

TOWN OF AURORA  
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION  
March 22, 2021

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, March 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of holding a work session. The Board met in-person and via Zoom at the Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Avenue, East Aurora, New York. Public attendance was permitted at this meeting. The work session was live-streamed via Zoom and YouTube.

|                 |                   |                                |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Present:        | Susan A. Friess   | Councilwoman (via Zoom)        |
|                 | Charles D. Snyder | Councilman                     |
|                 | Luke Wochensky    | Councilman                     |
|                 | James J. Bach     | Supervisor                     |
| Absent/excused: | Jolene M. Jeffe   | Councilwoman                   |
| Others Present: | Ronald Bennett    | Town Attorney                  |
|                 | Elizabeth Cassidy | Code Enforcement Officer       |
|                 | Kevin Glover      | Asst. Code Enforcement Officer |
|                 | David Gunner      | Highway Superintendent         |
|                 | Chris Musshafen   | Recreation Director (via Zoom) |
|                 | Shane Krieger     | Chief of Police                |
|                 | Tony Rosati       | ZBA member/Village Trustee     |

Supervisor Bach opened the session at 7:00 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and noted the regular meeting would begin immediately after the work session.

1) New Wave Energy:

Anthony Marrano of New Wave Energy had to cancel his presentation to the Board for tonight's work session. He will reschedule with Supervisor Bach.

2) West Falls Conservation Society:

Jack Bouquin of the West Falls Conservation Society (WFCS) spoke to the Board about the proposed "rail trail" that will be going through the WFCS land. Mr. Bouquin stated there is a proposed memorandum of understanding between the Erie Cattaraugus Rail Trail (ECTR) and the WFCS that is currently being reviewed by their attorneys. The WFCS is looking to get a written legal document noting what the ECTR said they would do, binding them to what has been said. Mr. Bouquin stated that the WFCS needs to be made whole. He also noted that there are still residents along the trail whose issues need to be addressed and made whole or mitigated. Mr. Bouquin stated the WFCS is suggesting an aboveground concrete tunnel for trail users going through WFCS property. The Town Board members present agreed that the WFCS needs to be made whole as do the residents along the trail.

3) Special Use Permit for Soccer Tournament – Knox Farm State Park:

Eric Eisenried, CIRE Sports Group LLC, Church Street, East Aurora, NY, spoke to the Board about his application for a Special Use Permit to use the soccer and polo fields at Knox Farm State Park for a June 2021 soccer tournament and an August 2021 lacrosse tournament. Supervisor Bach questioned the attendance number of 3840 that Mr. Eisenried proposes. Mr. Eisenried stated that would be the maximum number for the overall event and there would be approximately 500 people at one time, including players, 2 spectators per player, coaches, and game officials. He noted that players would be on one side of the field and spectators on the other. Chris Musshafen and Councilman Wochensky stated that the Arsenal Soccer and the East Aurora Lacrosse organizations are in support of these tournaments. Supervisor Bach asked if CIRE had insurance for these events. Mr. Eisenried responded that if approved by the Town, he will obtain the necessary insurance.

4) Local Law – Building moratorium for zoning districts B1, B2 and I:

Councilman Wochensky spoke about the need to review the zoning codes for districts B1, B2 and I. Supervisor Bach stated it is important to keep our codes updated. Councilwoman Friess noted that our mission is to look at the codes for B and I zones and maybe add codes to be closer to the regional plan. The moratorium local law will be discussed at a future public hearing.

5) Local Law – Rezoning 730 Olean Road to R3:

Previously Rural Outreach Center (ROC) submitted an application to rezone 730 Olean Road from RR and A to B2. After significant discussion by the Board and input from residents/property owners in the area, the ROC submitted an amendment to the rezoning application and is now requesting an R3 designation instead of B2. The new local law/proposal will be discussed at a future public hearing.

6) Auction results for 2008 Wheel Loader:

At the 2/22/21 Town Board meeting the town's 2008 Case 721E Wheel Loader was declared surplus inventory to be auctioned or traded-in (\$35,000) depending on which amount was greater. The vehicle was advertised on Auctions International and brought in a bid of \$53,600.

7) Community Garden:

Dan Roelofs, representing the Aurora Community Gardens (ACG), requested assistance from the Town to obtain better access to the garden through Major Park. Mr. Roelofs stated they would like to keep the South Street access limited to pedestrians and bicycles traffic. Highway Superintendent Gunner stated he could put a pipe in the ditch near the NYSEG property and remove some brush between there and the garden, but it is too wet at this time.

Mr. Roelofs stated that the ACG is planning on putting up a fence around the garden, but at this time they are working on clearing brush from the site. Councilman Snyder asked if they could provide a map showing what is being proposed and where.

Police Chief Krieger noted his concerns regarding the area being open to the public.

The Board requested that the ACG provide a development plan and map. Supervisor Bach stated he would like to do a site visit.

Martha L. Librock  
Town Clerk