

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
May 13, 2024

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, May 13, 2024, 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
	Raymond M. Wrazen	Councilman
	Charles D. Snyder	Supervisor
Absent/Excused:	James F. Granville	Councilman
Others Present:	Brigid Maloney	Town Attorney
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Code Enforcement Officer
	Chris Musshafen	Recreation/Aquatics Director
	Paul Ernst	ZBA Chairman
	Rod Simeone	ZBA Member
	Douglas Crow	Planning Board Chairman
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police
	Elizabeth Wilber	Live Stream Coordinator

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

1) Community Solar Campaign – Brad Tito:

At their March 11, 2024 meeting the Town moved to authorize going out for Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for the services of a company authorized to provide CDG subscriptions in NY State for a community solar campaign. Project Economics, Inc. d/b/a PowerMarket responded to the RFP proposing to conduct a campaign to enroll residents into a community solar project located in Dickenson, NY. PowerMarket will provide planning assistance, marketing materials, mailings, customer support and a custom landing page for easy sign-up. Their goal is to sign up at least 160 customers. Brad Tito, Director of Community Energy for PowerMarket, spoke to the Board. Mr. Tito noted that there is no cost to the Town or residents to sign up. There is a credit that will appear on the consumers electric bill as a separate line item.

Councilman McCann asked if anyone was ineligible for this program. Mr. Tito responded that users of less than 1000kw, demand meter accounts, and those with solar panels are not eligible.

Mr. Tito stated that the plan is to launch the campaign in three weeks and all (media) releases are subject to Town approval.

2) Planning Board Alternate Members:

Councilman Wrazen stated that several candidates applied for the Planning Board alternate member position that was vacant. After talking with the Planning Board Chairman and doing research to determine if more than two alternates could be appointed, it was decided to consider having three Alternate Planning Board members to ensure having a quorum at Planning Board meetings.

3) GASB Statement No. 96:

In a memo to the Town Board, Kathleen Moffat is requesting that the Town Board approve the GASB 96 policy – Subscription-Based information Technology Arrangements (SBITA), effective for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023. The objective of this statement/policy is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by establishing the definition of SBITA and enhancing accounting and financial reporting by governments.

4) Highway Department – promotions:

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated he is requesting that the Town Board approve promotions for four employees – Justin Smith, Nick Ingelfinger, Jordan Schneider and Colin Voss – that would go into effect on Monday May 27, 2024.

5) Recreation – Seasonal Employee Bonuses:

Recreation/Aquatics Director Chris Musshafen is requesting Board approval to implement bonuses for Seasonal Recreation employees to bridge the gap between Town and State lifeguard and recreation attendant rates. Mr. Musshafen noted that is the same schedule that the Board approved for 2023 Seasonal Recreation employees.

6) Planning Board Recommendations:

At their May 1, 2024 meeting, the members of the Planning Board made the following recommendations to items that had been referred to them by the Town Board:

- Recommended that the Town Board approve the application to rezone property at 12 Old Glenwood Road from C-2 to R-3 due to the character of the surrounding area.
- Recommended that the Town Board approve the application for a Special Use Permit for a campground at SBL 187.01-2-5 and 187.01-2-4 Sweet Road (adjacent to 988 Sweet Road) with the following conditions: use as a campground for less than sixty hours and no more than fifty sites.

Karen Curry, 988 Sweet Road, stated that they have 30 acres and are looking to use only 10 acres for campground use the weekend of the Borderland Music Festival. Ms. Curry noted that the people who stay there will be attending the festival during the day. Campers will arrive after 6:00 p.m. on Friday and leave Sunday evening in order to stay under the 60-hour limit. Anything over 60 hours falls under Erie County Health Department parameters.

- Recommend that the Town Board approve the application for a single-lot Open Development Area at 775 Jewett Holmwood Road.

7) FY Ending December 31, 2023 Audit Presentation:

Erica Handley and Kyle Patronik from Drescher & Malecki, the Town's outside auditors, were in attendance for the presentation of the 2023FY Audit. Ms. Handley spoke about the products of the audit and the responsibilities of Drescher Malecki in conducting the audit, preparing the Annual Update Document and helping the Town compile the CAFR, which has resulted in the Town receiving financial reporting excellence. She reviewed the major funds, including General, Part Town and Highway and stated there are no reportable findings.

Martha Librock
Town Clerk