

April 26, 2017

A special joint meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Aurora and Board of Trustees of the Village of East Aurora took place on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, 300 Gleed Avenue, East Aurora, New York.

Town Board Members

Present:	Jolene M. Jeffe	Councilwoman
	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	Susan A. Friess	Councilwoman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Absent/Excused:	Jeffrey A. Harris	Councilman

Village Board Members

Present:	Patrick Shea	Trustee
	Peter Mercurio	Trustee
	Raymond Byrnes	Trustee
	Kristen Cameron	Trustee
	Steve Lazickas	Trustee
	Allan Kasprzak	Mayor
Absent/Excused:	Ernest Scheer	Trustee
Others Present:	Bryan Gazda	Village Administrator
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police
	Darrin Longboat	EAPD Officer
	Elaine Schiltz	Recreation Supervisor

Supervisor Bach opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mr. Bach stated that the Village Board asked for this meeting and that several items would be discussed.

Mayor Kasprzak stated there are some “house cleaning” items that need written agreements and the police and fire contracts need to be addressed.

1. Possible move of Village offices to new town hall:

Supervisor Bach noted that the Town is working with an architect to do a feasibility study on the new town hall on Oakwood Avenue. Several ideas are being looked at, the first being the Villages offices moving to the new building and leaving the courts and police department on Main Street. Second, is moving the courts to the new building and the Village offices and police department staying where they are. Third, is moving the town offices to the Oakwood Avenue building and leaving everything else the same.

Supervisor Bach said that cost savings to tax payers would need to be identified.

Trustee Shea questioned moving the court to the Oakwood Avenue building and cited logistics with the police department, along with added costs. Mr. Shea noted there is a limit on police time and transporting prisoners takes time and usually two officers.

Trustee Byrne noted that activity at the Senior Center will only be getting bigger due to the aging population.

Mayor Kasprzak stated he is not in favor of moving the Village offices and that they are talking about upgrading Village Hall.

Councilwoman Jeffe asked if it would benefit the Village if the court was moved. The Mayor responded he supposed so.

Supervisor Bach asked if the EAPD needs more room. Chief Krieger responded that they are bursting at the seams.

Mayor Kasprzak mentioned that the EAPD could use the entire first floor and the Village office could be on the second floor of the Main Street location if the court moved out.

Trustee Shea stated that the court and EAPD could be in one building if the Village offices moved to Oakwood Avenue. Mr. Shea noted he would like input from the police chief and judges regarding prisoner transport.

Supervisor Bach stated that the positives and negatives need to be documented.

Bryan Gazda stated the Village would need 3000sf of space in the Oakwood building – that includes office space, storage and conference room area.

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Chief Krieger stated that moving the courts would mean more hours for officers and more overtime. Mr. Krieger explained the criminal processing system.

Supervisor Bach asked the Village to get back to the Town Board with a direction that they would like to pursue.

2. Consolidation of Services (per Gov. Cuomo's directives):

Gov. Cuomo is trying to reduce property taxes by encouraging local governments to cut cost through sharing services. County and local leaders would need to come up with a cost saving consolidation plan. This budget proposal ties millions of dollars in state aid into the approval of the plan.

Mayor Kasprzak stated they received an email from the Department of State regarding a May 4th consolidation meeting downtown.

3. Hamlin Park/Recreation Department:

Mayor Kasprzak stated the Village is working on a master plan for Hamlin Park.

Trustee Shea asked what can the Village share with the Town. Councilwoman Jeffe stated the maintenance at Hamlin Park has been a Town function and capital projects are a Village function. Mr. Shea also asked if we could identify what the Village residents get out of it – the Village needs to justify spending \$300,000 on a tennis court.

Elaine Schiltz stated there is a verbal agreement and the lines of the agreement have since blurred. Mrs. Schiltz also noted that the recreation department is a town and village function.

Supervisor Bach stated the Village and Town each need to put in writing what they are currently doing at the park.

4. Code Enforcement:

When Village Code Enforcement Officer Harbison retired, the Village decided not to replace him; therefore, the code enforcement duties of the Village were now the responsibility of the Town Building Department.

Trustee Shea stated they do not believe they are getting the services they expect.

Supervisor Bach asked the Village to write down their expectations and get that info to the Town Board.

5. Police Agreement:

Mayor Kasprzak stated the Village is in the middle of contract negotiations with the EAPD union and he believes the union is asking for the sky.

Trustee Shea asked if the Town should be allowed to sit in on the negotiations. Councilwoman Jeffe stated that we did sit in one time in the past.

6. New Firetruck:

Mayor Kasprzak stated that the EAFD is asking for a new ladder truck at a cost of over one million dollars. Mr. Kasprzak noted that the Village was hoping the EAFD would wait a few years so that the Village could rotate bonding.

Supervisor Bach stated that Mark Hartley spoke to the Town Board several months ago and the Town asked if it was possible to share this type of truck with another fire company.

Trustee Shea noted that the EAFD needs to develop a capital plan

7. Town take-over of Village Vital Records:

The two Boards discussed whether or not there would/could be cost savings if the Town took over processing the birth and death (vital) records for the Village. The Town and Village are separate filing districts. It would be feasible to consolidate the two districts if the Town were to take over the records.

Martha L. Librock, Town Clerk