

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
January 10, 2022

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, January 10, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of holding a work session. The Board met in-person and via Zoom at the Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Avenue, East Aurora, New York. Public attendance was permitted at this meeting. The work session was live-streamed via Zoom and YouTube.

Present:	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	Luke Wochensky	Councilman
	James F. Granville	Councilman
	Joseph McCann	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Others Present:	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Code Enforcement Officer
	Chris Musshafen	Recreation Director
	Robert Goller	Town Historian
	Donna Bodekor	Senior Center Director
	Rod Simeone	Zoning Board of Appeals Member
	Paul Ernst	Zoning Board of Appeals Chair
	Tony Rosati	Zoning Board of Appeals Member
	Tim Stroth	Planning Board Member
	Greg Keyser	GHD
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police

Supervisor Bach opened the session at 6:30 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and noted the regular meeting would begin immediately after the work session. Mr. Bach welcomed new Councilmen Granville and McCann.

1) School Resource Officer/Police Services Contract:

The Town Board received a letter from Maureen Jerackas, East Aurora Village Treasurer, notifying the Town that the Village has negotiated a contract with the East Aurora School Board to add a full time School Resource Officer (SRO) at the East Aurora Schools. The Village is asking the Town to amend Exhibit A of the Police Services Agreement (PSA) between the Town and Village. According to the memo, the school will pay the Village 65% of twice the base salary of the SRO selected for the position and any costs for the SRO beyond this amount will remain shared by the Town and Village per the current PSA.

Supervisor Bach stated he was told that the maximum payment the Town would make annually would be \$15,000.00. Councilmen Snyder, Wochensky, McCann and Granville noted that they agree to this in principle, but there are questions that need to be answered.

2) 10 Ellis Drive Open Development Area application:

William Heidt submitted an Open Development Area application. A prior single-lot ODA approval was granted to Mr. Heidt in 2014 and in 2021 the Zoning Board of Appeals granted a variance for an accessory building in the front yard and a height variance for an accessory building. Mr. Heidt plans to build a new single-family dwelling behind the existing building and once that is completed, he will convert the current residence into an accessory building so there will only be one residence on the property. In a memo to the Town Board, Code Enforcement Officer Cassidy states that the proposed residence meets all code requirements in Chapter 99 Sections 31A and B and Section 99-29A(3).

3) Civil Service - New Position Creation:

The Town submitted a New Position Duties Statement (PO-17 form) to Erie County Civil Service. Erie County responded that the title of the position described in the PO-17 should be Recreation Specialist (non-competitive). Chris Musshafen noted that Elaine Schiltz, whose title was Recreation Attendant, is retiring and this PO-17 basically describes what Elaine has been doing, which is more than that of a recreation attendant.

4) Town Meetings – Virtual vs. In-Person:

The Board discussed whether Town meetings should be held virtually or in person due to the current Covid situation throughout New York State. The current legislation adopted by New York State, allowing for virtual meetings with no in-person attendance, expires on January 15, 2022. Councilmen McCann and Wochensky stated that the Supervisor should be authorized to make the decision to go fully virtual should it become necessary and if allowed by statute or executive order.

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk