

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

January 2015

City Council

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City Council

In August, Auburn voters elected the members of the 2014 – 2018 City Council. In November, the new Council began its term with a swearing in ceremony conducted by Municipal Judge Jim McLaughlin.

The following nine individuals will represent Auburn residents as the City's elected officials for the next four years:



Mayor
Bill Ham, Jr.



Ward 1
(District 1, Post 1)
Clemon Byrd



Ward 2
(District 1, Post 2)
Ron Anders



Ward 3
(District 2, Post 1)
Beth Witten



Ward 4
(District 2, Post 2)
Brent Beard



Ward 5
(District 3, Post 1)
Lynda Tremaine



Ward 6
(District 3, Post 2)
Dick Phelan



Ward 7
(District 4, Post 1)
Gene Dulaney



Ward 8
(District 4, Post 2)
Tommy Dawson

Under Alabama's Council-Manager law, the Mayor represents the City at large and is a voting member of the City Council. He and the other eight Council members set the policy for the city, approve the city's two-year budget and pass local laws. The City Council also appoints citizens to serve as members of the many boards and commissions of our City government, including the Auburn City School Board, the Auburn Water Works Board and the Planning Commission. The City Council appoints the City Manager, who is responsible for the day to day operation of the city.

An active, involved citizenry is a key component of Auburn's city government and Auburn's City Councils have had a long history of seeking the community's input in decision making. Citizens are encouraged to speak at any of the 24 Council meetings held each year, take part in the numerous public meetings that characterize major city initiatives such as CompPlan 2030, Renew Opelika Road and the Downtown Master Plan. One of the most important ways the Council receives citizen input is through the annual Citizen Survey, the results of which are key in setting the City's budget priorities.

There are many ways to communicate with your City Council. Contact information for each councilperson can be found on the front page of every Open Line newsletter and on the City of Auburn's web site at www.auburnalabama.org/CC. If you're not sure which Council member represents you, you can look up your Council member using the Public Service Maps found at www.auburnalabama.org/maps (click "Interactive Maps" and then "Public Service Map)."

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City of Auburn



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Receive Updates via eNotifier

Stay informed on City news and events by subscribing to the City's eNotifier. Sign up at www.auburnalabama.org/eNotifier to receive email or text notifications about City of Auburn news and announcements including: City Council and Planning Commission agenda announcements, City press releases, trash and recycling pickup announcements, job vacancy announcements, Parks and Recreation news, Library news and more. Sign up for the lists that interest you to receive the information you want by email or text.

You can also follow the City of Auburn on Twitter and Facebook to stay informed on City of Auburn news and events.

Board Vacancies

Two vacancies on the **Board of Zoning Adjustment** and one vacancy on the **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board** were announced at the December 2, 2014 meeting and will be filled at the January 6, 2015 City Council Meeting.



Citizens interested in serving are encouraged to contact their City Council member or notify the City Manager's Office.

Reporting Street Light Outages

It gets dark early during the winter months causing us to depend on our street lights even more. To report a street light outage please call Alabama Power at 800-245-2244.

Free Parking Downtown

The Auburn City Code sets as a free parking "holiday" the period of time from Auburn University Graduation day through the day before classes begin the next semester. This winter, free parking will be available downtown from Monday, December 15th through Tuesday, January 13th. Downtown parking is also free on Monday, January 20 for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Enjoy free parking as you shop, dine and do business in downtown Auburn.

ShopAuburn

Don't forget to ShopAuburn to help keep sales tax dollars local. Revenue from Auburn's sales tax funds our award winning school system, enables the paving and maintenance of our roads, funds police and fire protection and makes possible community events, such as Auburn City-Fest.

2015 Holiday Collection Schedule

Please keep this schedule as a handy reference to the 2015 holiday collection schedule. Subscribe to the City's eNotifier at www.auburnalabama.org/eNotifier for announcements of these and other changes throughout the year.

New Year's Day Holiday

Monday, December 29 - No Change
Tuesday, December 30 - No Change
Wednesday, December 31 - No Change
Thursday, January 1 - Holiday
Friday, January 2 - Thursday's route

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Monday, January 19 - Holiday
Tuesday, January 20 - Monday's route
Wednesday, January 21 - Tuesday's route
Thursday, January 22 - Wednesday's route
Friday, January 23 - Thursday's route

Memorial Day Holiday

Monday, May 25 - Holiday
Tuesday, May 26 - Monday's route
Wednesday, May 27 - Tuesday's route
Thursday, May 28 - Wednesday's route
Friday, May 29 - Thursday's route

Independence Day Holiday (Saturday)

Monday, June 29 - No Change
Tuesday, June 30 - No Change
Wednesday, July 1 - No Change
Thursday, July 3 - No Change

Labor Day Holiday

Monday, September 7 - Holiday
Tuesday, September 8 - Monday's route
Wednesday, September 9 - Tuesday's route
Thursday, September 10 - Wednesday's route
Friday, September 11 - Thursday's route

Veterans Day Holiday

Monday, November 9 - No Change
Tuesday, November 10 - No Change
Wednesday, November 11 - Holiday
Thursday, November 12 - Wednesday's route
Friday, November 13 - Thursday's route

Thanksgiving Holiday

Monday, November 23 - No Change
Tuesday, November 24 - No Change
Wednesday, November 25 - Wednesday's/Thursday's route
Thursday, November 26 - Holiday
Friday, November 27 - Holiday

Christmas Holiday

Monday, December 21 - No Change
Tuesday, December 22 - No Change
Wednesday, December 23 - No Change
Thursday, December 24 - No Change
Friday, December 25 - Holiday

Carts and recycled materials must be placed at the curb for collection by 6 a.m. on your scheduled collection day. All carts and recycling bins must be removed from the curb by 6 a.m. the following day. The holiday collection schedule is available online at www.auburnalabama.org/pickup. For more information call 501-3080.

Post-Holiday Digital Services Open House

Did you get a new computer or mobile device for the holidays? Do you have questions about how to use it, or do you want to learn how to download ebooks, digital magazines, and streaming videos? Drop by the Auburn Public Library for our **Post-Holiday Digital Services Open House**. Our friendly staff will help you with the basics of using your device, and we'll show you how to access downloadable content with your library card.

Drop in anytime during the following open house sessions:

Tuesday, January 6

12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 7

12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 8

12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Patrons can also call the Auburn Public Library at 334-501-3190 to set up an appointment for one-on-one assistance.

3rd Annual Polar Plunge

Sign up, dive in, and raise money for a great cause! Brave the cold at the 3rd Annual Polar Plunge on Saturday, Jan. 31 at 9 a.m. at Samford Pool. Registration is free. Participants are encouraged to recruit sponsors in support of taking the plunge for Lee County Special Olympics. A free t-shirt is included with registration for participants with a minimum of \$20 in sponsors. Individual and group costumes are encouraged! Register online at www.auburnalabama.org/specialolympics.

Presented by Auburn Parks and Recreation and Lee County Special Olympics. Proceeds benefit Lee County Special Olympics

MEETING SCHEDULE JANUARY

- 5 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- 6 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- Committee of the Whole**, 6:55 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 7 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 8 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 9 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 714 E. Glenn Avenue
- 13 Greenspace Advisory Board**, Noon, Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., DSB Conference Room, 171 North Ross Street
- Board of Education**, 6 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room, 405 South Dean Road
- 20 Committee of the Whole**, 6:55 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 22 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room, 1501 West Samford Avenue
- 27 Library Board**, 2 p.m., Library Conference Room, 749 East Thach Avenue

Meeting times and places are subject to change.

For more information, including a map of City meeting locations, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/boards.



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Open Line Feedback

Do you have any suggestions, feedback, or story ideas that you would like to share?

If so, please contact us at openline@auburnalabama.org or call 501-7266.

up COMING EVENTS

Due to space considerations, we are unable to publicize events that are not directly affiliated with a City department.

Auburn Public Library

For more information, contact Auburn Public Library's Youth Services at 501-3196.

EARLY LITERACY PROGRAMS

Baby Time – Tuesdays at 10 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. for ages birth – 18 months and their caregivers.

Toddler Time – Wednesdays at 10 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. for ages 18 months – 3 years and their caregivers.

Preschool Time – Thursdays at 10 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. for preschoolers ages 3 – 5 years and their caregivers.

Pajama Time – Monday, January 12 at 7:00 p.m. for the whole family. Put on your pajamas, grab a blanket, and join us for cozy stories, music, and family fun!

Fractured Fairytales – Wednesday, January 14 at 3:30 p.m. for ages 4 – 7. Featuring *Ninja Red Riding Hood* by Corey Rosen Schwartz.

Family Story Time – Sunday, January 25 at 4:00 p.m. Bring the whole family and join us for stories, songs, parachute games, and family fun.

Spectrum Story Time – Saturday, January 24 at 10:00 a.m. and Thursday, January 29 at 7:00 p.m. Spectrum Story Time is an educational and interactive program specially designed for children with sensory integration challenges and their caregivers. For cognitive ages 4 – 7. Registration is required. For more information or to register, please call Youth Services at 501-3196.

YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAMS

Puppet Show – Wednesday, December 7 at 3:30 p.m. for ages 3 – 7. Featuring "Three Billy Goats Gruff."

ESL/ELL HOMEWORK HELP – For grades K-12. Tuesdays, January 6, 13, 20, 27 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. No appointment necessary.

Legomania – Join us every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for "free play" with Legos®.

FOR TEENS AND TWEENS

Gamers' Club – Thursday, January 8 at 4:00 p.m. for ages 9 – 12 and Thursday, January 15 at 4:00 p.m. for ages 13 – 18. For more information call Youth Services at 501-3196.

LitWits – Tuesday, January 13 and Tuesday, January 27 at 4:30 p.m. for ages 13 – 18. January 13 – Short Stories. January 27 – Animal Stories.

Parks and Recreation

For more information on any of the events listed, or to pre-register for a program, contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930 or visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks.

On Sale Now...Daddy-Daughter Date Night 2015 "Frozen Enchantment" - Dads and daughters, don't miss Daddy-Daughter Date Night 2015 at the Clarion Inn & Suites on Thursday, Feb. 5 from 5:30 - 8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, Feb. 6 and 7, from 6:30 - 9 p.m. Join us for music from DJ Ozz, a dance contest, refreshments, and much more! This event is open to girls 12 and under. Tickets are \$35/couple and \$5/additional daughter. **Purchase tickets exclusively online at www.auburnalabama.org/parks.**

Due Jan. 2...Spring Baseball Coaching Applications – The Auburn Baseball/Softball Association is recruiting coaches for spring baseball. Applications are available online at www.auburnalabama.org/baseball.

Jan. 5 - Feb. 6...Winter Invitational 2015 - The Winter Invitational 2015 will be on display at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Jan. 5 - Feb. 6. This invitational exhibition features two and three-dimensional works based on a common theme. The gallery is free and open to the public weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Beginning Jan. 12...Online Baseball, Softball, and T-Ball Registration – Online registration for spring baseball, softball, and t-ball begins Monday, Jan. 12. Log on to www.auburnalabama.org/baseball to register. Registration ends Saturday, Jan. 31. Walk-in registration will be held Saturday, Jan. 31 from 10 a.m. - noon at the Dean Road Recreation Center.

Beginning Jan. 12...Online Soccer Registration – Online registration for youth soccer begins Monday, Jan. 12 and continues through Wednesday, Jan. 28. Log on to www.auburnalabama.org/soccer to register. Walk-in registration will be held Wednesday, Jan. 28 from 6 – 7 p.m. at the Auburn Soccer Complex.

Feb. 7...2nd Annual Empty Bowls Event - Auburn Parks and Recreation's Dean Road Ceramics Studio and Opelika Parks and Recreation's Denson Drive Recreation Center will host the 2nd Annual Empty Bowls event on Saturday, Feb. 7 at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. Purchase tickets at the Dean Road Ceramics Studio or the Denson Drive Recreation Center. Each ticket entitles patrons to receive their choice of a handmade bowl created by studio potters and a selection of soup, chili, and bread donated by local restaurants.

Feb. 14...26th Annual Love Your Heart Run and 8th Annual Crank Your Heart Ride – Mark your calendars for Saturday, Feb. 14 and join the Exceptional Outreach Organization and Auburn Parks and Recreation for the 26th Annual Love Your Heart Run and 8th Annual Crank Your Heart Ride, benefiting individuals with special needs and Lee County Special Olympics. Run or walk the Love Your Heart 10K (6.2 mile) course or walk the one-mile course. Ride the 3.5, 11, or 22 mile bike ride OR sign up for BOTH events! All routes begin and end at Chewacada State Park. Participants registered by Wednesday, Feb. 4 are guaranteed a t-shirt. Race day registration begins at 6:15 a.m. Register online at www.loveyourheartrun.com.