

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
October 15, 2019

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, 300 Gleed 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
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	William Wheeler	Engineer/GHD
	Kathleen Moffat	Asst. to Supervisor/Bookkeeper
	Tony Rosati	ZBA member

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

1) NYCLASS:

Kathy Saville, of NYCLASS (New York Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System) spoke to the Board about the program. NYCLASS is a local government investment pool that allows municipalities to pool funds together to earn interest on investments. Funds are invested in prime or high grade, short-term fixed income instruments. The Governing Board consists of representatives from cities, towns, villages, and school and fire districts. Ms. Saville stated that when she worked for Genesee County she used the program and now she touts the program. She noted that the interest rate is typically higher than money market accounts or CD's. There are no limits on transactions; money can be put in today and taken out tomorrow; no minimum balance; interest accrued on a daily basis; and there are no fees.

Kathleen Moffat stated the Town could use this in conjunction with other ways of investing Town money. Ms. Saville noted that all transactions are done on-line and the program is very user friendly. There is a support desk that is available from 8am to 5pm daily. Supervisor Bach stated the Board would look at this further and vote at the next meeting whether or not to join NYCLASS.

2) 1089 Davis Road Special Use Permit:

Jill and Michael Gish were present as property owner and business owner at 1089 Davis Road. Mr. Gish stated that since his last meeting with the Board, he has significantly cleaned up the property. The snowplow and other equipment were moved. He would like to be able to park the company truck, van and trailers (including equipment on the trailers) in the lot. Mr. Gish stated he currently has three businesses there: Goliath Tech of WNY (helical pile installation); MPG Heating (heating and cooling); and MPG Properties (property management). Mr. Gish stated he does not want to have to build a fence to contain his equipment. Bill Kramer, Code Enforcement Officer, noted that the dense trees along side and behind the building are a buffer. Supervisor Bach stated the Town does not want to see it turning into a junk yard. Mr. Gish stated he would also like to rent out office space at some point. Councilwoman Jeffe noted that this would need another special use permit. The Board will consider this permit at tonight's meeting.

3) Exclusion of Exemption – Solar Energy System land:

Town Attorney Bennett presented the Board with a draft local law that addresses the exclusion of exemption from taxation for any increase in land value attributed to a Solar Energy System. Real Property Tax Law §487 provides for this exemption for commercial solar energy systems. After discussion, the Board decided to put this on tonight's meeting agenda to set a public hearing.

4) Highway – Request to purchase truck:

Highway Superintendent Gunner is requesting to purchase a new 2020 Dodge 1500 4X4 pickup truck from NYE Automotive Group off the NYSOGS contract. The price is \$30,927.50. Mr. Gunner stated the truck would be ordered now for delivery in 2020 and paid for from the 2020 budget. Once they receive the new truck, the 2017 Ford F150 4X4 will be declared surplus and auctioned. Councilwoman Friess stated if approved, it would be contingent upon adoption of the 2020 Budget.

5) Marriage License Fee exemption:

In August 2019, Governor Cuomo signed in to law a bill, which waives the state fee for marriage licenses whenever either party making application for the marriage license is a member of the United States armed forces on active duty. The law allows for towns and cities to waive the local portion of the marriage license fee. The Town Clerk is requesting that the Board adopt a resolution waving the Town fee.

6) Paperless Agendas:

Councilman Snyder introduced a proposal whereby the Town Board meeting agendas would be paperless. The Board and others would be able to receive the agenda and supporting documents electronically and access them on a table or laptop for meetings. Mr. Snyder noted that the Village is currently using this system and that the Village Administrator is very positive about it. Supervisor Bach stated this would work in the new Town Hall, but at the moment Wi-Fi is not reliable at this building and not all Board members have laptops or tablets.

7) Fence installation – 300 Glead Baseball diamond area:

Highway Superintendent Gunner and Jim Kittner, Town employee and EA Baseball representative, spoke to the Board about installing a split rail fence along the west side of the Town's property at 300 Glead. Mr. Kittner stated the fence, which is being provided by the Baseball organization, would keep bicyclists, pedestrians and cars from the field area. He would like to see the fence placed 12 feet from the pavement.

The Town has an agreement with Southside Commerce Center (SCC) whereby SCC has the right to use an area 21 feet deep extending east from the north/south property line between SSC and the Town properties for snow removal. Supervisor Bach stated he would need to speak with the owner, Jim Cornell, to see about putting the fence closer to the lot line. Councilman Snyder stated we need to be certain there are no issues and we need something in writing.

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk