

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
May 20, 2014

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at 7:00 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
	Susan A. Friess	Councilwoman
	Jolene M. Jeffe	Councilwoman
	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Others Present:	Ronald Bennett	Town Attorney
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Patrick Blizniak	Superintendent of Building
	William Wheeler	CRA Engineering

Supervisor Bach opened the work session at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Those present met to discuss the following:

1) New Wave Energy Corporation:

Jim Jerge and Anthony Marrano from New Wave Energy spoke to the Board about the drastic increase in electric bills earlier this year. Mr. Marrano explained that the polar vortex (cold air) that we experienced forced the price of natural gas to go up which then drove up the cost of electricity. He went on to explain that New Wave has a new software system that will help in the purchasing of electricity as it can identify real time and day ahead factors. Councilwoman Jeffe stated that she spoke with a NYSEG representative who informed her that 95% of commercial customers have a contract with a supplier other than NYSEG and that in the long-run it is beneficial to be with a non-NYSEG supplier. Supervisor Bach stated he will set up a time to meet with Mr. Jerge to discuss this further.

2) Lothlorien Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc. – street light request:

The Town Board received a letter from Margaret (Maggie) McCooey, Executive Director of Lothlorien, requesting the Town's assistance in getting a street light installed on pole number 679. Supervisor Bach visited the location and reported that this particular utility pole is on the east side or Wales side of Reiter Road. The Town of Aurora can not authorize or ask for a street light to be placed on a pole outside of the Town.

3) Mill Road Overlook:

Kathy Lasher and Lowell Dewey spoke to the Board about the proposed overlook parking area. Mr. Dewey stated the intent is for a five (5) car pull-off with signage. He noted there is a 2% slope on surface at the site of ingress and egress and that cars can be seen coming from both directions on Mill Road. Mr. Dewey and Ms. Lasher stated that Open Space committee member John Hughes has volunteered to oversee the construction of the overlook. Mr. Dewey anticipates that 7 or 8 feet of fill will be needed. Who is responsible for getting the materials and doing the work was discussed. Councilwoman Jeffe stated that the Town owns the property and should be buying the stone, etc., but would need the money up-front from the WNY Land Conservancy before anything is done. Supervisor Bach asked for a written proposal from the Land Conservancy. Highway Superintendent Gunner stated his estimate for the project is \$40,000. Attorney Bennett reminded the Board that the cost can not be segmented to stay under the \$35,000 capital project limit. The Board will wait for a project summary before making any decisions.

4) Sale of 44 Jewett Holmwood Road:

Supervisor Bach stated he believes the simplest way to dispose of this Town-owned property is to list with a realtor. Attorney Bennett suggested contacting three realtors and asking what they would charge. A portion of Rankin Road that is on the parcel needs to be abandoned. Supervisor Bach stated the property will be sold as-is.

5) Journal Entry Policy:

The Town's auditors have suggested that a Journal Entry Policy be adopted by the Town Board in order to establish procedures and create proper segregation of duties for manual journal entries. This will be placed on the May 27th meeting agenda.

6) Special Events Code:

The Board discussed a proposed Special Events Code. Councilwoman Jeffe asked the Town Attorney to review the penalty portion of the code and to make recommendations. Post-event clean-up needs to be addressed in the code.

7) Sidewalk Code:

The Board discussed a proposed Sidewalk Code. Councilwoman Jeffe asked that Pat Blizniak and Martha Librock review the code.

Councilman Snyder moved to enter into Executive Session to confer with the Town Attorney regarding the Polo Grounds Settlement Agreement; seconded by Councilwoman Friess.

Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #157
Board enters
executive
session.

Councilman Snyder moved to come out of Executive Session and adjourn; seconded by Councilwoman Friess. Upon a vote being taken:
ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #158
Board exits
exec session
and adjourns

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk