

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
June 12, 2023

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, June 12, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of holding a work session. The Board met in-person at the Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Avenue, East Aurora, New York. The meeting was streamed via Zoom and YouTube.

Present:	Luke Wochensky	Councilman
	Joseph McCann	Councilman
	James F. Granville	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Absent/Excused:	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
Others Present:	Brigid Maloney	Town Attorney
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Code Enforcement Officer
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Donna Bodekor	Senior Center Director
	Chris Musshafen	Recreation/Aquatics Director
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police
	Elizabeth Wilber	Live Stream Coordinator

Supervisor Bach opened the work session at 6:30 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1) VEA/TOA Police Contract:

Supervisor Bach stated that the Agreement for Police Services that was negotiated between the Town and Village is for five years, June 1, 2023 through ending May 31, 2028, with a one-year automatic renewal for June 1, 2028 through May 31, 2029. Mr. Bach believes that the negotiations were fair. There are a few changes such as the due date for payment to the Village from the Town is now February 28th. The Administrative fee will be 2.6% for 2023-2024 and increase annually until 5% is reached for 2027-2028. Councilman McCann stated it is a fair contract.

2) CSEA/Town MOA – Well-tender; fuel pump inspection:

The Town is required to have its two natural gas wells (at Majors Park) read, inspected, maintained and reported. The fuel pumps at the Highway Department require daily inspection by a certified inspector and monthly reporting. Currently the Town contracts with a third party to provide well-tending services. The Town wants to have Town employees trained to do this work. At a prior meeting the Town Board agreed to pay the selected employee(s) an additional \$0.50 per hour for hours worked when performing well-tending duties and fuel pump inspections. The Town's labor attorney prepared a Memorandum of Agreement between the Union and the Town addressing this.

3) Health Insurance Contribution:

The Town contributes toward the health insurance rates for qualified employees and retirees. Kathleen Moffat, Assistant to the Supervisor, is requesting that the Board consider approving the 2024-2025 contribution rates for non-union employees as being the same as approved by the Board in the Union contract (12/12/2022).

4) Employee Policy Update – Lactation Policy:

New York State expanded its lactation accommodation requirements effective June 7, 2023. The Town is required to add this policy to its existing Employee Policy. This would be added as Section 5.07. The policy was reviewed by the Town's labor attorney.

5) Change Order – Community Pool buildings rehab project:

While preparing to re-shingle the roofs of the Community Pool buildings it was discovered that the existing plywood roof sheathing was in worse condition than expected. Thirty-four sheets needed to be replaced. The cost of this change order is \$6,178.00. Supervisor Bach stated the increase will be covered by ARPA funds.

6) Rural Outreach – Community Pool use:

Recreation/Aquatics Director Chris Musshafen is requesting Board approval to allow Rural Outreach to bring approximately thirty children from their program to the pool once per week from July 10 through August 17, 2023 during open hours for a fee of \$40.00 per day. Mr. Musshafen noted that this was done in 2022 and worked out well. Councilman Wochensky asked if a waiver was needed. Chris responded that per diem (non-member users) did not sign waivers. The Town Attorney recommended having this conversation with the Town's insurance carrier. (During the meeting following this work session, the Town Attorney cited NYS General Obligations Law Section 5-326 Every covenant, agreement or understanding in or in connection with, or collateral to, any contract, membership application, ticket of admission or similar writing, entered into between the owner or operator of any pool, gymnasium, place of amusement or recreation, or similar establishment and the user of such facilities, pursuant to which such owner or operator receives a fee or other compensation for the use of such facilities, which exempts the said owner or operator from liability for damages caused by or resulting from the negligence of the owner, operator or person in charge of such establishment, or their agents, servants or employees, shall be deemed to be void as against public policy and wholly unenforceable.)

7) Recreation – new program:

Recreation/Aquatics Director Chris Musshafen is requesting approval to allocate \$200 from the recreation program supply line A7140.440, for a new town event called SpookEA that is being proposed by the Halloween Design Club headed by Dave Moomaw. Mr. Moomaw is proposing a working partnership with the Recreation Department. The funds would be used for yard signs to reveal a map tour of participating homes. Supervisor Bach stated this would be the Town just fronting funds.

8) Bid Results – Highway Pickup Truck:

The Town went out to bid for a 2022 or newer pickup truck for the Highway Department. The bid opening was held on June 8, 2023 with only one bid received. West Herr Ford, Inc., 5025 Camp Road, Hamburg, NY, submitted a bid for a new 2022 Ford F150 (VIN ending in C14744) in the amount of \$56,294.43. Highway Superintendent Gunner stated he believes this is a fair price and the truck is available.

9) Auction Results:

The Town had a 2020 Dodge Ram pickup truck and six round plastic folding tables on the Auctions International on-line bid gallery. The auction ended at 6:30pm on June 9, 2023 with the following results:

- 2020 Dodge Ram – final bid \$29,200.00
- Folding tables – final bid \$330.00

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated that the Town paid \$29,000.00 for the pickup truck when it was originally purchased.

10) Erie County Intermunicipal Agreements- Senior Center and Historian:

The Erie County Legislature approved awarding funding to the Aurora Senior Center and to the Town Historian. Legislator Malczewski sponsored the awards of \$5,000.00 each. In order to receive the funds, the Town must execute funding contracts for each of the awards.

11) Heiler Drive – Open Development Area:

The owners of 81 Heiler Drive are requesting approval for an ODA lot to build a single-family residence. The proposal needed several area variances which were granted by the Town Zoning Board of Appeals on April 20, 2023. The ODA proposal was then sent to the Planning Board for review and recommendation, and they moved to recommend approval of the ODA application at their June 7, 2023 meeting. The Town Board will set a public hearing for June 26, 2023. Councilman Wochensky asked if notice of the public hearing should be sent out through CodeRed. Supervisor Bach stated he was concerned about over-using CodeRed. Councilman McCann stated that CodeRed was used to notify residents of the June ZBA hearings.

Martha Librock
Town Clerk