

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
January 22, 2013

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Tuesday, January 22, 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:	Jolene M. Jeffe	Supervisor
	Susan A. Friess	Councilwoman
	James F. Collins	Councilman
	Jeffrey T. Harris	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Councilman
Others Present:	Ronald Bennett	Town Attorney
	Bryan Smith	Town Engineer
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Patrick Blizniak	Superintendent of Building

Supervisor Jeffe opened the work session at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The first item on the agenda was an informational public hearing on the proposed:

1) Increase and Improvement of Facilities for Water District No. 6:

Bryan Smith gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposal to replace the aging water line on Geneva Road and install a new line on a portion of Center Street from Westgate Drive north to approximately 500 Center Street to provide improved water pressure. Both locations are in Town Water District No. 6. The maximum amount to be expended is \$560,000.00. For a house assessed at \$100,000.00, debt service would equate to approximately \$98 annually for the life of the bond.

At 7:12 p.m., Supervisor Jeffe opened the hearing to questions and comments from the public.

Tony Rosatti, Center Street, asked if the project was meant to connect the Center Street line to the Geneva Road water line. The response was, no, Geneva connects to a main on South Street.

Hearing no further questions or comments, the hearing was closed at 7:15 p.m.

2) Electronic Recycling proposals:

Proposals for a new electronics recycling contract were received from:

Sunnking, Inc., Brockport, NY	\$0.07 per pound
RCR&R, LLC, Victor, NY	\$0.086 per pound

The Town Attorney will review both of the contract proposals and Councilman Collins will review the insurance portion of the contracts.

3) Open Development Area – Grover Road

William Vogel, property owner of SBL#199.00-2-8.21 Grover Road, is requesting approval of an Open Development Area lot (flag lot) at that location. The parcel was split from 1713 Grover Road. The petitioner's proposal is to build a house having a front yard setback less than 75 feet from the front yard line. A request was put before the Town Zoning Board of Appeals as Case No. 1174 and on December 20, 2012 the Zoning Board granted a 55 feet variance to allow the house to be built a minimum of 20 feet from the front yard line.

4) Town Code Chapter 28 – Recreation Director:

The Board discussed the possible reasons for this chapter being in the Codes of the Town of Aurora. Peggy Cooke is currently appointed as recreation director. Her Civil Service title is Recreation Director II.

Attorney Bennett noted that the code intended for this position to be that of a Public Officer. He stated that there are opinions and case law regarding this. Councilmen Harris and Collins stated they would like to see this local law kept on the books. Supervisor Jeffe and Councilwoman Friess noted they would like to see the code eliminated. Mr. Bennett will review with the Erie County Civil Service department and find case law/opinions relating to this.

5) Reed Hill Public Improvement Permit

In 2011, the developer for the Reed Hill Subdivision applied for a Public Improvement Permit (PIP) to install roads, storm sewer and waterlines in the development. The developer gave a \$58,735 inspection deposit to the Town. Presently inspection fees have gone above the amount deposited. Peter Sorgi, manager and attorney for the developer, suggested that Town Engineer Bryan Smith and Bob Hill (developer) get together to discuss this. Mr. Sorgi stated that Tom Johnson will be taking over over-site of construction, marketing, etc. for the subdivision.

6) Bond Counsel

Proposals for Bond Counsel services for Town bonding including the Luther Road Bond, Water District 6 Bond and for refinancing approximately \$10 million in USDA bonds for several Town water districts were received from:

Orrick	\$12,465.00
Hodgson/Russ	\$12,000.00

7) New Wave Energy Proposal

Several months ago New Wave Energy Corporation gave the Town a proposal to act as the supplier of the Town's electric and natural gas. They anticipated a savings of approximately \$14,000 in electricity costs and approximately \$1,400 in natural gas costs. Councilman Harris and Councilwoman Friess felt there was no reason not to try it. Councilman Harris suggested trying the electric only, since the savings is greater. Supervisor Jeffe stated she would be comfortable with a one (1) year contract and an analysis at the end of the year. If there is a savings, the Board could enter into a three (3) year contract.

8) Legacy Polo Grounds Residential Development:

In a letter to the Town Board, Frank Chinnici, a member of Legacy Polo Grounds, LLC, requested that there be no limit to the number of single or double units built on the property as long as the total remained at 47. This is a cluster development for which the total density of 47 units was based on a combination of 13 single units and 17 double units. Mr. Chinnici stated that they have had a far greater demand for single units than for double units. Mr. Chinnici and Peter Sorgi, attorney for the developer, stated that the density would remain at 47 units and all would stay in the "building envelopes" noted on the final plat.

9) Salaries and Benefits:

Councilwoman Friess stated that the Town does not give benefits to part time employees and asked if part time elected officials should receive benefits. This would impact the elected offices of two judges and the supervisor. The health care benefits amount to approximately \$13,000 annually for each of these positions. The councilpersons do not receive benefits. Councilman Collins stated these positions are a service to the community and the benefits or lack of benefits should be for the position, not the person holding the position. Councilman Bach noted that the salary compensation should reflect the position. Town Justice Markello suggested that part time elected officials be construed differently than part time employees due to their accountability to the tax payers. Councilwoman Friess stated compensation for part time elected

officials should be in a salary package. Mrs. Friess provided comparison data on town justice and town supervisor salaries and benefits of similar sized towns for the Board for review

10) Water District 6 – Increase and Improvements SEQR:

The Town has prepared Part I of the Short Environmental Assessment Form concerning proposed water system improvements for Town Water District No. 6 and has classified the project as an Unlisted Action under the SEQRA.

Councilman Bach moved to declare the Town of Aurora as lead agency under SEQR for Proposed Water System Improvements to Town Water District No. 6. Councilwoman Friess seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #23
Town declares
lead agency for
WD6 I&I
project.

11) Meeting and Seminar Attendance Policy:

The meeting and seminar attendance policy was discussed by the Board. The Highway Superintendent asked that attendance at water school be included in the policy. Supervisor Jeffe asked if the Board wanted to leave Section 18 as written or to change the amount or provision regarding overnight travel. The consensus was to leave it as written.

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk