

IN COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 20, 2026 VOL 38 PAGE 71

Mayor Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of Auburn Hall and led the assembly in the salute to the flag. Student Representatives Abdulahi and Edwards were absent. Councilor Randall was absent.

I. Consent Items

- 1) ORDER 13-01202026 – Comprehensive Plan Committee appointments.
- 2) ORDER 14-01202026 – Appointing City Manager Phil Crowell as Representative to the Maine Service Centers Coalition, and Assistant City Manager Denis D’Auteuil as Alternate.
- 3) ORDER 15-01202026 – Confirming Chief Moen’s appointment of John Nguyen as Constable with Firearm for the Auburn Police Department.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Gerry. Motion passed 6-0.

II. Minutes – January 5, 2026 Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Walker moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilor Cowan. Motion passed 6-0.

III. Communications, Presentations and Recognitions

IV. Open Session

None.

V. Unfinished Business

- 1) ORDINANCE 01-01052026 - Recommendation by the Auburn Planning Board pursuant to Chapter 60, Article XVII, Division 2, Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map to rezone Airport-owned land from Suburban Residential (Parcel ID: 156-015) to the Industrial zoning district. Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-0 on a roll call vote.

- 2) ORDINANCE 02-01052026 - Recommendation by the Auburn Planning Board pursuant to Chapter 60, Article XVII, Division 2, Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Zoning Map to rezone Airport-owned land from Low-Density Country Residential (Parcel ID: 107-011) to the Industrial zoning district. Second reading/public hearing. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Councilor Walker moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Duvall. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-0 on a roll call vote.

VI. New Business

1) ORDER 16-01202026 - Initiating a Chapter 60 (Zoning Ordinance) amendment for Planning Board consideration to increase protections for important farmland and natural resources.

Councilor Platz moved for passage to refer this to the Planning Board and to the Sustainability and Natural Resources Management Board and that they report back to the city council no later than 2/25/2026. Seconded by Councilor Cowan. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-0.

2) ORDINANCE 03-01202026 – Granting a 180 day moratorium extension regarding Needle Exchange Services. First reading. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Councilor Gerry moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Cowan. There was no comment from the public. Motion passed 6-0.

3) ORDINANCE 04-01202026 – Granting a 180 day moratorium prohibiting rent or fee increases at Mobile Home Parks. First reading. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Councilor Platz moved for passage, seconded by Councilor Butler. There following spoke on this item:

Frank LeClair, Washington Park Rd
Juliette St Amand, Washington Park Rd
Sharon Dickinson, Jayland
Julie FRANCOEUR, Lexis Ln

Motion passed 6-0 on a roll call vote.

VII. Reports

a. Mayor’s Report – Attended the open house and master plan meeting for the airport and provided an update on that meeting.

b. City Councilors’ Reports – Councilor Gerry thanked the Age Friendly Community Committee for their clothing drive event held at 121 Mill St. Councilor Cowan shared updates of the Homelessness Committee and The Drop In Center; working on budget requests and counts for individuals identifying as homeless in the community; provided an update on the Lewiston warming center; 500 individuals have been served and averaging about 113 people per night; transportation is being provided between the warming center and 121 Mill St. Councilor Duvall provided an update of the SNRB. Councilor Butler provided an update on the LA 911 Committee. Councilor Walker thanked the Age Friendly

Community Committee for their clothing drive event held at 121 Mill St. Councilor Platz provided an update on the School Committee' fund balance project.

c. Student Representative Report – None.

d. City Manager Report – Notified the public about enrollment options to receive update notifications from the City; the application for the Senior Tax Assistance Program is now available on the website; next week, Public Works will be launching Salt Week to include information about the use of salt on roads.

e. Quarterly Finance Report (Q2) – Kelsey Earle, Finance Director
Councilor Walker moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Cowan.
Motion passed 6-0.

VIII. Open Session

None.

IX. Executive Session

X. Adjournment

Councilor Cowan moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Walker. Motion passed 6-0.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST

Emily F. Carrington, City Clerk