

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
April 16, 2013

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Southside Municipal Center Town Hall Auditorium, 300 Gleed Avenue, East Aurora, NY, for the purpose of holding a work session.

Present:	Susan A. Friess	Councilwoman
	Jeffrey T. Harris	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Deputy Supervisor/Councilman
	James F. Collins	Councilman
Absent/Excused:	Jolene M. Jeffe	Supervisor
Others Present:	Ronald Bennett	Town Attorney
	Bryan Smith	Town Engineer
	Patrick Blizniak	Supt. of Building
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Charles Snyder	Planning Board member
	David Majka	Planning Board alternate

Deputy Supervisor Bach opened the work session at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence for the victims of the bombings at the Boston Marathon.

1) Sewer District Asset Transfer:

In 2006 the Town entered into an agreement to transfer the assets of Town sewer districts 3, 3E1, 4 and 4E1 to Erie County Sewer District No. 3 until Erie County Sewer District 8 was created. The remaining piece is the transfer of fund balances from the four (4) districts to Erie County Sewer District No. 8. Councilwoman Friess noted she has met with ECSD officials and they are aware of the pending fund transfer.

2) Dog Control Agreement with Town of Wales:

Deputy Supervisor Bach stated that the agreement with the Town of Wales, whereby the Town of Aurora provides dog control services to Wales, expires at the end of 2013. There is also a 90-day cancellation clause should either of the Towns wish to cancel the agreement earlier. Several Board members would like to get out of the agreement sooner than later. Councilman Harris stated we should honor the agreement to the end of the year if Wales can't find someone to be their dog control officer. Councilman Collins suggested the Board continue to discuss this.

3) Request to attend Annual Highway School:

Highway Superintendent David Gunner is requesting that he and Deputy Highway Superintendent David Drosendahl be authorized to attend the 68th Annual Highway School in Ithaca, NY on June 3-5, 2013. The expenses would be registration, hotel and per diem. Mr. Gunner noted that they would take a town truck, so there would not be a mileage expense.

4) Request to Purchase Recycling/Plow Truck:

Highway Superintendent Gunner is requesting to go out to bid for: 1) a new truck (cab and chassis); and 2) bodies, hook lift, salter, controls and plow and wing equipment. Councilman Harris stated he believes the specs are too restrictive and suggested rather than limiting it to a specific year, list the request for a new 2012 or newer truck as there are new/unused 2012 cab and chassis out there. Mr. Harris also stated that five (5) day delivery is too restrictive. Mr. Gunner said that could be changed, adding that this is two separate bids.

5) Request to Rezone 1963 Mill Road:

Deputy Supervisor Bach stated that this item was put on the agenda prematurely, noting that the Board will discuss it at the May work session.

6) Salary/Benefits for Part Time Elected Officials:

Councilwoman Friess noted that this discussion has been on-going. She presented compensation comparisons of town justices and town supervisors of Aurora and other towns. The proposal is to eliminate benefits for elected officials who are considered part time, i.e., Aurora Town Justices and the Supervisor and to compensate the Justices with a higher salary, but keep the Supervisor salary the same. Deputy Supervisor Bach asked how she came up with a raise for one position, but not the other. Councilman Harris stated he did not like raising salaries arbitrarily. Councilman Collins noted that by eliminating benefits the compensation is being slashed by \$13,000, so adding something to the Supervisor salary would be fair. Councilwoman Friess reiterated that by taking out the benefit cost and increasing the salaries by several thousand dollars, the overall cost is still lower.

7) Shared Pumping Facilities Equity Reimbursement Proposal:

The Center Street pump station was owned and constructed by Water District No. 6. Several other districts currently benefit from the pump station, but never contributed to the cost. The proposal is for a one-time payment from each benefited district (6E1, 6E2 and 18) to Water District No. 6. The proposal is to reimburse District 6 for the Center Street pump station original investment. The reimbursement would be based on a present asset valuation of \$125,000 (replacement value of \$250,000 less depreciated value of \$125,000). The funds would be taken from the fund balances of the benefited districts and transferred to District 6.

8) Recreation Vehicle Code:

An amendment to Town Code Chapter 116 Section 36 is being considered. Following is the proposal:

B. None of the foregoing provisions shall be construed to prohibit storage of one (1) recreation vehicle (RV), travel or camping trailer, (on a lot) upon which a dwelling has been lawfully erected or in an enclosed permanent building on such lot, provided that such trailer (RV) is owned by the occupant of such premises and, while stored, is not used or occupied for sleeping or dwelling purposes and is not connected with (to) electric, sewer, water or other utilities.

A. Seasonal property storage – April 15 to October 15

(1) Prohibited storage of an RV, camping or travel trailer as follows:

- a. Within ten (10) feet of any side yard lot line.*
- b. Within fifty (50) feet of the road right-of-way, excluding driveway.*
- c. Within ten (10) feet of any rear yard lot line.*
- d. Within forty-five (45) feet of any side street right-of-way on a corner lot.*

B. Off-season property storage – October 16 to April 14

(1) Allowed storage of an RV, camping or travel trailer as follows:

- a. (Within) a fully enclosed accessory structure.*
- b. In the rear yard of the lot, but not within the required lot line(s) as noted above.*

9) Request to become Out-of-district Water Customer:

The resident at 898 Olean Road is requesting to become an out-of-district customer to Water District No. 18. The parcel is in the Town of Aurora, but outside the boundary of Water District No. 18. The water main runs down Olean and goes past this property. The property owner will be required to sign an out-of-district customer agreement and pay the annual debt service.

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10) HVAC Controller:

The Town received a proposal from U&S Services to upgrade the current DOS based HVAC controller. Councilman Collins and Town Clerk Martha Librock visited the West Seneca School District to see a demonstration of how the new system works. Mr. Collins noted that he would recommend upgrading to this system, but that funding needs to be discussed before a final decision is made.

11) Fireworks Contract:

The Independence Day celebration in the Town is July 3, 2013. Skylighters of WNY has presented a proposal for the fireworks display. Councilman Collins commented on the insurance requirements, noting that we need to have a copy of their worker's compensation insurance and that the contract should note that Skylighters will hold harmless the Town and Village.

12) Tax Information Program Proposal:

The Tax Receiver currently uses software from TSL for tax collection. The company offers an internet based tax information program which allows for all current year and prior year's tax information (Town/County and School) to be viewed over the internet. There is also the capability to add web based credit card and ach tax payments. The package, including training is \$4,000, with an annual maintenance fee of \$300/collection. The Town Clerk noted that there currently are funds in her budget to cover this.

13) Olean Road Sewer Service:

Councilwoman Friess stated that she had met with the Erie County Sewer Authority (ECSA) Board of Managers and they discussed the process to have a sewer line installed on Olean Road between the Village line and Lapham Road. The properties are in ECSD No. 8, but do not receive sewer service. The ECSA was asked to put together a letter with the anticipated costs and how the property owners and Town should proceed. It was noted that the property owners need to petition the ECSA.

Martha L. Librock, Town Clerk