

November 25, 2024

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Aurora took place on Monday, November 25, 2024, beginning at 6:30 p.m. 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
	Raymond M. Wrazen	Councilman
	Charles D. Snyder	Supervisor
Others Present:	Brigid Maloney	Town Attorney
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Code Enforcement Officer
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Paul Ernst	ZBA Chairman
	Rod Simeone	ZBA Member
	Douglas Crow	Planning Board Chairman
	Timothy Stroth	Planning Board Member
	Patrick Welch	Chief of Police

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

The first item on the agenda was a Public Hearing on a Special Use Permit for a short-term rental/BnB at 275 Bowen Road, East Aurora, NY. Supervisor Snyder opened the hearing at 6:30 p.m. and asked if anyone wished to comment.

Donna and Jim Atkinson, owners of 275 Bowen stated they live there year-round and have extra space above the garage to use for extra income. There is one bedroom and accommodates up to two people. Mrs. Atkinson noted that parking is not a problem and the neighbors wouldn't even notice any activity since the house is set far back from Bowen Road. Hearing no further comments, the Supervisor closed the hearing at 6:32 p.m.

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The next item on the agenda was a Public Hearing on a Special Use Permit for a short-term rental/BnB at 140 Jewett Holmwood Road. Supervisor Snyder opened the hearing at 6:32 p.m. and asked if anyone wished to comment.

Doug Nemecek stated he lives at 140 Jewett Holmwood and that the house is bigger than he needs and wants to use it as a BnB. Mr. Nemecek stated it is a unique piece of property consisting of six acres and is very private. Hearing no further comments, the Supervisor closed the hearing at 6:33 p.m.

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The next item on the agenda was a Public Hearing on a Special Use Permit for a short-term rental/BnB at 1150 Underhill Road. Supervisor Snyder opened the hearing at 6:33 p.m. John Radford stated that he owns the property and lives in the in-law quarters in the basement of the house. Dr. Radford would like to use the first and second floors for guest use as an AirBnB at times.

Hearing no further comments, the Supervisor closed the hearing at 6:34 p.m.

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Supervisor Snyder stated that the Board would not be voting on these Special Use Permits at tonight's meeting.

Councilman McCann moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the November 12, 2024 meeting minutes and the November 25, 2024 Abstract of Claims PCard voucher 1459, vouchers 1392 to 1458, and prepaid voucher 1459, to be paid from the following funds:

General	\$ 61,221.28
Part Town	80.00
Highway/DA	211.54
Highway/DB	36,111.82
Capital/H7 Bridges	13,793.75

Special Districts 68,860.62
Grand Total Abstract \$ 180,279.01

Action #389
11/12/24
minutes;
11/25/24
abstract
aprvd

Councilman Wrazen seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken:
ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

AUDIENCE I:

Robert Aronica, Boies Road, asked the Board to please consider the points he made regarding the light show on Boies Road.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilman Granville moved to approve the Special Event Permit for Michael and Ashley Bojanowski to conduct a holiday light display with music at their residence at 1840 Boies Road with the following stipulations:

- The event will only take place Wednesday through Sunday between December 1 through December 22, 2024 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Christmas week: Monday through Sunday (December 23 through December 29, 2024) from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Music will be limited to 5-7 songs per loop.
- Light motion will be turned off at 9:00 p.m.
- No Parking signs will be erected on the east side of Boies Road between Schopper Road and 1769 Boies Road and maintained through-out the term of the event.
- Complaints to the Police Department or Town will be addressed and may result in shutting down the event.
- Weather conditions should be considered when deciding whether or not to conduct the event during days/times permitted.

Action #390
Special event
permit for
1840 Boies
light show
aprvd

Councilman McCann seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Councilman McCann stated that he believes Mr. Bojanowski has complied with Town requests in the past.

Police Chief Welch stated that the biggest challenge is keeping the no-parking signs up. Chief Welch noted that the EAPD does its best to mitigate any issues that arise. He stated that the number of cars has dwindled slightly since the first year the event was held.

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

Councilman Granville moved to approve payment no. 14 to Azar Design Co. (formerly Foit Albert) in the amount of \$2,509.39 for professional services rendered from September 28 to November 1, 2024 for the East Fillmore Avenue bridge replacement project. Funds will be disbursed from H7 5120.210. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #391
Pymt #14 to
Azar for E.
Fillmore
bridge aprvd

Councilman Granville moved to approve payment no. 14 to Azar Design Co. (formerly Foit Albert) in the amount of \$11,284.36 for professional services rendered from June 29 to November 1, 2024 for the Church Street bridge replacement project. Funds will be disbursed from H7 5120.210. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #392
Pymt #14 to
Azar for
Church St
bridge aprvd

Councilman Wrazen moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Data Sharing Agreement with the Western New York Land Conservancy (WNYLC), as amended by the Town Attorney, whereby WNYLC will share Geographic Information System data related to the WNY Wildway with the Town of Aurora. Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #393
WNY Land
Conservancy
agrmt for GIS
sharing aprvd

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman McCann moved to authorize the following budget amendment to record receipt of reimbursement from Moog for a picnic held at Knox Farm State Park earlier this year:

- Increase revenue line A2025.1 Special Recreation Facilities Income – Permits by \$1,727.50
- Increase appropriation line A7189.105 Seasonal Parks Labor by \$1,727.50

Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #394
Budget
amendment
for KFSP use
authorized

Councilman Wrazen moved to approve the following budget transfer to correct an overdrawn appropriation line:

From: A9040.800 Workers Comp \$7,600.00
To: A5182.411 Street Lighting \$7,600.00

Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #395
Budget
transfer for
street lighting
aprvd

Councilman Wochensky moved to authorize and approve the following budget amendments and transfers for Recreation budget lines:

Amendments:

- Increase revenue line A2080.1 July 3 Sponsor by \$1,025.00
- Increase appropriation line A7550.413.1 July 3 Vendor by \$1,025.00
- Increase revenue line A2052 Camps/Clinics by \$970.00
- Increase appropriation line A7186.411 Camps/Clinics Vendor by \$970.00
- Increase revenue line A2061 Staff Training by \$1,230.00
- Increase appropriation line A7989.401 Staff Training Vendor by \$1,230.00
- Increase revenue line A2026.1 Aquatic Club Registration by \$2,450.00
- Increase appropriation line A7180.113 Aquatic Club Payroll by \$2,450.00

Action #396
Budget
amendments
& transfers
for
Recreation
aprvd

Transfers:

From: A7180.115 Community Pool Payroll \$2,000.00
To: A7020.409 Credit Card Service Charges \$2,000.00

From: A7989.401.2 Staff Training Supplies \$280.35
To: A7989.401.1 Staff Training Vendor \$280.35

Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Councilman Granville moved to approve a Temporary Use Permit for Terry Tomczyk/Terry's Photo Studio for a Santa photo session at JP Nicely West Falls Park on December 8, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Councilman Wrazen seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #397
Temp Use
permit for
WF Park –
Terry's Photo
– Santa pics

Councilman Wrazen moved to approve the purchase of 100 trail markers from Blue Devil Design at a cost of \$500.00 for use at Majors Park and JP Nicely West Falls Park. Funds will be disbursed from A7110.454 ARPA. Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – none noes – five Motion carried.

Action #398
Purchase of
100 trail
markers
aprvd

Councilman Wochensky moved to refer the application to rezone 1342 Quaker Road from RR (rural residential) to C2 (commercial) to the Planning Board for review and recommendation(s). Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #399
1342 Quaker
rezoning appl
referred to
Planning Brd

Councilman Granville moved to refer the Site Plan application for 1045 Davis Road to the Planning Board for review and recommendation(s). Councilman Wrazen seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #400
1045 Davis
site plan
referred to
Planning Brd

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

- Recreation Director - September 2024 report
- Recreation Director – October 2024 report
- Town Clerk/Tax – October 2024 report
- Town Clerk/Tax – September amended report
- Town Clerk/Water – October 2024 report

BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS/LIAISONS:

Councilman Wochensky spoke about changing the Town’s domain from .com to .gov, noting that we received the .gov site. He noted that the switch would be made to .gov, but the Town would keep the .com site, also. Supervisor Snyder stated that the estimated cost for Nick Fodero of WNY Networks to help with the transition would be between \$5,000 and \$10,000. Town Clerk Librock asked who gave authorization for anyone to go out for the .gov domain. Councilman McCann noted that we just secured the domain and we do not have a .gov website yet and that most municipalities use .gov.

Councilman McCann spoke about the availability of NARCAN and a recent training that was held at the Aurora Senior Center. Mr. McCann stated he, Chief Welch, Village Administrator Krieger and members of the Garden Club met with NYSDEC representatives regarding the over population of deer in the Village and Town.

Councilman Wrazen stated that Senior Center Director Donna Bodekor was interviewed as a Comprehensive Plan stakeholder. Ms. Bodekor will be submitting paper copies of the Comprehensive Plan survey to the members of the Center.

Supervisor Snyder wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

AUDIENCE II:

Evan Roden, Grover Road, spoke in favor of wind turbines in Lake Erie.

Patricia Meckes and Nicole Duffner of Citizens Against Wind Turbines in Lake Erie (CAWTILE) spoke to the Board about the heavy metals that would enter into the water in Lake Erie if the lake bed were disturbed with the siting of wind turbines. Ms. Meckes stated that their group is being pro-active as there are not definite plans for the turbines at this time and noted that only four towns in Erie County have not adopted resolutions opposing the siting of wind turbines in Lake Erie. Councilman Granville asked for more information.

Robert Aronica, Boies Road, commented on the need for NARCAN to be available for people to use. Mr. Aronica also stated that the Town should use signs to let people know when/where a variance is being requested.

Tim Stroth, Center St., asked if the Comprehensive Plan committee considered the use of a charette for public outreach for the Plan and commented on the few towns that use .gov.

Jim Atkinson, Bowen Road, stated he is glad wind turbines in Lake Erie are off the table at this time, noting that boats do not disturb the sediment at bottom of the lake, but the turbines would hinder the boating experience.

Evan Roden, Grover Road, commented on the Davis Road reconstruction and said traffic calming should be a priority.

STAFF REPORTS:

Police Chief Welch stated that his officers patrol the West Falls area of Davis Road regularly. He noted that the Police Department recently received a \$55,000 grant that will provide tasers and training for the officers.

Rod Simeone stated that the Code Review Committee should also review the size of dwelling units in light of the permits that are being given for short-term rentals, etc.

Councilman McCann moved to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Wrazen. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried. Action #401 Meeting adjourned

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk