

TOWN OF AURORA  
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION  
August 28, 2023

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, August 28, 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
	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
	Rod Simeone	ZBA Member
	Paul Ernst	ZBA Chairman
	Tim Stroth	Planning Board member
	Doug Crow	Planning Board Chairman
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police
	Camie Jarrell	GHD Engineer

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

1) Library Storage Shed – Bid results:

On August 14, 2023, the Town Board awarded the bid for the Aurora Town Library storage shed to Varecka Builders, Inc. Councilman Snyder explained that since that time it was discovered that the bid from Varecka did not include the extension of the fence, which was part of the specs, therefore the Varecka bid does not meet the requirements. Mr. Snyder stated that the bid would be awarded to the next highest bidder - Ingelfinger Custom Contracting \$26,875.00.

2) Temporary Use Permit – Lacrosse at KFSP:

At their August 14, 2023 meeting, the Town Board tabled the request from John Jiloty/Champion Lacrosse for a temporary use permit for a one-day lacrosse tournament at Knox Farm State Park (Town managed side) in order to obtain more information. Councilman Granville noted that the event is already posted on the Lacrosse website.

Highway Superintendent Gunner noted that their plan is to use the prime soccer area for the games. Both Mr. Gunner and Mark Gemerek from the Aurora Arsenal Soccer organization stated their concerns about the use of the fields if the weather is rainy or snowy. Mr. Gemerek stated that Arsenal Soccer ends October 22<sup>nd</sup> and this event is the following weekend. Mr. Gemerek also stated that if he were to line the fields for the lacrosse games, it would cost the Arsenal's upwards of \$1,000 for the paint.

The Board noted that the Arsenal use of the fields has to be a priority to the Town.

Other concerns noted were garbage, porta potty location and number, possible need for a designated ambulance and the possible number of cars and where to park if the area is very wet.

3) Site Plan/Special Use Permit – 196 Ellicott Road:

Alpine Storage LLC/Richard Mund has submitted an application for site plan review and an application for a Special Use Permit to construct a 40' by 120' self-storage building at 196 Ellicott Road. There are currently two buildings of comparable size on the parcel. This will be referred to the Planning Board for review and recommendation(s).

4) Request to Rezone Olean Road vacant lot:

Harrison Kelly/Olean LLC stated that he would like to have 10 of the 14 acres of his property on Olean Road rezoned from RR (rural residential) and A (Agriculture) to C2 (Commercial) for a golf-oriented entertainment center. The first phase of the project would be a 12,000sf indoor golf center and parking. Future plans include an outdoor mini golf course and a driving range. The remaining four acres would be a buffer between this and the property to the south.

Councilman Snyder stated he would like to see specific details of each phase and would like larger copies of the plans.

Councilman Granville asked how many trees would be cut down. Mr. Kelly responded that all of the dead ash trees would be removed, and he would keep as many trees as possible. Councilman Wochensky suggested that Mr. Kelly reach to the neighbors to let them know of the plans. This will be referred to the Planning Board for review and recommendation(s).

5) NYPA Loan – budget transfer for highway portion payment:

The Town has a variable interest rate loan with the New York Power Authority (NYPA) for the LED light conversion projects at 300 Gleed and at the Highway Department at 251 Quaker. Kathleen Moffat is requesting that the Board approve a budget transfer of \$8,477 to allow the Town to pay its portion of the loan for the Highway project in full. The new owner of 300 Gleed assumed responsibility for the Gleed project of the loan.

6) Planning Board Alternate - Vacancy:

Supervisor Bach asked if the Board wants to fill the Planning Board vacancy at this time or wait until the January Organizational meeting to appoint someone. The consensus was to wait until January. Planning Board Chairman Doug Crow stated he is going to ask the Planning Board member for recommendations to fill the vacancy.

7) WFFD ARPA funds request:

Supervisor Bach stated that based on the documentation given to the Town by the West Falls Fire Department regarding funding losses, there is not a very large deficit. Mr. Bach noted that the Bookkeeper and Town Clerk reviewed the documents and came up with losses of less than \$1,000. Supervisor Bach asked if ARPA money can be given away with no basis or criteria. Councilman McCann stated we need to tie the funds to something. Councilman Granville stated he would talk with the WF fire chief.

8) Climate Smart Community Task Force Website:

Councilman Wochensky stated their original request was to be on the Town of Aurora website, but now they would prefer to have their own website and be linked to the Town website. Mr. Wochensky stated he would develop the website and the Town Board would have final approval before it goes live. Supervisor Bach asked about the committee members and terms for them. Councilman Wochensky stated no terms at this time and the names of the high school students and Elma resident would be removed. Councilman McCann suggested approving the website tonight and the committee member names at the next meeting.