

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
July 22, 2014

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Tuesday, July 22, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Southside Municipal Center Town Hall Auditorium, 300 Glead Avenue, East Aurora, NY, for the purpose of holding a work session.

Present:	Jeffrey T. Harris	Councilman
	Susan A. Friess	Councilwoman
	Jolene M. Jeffe	Councilwoman
	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Others Present:	Ronald Bennett	Town Attorney
	Patrick Blizniak	Superintendent of Building
	William Wheeler	CRA Engineering

Supervisor Bach opened the work session at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Those present met to discuss the following:

1) National Energy Professionals Presentation:

Paul Vargovich, General Manager of National Energy Professionals, spoke to the Board about the estimated savings the Town could see if the fluorescent, MH and HPS light fixtures were changed to LED.

2) Aurora Community Gardens:

Rob Rohrbach, Linden Ave., requested that the Town take stewardship, not ownership, of the Aurora Community Gardens (ACG). He presented a petition bearing 142 signatures, noting that about 95% were residents of the Town of Aurora. Supervisor Bach stated there was no basis for the request. Mr. Bach noted that if there was a pattern of people being denied membership to the ACG, then the Town could look at the situation. Mr. Bach said the Town will not referee a personality dispute. Supervisor Bach asked James P. Collins for a list of plot owners/members who signed up for and were approved membership in the ACG.

3) Aurora Baseball Program:

Joe Orłowski, Baseball Commissioner, spoke to the Board about the Town's baseball program, noting that when the program began 18 years ago there were 89 children participating. In 2014 there are 645 children playing baseball and softball. Mr. Orłowski stated the goal is to have the baseball program be run similarly to the Arsenal Soccer Club or the East Aurora Little Loop Football program. There will be a five member board, a new mission statement, and new by-laws. He will follow-up with the Board and the recreation department in early 2015.

4) 992 Olean – request for one-year extension:

A restrictive covenant for 992 Olean was signed on April 15, 2014 and filed with the Erie County Clerk's Office on May 14, 2014. Among other things, the covenant addresses the use of the property and a proposed new building. According to the restrictive covenant, the Town and the property owner agreed that a new 50' by 64' building with a 3-sided/roof enclosure lean-to type 14' by 50' would be completed on or before September 1, 2014. Supervisor Bach received a letter, dated July 16, 2014, from Donald R. Pressing, Jr. (property owner's son) requesting a one (1) year extension for the new building (pole barn) for medical reasons. This will be placed on the July 28, 2014 meeting agenda for consideration.

5) Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate:

There is one alternate member vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals. ZBA member Davis Heussler has recommended Dennis Holbrook for the position. Supervisor Bach will contact Mr. Holbrook.

6) WD 18 Emery Tank by-pass:

The Town received notice from the Erie County Water Authority (ECWA) that in order for the Emery Tank (on Center Street) to be drained and inspected, the Town will have to make modifications to the piping. This is similar to what was done at the Townline tank several years ago. The ECWA is willing to perform the work. The estimated cost to the Town (Water District 18) is \$22,000.00. Bill Wheeler, CRA, explained that the by-pass allows the tank to be taken off-line without interrupting water service to residents. This will be placed on the July 28, 2014 agenda for consideration.

7) Southside Municipal Center – warehouse storage space:

Councilman Snyder presented a proposal to section off part of the warehouse at 300 Glead into 10' by 20' units that can be used/rented by Town departments, SSMC tenants or other businesses. Councilman Snyder was asked to get an estimate of the cost of the lumber, etc.

8) Contractor List for bids/quotes:

Councilman Snyder presented a proposal to develop a list of local contractors/businesses to use when the Town needs to obtain quotes or bids. These contractors/businesses would be contacted when there is a quote or bid being sought. An ad in the Pennysaver and other papers was discussed. Prospective contractors/businesses would have to be made aware of the Town's insurance requirements and prevailing wage requirements.

9) Health Benefits:

Councilwoman Friess noted that when the new Recreation/Aquatics Director begins work on July 28, 2014, he will be eligible for health insurance in October. Mrs. Friess stated he is covered by his current insurance through August and suggests the Town allow him to purchase health insurance for September through the Town's program. Councilwoman Jeffe noted that he would have to pay the premium by check, not out of his paycheck.

10) Budget Transfers:

Bookkeeper Kim Reichert is requesting a budget transfer in the amount of \$2,899.00 to cover the cost of D. Hochadel's health insurance. Mr. Hochadel was made a full-time employee in 2014 and this amount was not budgeted. This will be placed on the July 28, 2014 agenda for consideration.

11) BOCES Lease:

A fifth addendum to the Erie 2-Chaugauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES lease is being proposed in order to better describe the area being leased by BOCES from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. This will be placed on the July 28, 2014 agenda for consideration.

Martha L. Libroek
Town Clerk