



CITY OF AUBURN HILLS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

JULY 21, 2025

CALL TO ORDER & Mayor Marzolf at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

LOCATION: Council Chamber, 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills MI

ROLL CALL: Present: Council Members Ferguson, Fletcher, Hawkins, Knight, Marzolf, and Verbeke
Absent: Council Member McDaniel

Also Present: City Manager Tanghe, Asst City Manager Skopek, City Attorney Kelly, City Clerk Pierce, Police Chief Gagnon, Fire Chief Massingill, Community Development Director Cohen, Asst Dir of Community Development Lang, DPW Director Baldante, Asst to the Mgr Hagge, Engineer Driesenga

13 Guests

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4a. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes, July 7, 2025

Moved by Knight, Seconded by Ferguson.

RESOLVED: To approve the City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of July 7, 2025.

VOTE: Yes: Ferguson, Fletcher, Hawkins, Knight, Marzolf, Verbeke

No: None

Resolution No. 25.07.113

Motion Carried (6 - 0)

5. APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

5a. Motion – To confirm the appointment of Sonya Thomas to the Elected Officials Compensation Commission.

Dr. Thomas commented that she is honored to be appointed to this position.

Moved by Ferguson, Seconded by Fletcher.

RESOLVED: To confirm the appointment of Dr. Sonya Thomas to the Elected Officials Compensation Commission for a term ending on July 31, 2031.

VOTE: Yes: Ferguson, Fletcher, Hawkins, Knight, Marzolf, Verbeke

No: None

Resolution No. 25.07.114

Motion Carried (6 - 0)

5b. Motion – To confirm the appointment of Tamara Walker to the Election Commission.

Mrs. Walker shared her excitement to serve on this commission.

Moved by Fletcher, Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To confirm the appointment of Tamara Walker to the Election Commission for a term ending December 31, 2027.

VOTE: Yes: Ferguson, Fletcher, Hawkins, Knight, Marzolf, Verbeke

No: None

Resolution No. 25.07.115

Motion Carried (6 - 0)

5c. Motion - To confirm the appointment of Itanya Montgomery to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Ms. Montgomery stated she is here to serve the community and is pleased to be appointed to this board.

Moved by Verbeke, Seconded by Fletcher.

RESOLVED: To confirm the appointment of Itanya Montgomery to the Zoning Board of Appeals to fulfill the remainder of a vacated three-year term, ending on July 31, 2027.

VOTE: Yes: Ferguson, Fletcher, Hawkins, Knight, Marzolf, Verbeke

No: None

Resolution No. 25.07.116

Motion Carried (6 - 0)

5d. Motion - To confirm the appointment of Jordan Vankuren to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mr. Vankuren commented that he has enjoyed watching Auburn Hills grow over the years and is happy to serve on this board.

Moved by Verbeke, Seconded by Ferguson.

RESOLVED: To confirm the appointment of Jordan Vankuren to the Zoning Board of Appeals ending on July 31, 2028.

VOTE: Yes: Ferguson, Fletcher, Hawkins, Knight, Marzolf, Verbeke

No: None

Resolution No. 25.07.117

Motion Carried (6 - 0)

5e. Motion – To confirm the reappointment of Jay Boelter to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Moved by Ferguson, Seconded by Knight.

RESOLVED: To confirm the reappointment of Jay Boelter to the Zoning Board of Appeals for an additional three-year term ending on July 31, 2028.

VOTE: Yes: Ferguson, Fletcher, Hawkins, Knight, Marzolf, Verbeke

No: None

Resolution No. 25.07.118

Motion Carried (6 - 0)

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

7a. Motion – To authorize a change order to the contract with Rich & Associates for professional services for architectural and engineering design.

RESOLVED: To authorize change order number five to the contract for professional services for architectural and engineering design with Rich & Associates in the amount of \$18,735. Furthermore, amend the 2025 General Fund Capital Improvements Department budget to increase appropriations by \$18,735 in support of this change order.

7b. Motion - To authorize the installation of the City Hall Counter Barrier Project.

RESOLVED: To authorize the installation of the City Hall Counter Barrier Project.

7c. Motion – To adopt the Resolution Designating July as Park and Recreation Month.

RESOLVED: To adopt the Resolution Designating July as Park and Recreation Month. (Attachment A)

Moved by Verbeke, Seconded by Fletcher.

RESOLVED: To approve the Consent Agenda.

VOTE: Yes: Ferguson, Fletcher, Hawkins, Knight, Marzolf, Verbeke

No: None

Resolution No. 25.07.119

Motion Carried (6 - 0)

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

9a. Motion – Approval of a One-Year Extension of the Special Land Use Permit, Site Plan, and Tree Removal Permit / The Learning Experience.

Mr. Cohen presented the request from the Five Points Community Church for a one-year extension for a 10,000-foot childcare facility that was previously approved.

Mr. Martoia, representing the church shared that they have found a new developer to help them in this process. He explained that the last developer pulled out of the project. He is confident that the new developer will work with them on all the details.

Moved by Fletcher, Seconded by Hawkins.

RESOLVED: To approve a one-year extension of the Special Land Use Permit, Site Plan, and Tree Removal Permit for The Learning Experience. The approval shall expire on July 15, 2026.

VOTE: Yes: Ferguson, Fletcher, Hawkins, Knight, Marzolf, Verbeke

No: None

Resolution No. 25.07.120

Motion Carried (6 - 0)

10. COMMENTS AND MOTIONS FROM COUNCIL

Mr. Knight asked about the durability of the patching of Squirrel Road. Mr. Baldante commented that currently the maintenance is on certain panels. In 2035, Squirrel Road will receive improvements. Mr. Knight also asked about the timeframe of the Webster Apartment building. Mr. Lang stated they are approximately a month behind schedule but are on track to being enclosed by winter.

Mr. Hawkins shared that the city website has been updated.

Mayor Marzolf shared his concerns regarding the pedestrian crossing between the Webster and Johnny Black. The walkway is inaccessible, and people have to walk into the street.

City Council commented on their appreciation for the hard work that went into the Public Square and the lovely ribbon cutting.

11. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

12. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Tanghe shared that the Public Square funds were gathered by public grants, donations and TIFA and that no tax dollars were used. He also commented on the ribbon cutting that took place on July 15 for the updates

to the disc golf course at Civic Center Park. It was noted that this course is one of the first 10 in the state of Michigan.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Verbeke, Seconded by Fletcher.

RESOLVED: To adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: Yes: Ferguson, Fletcher, Hawkins, Knight, Marzolf, Verbeke

No: None

Resolution No. 25.07.121

Motion Carried (6 - 0)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 PM.

Brian W. Marzolf, Mayor

Laura M. Pierce, City Clerk

ATTACHMENT A

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING JULY AS PARK AND RECREATION MONTH

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Auburn Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, held in City Council Chambers at 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326 at 7:00 p.m., on the 21st day of July, 2025.

The following resolution was offered by Council Member Verbeke and seconded by Council Member Fletcher:

WHEREAS parks and recreation is an integral part of the communities throughout this country, including the City of Auburn Hills; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation promotes health and wellness, improving the physical and mental health of people who live near parks; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation promotes time spent in nature, which positively impacts mental health by increasing cognitive performance and well-being and alleviating illnesses such as depression, attention deficit disorders, and Alzheimer's, and

WHEREAS parks and recreation encourage physical activities by providing space for popular sports and hiking trails. Swimming pools, and many other activities designed to promote active lifestyles; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation is a leading provider of healthy meals, nutrition services, and education; and

WHEREAS park and recreation programming and education activities, such as out-of-school time programming, youth sports and environmental education, are critical to childhood development and

WHEREAS parks and recreation increases a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation is fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS park and recreation is essential and adaptable infrastructure that makes our communities resilient in the face of natural disasters and climate change; and

WHEREAS our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS the U.S. House of Representatives has designed July as Parks and Recreation Month;
and

WHEREAS the City of Auburn Hills recognizes the benefits of parks and recreation resources.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the City of Auburn Hills that July is recognized as Parks and Recreation Month in the City of Auburn Hills.

AYES: 6 (Ferguson, Fletcher, Hawkins, Knight, Marzolf, Verbeke)

NAYES: None

ABSENT: 1 (McDaniel)

ABSTENTIONS: None

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

I, the undersigned, the duly appointed City Clerk for the City of Auburn Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Auburn Hills City Council held on the 21st day of July, 2025.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature on this ____ day of ____, 2025.

Laura M. Pierce, City Clerk