

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
June 13, 2022

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, June 13, 2022, at 6:30 p.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 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:	Brigid Maloney	Town Attorney
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Code Enforcement Officer
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police
	Chris Musshafen	Aquatics/Recreation Director
	Rod Simeone	ZBA member
	Paul Ernst	ZBA Chairman
	Timothy Stroth	Planning Board member
	Adam Zaremski	Library Board member
	Elizabeth Wilber	Live Stream Coordinator

Supervisor Bach opened the work session at 6:30 p.m. with a moment of silence for all those affected by violence, followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1) Electric Car Charging Stations:

Supervisor Bach stated that a representative from Greenspot had been scheduled to join the work session via Zoom to explain that company's plan for replacing the car charging station at the Aurora Senior Center. Mr. Bach stated the current station is not working. Greenspot proposes to replace the existing unit, keep up the infrastructure, and provide the electricity. A five-year contract is proposed. Town Attorney Maloney reviewed the contract and had some suggested changes to propose to Greenspot.

2) Rezoning Application – 4479 Transit Road:

The owners of 4479 Transit Road have presented an application requesting to have their property rezoned from RR (rural residential) to A (agriculture) to allow for two residences (dwelling group) on the property. Code Enforcement Officer Cassidy stated that their options are to request a rezoning from the Town Board or a use variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals – they chose rezoning. The next step is to forward the application to the Planning Board for review.

3) Rezoning Application - fee increase:

The Town Clerk requested that the Town Board consider increasing the fee for Rezoning applications from \$35 to \$100 or \$150 due to the amount of time spent by Town officials/employees and others processing and reviewing the documents.

4) Special Use Permit amendment – 612 Buffalo Road:

John, the manager at Angelina's restaurant, spoke to the Board on behalf of owner Ben Bell. John stated that they want to have live music on Thursday nights in addition to the nights already permitted – Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Councilman McCann asked if there had been any feedback from neighbors and what way the stage faces. John responded that they have not heard anything from neighbors and the stage faces the back of the building. Councilman Wochensky suggested sending a letter to the neighbors. Councilman Snyder stated he will stop by and visit neighbors.

5) Polo Event at Knox Farm State Park:

Marianne Potratz of Kevin Guest House has applied for a temporary use permit to hold a polo match fundraiser on the Town managed portion of Knox Farm State Park on Saturday, July 16, 2022. The Buffalo Polo Club has an agreement with the Town whereby the Club can hold up to two events each year for an annual fee of \$1,000 plus \$1,000 for each event with a positive balance of \$10,000 or more. In 2019 the Club paid the Town \$1,000 for FY2020, but due to Covid the events in 2020 and 2021 were cancelled. The 2019 payment has been credited to the July 16, 2022 event.

6) Building Department Computer Software:

Code Enforcement Officer Elizabeth Cassidy and Building Clerk Jennifer Calkins sent a memo to the Town Board requesting approval to purchase new Building and Code Enforcement software, noting that their current software through Williamson Law Book Company is experiencing difficulties and limitations. They received quotes from four companies and are proposing the software from CloudPermit at a cost of \$16,000 per year and an initial setup fee of \$6,000. Supervisor Bach requested that the Building Department do a fee study to see if the fees being received for building permits will cover this cost.

7) Erie Cattaraugus Rail Trail Resolution:

Town officials have been working on a resolution declaring support for that portion of the Erie Cattaraugus Rail Trail (ECRT) that goes through the Town of Aurora along the railbanked portion of the Buffalo-Pittsburgh rail corridor for a multi-use recreation trail. Supervisor Bach noted he asked Deb Fenn, president of the board of directors for ECRT, to attend tonight's work session. Councilman Snyder stated that privacy for residents who live along the trail is a big thing and asked Ms. Fenn where the ECTR stands on this.

Ms. Fenn stated that a resolution of support from the Town would help them get the funding for design of the trail and that everybody has a voice once the design firm is on board. She noted that the design firm will come back with a design that will be reviewed by all parties.

Councilman Wochensky stated that the Town's decision to support or not support is conditioned upon what we would like to have happen.

Councilman McCann noted there should be limited use of the trail. Councilman Snyder added that it should not be used by motorized vehicles, snowmobiles or horses at this time. Ms. Fenn stated it has not been evaluated for horses but could be re-evaluated in the future.

Councilman Granville asked that when there are concerns, how do we know who will deal with it. Ms. Fenn stated they want to hear from all the adjacent landowners and that privacy and safety are their two biggest concerns.

Supervisor Bach stated that the Town needs to have a seat at the table. Councilman Wochensky stated if the Town Board passes the resolutions with conditions, we want ECRT to take care of those people along the trail.

Councilman Snyder commented on the drainage problems along the trail and Ms. Fenn responded that drainage issues that involve the railbanked portion of the corridor in the Town of Aurora will be addressed in the design process.

Supervisor Bach stated that he wants to make sure our residents are protected.

During the discussion several changes were made to the original resolution. The Board will finalize and consider approval during tonight's Town Board meeting.

8) Code Red:

Councilman Wochensky stated that this has been discussed for a while. Code Red is on the NY State contract list. They are offering a 1-year or a 3-year contract. Mr. Wochensky suggested that the Town enter into a 1-year agreement and propose it to the Village for their next meeting and then have an intermunicipal agreement between the Town and Village should the Village agree to using Code Red.

Supervisor Bach stated that a use policy and rules for use would need to be developed. Councilman Wochensky stated that Code Red has different policies they will share with us.

9) Underground Utility Survey for Community Pool:

Councilman Snyder stated that Nussbaumer has quoted \$2500 to do a survey of the underground utilities at Community Pool that is needed for the planning and development of the bathroom facilities at that location.

Martha Librock

Town Clerk