

Community Development Director Womble summarized that modifications were made during the zoning amendment. The plat being heard tonight is accurate in reflecting those changes. She appreciates the City Attorney's help on that.

Upon vote, all ayes.

4. PRESENTATION BY SOUTHERN GROUP – 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mayor Taylor Bogert welcomed Dave Shepp from the Southern Group. She expressed her gratitude to Mr. Shepp.

Mr. Shepp introduced himself. He presented statistics from the most recent legislative session. He summarized and presented highlights from the State's budget – regarding affordable housing, transportation, cybersecurity, the environment, tourism & economic development, and the Department of State. He summarized the outcomes regarding the City's priorities – specifically funding for Lake Ariana Park improvements, and the transfer of State land with Lake Ariana Park to the City.

Mr. Shepp summarized and presented the outcome of key legislation that was considered during the most recent legislative session.

He summarized and presented the outcome of this year's tax package.

He presented upcoming key dates for next year's legislative session.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked about the status of the Tourist and Development tax and how there was an attempt to eliminate it. Does he think it will happen? Would it impact the City?

Mr. Shepp summarized the initiative to eliminate the Tourist and Development tax. It would have eliminated Visit Central Florida. Everything we get through Polk County Sports Marketing could have been impacted. He further summarized the initiative. It is something to keep an eye on.

Commissioner Cowie asked if cities could reach out to those serving on the Select Committee on Property Taxes?

Mr. Shepp answered yes – they are elected officials. Locally, Representative Jon Albert serves on the committee. However, they do not have a set schedule. As that becomes defined, we will share that.

Commissioner Cowie said it is better to talk to them now before they come out with their plan.

City Manager Tillman said the Florida League of Cities reached out to cities to get property tax information and how we spend that. It may be different from city to city, but it is likely the majority of ad valorem taxes go to public safety. But they are pulling that information together to share with legislators.

Mayor Taylor Bogert said there will be a session regarding this at the Florida League of Cities conference.

Commissioner Sterling asked if there was any movement on chickens? There was an issue at the County about regulating chickens. The City had discussions about chickens several years ago.

City Manager Tillman said this was in reference to Senate Bill 180, which restricted the ability to impose “more burdensome regulation”, which affected the County’s ability to address a chicken ordinance.

Mayor Taylor Bogert said we are not changing ours. She asked if Senate Bill 180 was retroactive.

City Attorney Murphy answered yes, from August 1, 2024, through October 1, 2027. And goes forward with additional hurricanes. Under current law, it could be a perpetual inability to adopt certain things.

Mr. Shepp said he does not think chickens were brought up in the discussion of Senate Bill 180.

Mayor Taylor Bogert said it could be applied to anything.

City Attorney Murphy said the problem is that the terms more burdensome or restrictive were not defined, nor has it been interpreted - as to what is more burdensome or restrictive. It is potentially subjective, which creates uncertainty.

City Manager Tillman expressed his gratitude to Mr. Shepp. He looks forward to working with him next year.

Mr. Shepp expressed his gratitude to the City.

Mayor Taylor Bogert thanked Mr. Shepp.

5. PRESENTATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2026 AND FISCAL YEAR 2027 ANNUAL BUDGETS

City Manager Tillman presented changes made to the budget since last presented to the Commission.

He said Section 23.5 of the Charter of the City Auburndale authorizes the City Manager to prepare and submit to the City Commission the annual budget and budget message. Approval of the annual budget is the most important responsibility of the City Commission. He said that in accordance with the City Charter, it is with great honor to present for the City Commission’s review and consideration the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 and Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Proposed Biennial Budgets.

During this recent period of historic growth, the City of Auburndale has continued to strive to meet the needs of our citizens with a focus on core services including public safety, infrastructure investment, parks, and community/economic development. Significant additions to personnel, utility infrastructure improvements, and development of park space highlight the proposed budgets to keep pace with the development of new housing

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and industry within the City. Polk County is currently one of the fastest growing counties in the State of Florida and one of the fastest growing in the United States. Quality of life for residents and businesses remains at the forefront in budget planning and preparation. This document represents months of work by dedicated staff and reflects revenue estimates and proposed expenditures based upon an ongoing review of operations.

He said he hopes the Commission finds the following information helpful and explanatory as we continue the process of meeting our City's goals and the statutory obligation of adopting a balanced budget.

Since 2005, the City of Auburndale has operated with a two-year budget process. The benefit of preparing a biennial budget provides our residents with additional information and understanding of the budget process and enables a blending of the City's planning and budgeting processes. As part of the process, two separate twelve-month budgets are prepared and approved by the City Commission. In September 2024, the City Commission adopted the current Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Budget, as required by State Statutes. At the same time, the Commission also approved a budget for the second year, the planned Fiscal Year 2026 Budget.

Now, the planned Fiscal Year 2026 Budget has been reviewed and updated with necessary adjustments to revenues and expenditures in order to accommodate needs that have arisen, since the planned budget was prepared. At the same time and through numerous presentations before the City Commission, a new second-year budget has been prepared and is presented as the planned Fiscal Year 2027 Budget.

Since 2010, City Staff started presenting the various sections of the proposed budgets at Regular Meetings before the City Commission in April or May. This initiative allows the elected officials and the public greater opportunities to be informed and participate in the budget process, and in a timelier manner. This year the City Commission was presented the Payroll Sections on May 5, 2025, Capital Outlay on May 19, 2025, the Expense Section on June 16, 2025, and the Revenue Section on July 21, 2025.

Any changes to the proposed budget will be presented to the City Commission on August 18, 2025. Public Hearings on the proposed Budget and millage rate will be held on Thursday, September 4, 2025 and prior to final adoption on Thursday, September 18, 2025. He presented a slide of the budget calendar.

The Proposed Biennial Budget recommends a total spending level of \$87,310,094 in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (Fiscal Year 2026) and \$97,209,890 in Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (Fiscal Year 2027). Several large-scale capital projects are in progress either in the design phase, under construction, or are nearing completion. Examples include the Gapway Force Main, Southern Force Main Reroute, Northern Force Main, and the Hickory Road Sprayfield in the Public Utilities Fund to provide reliability and capacity to the water and wastewater utilities in preparation of future development. Due to the completion or ongoing status of these various large-scale capital projects, the total Fiscal Year 2025-2026 City Budget represents a 4.22% decrease compared to the current fiscal year Adopted Budget. Several large capital projects are planned to begin design in Fiscal Year 2026 with construction programmed in Fiscal Year 2027 contributing to an increase in the overall Fiscal Year 2027 Budget.

The City of Auburndale functions with five (5) funds to support the day-to-day operations of the City. The five (5) categories of Funds include the General Fund, the Community Redevelopment Agency Fund, the Public Utilities Fund, the General Impact Fee Fund, and the Public Utility Connection Fee Fund. In addition to the Proposed Biennial Budget being balanced, each individual fund is also balanced.

General Fund revenue sources include Taxes (including Franchise Fees), Licenses and Permits, Intergovernmental Revenue, Charges for Services, Fines, and Miscellaneous Revenue. The General Fund proposed budget is \$40,760,317 for Fiscal Year 2026 and \$42,642,280 for Fiscal Year 2027, before the interfund transfer.

Recent numbers from the Polk County Property Appraiser's Office suggest that the gross taxable value of all property within the City limits increased 10.84% over the July 2024 estimate. This information allowed City Staff

to recommend, and the City Commission to approve 4.2515 as the proposed operating millage rate for the eighth year. The City of Auburndale will maintain the lowest ad valorem tax millage rate in Polk County for the fourth year. The preliminary taxable values for 2025 total \$2,883,110,138, an increase of \$281,883,409, with \$186,803,813 attributable to net new taxable construction.

Auburndale has historically levied a low tax millage, or property tax, to help fund general government expenditures including Public Safety, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, the Public Library, Community Development and other General Fund activities. The current and proposed tax rate of 4.2515 mills represents the lowest municipal tax levy in Polk County and generates \$11,640,000, an increase of \$1,130,000 over the current year total ad valorem proceeds. The significant increase in ad valorem proceeds is as a result of annexations, the continued growth in new commercial and residential construction, and the inflation in property values within the incorporated City limits.

To continue to meet the City's standard of delivering high-quality service as new businesses and residents move into the City, significant investments in personnel, infrastructure, and park space investments are needed and have been programmed into the City's aggressive Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan (5-Year CIP). To accomplish those planned future capital expenditures, the budget maintains the City's conservative approach of setting aside reserve funds to be utilized as a future offset. The additional revenues generated by the increased ad valorem base will allow the City of Auburndale to maintain the lowest operating millage rate in Polk County, while at the same time continuing a high level of customer service and quality of life for our citizens and businesses. City Manager Tillman presented a chart depicting millage rates in Polk County.

The General Fund proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026 includes \$4,570,000 of reserve funding as revenue coming into the budget from monies set aside in previous budget years to complete various projects. In addition, \$5,050,000 of reserve funding is allocated as an expense, or reserve funding to complete various projects in the future. A large portion of the reserve funding being set aside is for future park improvements at the Lake Myrtle Sports complex.

The largest General Fund expenditures within the various departments in Fiscal Year 2026 include the redevelopment of the Public Works Facility totaling \$1,880,000, Lake Myrtle Ski Lake Improvements in the amount of \$1,700,000, street resurfacing including a portion of the Auburndale-TECO Trail totaling \$1,350,000, the purchase of a new Fire Pumper Truck in the amount of \$761,164, eight (8) new vehicles in the Police Department at \$688,181, and the design and engineering of Fire Station #2 in the amount \$500,000.

The Auburndale Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) was created in February 1992. The Community Redevelopment Agency was created to develop and implement a Community Redevelopment Plan to redevelop, rehabilitate, and conserve its Community Redevelopment Agency district. The time certain for completing the planned projects of the Community Redevelopment Agency Plan was twenty (20) years, or through 2012. Florida Statutes were amended in 2002 to allow extension of the term. The Auburndale Community Redevelopment Agency Board voted in May 2005 to amend the Plan to extend the time certain to complete all redevelopment financed by increment revenues to thirty (30) years from adoption of the amendment, or through 2035.

The Community Redevelopment Agency Fund also benefits from increased activities and increased property values within the Community Redevelopment Agency District. The Community Redevelopment Agency Fund proposed budget is balanced at \$2,421,229. The Proposed Biennial Budgets allocate \$1,480,036 in new increment funding from Polk County and \$941,093 from the City of Auburndale.

The Budgets provide \$500,000 in Fiscal Year 2026 to master plan the Wiley Drive Streetscape; the Splash Pad, Dog Park, and Skateboard Park located at the old Miss Auburndale Softball fields; and expansion of the Cindy Hummel Tennis Center to include additional tennis and pickleball courts. The Fiscal Year 2026 Community

Redevelopment Agency Budget includes \$1,000,000 to begin design and construction of the Splash Pad once the master plan is complete with an additional \$2,000,000 budgeted in Fiscal Year 2027 to complete the project.

The Community Redevelopment Agency Board gave tentative approval to the proposed Community Redevelopment Agency Budget on June 16, 2025.

The Public Utilities Fund accounts for the activities associated with providing potable water and sewer collection, treatment, and disposal services to area residents and businesses. The Public Utilities Fund derives its revenue from fees collected to address the operating and capital needs of our municipal utility services and to maintain the financial stability of the system.

The Public Utilities Fund proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget is \$27,280,191 not including the inter-fund transfer to the City's General Fund, needed for balancing. The interfund transfer proposed in the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget is \$3,435,166.

In May 2023, the City completed the Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility Service Area Evaluation. Several large-scale capital sewer system improvements were identified to allow for future development in Auburndale and were included in the City's Five-Year Public Utilities Capital Improvement Plan. These projects are all in progress either in the design phase, under construction, or nearing completion.

The largest expenditures within the Public Utilities Department in Fiscal Year 2026 are \$3,000,000 to begin the design and engineering of expansion of the Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility, \$2,800,000 for the construction of the Northern Force Main, \$2,300,000 to complete the Southern Force Main Re-Route project, \$1,500,000 for construction of Phase III of the Gapway Force Main, and \$1,600,000 for design and construction of the Hickory Road Sprayfield to add additional discharge capacity of effluent wastewater. The Fiscal Year 2026 Budget also provides funding in the amount of \$500,000 to replace or repair aging utility infrastructure system-wide.

The General Fund Impact Fee Fund is projected in Fiscal Year 2026 to generate \$250,250 in Fire Impact Fees, \$135,800 in Police Impact Fees, and \$309,925 in Recreation Impact Fees. These dollars are used to offset eligible expenses in each of these departments or placed in reserves for future expenses.

The Public Utility Connection Fee Fund is projected in Fiscal Year 2026 to generate \$775,950 in Water Impact Fees, \$1,490,300 in Sewer Impact Fees, and \$23,000 in Fire Sprinkler Impact Fees. These dollars are all used to help offset and pay debt service.

One of the more important and underlying reasons for the two-year budget process is that City Staff and the City Commission can give more attention to future community needs and look at how resources will be allocated to meet those needs. One of the tools used to meet this need is integrating the two-year budget process with the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). This allows for the blending of the City's more aggressive planning process with a more stable and consistent budget process.

In the same Ordinance that the City Commission will adopt the Biennial Budget, the Commission will also be adopting a revised Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan. The City of Auburndale maintains an aggressive capital improvement program targeted to improve aging or inadequate infrastructure, redevelopment needs, and for enhanced recreation facilities. Many of the projects in the City's Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan are multi-year programs that begin in one year and continue construction, or completion into future fiscal years.

All projects in the first two years of the Capital Improvement Plan are incorporated into the proposed Biennial Budget.

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The Payroll Section of the Budget provides the necessary funding for staffing levels to adequately deliver an accepted level of service to our citizens. In addition to salaries, the Payroll Section provides incentive funding for certifications and education, longevity pay, and automatic adjustments for employees completing the one-year probationary period and completing four, six, eight, and now ten years of service. The proposed budgets provide a 4% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for all City employees in Fiscal Year 2026 and no cost of living adjustment in Fiscal Year 2027.

The proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Payroll Budget operates with a staffing level of 231 full and part-time employees, an increase of twelve (12) full-time employees. The proposed positions include:

- 4 – Police Department: 4 – Police Officers (2 Patrol, 1 Detective, 1 Proactive)
- 3 – Parks & Recreation: Parks Superintendent, Facilities Supervisor, & Service Worker III
- 2 – Fire Department: 2 – Firefighters
- 1 – IT Department: Systems Analyst
- 1 – Public Utilities: Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator
- 1 – City Manager’s Office: Human Resource Manager

The proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Payroll Budget includes a restructuring in the Police Department to include a Captain position in the chain-of-command. No additional positions are budgeted as a result of the restructuring.

The 2025 Salary Study prepared by Creative Insights of Lutz and University of South Florida Professor John Daly identified issues important to staying competitive with the local job market particular to certain positions within the City. Based on the Salary Study with staff review, the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Payroll Budget also reflects a pay adjustment for the Deputy Fire Chief and Deputy Police Chief.

The conceptual Fiscal Year 2027 Payroll Budget proposes an increase of eleven (11) full and part-time employees. The proposed positions include:

- 3 – Fire Department: 2 – Firefighters, Training Officer
- 3 – Police Department: 2 – Police Officers (K9) & Part-Time Property & Evidence Custodian
- 3 – Parks & Recreation: 3 – Service Worker II (Lake Myrtle Football & Softball)
- 2 – Public Utilities: Service Worker III (Locates), Service Worker II (Allred)

Total payroll including Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) and miscellaneous certificate and education pay in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 equals \$15.21 million, an increase of 11.59%.

During the planning process of the two-year budget, City Staff projects a 10% increase in health insurance premium costs for each year. The City was recently notified that due to claim history over the past year, a 38.6% increase will take effect in Fiscal Year 2026. Total health insurance costs in Fiscal Year 2026 are projected at \$2,391,893 representing an additional cost of \$603,200 compared to the current year Adopted Budget.

The Fiscal Year 2026 and Fiscal Year 2027 Budgets are estimated conservatively as growth indicators have declined year-over-year due to sewer capacity availability. The City completed the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Service Area Evaluation that identified several large-scale capital sewer system improvements needed for future development in Auburndale. Design and engineering have now been completed on all major sewer infrastructure projects with several of the projects beginning construction, have portions of the infrastructure completed, or nearing completion. The City Commission has approved numerous developer’s agreements since the Study was completed. As the various sewer projects are completed, development and growth is anticipated to increase in future years. Due to the large demand on the sewer infrastructure and anticipated future growth, the City’s consulting engineer and staff have begun studying the expansion of the

Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility from four million gallons per day of sewer treatment capacity to six million gallons per day.

On the horizon additional future large capital improvements include the construction of a North Auburndale Fire Station, continued development of the facilities at Lake Myrtle, the construction of a passive park on Lake Mattie, and the purchase of additional cemetery property as we continue to create improvements in providing services, amenities, and an exceptional quality of life for our residents and businesses.

City Manager Tillman said it is with great pleasure to present to the City Commission the City of Auburndale spending plan for the next two years. Mr. Tillman said he cannot thank City employees enough for the exceptional job they do every day. He also thanked the City Commission for the honor of serving as the City Manager for the City of Auburndale and the continued support of all our employees. There is not a better City Commission to have the honor to work with.

City Manager Tillman passed out the proposed budget to the City Commission.

Commissioner Cowie said he appreciates the City Manager's presentation and appreciates staff. It was very well put together. He wishes more citizens were here to see this and how much work goes into it.

Mayor Taylor Bogert thanked staff. She is grateful that the budget is broken up into bite-sized pieces over several months to review and analyze. A lot of commissions do not do that. She asked if there is a timeline for the Community Redevelopment Agency Plan Update?

City Manager Tillman answered we are looking at starting that process, that at the next Community Redevelopment Agency meeting there would be a workshop to present some information and recommendations. He defers to Assistant City Manager Amy Palmer.

Mayor Taylor Bogert said she is very proud that for the 8th year we have not raised taxes. She thanked staff for keeping things in order. She asked if we are doing anything special for the Nation's 250th Independence Day?

City Manager Tillman said there will be a very special July 4th at the new Lake Ariana Park. It is a great suggestion to include the 250th anniversary as a component of that.

Mayor Taylor Bogert expressed her gratitude.

Mayor Taylor Bogert expressed condolences regarding the loss of K-9 Officer Cal at the Police Department.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:08:17 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Minutes are true and correct.



Brandon Henry, City Clerk