

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
December 27, 2021

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, December 27, 2021, at 10:30 a.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 also streamed via Zoom and YouTube:

Present:	Jolene M. Jeffe	Councilwoman
	Susan A. Friess	Councilwoman
	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	Luke Wochensky	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Others Present:	Joel Kurtzhalts	Town Attorney
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Code Enforcement Officer
	Chris Musshafen	Recreation Director
	Roger Pigeon	Assessor
	Ronald Bennett	Deputy Town Attorney
	Robert Goller	Town Historian
	Doug Crow	Planning Board Member
	Tim Stroth	Planning Board Member
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police
	Greg Keyser	GHD

Supervisor Bach opened the work session at 10:30 a.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and noted the regular meeting would begin immediately after the work session.

1) NYS Bridge Grants:

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated that the Town was awarded two grants from the New York State Department of Transportation through the 2021 BRIDGE NY program. \$863,771 was awarded for Church Street over Tannery Brook (Culvert ID CIN03) and \$799,461 was awarded for East Filmore Avenue over Tannery Brook (Culvert ID CIN04). Gerry Sentz, Vice President of Engineering for Foit-Albert Associates, spoke to the Board about the projects. Mr. Sentz noted that the projects will be fully funded by New York State and that the State process needs to be followed. Mr. Sentz stated his is anticipating one bid package, but separate funding.

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated that the State will need to review the proposal Foit-Albert submitted for the North Grove Street bridge project and may accept that engineering RFP for these projects. Mr. Gunner noted that the Town will need to provide seed money at the beginning of the projects. He also thanked the Town Historian for the information he provided for the grant application.

Supervisor Bach asked if the Town Highway department will be assisting with the bridge projects. Mr. Gunner responded, as much as they can. The Supervisor thanked Mr. Sentz for help with the grant application.

2) East Aurora Boys & Girls Club 2022 agreement:

Historically the Town has been entering into an agreement with the East Aurora Boys & Girls Club whereby the Club provides services and programs to the youth of the Town of Aurora, and in consideration the Town compensates the Club \$35,000 in four installments.

3) Contract for Code Enforcement Services with William Kramer:

Code Enforcement Officer Elizabeth Cassidy is requesting the Town to renew the service contract with former Town CEO William Kramer for 2022 with a compensation rate of \$32 per hour with funds to be paid from A3620.404 expense and travel. Mrs. Cassidy noted she does not

anticipate using his services often in 2022, probably in the first half of the year to cover vacation and/or sick time.

4) GHD 2022 Engineering Services Proposal:

Greg Keyser, GHD Project Manager, spoke to the Board about the GHD proposal for engineering support for 2022. The proposal includes general engineering retainer services, Planning Board support services and General Municipal support services. After discussion, it was decided that this will be placed on the January 10, 2022 re-organization meeting agenda.

5) Drescher & Malecki LLP financial services:

In 2020 the Town Board voted to extend Drescher & Malecki's audit engagement through FY ending 12/31/2025. The document presented today is a compilation of their responsibilities for FY 2021 auditing. The fee is \$30,290.

6) Future Assessment Revaluation funding:

Councilwoman Friess stated that eventually the Town will need to do an assessment reval as it has been over thirty years since the last reval. The proposal is to fund an account with fund balance and with what is left in A1355.413 at the end of the year. Councilman Wochensky asked if the funds can be used for tax challenges. Attorney Kurtzhaltz responded, yes. A resolution was prepared.

7) Architectural Proposal for Community Pool Park:

Fontanese Folts Aubrecht Ernst, Architects, submitted a Scope of Services and proposal to provide architectural services for design of renovations to Aurora Community Pool and new public restroom addition. The total fee proposed is \$13,560. Supervisor Bach noted that the cost will be covered by American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funds.

8) Executive Order – Exemption renewal applications:

On December 26, 2021, Governor Kathy Hochal signed into law Executive Order 11.1 which allows assessors to use information from 2021 for exemptions to the 2022 tax roll and dispenses with the requirement for assessors to mail renewal applications.

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk