

TOWN OF AURORA  
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION

March 16, 2010

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Tuesday, March 16, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium at 300 Glead Avenue, East Aurora, NY, for the purpose of holding a work session.

Present:	Jolene M. Jeffe	Supervisor
	Jeffrey T. Harris	Councilman
	Susan Friess	Councilwoman
	James F. Collins	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Councilman
Others Present:	Ronald Bennett	Town Attorney
	Bryan Smith	Town Engineer
	Patrick Blizniak	Superintendent of Building
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Peggy Cooke	Recreation Director
	Jeffrey Markello	Town Justice
	Nancy Smith	Open Space Committee
	Libby Weberg	Open Space Committee
	Mark Hartley	Disaster Preparedness Coordinator
	Randy Taylor	Disaster Preparedness Committee
	Craig Thrasher	Disaster Preparedness Committee

Supervisor Jeffe opened the work session at 7:00 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The Board met to discuss the following:

- 1) Town of Aurora/Village of East Aurora Emergency Management Plan – Mark Hartley and Randy Taylor spoke to the Board about updates to the Emergency Management Plan that is currently in place. They reminded the Board that level 100 and 700 National Incident Management System (NIMS) training is available on-line on the FEMA website.
- 2) Tub Grinding – Highway Superintendent David Gunner has negotiated with Zoladz Construction Co., Inc., 13600 Railroad Street, Alden, NY, to grind and remove trees, leaves, etc., at no charge to the Town in exchange for the resulting mulch. The proposal would run through November 30, 2010. This will be placed on the 3/22/10 agenda.
- 3) Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds – Highway Superintendent David Gunner presented the agreement for the Board to review. The general repairs proposal is \$257,430.00 and the total amount of \$87,500.00 is being proposed for improvements on Highland Drive, Deepwood Drive and Roycroft Circle. He also presented a four-stage road maintenance plan for 2010. Gunner stated the highway department is going to attempt to crack-seal roads in-house this summer. This will be placed on the 3/22/10 agenda.
- 4) Baseball Batting Cage – Recreation Director Peggy Cooke presented a request and proposal to use warehouse space at 300 Glead for a batting cage. The proposal includes wooden shelves being built to separate the baseball area from the rest of the warehouse, along with a new separate entrance into the warehouse. Mrs. Cooke stated that the lumber would be donated and any other expenses would be covered by the baseball budget and baseball sponsor fees.  
Supervisor Jeffe noted her concerns as being it will take up 1/3 of the warehouse and the area where the new door is proposed has ice problems in the winter. In general, the Board felt it would be a “municipal” use for the building. They agreed to look at the area after tonight’s work session.
- 5) Signs and Rules for JP Nicely West Falls Park – Recreation Director Peggy Cooke presented a proposal for signage at the West Falls Park. Some of the recommendations such as dogs that are on leashes would be allowed on park trails, with owners having to

clean up after them, and the time for playing tennis would require a change to Town Code chapter 84. Mrs. Cooke stated the signs would be purchased through Erie County and that there is money budgeted for new signs.

- 6) No Smoking Proposal – Recreation Director Peggy Cooke presented a proposal to make all Town owned property smoke-free, especially parks and recreation areas. A resolution from the Erie-Niagara Tobacco-Fee coalition was given to the Board for consideration. Councilman Harris stated, if adopted, this would be policy, not law. Mrs. Cooke stated that she does not want to have people smoking at sporting events and smoke-free areas should include baseball diamonds, playgrounds and the pool. Supervisor Jeffe stated that Orchard Park has recently adopted a no-smoking policy for its parks and she will contact them to get the specifics. This will be revisited at the next work session.
- 7) Baseball Diamond Use Application – Recreation Director Peggy Cooke presented the Board with a revised baseball diamond use application which includes new rules covering the type of baseball bats allowed, and alcohol use. Mrs. Cooke stated that illegal bats are being used; teams are staying in the park after it closes and beer kegs were being brought to the park. She noted that the adult leagues are run independently from the recreation department leagues and if there are infractions there needs to be some sort of penalty. Councilman Harris suggested raising the fees. Councilwoman Friess suggested a refundable deposit. This will be placed on the 3/22/10 agenda.
- 8) South Wales Community Center Baseball Diamond – Men’s Softball League Commissioner, Jeff Transki, is requesting that the Town determine a diamond maintenance fee to have the Town maintain the softball field at the South Wales Community Center. Transki stated that the league would need the diamond dragged and lined. It could be done on a “pay per occasion” or they could pay for “X” number of games up-front. Peggy Cooke noted that the Town no longer uses this diamond for any of its baseball programs and no longer mows the fields. Mr. Transki stated that they are working with the South Wales Community Center board to determine how the fields will get mowed.
- 9) Open Space Committee Presentation - Nancy Smith and Libby Weberg, members of the Open Space Committee (OSC), gave a presentation on the committee’s goals and mission statement. OSC members developed a ranking document and high preservation priority document for parcels in the Town. They are currently reviewing what is being called the “Cazenovia Project” – a parcel on South Street adjacent to Cazenovia Creek. Mrs. Smith asked if there would be any funding to have their brochure reformatted (approx. \$100) and printed (\$10 per copy). Supervisor Jeffe responded that there might be funds available. This will be placed on the 3/22/10 agenda.
- 10) 1519 Quaker Road Open Development Area (ODA) – A resolution approving the ODA application for 1519 Quaker Road will be considered at the March 22, 2010 meeting. The public hearing was held on March 8, 2010.
- 11) Jewett Holmwood Road SEQRA – SEQRA - Part 2 for the proposed Jewett Holmwood Road Subdivision was reviewed again. The issue of the widening of Jewett Holmwood Road at the point where the subdivision road would be was discussed at length. Bryan Smith stated that this isn’t as much a SEQR issue as a condition of preliminary plat approval. This will be placed on the 3/22/10 agenda.
- 11) Water Rates – This discussion as to the effect of the Village water rate increase on Town districts will be discussed at the April work session.
- 12) Horse/Livestock Density – The Board discussed whether or not the issue of horse and livestock density in the Town should be addressed in the master plan, which is months away from being finalized, or before. Attorney Bennett stated that the issue could be

addressed with a special use permit. Each zone district has 1) principal use; 2) accessory use; and 3) special uses. For example, a special use permit for horses, livestock or fowl on parcels less than 10 acres in size could be used to regulate the number of animals.

- 13) IT Agreement and Computer Plan – Lisa Hoffman spoke to the Board about the current status of Town computers and IT service. She presented a 2010 computer budget analysis showing YTD expenses in A1680.210 along with several computer purchase requests. Lisa also discussed virus protection and replacement of the server at Town Hall.
- 14) Court Bench Bid – On March 12, 2010 a bid opening, entitled Board/Court Room Renovation, was held for work that includes replacement of the existing board platform with a new platform and bench, all required electrical work, and miscellaneous room alterations. Alternate bids for attorney tables, divider and computer cabinet and workstation were part of the specifications. The bid for the platform, bench and miscellaneous alterations is \$23,700. The alternate bid for two attorney tables is \$1,650. Alternate bid for a divider is \$2,920. And alternate bid for computer cabinet and workstation is \$1,100. The grant received by the Court is \$24,000. Town Justice Jeff Markello stated that the courts have received three (3) grants: \$9,100 that was used to purchase chairs; \$24,000 that will be used for the new court bench and platform; and a third grant for \$5,050, with \$4,800 of this grant to be used for furniture. Judge Markello stated that they are in need of file cabinets and a new chair for the judges. This will be placed on the 3/22/10 agenda.
- 15) NYPERG Grant for Solar Panels – The Town Board is considering applying for a grant to install solar panels on the roof of the highway garage at 251 Quaker Road. Councilman Bach stated that the solar panels will generate more electricity than would be used at that location. This will be placed on the 3/22/10 agenda.
- 16) Inter-municipal Agreement with Erie County re: GML 239-m (referrals to ECDEP) – This issue will be tabled to the April work session.

Martha L. Librock  
Town Clerk