

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
February 20, 2013

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Wednesday, February 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Southside Municipal Center Town Hall Auditorium, 300 Glead Avenue, East Aurora, NY, for the purpose of holding a work session.

Present:	Jolene M. Jeffe Susan A. Friess Jeffrey T. Harris James J. Bach	Supervisor Councilwoman Councilman Councilman
Absent/Excused:	James F. Collins	Councilman
Others Present:	Patrick Blizniak Ron Krowka	Superintendent of Building Chief of Police

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

1) Insurance Overview – Presented by Geoff Gunner:

Geoff Gunner, representing Badger & Gunner, Inc. and Selective Insurance Company, spoke to the Board about the insurance coverage that the Town currently has. He noted that the insurance is rated on approximately \$21 million in value. Mr. Gunner discussed many aspects of the Town's insurance, including but not limited to the following:

- Anyone driving a town vehicle needs to have three years experience or be 21 years of age with a clean record. 16 to 18 year olds need to "ride shotgun".
- Prospective employees should bring a motor vehicle abstract (of their driving record) with them when they apply for a position, not after they are hired.
- There are separate policies for underground storage tanks and pollution liability.
- The Town has a \$10 million umbrella policy.
- There is blanket coverage for all buildings and contents, with guaranteed replacement cost.

2) Salary & Benefits

At their 1/22/13 work session the Board discussed salary and benefits for part time elected officials. At that time Councilwoman Friess provided comparison data on town justice and town supervisor salaries and benefits of similar sized towns for the Board and town justices to review. Mrs. Friess stated that Town Justice Markello asked if this discussion could be postponed until the March work session, since he is out of town. In a memo to the Board, Mr. Markello stated that the information he received from other towns was different than the information Councilwoman Friess presented. Councilman Harris asked how much weight we should put on what other towns do. Councilwoman Friess noted that we need to look at the whole picture – salary and benefits and that she will look further into the information she and Mr. Markello received from other towns.

3) Contribution of Pool Memberships to local organizations:

In a memo to the Board, Recreation Director Peggy Cooke, requested approval to donate family pool memberships or pool day passes to the following not-for-profit organizations for their fund raising events:

- Moose Lodge #370
- Kiwanis Club of E. Aurora
- Boys & Girls Club of E. Aurora
- E. Aurora elementary PTO
- Explore & More Children's Museum
- D.A.R.E.
- Immaculate Conception School

- E. Aurora Community Nursery School
- (Recreation Dept.) sponsored Father Daughter Dance (prize)
- Wesleyan Church of E. Aurora

Supervisor Jeffe stated in a memo to the Board that this has been approved in the past, but in an effort to improve record keeping, the Town's auditor has recommended that numbered duplicate certificates be issued from the Supervisor's office and be collected by the Supervisor's office upon redemption.

4) Purchasing of Paper Products:

Pricing for the purchase of (janitorial) paper products for the Southside Municipal Center was obtained from HJS Supply Company and 3 of the Town's primary office supply companies which include Eaton's, S&B and Grainger. Overall HJS was lowest in costs for toilet paper, paper towels, trash can liners and hand soap. HJS is a sister company of our current janitorial service.

5) Engineering:

In response to questions and concerns raised by Councilman Harris and a couple of Town residents about the amount of money being spent on engineering for projects and the use of CRA Engineering & Infrastructure, Inc. for these projects, Supervisor Jeffe and Councilwoman Friess reviewed, in depth, the projects requiring engineering services since 2010 when they both began on the Board.

Supervisor Jeffe noted that the projects were: 1) Luther Road culvert replacement; 2) Town Hall renovation; and 3) Library Roof (noting that the Town did an RFP for this project and CRA was the lowest).

Councilman Harris stated he called approximately ten engineering firms and received responses from five. He concluded that the quotes we received from CRA were in the ball park, but he still thinks that the Town should go out for RFP's once in a while to see what the going rate is.

Supervisor Jeffe stated that CRA's engineering proposal for the current Water District 6 project is well within the industry standards.

6) Vehicle Purchase – Capital Plan:

Supervisor Jeffe stated she received a 3-year capital plan from Highway Superintendent Gunner for highway and parks. The purchases proposed by Mr. Gunner total approximately \$537,000. The Supervisor is proposing that a five-year plan be made for vehicle and equipment purchases as well as building maintenance and repair and road maintenance and repair.

Town resident Bill Kane asked if the Town had a policy for recycling a vehicle and if it was based on mileage, age or something else. Councilman Harris responded that we usually "run them into the ground". Mr. Harris noted that monthly service is performed on Town owned vehicles.

7) Blakeley Road Open Development Area (ODA) Application:

Town Supt. of Building Patrick Blizniak submitted a memo to the Board recommending approval of an ODA lot that is being subdivided from SBL187.00-2-7.2 Blakeley Road. The existing rectangular shaped lot is being split in half with the front parcel having required road frontage and the rear lot having no road frontage and requiring an easement agreement and driveway agreement for ingress/egress. Supervisor Jeffe stated that the Town Attorney will look at the agreements to see if they meet the Town's requirements. Councilman Harris stated he is concerned that the hammerhead turn-around is not large enough for fire trucks. The Board questioned if the "edge of woods" noted on the survey is the tree trunks or the edge of the tree canopy. Mr. Blizniak stated that it is the edge of the canopy.

8) Hot Water Tank Replacement:

The hot water tank at Southside Municipal Center is leaking and needs to be replaced. Quotes were received from: Irr Supply - \$1,767.00; Erb Co. - \$1,871.84; and VP Supply - \$1,486.36. The unit will be installed by town employees.

9) Community Pool Electric Meter Repair:

In November 2012, the Town received a letter from NYSEG stating that while on routine service a NYSEG employee found exposed wires and a burned/melted block at the electric meter at Community Pool. NYSEG requires a certified electrician to do an electrical inspection of the meter. They noted that the current condition presents fire and electrical hazards as well as being non-compliant with the National Electric Code and local building codes. Scott Warning of Warning Electric responded to the Town's request to perform a visual inspection of the meter and discuss repair/replacement options with NYSEG engineers. The repairs need to be completed before the pool reopens this year. Estimates were requested from three electricians – Ferguson Electric declined to quote due to too many unknown factors; Huber Electric quoted \$3,875.00 for best case scenario; and Warning Electric quote \$2,000.00 for best case scenario and up to \$6,000.00 for worst case scenario.

10) HVAC RTU#6 Blower Motor:

Quotes to replace the defective blower motor on HVAC rooftop unit #6 at Southside Municipal Center were received from: Tri-R Mechanical Services - \$830.00 and Allied Mechanical - \$1,446.25. The unit controls the heat and a/c for a section of the first floor BOCES classrooms. Pat Blizniak noted that we would like to get the work done before BOCES resumes classes next week.

Councilman Harris moved to approve the quote from Tri-R Mechanical Services, Inc., Ransier Drive, West Seneca, NY, in the amount of \$830.00 to replace the blower motor in HVAC RTU #6 at the Southside Municipal Center, 300 Gleed Avenue, E. Aurora. Councilman Bach seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four noes – none
Motion carried.

Action #59
HVAC
RTU#6 blower
mower
approved

11) Warehouse Lighting:

Pat Blizniak noted that quotes had been received for replacing the lights in the Southside Municipal Center warehouse with fluorescent fixtures and bulbs. He is suggesting that the Town look into LED lighting, noting that it would be much more expensive but would last longer than fluorescent lights. Supervisor Jeffe stated that we would need a payback period to see if it is worth the extra cost.

12) Gun Control/SAFE Act Resolution:

The Erie County Legislature and the Association of Erie County Governments (AECG) forwarded copies of resolutions they are anticipating adopting regarding the Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement (SAFE) Act of 2013 recently signed by Governor Cuomo on January 15th – one day after being introduced. Both organizations are asking for support from local municipalities for their resolutions which call for repeal and revision of the NY SAFE Act of 2013. Councilman Harris stated he is 100% in favor of the resolutions and keeping our 2nd Amendment rights un-infringed. Councilman Bach stated that Gov. Cuomo abused his power by signing the Act into law without discussion or public input. Councilwoman Friess stated the resolution from the AECG is good.

13) Justice Court Funding Resolution:

The Board reviewed and discussed a resolution that requests legislative action to establish a new surcharge to maintain the office of town prosecutor in order to reduce the expense to town taxpayers and to insure that costs associated with new state laws, regulations and policies' affecting the courts is not borne by town taxpayers.

14) Resolution Objecting Local Court Ability to Plea Bargain:

The Board reviewed and discussed a resolution in opposition to Governor Cuomo's proposal to restrict the ability of local courts to plea bargain speeding tickets and in opposition to a proposed \$80 surcharge for all stopping/standing/parking violations.

15) Industrial Development Agency (IDA) Resolution:

The Board reviewed and discussed a resolution, prepared by the Association of Erie County Governments, in opposition to Governor Cuomo's proposal to restrict the use of sales tax exemption as an incentive in economic development projects. Supervisor Jeffe noted that out of the 25 towns in Erie County, 6 of them have IDA's.

16) Dog Control:

The Town discussed the current dog control situation and the contract the Town has with the Town of Wales for dog control services. (Aurora provides dog control services for Wales.)

Supervisor Jeffe noted that summary reports of dog control calls, etc. will be forthcoming.

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk