

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
November 13, 2023

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, November 13, 2023, 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:	Charles D. Snyder Luke Wochensky James F. Granville	Councilman/Deputy Supervisor Councilman Councilman
Absent/Excused:	Joseph McCann James J. Bach	Councilman Supervisor
Others Present:	Elizabeth Cassidy David Gunner Paul Ernst Rod Simeone Doug Crow Shane Krieger Elizabeth Wilber	Code Enforcement Officer Highway Superintendent ZBA Chairman ZBA Member Planning Board Chairman Chief of Police Live Stream Coordinator

Deputy Supervisor Snyder opened the work session at 6:40 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1) Olean Road Rezoning Request:

Deputy Supervisor Snyder stated that he and Councilmen Granville and McCann attended the November 1st Planning Board meeting where the request from Harrison Kelly to rezone 10 acres of a 14-acre parcel from A and RR to C2 to allow Mr. Kelly to develop a family golf center was discussed and a decision rendered by the Planning Board. Councilman Wochensky stated the goal is to have a buffer between the commercial area and the neighboring residential properties to the south. Mr. Snyder suggested rezoning the entire parcel to C2 and putting restrictive covenants on the 4-acre portion with the stipulation that it can not be developed until the parcel(s) to the immediate south are rezoned commercial.

Planning Board Chairman Doug Crow stated that the Planning Board recommended that 10 acres be rezoned to C2 and 4 acres remain A and RR as a buffer. Mr. Snyder stated that he sees commercial butting up to residential as a problem. Mr. Wochensky stated if the 4 acres are not rezoned, deed restrictions would be needed. Mr. Snyder noted that he will request the Town Attorney to draft a local law to rezone the entire parcel to C2 and have a restrictive covenant on the 4 acres at the southern end of the parcel.

2) Center/Blakeley Intersection – All-Way Stop:

Earlier this year the Town Board requested that Erie County Highway complete a traffic engineering study for an all-way stop at the intersection of Center Street and Blakeley Road due to the number of accidents at this intersection and requests/concerns from Town residents. A November 1, 2023 letter from the Erie County Department of Public Works states that the engineering investigation was completed and that Erie County Highway will implement a 4-way stop at that intersection. (Note: Center Street and Blakeley Road are both County roads.)

3) Roycroft easement update:

Deputy Supervisor Snyder stated that Town Attorney Maloney advised him that the property owners (sellers) have not returned her phone calls. Mr. Snyder noted this will be tabled to a future work session/meeting when the Board and Town Attorney have more information with regard to the easement.

4) 2024 Preliminary Budget changes:

Several changes were made to the 2024 Preliminary Budget after the Public Hearing. Those changes include the addition of delinquent water accounts, South Wales and Aurora Colden Fire Department adopted budgets and updated taxable values from the assessor. None of the changes warrant a new public hearing.

5) Special Use Permit – Ground Mounted Solar at 1204 Blakeley Road:

CIR Electric/Andrew Ward as agent for John Hughes is requesting a special use permit for a 7.5kW ground mounted solar electric PV system at 1204 Blakeley Road. Code Enforcement Officer Cassidy noted this needs a special use permit because it is ground mounted. This is not a solar farm, just residential use. Deputy Supervisor Snyder stated this will be forwarded to the Planning Board.

6) Burke Group GASB 75 Service Agreement:

This is a renewal of the agreement with Burke Group for actuarial services to be rendered for the Town regarding GASB 75 valuation services for postretirement health care plans. This agreement covers the fiscal years ending December 31, 2023 through December 31, 2027.

7) Highway request – OGS Minibid:

The Highway Department is requesting to go out for a New York State OGS minibid for a Ford 250 XL pickup truck. The minibid process allows the request to go out to vehicle dealers across the state.

8) Town-wide Dog Census:

The Dog Control office is requesting permission to conduct a dog census/enumeration in the Town outside of the Village beginning this year and ending in spring of 2024. The last Town census was done in 2019. The dog control officers and highway staff will work with the Town Clerk's office during the census.

Martha Librock
Town Clerk