

October 23, 2023

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Aurora took place on Monday, October 23, 2023, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The Board met in-person at the Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Avenue, East Aurora, New York. The meeting was streamed via Zoom and YouTube.

Present:	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	Luke Wochensky	Councilman
	Joseph McCann	Councilman
	James F. Granville	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Others Present:	Brigid Maloney	Town Attorney
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Code Enforcement Officer
	Paul Ernst	ZBA Chairman
	Doug Crow	Planning Board Chairman
	Elizabeth Wilber	Live Stream Coordinator

Supervisor Bach opened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor Bach opened the Public Hearing on the 2024 Preliminary Budget at 7:01 p.m.. The notice was published in the East Aurora Advertiser, posted on the Town Clerk's bulletin board and posted on the Town website. Supervisor Bach reviewed a PowerPoint presentation of the budget, noting that the Town's 2024 budget will be under the tax cap. The PowerPoint included a tax rate summary of all funds, fund balance use, and what expenses are included in the funds. After the presentation the Supervisor asked if anyone wished to comment.

Hearing no one, Supervisor Bach closed the hearing at 7:13 p.m.

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Councilman McCann moved to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2023 work session and meeting. Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.	Action #334 10/10/2023 minutes aprvd
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AUDIENCE I:

Therese Campanelli, Olean Street, noted her opposition to the rezoning of a lot on Olean Road to C2 (commercial). Ms. Campanelli stated that the Town of Elma just approved a golf venue on Seneca Street near Sahlen's sports center.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Board discussed the request from Harrison Kelly to rezone a parcel of land that he owns on Olean Road from A and RR to C2 in order to develop a golf center on the property.

CEO Cassidy stated that the (unadopted) Comprehensive Plan suggests that Olean from the Village line to Blakeley Road be a commercial corridor. Ms. Cassidy noted the first step would be rezoning only. If the rezoning local law is adopted then the allowable permitted uses would be in effect. Then site plan approval and a special use permit would need to be applied for before anything could be developed on the property. SEQR would also apply and this whole process could take several months.

Ms. Cassidy stated that the Town could rezone a portion of the property, apply restrictive covenants or a conservation easement on the property.

Councilman Wochensky stated that he feels a conservation easement or restrictive covenants would be best. Councilman Snyder felt that the whole parcel could be rezoned with a conservation easement for a buffer to the property to the south. Mr. Snyder noted that the decision to rezone should not be based on the golf plan because rezoning would be for any business allowed in a C2 zone.

Planning Board Chairman Doug Crow stated that this issue was before the Planning Board before, but they did not consider all the things the Town Board is discussing tonight.

Councilman Wochensky suggested sending it back to the Planning Board and asking them to consider if rezoning this parcel to C2 would be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and if it meets the plans criteria.

Councilman Granville moved to refer the request to rezone 600 Olean Road to C2 back to the Planning Board for further review of the rezoning and of the buffer area. Councilman Snyder seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #335
Olean
rezoning sent
back to
Planning Brd

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman McCann moved to amend the agenda by adding item 6G – Dental Plan and item 6H – cancel 10/25/23 meeting. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #336
Items 6G and
6I added to
agenda.

Supervisor Bach moved to table the Roycroft easement issue until the next Town Board meeting in order to have the Town Attorney do further research. Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes - five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #337
Roycroft
easement
tabled

Councilman McCann moved to approve the Temporary Use Permit for the University of Buffalo to hold a Field Ecology Class program at JP Nicely West Falls Park on October 31, 2023, contingent upon receipt of proof of insurance. Councilman Snyder seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes - none Motion carried.

Action #338
TUP for UB
class at WF
Park aprvd

Councilman Snyder moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Annual Software Support Contract with Williamson Law Book Company, Victor, NY, for the Highway Superintendent Software for the period 11/1/2023 to 10/31/2024. The annual fee is \$972.00. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes - none Motion carried.

Action #339
Supv auth to
sign contract
for hwy
software
support

Councilman McCann move to declare an HP Color Laserjet 2025 printer (Town inventory #1751) as surplus equipment to be recycled during the next Town electronics recycling event. Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #340
HP 2025
printer
declared
surplus

Councilman Wochensky moved to accept a \$20.00 donation for the Senior Center in memory of Don Carl. Funds will be deposited to TA1000.0090 Senior Center Donations. Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #341
\$20 donation
to SrCtr
accepted

Councilman Granville moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Independent Health Group Contract for health insurance for the 2024 benefit year. Councilman Snyder seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #342
Supv auth to
sign Indep
Health
Insurance
contract for
2024

Councilman McCann moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign the 2024 Dental Plan agreement with Highmark Western New York. Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes - five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #343
Supv auth to sign Highmark dental agrmt

Councilman Wochensky moved to cancel the October 25, 2023 budget meeting. Councilman Snyder seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #344
10/25/23
budget mtg cancelled

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

- Recreation Director – September 2023 report

BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS/LIAISONS:

Councilman McCann stated that Town will need to prepare the RFP to find an engineering firm for the Comprehensive Plan Grant. Mr. McCann noted that it was previously thought that Erie County would prepare the RFP.

Councilman Granville noted that the CSC Task Force is eager to work towards Climate Smart Community silver status.

Councilman Wochensky stated that the NY Forward grant presentation went very well.

Supervisor Bach stated he attended the presentation at the Aurora Theater of Iron Will – a movie about Veterans struggles with PTSD.

AUDIENCE II: none

STAFF REPORTS: none

ABSTRACT OF CLAIMS:

The October 23, 2023 Abstract of Claims, consisting of PCard voucher number 1234; vouchers numbered 1235 to 1288; and prepaid vouchers numbered 1289 to 1290, was presented to the Board for audit and authorization of payment from the following funds:

General	\$ 58,275.41
Part Town	359.81
Highway/DB	18,989.16
Capital	7,492.44
Special Districts	<u>66,522.92</u>
Grand Total Abstract	\$151,639.74

Councilman Snyder moved to approve the 10/23/2023 Abstract of Claims and authorize payment. Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #345
10/10/25
Abstract of Claims aprvd

Councilman McCann moved to adjourn at 8:12 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Granville. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes - none Motion carried.

Action #346
Meeting adjourned