

TOWN OF AURORA  
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION  
March 14, 2022

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, March 14, 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.

Present:	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman (via Zoom)
	Luke Wochensky	Councilman
	James F. Granville	Councilman
	Joseph McCann	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor (via Zoom)
Others Present:	Brigid Maloney	Town Attorney
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Code Enforcement Officer
	Greg Keyser	GHD
	Tim Stroth	Planning Board member
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police
	Elizabeth Wilber	Live Stream Coordinator

Councilman Wochensky opened the work session at 6:30 p.m. with a moment of silence for those affected by the conflict in Ukraine, followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and noted the regular meeting would begin immediately after the work session. Councilman Snyder attended the work session via Zoom from 459 Snyder Road, East Aurora, NY and Supervisor Bach attended the work session via Zoom from 26 Hickory Lane, East Aurora, NY.

1) East Aurora Baseball/Softball (EABS):

EABS President Amy Sullivan and Vice President Jim Kittner spoke to the Board about the baseball/softball program. Registration is open now and practices start April 25, with games starting in mid-May and ending mid to late July. Mrs. Sullivan and Mr. Kittner stated their must haves for the program: diamond dirt, backstops for Lilley fields and bathroom use. Mrs. Sullivan noted that practices are held on all the fields and on some grass areas Monday through Friday and that the game schedule would be developed approximately one week before the games start for the season.

Councilman McCann asked if there is a dollar-for-dollar match for diamond dirt. Mrs. Sullivan responded it depends on how much the dirt costs. Mr. McCann stated that the safety fence will be installed, and they will use the pool bathrooms this year.

Mr. Kittner said his main concern is the need for more diamond dirt on the ball diamonds and asked if the diamond dirt being purchased was for all the Town diamonds or just Community Pool Park and Glead fields. Mr. McCann responded the diamond dirt will not go to West Falls diamonds.

Mrs. Sullivan asked about the status of the plan for the (Community Pool) park. Councilman McCann responded that the pool boiler and doors are a priority, as are two outward facing restrooms.

Kathy Aures, Snyder Road, asked if anything is planned for the snack shack and that running water and a sink are needed.

Councilman Wochensky asked what they want or need in the long-term. Mrs. Sullivan responded that a commitment from the Town to keep up the diamonds is needed – diamond dirt, fixing drainage issues, installing a bullpen and upgrading Moose field lights.

Councilman Wochensky asked if EABS can use the diamond at Hamlin Park. Mrs. Sullivan responded that it is too big for the little kids – it's a 90-foot field.

Mr. Kittner reiterated that taking care of the Glead fields is important.

Councilman Wochensky stated that fixing the pool and baseball fields are a priority and we need to get on paper what is needed and wanted.

Mrs. Sullivan stated that their attorney and EABS board would review the agreement and get back to the Town if any changes need to be made.

2) Eagle Project proposal:

Thomas Merletti from Boy Scout Troop 890 spoke to the Board about his Eagle Scout project that he has proposed for West Falls Veterans Memorial Park. Thomas wants to erect a flag retirement box and do park clean up and plant new flowers. The box will be 2 feet high and 1 foot wide and set on a pole that will be sunk 3 feet into the ground. The top of the box will be 5 feet from the ground. Councilman McCann suggested that Thomas contact the local NYSDOT office to see how much of the park will be affected during the construction work on Route 240 (Davis Road). Thomas will empty the box every month for one year and dispose of the flags properly and after one year the WFFD will take care of it.

3) USDA Invasive Insect Trap proposal:

The Town has been contacted by USDA requesting to place traps for European Cherry Fruit flies and Box Tree moths on Town property and rights-of-way. Both are considered to be invasive pests. The traps will be serviced at least every two weeks and removed by the end of October 2022.

4) Special Use Permit – 426 Olean Road:

Joshua Best of Best Brothers Development LLC has submitted an application for a Special Use Permit for a 2400sf storage building at 426 Olean Road. The property already has several storage units on it that were permitted by the Zoning Board of Appeals based on the Code at that time.

5) Hazardous Mitigation Plan resolution:

Over the past two years Erie County and numerous towns throughout the county have worked to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 established new requirements for pre- and post-disaster hazard mitigation programs and Erie County municipalities formed a coalition to pool resources and create consistent mitigation strategies. The 2022 plan has been finalized and participating municipalities are being asked to adopt the plan.

6) Highway Clerk – title change:

Highway Superintendent Gunner is requesting that Elizabeth Deveso's title be changed from Highway Maintenance Clerk RPT to Highway Maintenance Clerk FT effective March 21, 2022.

7) Plow Truck purchase proposal:

Highway Superintendent Gunner is requesting to purchase a new 2023 Western Star 4700X plow truck with Viking Equipment snowplow package from Fleet Maintenance, Inc. for \$265,543.87 off the Cattaraugus County Bid contract #514-2019.

8) Highway Roof – emergency repair:

In February a windstorm damaged a section of roof on the Highway Park building. The damage was temporarily repaired, but on March 7, 2022, another windstorm damaged that repair. Varecka Builders performed a permanent repair. Insurance will cover \$9,529.35 of the total cost.

9) Ukraine Resolution:

Councilman Wochensky stated that the situation in Ukraine is terrible, and this resolution is an important document as he has friends and family in the region. Supervisor Bach asked if the Town should be looking at adopting resolutions that are beyond Town issues. Mr. Bach stated he supports the resolution, but questions if the Town should get involved in resolutions of all kinds.

Councilman Granville stated that typically resolutions should be local, but in this case, it is symbolic and important. Councilman McCann stated that some of the wording needs changing. The Board will table this and return to it after rewording the resolution.

Martha L. Librock  
Town Clerk