

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
September 20, 2016

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in the Southside Municipal Center Town Hall Auditorium, 300 Glead Avenue, East Aurora, NY, for the purpose of holding a budget work session.

Present:	Susan A. Friess	Councilwoman
	Jeffrey T. Harris	Councilman
	Jolene M. Jeffe	Councilwoman
	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Others Present:	Kathleen Moffat	Assistant to the Supervisor

1) 2017 Budget Review:

The Board met to discuss the 2017 Tentative Budget.

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The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Southside Municipal Center Town Hall Auditorium, 300 Glead Avenue, East Aurora, NY, for the purpose of holding a work session:

Present:	Susan A. Friess	Councilwoman
	Jeffrey T. Harris	Councilman
	Jolene M. Jeffe	Councilwoman
	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Others Present:	Ronald Bennett	Town Attorney
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Elizabeth Deveso	Highway Clerk
	William Wheeler	GHD/Engineer
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police

1) Quaker Road Fire Hydrants:

Thomas and Susan Zolnowski, Quaker Road, have requested that an additional fire hydrant be installed on Quaker Road near 912 Quaker. There are currently no fire hydrants between 785 and 1039 Quaker, which is a distance of over 3000 feet. The Erie County Water Authority owns, operates and maintains the water main on Quaker Road. The Town Board would have to adopt a resolution requesting additional hydrants and agreeing to pay the annual hydrant fee. It was noted that the ECWA and Department of Health specify fire hydrants every 500 feet. This will be placed on the 9/16/16 agenda

2) Rural Transit Van Program:

Rural Transit Services, Inc., Brant, NY, is requesting a letter of support and a resolution from the Town for 2017-18 CDBG year for the van service. Rural Transit provides van services in the Town of Aurora.

3) Mill Road Overlook – hours/sign:

The Board discussed the concerns of a Town resident from Mill Road with regard to cars being parked at the Mill Road Overlook after 10:00 p.m. Chief Krieger stated that the EAPD does check on cars parked at the overlook after dark. He noted that parking on the road is sometimes a problem. Councilwoman Friess suggested monitoring the situation for a while before considering a closing time for the site.

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4) Recycle Bins:

The Town Board reviewed the current recycling bin policy and felt that it does not need to be changed. The Town Clerk will be ordering new bins in 2017.

5) Animal Control:

Police Chief Krieger spoke to the Board about his decision not to have the EAPD officers dispatch (shoot) wild animals that are behaving in a manner that may indicate the presence of rabies. Mr. Krieger stated his belief that the Dog Control Officer should be an Animal Control Officer, whose job it would be to answer calls that involve animals, such as raccoons, that are behaving in an odd or unusual manner. Liz Deveso stated that there are only four Animal Control Officers in Erie County. Highway Superintendent Gunner stated that Erie County Sheriff's deputies will shoot rabid animals. Supervisor Bach and Councilwoman Jeffe suggested that more research be done and that Supervisor Bach will speak with other Town Supervisors on this topic.

6) Building Department memo:

Building Superintendent Blizniak is requesting to have Building Clerk, Elizabeth Cassidy, attend six Basic Code courses being offered by NY State. Councilwoman Jeffe noted that Mrs. Cassidy will have to fit this into her part-time schedule.

7) Aurora Mills Cluster Subdivision:

The Town Board received a memo from the Aurora Planning Board noting their recommendation that the Aurora Mills Preliminary Plat be approved with two conditions: 1) sidewalks be required on either the inner or outer loop of the development; and 2) all the items listed in the September letter from Greg Keyser, Environmental Planner at GHD, be addressed.

The Board and the developer spoke about the Landscaping Plan. The developer noted that there are four main landscaping areas. Their main concerns were visibility along Mill Road, protecting existing character of the site, and screening and buffering between the existing homes on Mill Road and the development.

Gary Eckis, project manager, stated they are working with the Erie County Sewer Authority for permission to connect to the existing sewer district line.

Supervisor Bach asked how they were going to address the sidewalk recommendation. Mr. Eckis responded that they would rather not have to address it since there is only a 35 foot setback. If sidewalks were to be added to the plan, the rear setback would need to be changed.

Councilwoman Friess stated she is struggling with the request for narrower pavement and no sidewalks.

Councilman Snyder commented on the traffic study rating of "D" for existing conditions to "F" for full development conditions. Mr. Snyder stated that traffic on Mill Road and traffic from the proposed development needs to be a continuing discussion, since it has been brought up numerous times by many residents.

Councilwoman Jeffe stated that her concerns were traffic and lack of sidewalks.

8) Jackson Falls (formerly Mothers Falls):

The Board discussed the Jackson Falls/Majors Park notice of restrictions and subaward agreement. Bill Wheeler noted that SEQR needs to be considered for the Town to use portions of Majors Park as a land match for the WNY Land Conservancy's grant to purchase the Jackson Falls property.

Councilwoman Friess stated she would like to see an agreement from the WNY Land Conservancy that they will keep the Jackson Falls property open to the public in perpetuity.

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk