Auburn Mayor and Council Members Sworn In

(KLZA)-- Auburn Mayor Scott Kudrna was sworn in for another four-year term Monday night during the monthly Council meeting. Newly elected Third Ward Councilman Chris Erickson was sworn in and recently re-elected Council members Shawn Clark and Katy Billings were also given the oath of office.

Later in the meeting Billings was elected Council President for the next year.

A public hearing was held to receive testimony related to the proposed Board of Public Works proprietary budget statement. Much of the discussion centered on water and sewer rates. Board of Public Works Manager Dave Hunter said in the water department it would take a 40-percent increase in rates to keep up without utilizing depreciation. He said there are no plans to implement such an increase and that no major capital expenditures are planned for the next year. Following the hearing the budget was approved.

The Auburn Council also approved going forward with matching funds for a grant received for new emergency siren upgrades in the community. Enough grant money will be received to purchase three new sirens. Two of the newest sirens the city has will be re-used.

The council also approved a maintenance agreement for the Nebraska Department of Roads to do snow removal of Highways 75 and 136 through Auburn.

A resolution was adopted to leave the STOP signs up on 14th Street that were put up during the Highway 136 construction project.

A number of drawdowns were approved for housing rehab projects in Auburn and favorable comment was given to the manager application for the Shopko Hometown liquor license.

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