

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
November 28, 2022

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, November 28, 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
	Joseph McCann	Councilman
	James F. Granville	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Others Present:	Brigid Maloney	Town Attorney
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Code Enforcement Officer
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police
	Timothy Stroth	Planning Board Member
	Rod Simeone	Zoning Board Member
	Elizabeth Wilber	Live Stream Coordinator

Supervisor Bach opened the work session at 6:30 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1) Open Space Committee:

Dale Morris of the Town's Open Space Committee (OSC) spoke to the Board about the OSC and plans the committee is considering for updates at Hubbard Road side of Majors Park. Mr. Morris stated the development would be phased with improvements to the parking area and signage being done first. Trail development would follow. At this time the OSC has no firm idea where the trail would go, but a circular trail that would include the Hubbard Cabin is being considered, along with a possible connection to Owens Falls property that fronts on Hubbard Road. Other items being considered are updating the Open Space master plan and developing trails at the Mill Road Overlook.

Supervisor Bach and Councilman Snyder noted that the Hubbard cabin is not a safe structure and suggested its possible removal but keeping the fireplace or using the materials from the fireplace for something else.

2) Comp Alliance:

In an email to the Supervisor, Shawn Roes of Comp Alliance stated that for the Town of Aurora 2023 renewal, they are providing a funding contribution of \$70,604 which is a 5% funding decrease, and the Town is eligible for a fixed cost 2-year term with the same contribution in year two.

3) Personnel Policy Updates:

The following updates to the Town's Personnel Policy are being proposed:
Section 3.04 Overtime Compensation

- Remove applicable job titles
- Paid lunch to be considered time worked
- Add legally required language regarding maximum hours and the option to cash-out

Section 3.05 Flex Time

- The recommendation from Labor Attorney Heather Giambra is to remove this section in its entirety

Section 4.03 Vacation

- Updated the "Continuous Full Time Service with the Town of Aurora on January 1" and the "Vacation Settlement as of January 1" to avoid extreme wait times for earned vacation.

4) WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway (WNYSSB):

The WNYSSB Board of Directors is asking members and supporters of the Byway to submit a letter of support endorsing the Byway proposal to build informational kiosks at the proposed new football stadium in Orchard Park. The kiosks would provide/display information about the communities along the Byway route to a possible 60,000 people per stadium event.

5) Local Law Intro – Videoconferencing and Videoconferencing Policy:

The Board received the Local Law Intro for a code to address Videoconferencing by the Town Board and other Boards and Committees. A public hearing needs to be set.

6) Local Law Intro – Adult Use Code amendment:

The Board received a Local Law Intro proposing to amend the definition of Adult Entertainment Cabaret. A public hearing needs to be set.

7) Special Event Permit application:

At their November 14, 2022 meeting the Board discussed the application for a Special Event Permit submitted by Michael and Ashley Bojanowski to hold a holiday light show that is accompanied by music. Prior to tonight's meeting, Supervisor Bach and Councilman Snyder met with Mr. Bojanowski to discuss safety concerns that were brought up by the East Aurora Chief of Police and neighbors on Boies Road. Mr. Bojanowski stated his proposal this year is to hold the event from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Thursday through Sunday during the month of December only. The length of the music loop would be reduced from 14 songs to between 5 and 7 songs.

Supervisor Bach stated that if the East Aurora Police are called out on legitimate complaints, the light show would need to be shut down for that day as would it need to be shut down for bad weather.

Mr. Bojanowski stated he can address concerns such as cars parking in front of neighbors' driveways on Facebook.

8) East Fillmore Bridge update:

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated that the Town received a grant through Bridge NY to replace the Church Street and East Fillmore bridges in the Village of East Aurora.

Supervisor Bach noted that there are three options for the East Fillmore bridge: 1) close the bridge; 2) have a one-lane bridge; or 3) have a two-lane bridge.

Mr. Gunner stated that the bridge can be permanently closed only if the road leading to it is abandoned and that NY State does not consider a one-lane bridge to be legal, but if one were constructed it would require traffic lights.

Councilman Wochensky stated that he spoke with the NYSDOT, and it would be unprecedented to allow the Town to amend their grant application for a one-lane bridge, which probably would not be funded. Mr. Wochensky noted he understands the desire of the residents to keep the quaintness of the current bridge, but for safety reasons a two lane would be better.

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated that the two-lane bridge requires the existing road to be realigned, which would need to be done by the Village.

Tim Stroth, Center Street, asked if the Village Safety Committee has been consulted with regard to the realigning of the road and installing a sidewalk.

Dorota Johnson, E. Fillmore Ave., stated she is not opposed to the new bridge, but is opposed to a sidewalk and road reconfiguration.

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated that if the road is not reconfigured, there would need to be a guiderail in the current pavement.