

TOWN OF AURORA  
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION  
January 23, 2023

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, January 23, 2023, 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/Deputy Supervisor
	Luke Wochensky	Councilman
	Joseph McCann	Councilman
	James F. Granville	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor (via Zoom)
Others Present:	Brigid Maloney	Town Attorney
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Code Enforcement Officer
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Rod Simeone	Zoning Board Member
	Paul Ernst	Zoning Board Chairman
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police
	Timothy Stroth	Planning Board Member
	Robert Lowell Goller	Town Historian
	Elizabeth Wilber	Live Stream Coordinator

Deputy Supervisor Snyder opened the work session at 6:30 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mr. Snyder stated that Supervisor Bach is attending the meeting via Zoom from 118 Dolphin Drive, Stewart, Florida.

1) Zoning Board of Appeals request for “sunset” clause in Town Code:

The Zoning Board of Appeals is requesting that the Town Board amend the Town Code by adding verbiage that requires the petitioner to obtain a building permit within one year from the date of approval of a variance or special use permit. Code Enforcement Officer Cassidy explained that doing so would prevent conflicts, especially when a property owner wants to build years after a variance was granted and there have been changes in the Code. Councilman Wochensky asked if the Code Review Committee will be able to review this and questioned if the Town can overrule a court decision and in practice, how would that work. Town Attorney Maloney stated that under Municipal Home Rule Law the requested change is okay. Supervisor Bach stated that this should be looked into further. Ms. Maloney stated she would like to meet with Councilman Wochensky to discuss this further.

2) Request to hire Assistant Code Enforcement Officer:

The Building Department is requesting to hire Richard Miga as a FT Assistant Code Enforcement Officer. Deputy Supervisor Snyder stated that Mr. Miga has extensive experience. Code Enforcement Officer Cassidy stated that three people responded to the want ad and none of them were Town residents. Mr. Miga has 20 years of experience in commercial plan review as well as project management experience. Mrs. Cassidy noted that this is a full-time position. If approved Mr. Miga would be hired as provisional full time and will need to take the Assistant Code enforcement civil service exam when offered by Erie County. The salary would be \$28.36 per hour and two weeks of vacation is being recommended. The Board will also have to approve non-residency as Mr. Miga resides in the Town of Colden.

3) Association of Towns (AOT) meeting: voting delegate designation:

Highway Superintendent Gunner will be attending the 2023 AOT meeting in New York City in February and is requesting to be designated voting delegate for the Town at the AOT Annual Business Session. Mr. Gunner has held this designation in the past when attending the meeting.

4) East Fillmore Avenue Bridge Waterline Replacement:

Deputy Supervisor Snyder stated this will be tabled to a future work session/meeting.

5) East Fillmore Avenue Bridge/Culvert Closure:

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated that last Tuesday the project engineer for the East Fillmore bridge replacement project visited the site and noticed serious deterioration to the base of a wing wall. Mr. Gunner provided photos of the situation and noted that he would like to close it as of January 24, 2023 and keep it closed until further notice. He also noted that Matt Hoeh from the Village and the EAPD, EAFD and others have already been notified. Highway employees will post notices at the neighboring properties. Board members noted they were in favor of the decision to close the bridge.

6) Code Red Policy:

Councilman Wochensky stated that the Code Red Policy needs to be shored up. There are two different uses – 1) emergencies and 2) non-emergencies such as road closures, garbage delays, etc. People would have a choice of signing up for emergency notifications and adding the option for general notifications. Mr. Wochensky noted he would like comments regarding the policy back from Board members by the end of the month to be able to have the policy on the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda.

Martha Librock  
Town Clerk