

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
January 24, 2022

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, January 24, 2022, at 6:30 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:	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	Luke Wochensky	Councilman
	James F. Granville	Councilman
	Joseph McCann	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Others Present:	Brigid Maloney	Town Attorney
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Code Enforcement Officer
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police
	Tim Stroth	Planning Board member
	Tony Rosati	Village Trustee/ZBA member
	Robert Goller	Town Historian
	Rod Simeone	ZBA member

Supervisor Bach opened the session at 6:30 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) West Falls Fire Department presentation:

West Falls Fire Commissioners Conor Schneider, Joe Calkins, John Farrell and Jim Walczyk were present to talk to the Board about the plans to improve the West Falls fire hall and add an additional building. Commissioner Calkins stated that they need to improve the safety and operation aspects of the current building. They also intend to construct an additional building to store equipment. The Commissioners want to know if ARPA funding through the Town of Aurora is available to them toward the projects.

Supervisor Bach stated that the Town needs to determine what can be done with the ARPA funds, what projects there may be, how much can/should be allocated to each project, etc. Mr. Bach noted that the Town has a lot of homework to do before making any decisions on where the funds will be spent. He also noted that administration of the funds needs to be figured out if the Town were to give funds to other entities.

Commissioner Calkins stated that they have the costs of each part of their proposed project. Supervisor Bach requested that they give the information to the Town. He noted that the timeline would be fall of 2022 for the new building and spring of 2023 for renovations to the existing building.

2) West Falls Advisory Committee:

Conor Schneider stated that there have been between 30 to 40 attendees at their meetings since the committee inception in 2020. He noted they have great ideas but need to channel the energies and would like formal recognition from the Town. The Town Board would need to know what their mission statement is, the number of committee members and suggested term lengths.

Councilman Wochensky stated he wants residents to keep coming to the meetings and there are many things to be discussed including the rails to trails and Route 240 lighting, drainage and sidewalk updates. Mr. Wochensky supports creating a committee.

3) Resolution – NYS Senate Bill S7601:

Councilman McCann wrote a resolution in support of Senator Gallivan's Senate Bill S7601 which supports efforts to ensure access to donor medical, educational and criminal felony records by parents of and donor conceived persons.

4) Hamlin Park Agreement:

An agreement between the Village of East Aurora and the Town of Aurora is being work on that spells out the responsibilities of each party for Hamlin Park, a Village owned park that the Town uses portions of for recreation programs. The Town has been paying the cost of the utilities for most of the buildings in the park, but only uses one building. Councilman Wochensky noted that the Town should only be paying for the utilities at the one location.

5) SRO Agreement:

Councilman McCann met with Village Clerk/Treasurer Maureen Jerackas in regard to the wording of the proposed amendment to the Police Services agreement that includes a school resource officer. The EAUFSD will pay a portion of the costs and the remainder will be split between the Town and Village.

6) Social Media Policy:

Councilman Wochensky presented a draft Social Media Policy. Mr. Wochensky noted that the policy is important if the Town is to go ahead with CodeRed. He stated that the highway department, recreation department and dog control have Facebook pages, but the Town has no policy for how they are created and used. Councilman McCann stated he would work on this with Councilman Wochensky. Councilman Granville stated there are federal funds available to help pay for CodeRed.

7) Code Enforcement – Proposed Code Update:

Code Enforcement Officer Cassidy stated that the minimum standards for administration and enforcement of the Uniform Code and the Energy Code have been updated. This requires the Town to update its code before the end of 2022. Mrs. Cassidy stated she has a sample local law to review and will compare it to Chapter 65 of our existing code.

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk