

TOWN OF AURORA  
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION  
June 24, 2019

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, June 24, 2019 at 5:30 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:	Jeffrey T. Harris	Councilman
	Jolene M. Jeffe	Councilwoman
	Susan A. Friess	Councilwoman
	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Others Present:	Ronald Bennett	Town Attorney
	William Kramer	Code Enforcement Officer
	William Wheeler	Engineer/GHD
	Kathleen Moffat	Assistant to Supervisor
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Tony Rosati	ZBA member

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

1) Knox Farm State Park – Polo Events:

Phil Van der Burgt and David Cooper of the Buffalo Polo Club addressed the Board regarding their request to reserve the polo fields at Knox Farm State Park for the third weekend in July and for two additional days in August for the next three to five years. They stated that they need assurance that they can use the field before asking organizations or businesses to sponsor the events.

Councilwoman Friess stated this warrants a conversation since there are now two Polo groups that want to use the field the same weekend.

John Hatcher, Stables at Knox, stated that his group has held the polo events in prior years except for this year. He stated that he has an issue with the five-year use. Mr. Hatcher noted that his group is not a business and that they raise money for children with special needs. Lothlorian is a group they work closely with and donate money to from their polo events. He stated he would like to continue to be able to use the field the third weekend in July as they have done in prior years. Mr. Hatcher noted that the Stables at Knox have contributed annually to the Town for upkeep of the polo field and equestrian area at the park.

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated he does not want to see more than 3 or 4 polo events per year due to the wear and tear on the field.

The Board will continue to review and discuss this matter

2) 840 Quaker Road – Open Development Area (ODA) application:

Mark Katilus spoke to the Board about his ODA application for 840 Quaker Road. At a prior meeting, the Town Board referred the request to the Planning Board for review and recommendation. Mr. Katilus was not informed of the date/time of the Planning Board meeting. The Board will refer his application back to the Planning Board so he can speak directly with them.

3) 643 Knox Road – Open Development Area (ODA) amendment:

Property owner Sally Erbe and builder Tom Johnson spoke to the Board about the difficulty they are having finding a location for the Erbe's proposed home. Mr. Johnson stated he visited the site and believes that the new location would work, but it does need a front yard variance to allow the home to be built 127' from the front yard line, instead of the 200' requirement in the zoning code.

4) V/L Olean Road – Rezoning request:

Jeff McCaskey submitted a request to have a 14.41 acre parcel on the east side of Olean Road across from the West Herr lot rezoned from RR to B2. At tonight's work session he stated that he has been trying to sell the property for a long time and just recently got an offer, so he

wants to table his rezoning application. Supervisor Bach stated that the Board will not put this back on the table until Mr. McCaskey asks them to or he withdraws his application.

5) 1089 Davis Road – Special Use Permit:

Michael Gish, as agent for 4200 California Road LLC, has submitted a special use permit application for the property at 1089 Davis Road, PO West Falls. The property is zoned B2. Mr. Gish stated they are a specialty construction company and heating contractor. Supervisor Bach asked if they plan to use just the building that is there or if they plan to erect additional buildings. Mr. Gish responded they plan to use just what is there.

Councilman Snyder asked if they plan to store their equipment and supplies outside. Mr. Gish responded, yes, but he would like to build a lean-to eventually. Supervisor Bach stated this would be referred to the Planning Board.

6) Center Street land donation - Owens:

Don Owens and his wife Barbara are purchasing a 1± acre parcel of land on the east side of Center Street, just north of the bridge over Cazenovia Creek. They want to donate the parcel to the Town in order to preserve it. Councilwoman Friess stated that there should be no stipulations as to what the Owens' want the Town to do with the land. Mr. Owens stated they just do not want it used for residential purposes and would like to see it open to the public. Attorney Bennett stated that Mr. Owens' attorney should draw up a contract noting conditions, if any, to present to the Town Board.

7) Aurora Municipal Center – Change Orders:

Telco Construction (General Contractor) – The bid documents for the Aurora Municipal Center included an Alternate for re-doing the exterior of the Senior Center. Telco was the low bidder at \$129,700. At the time the contract was awarded for general construction, the alternate bid was not included. The Board would like to include this as part of the project.

Mollenberg-Betz (Plumbing/Fire Protection Contractor) – The plans for the Aurora Municipal Center call for cast iron for underground piping. The contractor will be allowed to install 40 PVC piping underground in lieu of the specified cast iron. This will result in a decrease of \$8,400.

8) Village Bridges:

The Board discussed the Village bridges that the Courts deemed to be the responsibility of the Town. Highway Superintendent Gunner stated there are eight (8) bridges in the Village that the Town would have to oversee. They are Oakwood Ave., Shearer Ave., Riley St., North Grove St., Whaley Ave., Church St., E. Fillmore Ave., and Brooklea Dr. Mr. Gunner noted that two are actual bridges that the NYS DOT inspects – they are Brooklea and Riley. He noted that North Grove and Whaley bridges need to be replaced.

Mr. Gunner stated he has a three-year plan for the bridges and would like to begin by demolishing the North Grove Bridge. He is requesting that the Board create a DA (highway general) fund and put \$35,000 into that fund to cover the removal cost.

The Board discussed whether to transfer funds from General Fund balance or from contingency. After lengthy discussion, Councilwoman Jeffe suggested borrowing from the General Fund balance, without interest.

Amending the 2019 284 Highway agreement to include this \$35,000 expense was also discussed.