

August 13, 2012

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Aurora took place on Monday, August 13, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, 300 Glead Avenue, East Aurora, New York.

Members Present:	Jolene M. Jeffe	Supervisor
	James F. Collins	Councilman
	Susan A. Friess	Councilwoman
	James J. Bach	Councilman
	Jeffrey T. Harris	Councilman
Others Present:	Ronald Bennett	Town Attorney
	Bryan Smith	Town Engineer
	Patrick Blizniak	Supt. of Building
	David Gunner	Highway Supt.
	Barbara Halt	Receiver of Taxes
	William Kramer	Code Enforcement Officer
	Robert Lowell Goller	Town Historian/Webmaster
	Ronald Krowka	Chief of Police
	William Adams	Planning Board
	Charles Snyder	Planning Board
	Al Salter	Zoning Board
	Sheryl Miller	Deputy Town Clerk

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

The first item on the agenda was a PUBLIC HEARING on a proposed Local Law to abolish the elected position of Receiver of Taxes and Assessments of the Town of Aurora. If approved by the voters on the November 2012 ballot, this local law would go into effect January 1, 2014. The notice of public hearing was published in the East Aurora Advertiser and posted on the Town Clerk's bulletin board as evidenced by the affidavits of publication and posting.

At 7:01 p.m. Supervisor Jeffe opened the Public Hearing and gave a Powerpoint presentation detailing the anticipated results of abolishing the elected office of Receiver of Taxes and incorporating the responsibilities into the duties of the Town Clerk, thereby resulting in an anticipated \$13,856 - \$17,106 in savings, depending on the need for seasonal part time help. Supervisor Jeffe stated that the Board is going to try to do a lot of little savings. She noted other anticipated benefits such as increased tax department hours and staffing flexibility. Compensation/raises for the Town Clerk and deputies are not anticipated.

Barbara Halt, Mill Road/Receiver of Taxes, read from a prepared statement noting that the savings is misleading and that it amounts to \$5.48 for a home with \$100,000 assessed value. She noted that it would be more efficient with two elected officials sharing duties instead of one elected official spread too thin.

Bill Dadey, Brooklea Drive, stated he is 100% against abolishing the elected position and by doing so the Board is doing exactly what Kevin Gaughn wants. He suggested the Town Board take a 10-20% salary decrease or become a volunteer board.

Craig Thrasher, Mill Road, stated he opposes the consolidation. Mr. Thrasher noted programs in the Town budget, that he referred to as entitlements, which add up to \$380,000 and should be looked at. He stated he does not want consolidated power in government.

Thomas Insinna, Main Street, stated he is vehemently opposed to abolishing the elected Tax Receiver position and to delegate the responsibility to another department is foolish.

Supervisor Jeffe stated there would not be a reduction in hours and that the part time Town Clerk position would become a full time position.

Councilwoman Friess stated there would be greater efficiencies and a better level of service. She noted that the voters need to decide if they want two elected positions or one.

Hearing no further comments, the Supervisor closed the hearing at 7:28 p.m.

Councilwoman Friess moved to approve the minutes of the July 23, 2012 Town Board meeting; seconded by Councilman Harris. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #270
7/23/12 Tw
Brd meeting
min. approved.

AUDIENCE I:

Annette Troidl, Mill Road, stated she is against taking away any elected official position, noting the chance for nepotism. Mrs. Troidl asked why the Board can't cut "entitlement" programs before cutting elected positions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilman Bach moved to set a bid opening for the Aurora Town Library Roof Rehabilitation project for Friday, August 31, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at 5 South Grove Street. Councilman Collins seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #271
Library roof
project bid
opening set.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Collins moved to authorize payment No. 3 to Ackerman Plumbing, Inc., 678 Sheridan Drive, Tonawanda, NY in the amount of \$4,795.53 for work performed from July 1, 2012 through July 31, 2012 on the 300 Gleed Avenue Town Hall Renovation project. Councilman Harris seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes - five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #272
Payment No. 3
to Ackerman
Plumbing for
Gleed
renovation
authorized.

Councilman Bach moved to authorize payment No. 3 to Allied Mechanical, Inc., 1111 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NY, in the amount of \$8,865.40 for work performed from July 1, 2012 through July 30, 2012 on the 300 Gleed Avenue Town Hall Renovation project. Councilwoman Friess seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes - five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #273
Payment No. 3
to Allied Mech.
for Gleed
renovation
authorized.

Councilwoman Friess moved to authorize payment No. 3 to Weydman Electric, Inc., 747 Young St., Tonawanda, NY, in the amount of \$16,601.49 for work performed from July 1, 2012 through July 30, 2012 on the 300 Gleed Avenue Town Hall Renovation project. Councilman Collins seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes - five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #274
Payment No. 3
to Weydman
Elec. for Gleed
renovation
authorized.

Councilman Harris moved to authorize payment No. 4 to NewCal Construction, Inc., 10994 Tinkham Road, Darien, NY, in the amount of \$60,771.72 for work performed from July 3, 2012 through August 3, 2012 on the 300 Gleed Avenue Town Hall Renovation project. Councilman Bach seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes - five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #275
Payment No. 4
to NewCal
Const. for
Gleed
renovation
authorized.

Councilman Harris moved to authorize Justice Court Action in reference to Aurora Town Code Chapter 65 Section 65-8 Building Permit Required; application for:

Andre Chernogorec
1021 Olean Road Lot #60
East Aurora, NY 14052

Councilman Collins seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #276
Justice Court
action for code
violation –
1021 Olean #60
authorized.

Councilman Bach moved to authorize Town Justice Douglas Marky to attend the 2012 NYS Magistrates Conference, September 9-12, 2012 in Syracuse, NY. The conference cost of approximately \$600 will be disbursed from A1110.415 Municipal Court – annual school. Councilman Collins seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #277
D. Marky to
attend
conference.

Councilman Collins moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign a maintenance agreement with Central Business Systems, 285 Kenmore Ave., Buffalo, NY 14223, for the Minolta Buzbub200 Copier that is at the Court office. The \$340 annual fee will be disbursed from A1620.420 Machine Maintenance Contracts. Councilman Harris seconded the motion.
 Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #278
 Court copier maintenance agreement aprvd.

Councilwoman Friess moved to declare a (non-working) Kodak EasyShare zoom digital camera DX4530 (Town inventory number 1268) as surplus equipment to be disposed of with the Town's Electronic Recycling in September 2012. Councilman Bach seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none
 Motion carried.

Action #279
 Highway dept. camera declared surplus.

Councilwoman Friess moved to authorize the purchase of the Williamson Highway Software program for use at the Highway Department. The software program cost of \$3,135 and the installation & training cost of \$85.00 per hour (three hour maximum) will be disbursed from A1680.210. (Note: These funds came from a 2008 grant from Senator Dale Volker.) Councilman Harris seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none
 Motion carried.

Action #280
 Purchase of highway computer software program apvd.

Supervisor Jeffe moved to accept a \$25 donation from Amy Hewson to be used towards upkeep of the Knox Field equestrian arena area. Councilman Bach seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none
 Motion carried.

Action #281
 Donation for Knox Park equestrian arena accepted.

Councilman Harris to accept the following donations, totaling \$400.00, to be used exclusively for the Glead baseball/softball diamond project, with funds to be deposited to TA1000.112:

<u>Donor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date Received</u>
Peter & Ellen Horn	\$50.00	8/2/12
East Aurora Police Quaker Club	\$250.00	8/2/12
George Haffenden	\$100.00	8/8/12

Action #282
 Donations for Glead baseball diamond project accepted

Councilwoman Friess seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none
 Motion carried.

Councilman Collins moved to adopt the following resolution establishing fund balance policies as required by GASB 54; seconded by Councilman Bach:

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH FUND BALANCE POLICY
 FOR THE TOWN OF AURORA**

WHEREAS, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has adopted Statement Number 54 (GASB 54), Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, that became effective in governmental fiscal years starting after June 15, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Aurora wishes to comply with GASB 54 as required beginning with the January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011 calendar year.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby adopts the following policy:

FUND BALANCE POLICY

Fund balance measures the net financial resources available to finance expenditures of future periods. The Town's Unassigned General Fund Balance will be maintained to provide the Town with sufficient working capital and a margin of safety to address local and regional emergencies without borrowing. The Unassigned General Fund Balance may only be appropriated by resolution of the Town Board.

Fund balance of the Town may be committed for a specific source by formal action of the Town Board. Amendments or modification to the committed fund balance must also be approved by formal action of the Town Board. The committed fund balance does not lapse at year-end. The formal action required to commit fund balance shall be by Town Board resolution.

The Town Board delegates the Town Supervisor the authority to determine the proper amounts to be assigned for specific purpose as are deemed necessary. These assignments would provide the liquidity to respond to contingent liabilities, provide for capital asset replacements and capital projects, and set aside amounts to reduce the ensuing year's tax levy which was previously referred to as appropriated fund balance. It is the Supervisor's intent to utilize the assigned fund balance through Town Board approved budget amendments during the year. The assigned fund balance does not lapse at year-end.

For purpose of fund balance classification, the Town will spend, as allowed and available, the most restricted dollars before less restricted dollars in the following order: Non-spendable, Restricted, Committed, Assigned and Unassigned.

The Town will be mindful of its roll and responsibility as a fiduciary of public funds when acting on fund balance issues.

This policy may be updated as deemed necessary per the Town Board.

Action #283
Fund balance
policy adopted.

Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Adopted this 13th day of August, 2012.

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Councilwoman Friess moved to declare a Nautilus exercise machine, housed at the Aurora Senior Center (Town ID number 2110) as surplus equipment, to be disposed of appropriately (auction or trash). Councilman Collins seconded the motion.

Action #284
Sr. Center
exercise
machine
declared surplus

Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS – The following communications were received by the Board and filed:

- Tax Receiver's July 2012 Report
- Town Clerk's July 2012 Report
- Building Department July 2012 Report
- Assessor's July 2012 Report
- Senior Center Director's July 2012 Report
- EAPD July 2012 Report
- Work Requisition July 2012 Report

BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

Councilwoman Friess reminded everyone about the RecycleBank challenge and urged those eligible to participate in an effort to secure \$100,000 for the Town's recycling program and to earn points for discounts, etc. at select businesses.

Councilman Bach stated that the proposal to abolish the elected Tax Receiver position is not a personal attack on the current tax receiver, but it is the Town Board's job to look at whatever savings we can and report them to the citizens.

AUDIENCE II:

Bill Adams, Olean Road, asked if there has been any follow-up to get Senator Schumer to visit and look at Knox Farm State Park as a potential Veterans Cemetery. Supervisor Jeffe stated

she has been in contact with State officials, but received no definite answers.

Bob Troidl, Mill Road, noted that it is good for the Town to save money, but it is also good to have both an elected Town Clerk and an elected Tax Receiver.

Earl Jann, Grover Road, stated the Board should recognize Assemblywoman Jane Corwin for her efforts in getting legislation passed that extends the length of time that the State can enter into leases for NYS parks.

STAFF REPORTS:

Patrick Blizniak, Building Department, noted that 29 building permits were issued in July, including two new home permits.

Chuck Snyder and Bill Adams, Planning Board, stated that members of the Planning Board toured the town on August 1st and discussed drainage issues.

Ron Krowka, EAPD Chief, informed the Board that there have been several recent instances of copper theft from local businesses.

The August 1, 2012 Pre-paid Abstract of Claims, consisting of vouchers numbered 1439 to 1455, was presented to the Board for audit and authorization of payment from the following funds:

General	\$ 7,036.34
Highway	862.40
Enterprise/Gleed	594.96
Trust & Agency	419.50
Special Districts	<u>17,261.06</u>
Grand Total Abstract	\$26,174.26

The August 13, 2012 Abstract of Claims, consisting of vouchers numbered 1456 to 1620, was presented to the Board for audit and authorization of payment from the following funds:

General	\$ 32,965.87
Part Town	6.69
Highway	36,989.91
Enterprise/Gleed	17,185.81
Capital/Baseball	7,059.83
Capital/Luther Culvert	960.00
Capital/Gleed Renov.	37,349.94
Trust & Agency	902.37
Special Districts	<u>42,874.80</u>
Grand Total Abstract	\$176,295.22

Councilman Bach moved to approve the August 1, 2012 “pre-paid” and August 13, 2012 Abstracts of Claims as presented and to authorize payment of same. Councilwoman Friess seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #285
8/1 and 8/13/12
Abstracts of
Claims aprvd.

Councilman Collins moved to adjourn; Councilman Bach seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #286
Meeting
adjourned.

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk