

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
April 17, 2012

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Tuesday, April 17, 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 Peggy Cooke Charles Snyder	Town Attorney Town Engineer Superintendent of Building Recreation Director Planning Board

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) Scenic Byway update – signage:
Bob Lennartz, president of the WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway (WNYSSB) organization spoke to the Board about the progress being made and the development of the interpretive sign program for the byway. Each municipality along the WNYSSB will be provided with a sign promoting features in proximity to the byway and in keeping with the theme of the byway. The sign can have any combination of photos, text, graphics, etc. The Town is being asked to supply the information it wants on the sign. Mr. Lennartz noted that the sign must be placed on public right-of-way, not on private property. It was suggested that the sign be placed at the West Falls Dam Site on Route 240.
- 2) Aurora Arsenal Soccer Club (“Arsenal”) Concession Stand Request:
The Arsenal is requesting approval from the Town Board and ultimately NYS Parks for two concession stands at the soccer fields at Knox Farm State Park. Supervisor Jeffe noted that NYS Parks approved the two sheds that will house the concessions. Peter Sorgi, Arsenal representative, stated the concessions will be open on Saturdays only from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. during house soccer season – an 8 week period. Mr. Sorgi noted that all the money netted from the concessions will be given to the Town to be used toward soccer field maintenance at Knox Park. He also stated that their organization is still trying to figure out where their garbage and recycling will be taken. Supervisor Jeffe stated that the Arsenal group would have to secure the proper permits from the Erie County Health Department. This will be placed on the 4/23/12 agenda.
- 3) Supplemental Insurance – Aflac:
The Town Board discussed offering employees the opportunity to enroll in Aflac New York for supplemental insurance. Enrollment fees would be deducted from the employee’s payroll check. Councilman Collins stated that this insurance is on top of any other insurance the employee may have. The minimum participation is three employees. A meeting with employees will be scheduled to explain the program.
- 4) Medical Insurance:
Supervisor Jeffe stated that Kathleen Moffat has obtained comparison quotes from Independent Health, Blue Cross/Blue Shield and Univera. The new medical insurance policy would start June 1st. The Town currently offers Independent Health Flex Fit Select and Independent Health Passport Select. Councilman Collins asked if an HSA or HRA could be considered. Supervisor Jeffe responded that the information would need to be supplied in the next one or two weeks.

5) Baseball Diamond Project Budget:
Recreation Director Peggy Cooke presented an updated budget for the proposed Gleed Avenue Baseball and Softball Diamond Construction Project:

<u>Diamond Type</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Time Frame</u>
Major League Baseball Diamond (1):				
• Backstop, hood and wings	1	\$3400	\$3400	Begin July 2012
• Bench 15' with back	2	500	1000	
• Diamond dirt	7	750	5200	
• Mound/clay bricks @ home		1400	<u>1400</u>	
			\$11,000	
Softball Diamond (1 small)				
• Backstop 10', hood, side fencing	1	\$2700	\$2700	Begin July 2012
• Bench 15', no back	2	500	1000	
• Diamond dirt	3	750	<u>2300</u>	
			\$6000	
T-Ball/Midget Diamonds (4)				
• Backstop 10', no hood	1	\$1500	\$1500	Begin July 2012
• Bench 15', no back	2	500	1000	
• Diamond dirt	3	1000	<u>3000</u>	
			\$5500 per <u>diamond x 4 =</u> \$22,000	
Extra expenses:				
• Sod cutter			\$ 500	
• Bulldozer			1000	
• Concrete for posts			500	
• miscellaneous			<u>1000</u>	
			\$3000	
TOTAL EXPENSES			\$42,000	

Funding Sources to date:

TA Account (WNY Hall of Fame '11, concession income)	\$ 2,800
Lilley Foundation T-Ball complex	10,000 (pledged)
McDonalds	3,000 (pledged)
Aurora Outfitters	6,000 (pledged)
Starting line-up	3,000
Benches	2,000
Contributors – general	<u>1,960</u>
	\$28,760

BALANCE TO BE RAISED \$13,240

(Costs based on estimates from Lakeside Sod, Iroquois Fence, Jamestown Products, borrowed equipment from Town of West Seneca and labor from Highway Superintendent Gunner.)

Peggy Cooke noted that the field was retested for top soil depth and it was found that the area proposed for the girl's softball diamond has deeper top soil, but the remainder of the field has shallow top soil with gravel underneath.

6. Tannery Road Drainage update:
Town Engineer Bryan Smith stated that in 2002 or 2003 a culvert pipe in the vicinity of 401 Tannery Road was replaced and the size increased. The new size was designed to 10-year storm specifications. This is a natural drainage course. The town can change the velocity of the water flow by installing baffles in the pipe, but the volume will not change. The property owners are expressing concern about the amount of water and erosion on their property. Vern Hopkins, Tannery Road, stated that the water runs down hill and that a tree had tipped over on this property and that is what started the erosion. He stated there is no more water now than before and he believes the erosion can be stopped easily enough. Bryan Smith stated he and Highway Supt. Gunner would meet with the property owners.
- 7) Phone Specifications for Town Offices at Glead Ave.:
Supervisor Jeffe stated that the specifications for the phone system for the new Town offices are ready and will be sent to various vendors for quotes.
- 8) Computer Purchases for 2012:
Supervisor Jeffe stated that several computers at Town Hall need to be updated, many date from 2005. The plan is to make the changes prior to moving to the new Glead location.
- 9) Computer Purchases – Grant Funds:
The Town has a \$15,000 grant to purchase computers and software. Included in the proposed purchase are two (2) laptop computers and Microsoft Office 2010. The money from the grant needs to be spent by the end of June 2012.
- 10) Local Law – Picketing:
Councilman Collins stated he wants to continue to table this until he can speak with the resident who suggested the law and the East Aurora police chief.
- 11) Zone Verification Permit:
Supt. of Building Patrick Blizniak presented the application form that he wants his office to use when construction of an accessory building is planned on a working farm. There would be a \$20 application fee.
- 12) 44 Jewett Holmwood Road update:
The Town owned property at 44 Jewett Holmwood was declared surplus by the Town Board. Their next step is to decide how to dispose of the property – sealed bid, realtor, etc.
- 13) Reiter Road (Town of Wales) Compressor Station:
A group of concerned citizens is attempting to have the Wales Compressor Station project go through a re-hearing with a long form EIS (SEQRA). Attorney Bennett stated that FERC recently said there would be no more hearings.
- 14) Veterans Cemetery:
Councilman Bach stated he attended a meeting about a Veteran's Cemetery proposal for Western New York. He noted that the Department of Veteran's Affairs has three properties in mind (they wouldn't say where). A group of local veterans is looking to have the cemetery located at Knox Farm State Park. Senator Charles Schumer will be checking to see if that proposal is even feasible. Councilman Harris stated that he would like to see a letter from this Board sent to the Veterans Administration in support of the Knox Farm proposal.
- 15) Library steps:
Councilman Harris stated he has two (2) contractors looking at the steps at the Library to see what needs to be done with them.

16) Gleed Avenue Steps:

The Town received quotes to replace the damaged concrete steps at the Sneakers entrance at 300 Gleed Avenue. This will be placed on the 4/23/12 agenda.

Councilman Collins moved to enter into executive session to seek advice from the Town Attorney, with no action to be taken during the session; Councilman Bach seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none

Action #130
Board enters
exec session.

Motion carried.

Action #131
Board exits
exec session.

Councilman Collins moved to come out of executive session; seconded by Supervisor Jeffe. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none

Motion carried.

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk