

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
January 13, 2020

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, January 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, 300 Gleed Avenue, East Aurora, NY, for the purpose of holding a work session:

Present:	Susan A. Friess	Councilwoman
	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	Luke Wochensky	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Absent/excused:	Jolene M. Jeffe	Councilwoman
Others Present:	Ronald Bennett	Town Attorney
	William Kramer	Code Enforcement Officer
	William Wheeler	Engineer/GHD
	Tony Rosati	ZBA member
	Paul Ernst	ZBA member
	Chris Musshafen	Recreation/Aquatics Director
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police

Supervisor Bach led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
(Mr. Bach noted that Councilwoman Jeffe is excused from tonight's work session and meeting due to having had surgery.)

1) Knox Farm State Park Temporary Use Permits :

At several events held in 2019 at Knox Farm State Park, parking and traffic flow were public safety issues. Cross-country events are held on both the Town managed part of the park (south side of Knox Road) and on the State managed side (between Knox Road and Buffalo Road). Some events such as Brewski and Borderland are held on the State side, but a majority of the parking is on the Town side.

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated there is parking for 400 cars maximum – 250 on the east parking lot (soccer lot) and 150 in the equestrian area. Councilman Snyder noted that the equestrian area does not have a hard-pan base and if there are heavy rains parking there could be a problem.

Supervisor Bach stated that when there are large events in the State part of the park, parking is being pushed on the Town. Event planners need to come up with a parking plan.

Police Chief Krieger said that the State needs to do something about parking for both cars and buses. Mr. Krieger noted that parts of Gypsy Lane should not have any parking allowed. The Town is having issues with parking because the State does not have enough parking for some of the events – they need to put in a parking lot.

Councilwoman Friess stated that the Friends of Knox are trying to get parking on the State managed portion of the park across from the equestrian fields.

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated that Uber and Lyft was a problem, also. Chief Krieger stated that park officials should be able to request a “pin” change for the day(s) of the event to indicate exactly where Uber and Lyft should drop off and pick up riders.

Chief Krieger noted that another issue is the closing of Knox Road and lack of directional signs for event parking, etc. Mr. Krieger stated that event planners should be required to have and show a permit from Erie County to close Knox Road.

Councilman Wochensky suggested the Town put together a plan and tell the event planners what needs to be done. Councilwoman Friess agreed, noting we should be dictating certain aspects of the events such as parking.

Supervisor Bach asked Chris Musshafen to amend the Town's Temporary Use Permit application for KFSP. Chris suggested that if an event will have 700 or more people, the planner(s) need to meet with certain Town representatives to go over parking, traffic control, etc. Supervisor Bach thought the number should be less.

Supervisor Bach suggested that the KFSP manager be involved in these discussions.

2) Whaley Ave. bridge – engineering:

Highway Superintendent Gunner presented a quote from Foit Albert for engineering for the Whaley Avenue bridge replacement project. Mr. Gunner stated that he put out a request for quotes (RFQ) for the North Grove bridge project and the specs are the same for Whaley and that it is easy to use the same engineer.

Supervisor Bach stated he felt that this project should go out for RFQ, too.

Councilwoman Friess stated it would be practical to use Foit Albert since this is the same type of job.

Councilman Wochensky stated it is good practice to go out for RFQ's.

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated he would get more quotes.

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk