

TOWN OF AURORA  
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION  
June 19, 2012

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, 300 Gleed Avenue, East Aurora, NY, for the purpose of holding a work session.

Present:	Jolene M. Jeffe Jeffrey T. Harris Susan A. Friess James J. Bach James F. Collins	Supervisor Councilman Councilwoman Councilman Councilman
Others Present:	Ronald Bennett Bryan Smith Patrick Blizniak Charles Snyder David Gunner Richard Glover Barbara Halt Donna Bodekor	Town Attorney Town Engineer Superintendent of Building Planning Board Highway Superintendent Planning Board Tax Receiver Senior Center Director

Supervisor Jeffe opened the work session at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The Board met to discuss the following:

- 1) Climate Smart Community Presentation:  
Supervisor Jeffe stated that the persons who were to give the presentation had the date wrong, so they will be coming to the 6/25/12 meeting.
- 2) Landscape at Senior Center:  
Three quotes for replacing bushes, mulching and trimming along the east wall of the Senior Center were received from:

Johnson's Nursery	\$595.00
RealTree Landscapes	\$840.00
Murray Bros. Nurseries	\$895.50

Senior Center Director Donna Bodekor stated the high-maintenance rose bushes will be removed, new bushes planted in front of the gas meter and emergency generator connection, existing bushes will be trimmed and the whole area weeded and mulched. This will be placed on the 6/25/12 meeting agenda.
- 3) Recycling Grant Pre-application:  
The Town wants to apply NYSDEC for a waste reduction/recycling grant. The first step is to pre-apply to be considered for the grant process. If pre-approved the Town will be required to complete a full application in order to apply for a grant to reimburse the Town for the past purchase of a leaf vacuum, leaf blower and recycling bins. In addition to these purchases, Highway Supt. David Gunner stated he wants to purchase a recycling/plow truck (2013 budget) which could be included in the grant for partial reimbursement. This will be placed on the 6/25/12 meeting agenda.
- 4) Scenic Byway Sign (draft):  
Town Historian Robert Lowell Goller submitted a very preliminary first draft of the town's Scenic Byway Sign. Mr. Goller is requesting suggestions for modern-day attractions that could be included on the sign. He is also preparing a draft sign for the Village of East Aurora. Supervisor Jeffe noted this is still a work in progress.
- 5) Gleed Renovation Budget update:  
Supervisor Jeffe presented a budget update for the Gleed renovation project.

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6) Gleed Change Orders:

A) The relocation of three existing and the addition of four new sprinkler heads is required by building code. These were not in the initial Gleed renovation specs/contract. Ackerman Plumbing, Inc. has submitted a proposed change order in the amount of \$2,760 to perform the work.

Councilwoman Friess moved to approve Change Order No. 1, in the amount of \$2,760.00, for Gleed Avenue building renovations Contract No. G-05P whereby Ackerman Plumbing, Inc. will relocate three (3) existing sprinkler heads and install (4) new sprinkler heads in the historian/recreation area of the renovation. Councilman Collins seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five      noes – none      Motion carried.

Action #213  
Gleed  
plumbing  
change order  
No. 1  
approved.

B) The removal and replacement of carpet and carpet base in the lobby area and north corridor at 300 Gleed Avenue were not in the initial contract specifications for the renovation project. The reason for the proposed change is to replace worn carpeting and improve the visual continuity of the facility. NewCal Construction, Inc. has submitted a proposed change order in the amount of \$15,703.02 to perform the work.

Councilwoman Friess moved to approve Change Order No. 1, in the amount of \$15,703.02, for Gleed Avenue building renovations Contract No. G-05G, whereby NewCal Construction, Inc. will remove 2,258 sq ft of carpet and 387 ft of base and replace the carpeting and base in the lobby and first floor north corridor of 300 Gleed Avenue. Supervisor Jeffe seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five      noes – none      Motion carried.

Action #214  
Gleed  
carpeting  
change order  
No. 1  
approved

7) Agreement to Use Aerobic Equipment (EAUFSD):

The Continuing Education Department of the East Aurora Union Free School District will no longer be holding classes in the aerobics room of the Sneakers exercise facility at 300 Gleed. They have requested to use the aerobic steps, yoga mats and hand-held weights at their new class locations. Town Attorney Ron Bennett prepared a draft agreement whereby the Town of Aurora would loan the above mentioned exercise equipment to the EAUFSD Continuing Education program. This will be placed on the 6/15/12 meeting agenda.

8) Tax Receiver Position:

Supervisor Jeffe and the Board discussed the consolidation of the Town Clerk and Tax Receiver positions through the elimination of the Tax Receiver position. Town Attorney Ron Bennett stated that the Town Board would have to adopt a resolution to the effect that the position of Tax Receiver would be eliminated. That resolution would be subject to referendum. The matter would then be placed on the November ballot for the voters to decide and, if approved, would take effect January 1, 2014 after the current tax receiver serves out her term. Councilman Harris stated by doing this you are displacing a person. He noted that Tax Receiver Barb Halt should be offered a comparable position should this go through. The Town Board has not yet determined what, if any, savings would be incurred with this action. Supervisor Jeffe asked the Town Attorney to prepare a draft resolution abolishing the Town's Tax Receiver position.

- 9) Aurora Town Library Roof Repair – Engineering Services:  
Supervisor Jeffe stated she would like to go out for proposals for engineering services for the replacement/rehabilitation of the roof of the Main Street library. This will be placed on the 6/25/12 meeting agenda.
- 10) Reed Hill Final Plat:  
Mylar copies of the Reed Hill Subdivision final plat were delivered to the Town Clerk by Metzger Engineering and need to be signed by the Town Board. The subdivision developer will then file the signed final plat with the Erie County Clerk's office.
- 11) Legislative Updates:  
A) Municipal Aid to Cemeteries: Supervisor Jeffe stated that a representative of the Griffins Mills Cemetery asked for help from the Town for some work to be done at the cemetery. General Municipal Law §165-A provides any municipality with the legal ability to grant either monetary or in-kind aid to a struggling cemetery and avoid full takeover by the municipality. The Board will continue discussion as to what aid may be provided to the Griffins Mills Cemetery.  
  
B) Best Value Contracts: In January 2012, legislation was passed authorizing local governments to award purchase contracts on the basis of "best value" rather than the "lowest responsible bidder". Under this law, a local government is allowed, but not required, to award a purchase contract on the basis of best value. Towns looking to take advantage of this purchasing concept must first adopt a local law authorizing the Town to award purchase contracts in this manner. The Town Clerk stated that at the annual NYSTCA conference this year, attorneys from the Association of Towns and the Department of State spoke about this new legislation, but did not agree if a "blanket" local law adopted by a town would cover any and all contracts awarded on a best-value basis or if a local law needed to be adopted for every best-value contract awarded. The attorneys also noted that the legislation is somewhat vague in the definition of best value.  
  
C) Permits for Fireworks Displays:  
Under §405 of NYS Penal Law, towns are required to review applications for permits for display of fireworks in the town. Formerly the law authorized the issuance of permits only for public displays of fireworks. The law was amended to allow individuals to obtain permits for displays at private events. Additionally, the person in charge of the fireworks display must have state certification and outdoor fireworks shows must be conducted in accordance with National Fire Protection requirements.
- 12) Rails-to-Trails:  
Supervisor Jeffe stated that the Rails-to-Trails issue is resurfacing. In 2009, the Town Board adopted a resolution opposing the conversion of the railroad bed along Route 240 into a hiking/bicycle trail. The Board discussed whether or not to adopt a new resolution or continue to use the 2009 resolution. They saw no reason to adopt a new resolution.
- 13) Friends of Mill Road:  
The Friends of Mill Road committee is reapplying for a grant from the NY State Parks Department to be used to purchase property on Mill Road, referred to as the Mill Road Overlook. The application submitted by the group in 2011 was denied. They need a resolution from the Town Board authorizing them to apply for the grant.
- 14) Town Bond Rating:  
Town officials held a telephone interview with a representative from Moody's Investors Service in reference to the \$1.7 million (Federally taxable) public improvement serial bond that the Town was selling on 6/19/12. On June 18, 2012, Moody assigned an Aa3 rating to the Town which reflects the Town's conservative financial operations with

healthy reserves, stable tax base with above average wealth levels and manageable debt burden. Supervisor Jeffe stated that the rating was mandatory and will incur a fee of \$9500. Mrs. Jeffe noted that the Town received a 2.89% interest rate for the \$1,775,000 bond that was sold.

15) Gleed Phone and Cabling Quotes:

The Town Board solicited quotes for a new phone system and cabling/wiring for the new Town offices at 300 Gleed.

A) Data/Voice Wiring Quotes: After review of the quotes by the Town's IT personnel and the project engineers it was determined that several of the cabling/wiring quotes were not responsive to the specifications and should be disqualified along with two quotes that were submitted after the deadline. Because this was an RFQ and not a formal bid, the Town considered a revised quote from Kiercom Communications in the amount of \$11,970.00.

Councilman Bach moved to accept the quote for the Data/Voice Wiring from Kiercom Communications, 11460 Tomarsue Rd., Marilla, NY, in the amount of \$11970.00 for the computer and phone cabling/wiring for the new Town Hall offices at 300 Gleed Ave., and award the project to Kiercom pending receipt of their insurance certificate. Councilwoman Friess seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #215  
Gleed data  
and voice  
wiring quote  
approved.

B) Phone Quotes: After review of the quotes it was determined that the one quote received after the deadline should be disqualified. Because this was an RFQ and not a formal bid, the Town considered a revised quote from Kiercom Communications in the amount of \$7,195.00 (\$7,795.00 less \$600 credit for the old phone system).

Councilman Collins moved to accept the quote from Kiercom Communications, 11460 Tomarsue Rd., Marilla, NY, in the amount of \$7,795.00 for the installation of an AVAYA telephone system for the new Town Hall offices at 300 Gleed Ave., and award the project to Kiercom pending receipt of their insurance certificate. Councilwoman Friess seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #216  
Gleed phone  
system quote  
approved.

16) Dental and Vision Insurance:

The Town received the new rates for dental and vision insurance through Guardian. The rate for single dental coverage increased \$1.58 per month to \$54.19 and family dental coverage increased \$4.28 per month to \$147.01. The single vision coverage increased \$0.35 per month to \$7.37 and family vision coverage increased \$0.75 per month to \$15.85. These rates will go into effect July 1, 2012.

Councilwoman Friess moved to approve the rates (listed above) for dental and vision insurance for Town employees through Guardian insurance effective July 1, 2012. Councilman Harris seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #217  
Employee  
dental/vision  
insurance rates  
approved.