

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
July 18, 2017

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Southside Municipal Center Town Hall Auditorium, 300 Gleed Avenue, East Aurora, NY, for the purpose of holding a work session:

Present:	Jeffrey T. Harris	Councilman
	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	Susan A. Friess	Councilwoman
	Jolene M. Jeffe	Councilwoman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Others Present:	William Kramer	Code Enforcement Officer
	Camie Jarrell	GHD/Engineer
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Building Clerk

Supervisor Bach led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1) Public Hearing:

The first item on the agenda was a Public Hearing on a Special Use Permit Application from Robert Weiner for a dog kennel for the purpose of boarding and training up to five (5) dogs for law enforcement and/or therapy purposes at 361 Cook Road, East Aurora, NY. The notice of public hearing was published in the East Aurora Advertiser and posted by the Town Clerk as evidenced by the Affidavits of Publishing and Posting. Supervisor Bach opened the hearing at 7:01 p.m. and asked if anyone in the audience wished to comment. No one spoke. Supervisor Bach then read a letter from Karen Fabrizi of Cook Road, noting her concerns about dogs wandering onto her property and barking dogs. Supervisor Bach closed the hearing at 7:03 p.m.

Mr. Weiner responded to the letter from Ms. Fabrizi and stated he would talk with her, but he believes the dogs she referenced in her letter are probably a neighbor's dogs. He noted that the dogs he will be training are trained not to bark and that the kennel will have some sort of soundproofing. Mr. Weiner noted that the Fabrizi residence is about 600 feet away from where the dogs will be housed.

2) Term Life Insurance:

Tim Hogan and Brian Casey, Representatives of NY Life Insurance Co., Williamsville, NY, spoke to the Board about offering employee's whole life insurance policies to all Town of Aurora employees. Mr. Hogan stated this is a voluntary life insurance program that would be paid through payroll deductions and would be no cost to the Town. Councilwoman Jeffe asked what the premiums were. Mr. Casey responded that they could get a booklet to Mrs. Jeffe with the details. Councilwoman Friess asked if any other towns were offering this. Mr. Hogan responded the Town of Hamburg and the City of North Tonawanda are participating. Councilwoman Jeffe suggested that Town employees should pursue this on their own and wondered if any local insurance agencies would be interested in offering this type of insurance. Councilman Snyder stated he would like to see what the premiums are.

3) Eagle Scout Project – West Falls Library/Community Center:

Nathan Stoddart from Boy Scout Troop 599 in East Aurora presented his Eagle Scout Project proposal to the Board. Nathan would like to scrape, prime and paint the windows and the non-stone siding at the West Falls Library/Community Center building on Davis Road. He stated he would like to begin the project in late August and finish in September. Councilman Snyder questioned whether or not there was lead paint on the windows. The Town will test to see if the existing paint contains lead.

4) Open Development Area – Sprinkler Variance Request for Ellis Drive:

David Fatta is proposing to build a home on his property at the end of Ellis Drive in the Town. The property is considered an Open Development Area because it does not have the required road frontage. The Town Code requires homes built further than 750 feet from the right-of-way be equipped with residential sprinklers. Mr. Fatta stated that the written cost estimates he received were \$16,000 and \$21,000 for the sprinkler system. He also received a verbal quote in the \$7,500 range, but he did not know what kind of pipe and other items were being quoted. He is requesting a variance from the sprinkler requirement, noting that the Town recently gave this type of variance for an ODA property on Blakeley Road. Mr. Fatta stated he will probably have a pond on the property large enough to accommodate fire-fighting needs, but is waiting for plans from the NYSDEC. The Board stated that they would not issue a variance until all of the ODA information was submitted and ready for final consideration.

5) Highway – Repair/Maintenance Stipend transfer:

The Highway employee that was receiving the repair/maintenance stipend has resigned and Highway Superintendent Gunner is requesting that the remainder of the stipend be given to Dave Drosendahl Sr., who will be overseeing that part of the highway department

6) 3plus1 Investing Proposal:

At the May work session the Town Board meet with Garrett MacDonald, Vice President of 3+1, to discuss the Town's funds and maximizing yields. Mr. MacDonald stated that 3+1 is a data firm from Pittsford, NY. 3+1 evaluates funds, develops investment and liquidity strategy. They work with the public sector only, usually counties. Mr. MacDonald stated that they would look at 12 months of the Town's bank statements and analyze transactions. In addition to bank statements, they would need to see the Town's CAFR and budget. It usually takes 4-7 weeks to prepare the analysis. He noted that there are numerous restrictions regarding public funds. Since the initial meeting, a guarantee that the initial one-time fee of \$9900 would be waived if the Town does not realize \$9900 in new savings or income was added to the proposal. The Town Board discussed this further and felt that the fee could be paid from the contingency line, which has a current balance of \$34,000.

7) NY State Library Construction Grant:

Rob Alessi, Aurora Town Library Director, met with the Board to discuss the 50/50 matching grant application for 2017. Mr. Alessi stated that the library windows need to be replaced and the cost would be approximately \$60,000 – also, the area around the windows needs to be checked for asbestos; only one of the three snow/ice melters in the front steps and ramp are working – two of the breakers trip due to faults in the wiring in the cement. Mr. Alessi noted that since the building is more than 50 years old, the NYS Historic Preservation Office needs to be involved.

Supervisor Bach stated that the primary focus should be on replacing the windows and that he and Councilman Snyder will look into the asbestos testing.

8) Fireworks Permit Application:

Skylighters of New York LLC, Orchard Park, NY, and John Radford, 1150 Underhill Road, East Aurora, NY, submitted an application for a fireworks display on Dr. Radford's property on Sunday, July 23, 2017. The shoot site would be in the front yard of the 10-acre parcel. In 2016, the Town Board approved the same request from Dr. Radford. East Aurora Fire Chief Egloff was notified of the 2017 request and does not have a problem with it.

Councilwoman Friess moved to approve a fireworks permit application from John Radford and Sky Lighters of New York, LLC, for a fireworks display at 1150 Underhill Road on July 23, 2017 contingent upon approval and/or recommendations from the East Aurora Fire Department and notification of neighbors within 500 feet of 1150 Underhill Road. Councilman Harris seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #229
Fireworks
permit for
7/23/17 at
1150
Underhill
apvd

9) Handicapped Lift – Pool deck reconstruction:

Supervisor Bach stated that a portion the concrete deck at Community Pool needed to be redone in order that the new handicapped lift could be installed. The concrete needed to be 12 inches deep. Creative Concrete was contacted and performed the work so the lift could be installed and the Town would be in compliance with ADA requirements. The cost is \$2400.

10) Special Use Permit – Kennel at 361 Cook Road:

After further discussion, the Board decided to vote on the application from Robert Weiner for a kennel at 361 Cook Road to be used to train dogs for law enforcement and/or therapy uses.

Supervisor Bach moved to issue a negative declaration with regard to SEQR for the Special Use Permit – Dog Kennel at 361 Cook Road, East Aurora, NY. Councilwoman Friess seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #230
SEQR neg dec
issued for spec
use permit –
kennel – 361
Cook Rd

Councilwoman Friess moved to adopt the following resolution; seconded by Supervisor Bach:

RESOLUTION APPROVING SPECIAL USE PERMIT
361 COOK ROAD, EAST AURORA, NY

WHEREAS, Robert J. Weiner has applied for a Special Use Permit to allow a dog kennel at 361 Cook Road, PO East Aurora, Town of Aurora, NY for the purpose of boarding and training dogs for law enforcement and/or therapy use; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Aurora held a public hearing on July 18, 2017, pursuant to Chapter 116 – Zoning, Article III entitled Special Use Permits, of the Code of the Town of Aurora upon the application of Robert J. Weiner for a Special Use Permit; and

WHEREAS, persons for and against said Special Use Permit have had an opportunity to be heard; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Aurora reviewed Part 1 and Part 2 of the Short Environmental Assessment (SEQR) form and determined that this action will not have a significant environmental impact and issued a negative declaration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Chapter 116 – Zoning, Section 116-8.5 (B) (9) of the Code of the Town of Aurora, the Town Board of the Town of Aurora does hereby grant a Special Use Permit to Robert J. Weiner, for a dog kennel for the purpose of boarding and training dogs for law enforcement and/or therapy use at the property known as 361 Cook Road, in the Town of Aurora, New York, upon the conditions as set forth in the Zoning Ordinance and the following conditions:

1. The training operation shall be limited to five (5) dogs.
2. The dogs will be housed in kennels inside a garage that is proposed to be built on the property approximately 300 feet back from the right-of-way of Cook Road.
3. A fenced exercise area behind the garage will be provided for the dogs.
4. Visitation to the kennel will be by invitation or appointment and not open to the general public.
5. No excessive barking by the dogs in training.
6. Dogs harbored at this location for more than 30-days shall be required to be registered and licensed by the Aurora Town Clerk's office.
7. The applicant and/or property owner will authorize representatives from the Building Inspector's Office and the Dog Control Office to enter the premises upon reasonable notice to inspect the premises to verify compliance with this permit.
8. There will be no signage on the premises advertising the kennel operation.
9. The property owner and/or person(s) residing in the residence at 361 Cook Road will be allowed up to three (3) dogs over the age of 4 months (Chapter 116-19 (B) of the Codes of the Town of Aurora) that will reside in the residence. This is in addition to a maximum of five (5) dogs for training that will reside in the kennel.
10. Non-compliance with the conditions of the permit will be reviewed by the Town Board and may be grounds for termination of the permit.
11. This Special Use Permit will terminate when the applicant no longer trains dogs at this location for a six (6) month period.

Action #231
Special Use
Permit for 5-
dog kennel at
361 Cook Rd
approved w/
conditions

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

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk