

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
October 19, 2010

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium at 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
	James J. Bach	Councilman
	Jeffrey T. Harris	Councilman
Others Present:	Bryan Smith	Town Engineer
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	William Kramer	Code Enforcement Officer

Supervisor Jeffe opened the work session at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the following:

- 1) Reed Hill (aka: Jewett Holmwood) Subdivision Preliminary Plat.
A further public hearing was held on October 12, 2010 for the Reed Hill Subdivision Preliminary Plat. Supervisor Jeffe stated that no new issues were brought up at the hearing. Councilman Bach stated he was concerned about the location of the entrance to the subdivision, but he's relying on information from the experts with regard to traffic. Councilman Harris noted he had the same concerns. Bryan Smith stated that Condition #13 of the Preliminary Plat resolution addresses the widening of Jewett Holmwood Road for a possible future turning lane. Councilman Harris stated he hiked along the property and did not see any new erosion and feels comfortable there won't be any mass erosion in the future. This will be placed on the 10/25/10 agenda.
- 2) 300 Gleed Avenue Evaluation Plan.
Supervisor Jeffe stated she would like a ten-year capital plan for the property. The Supervisor noted that four tasks are being proposed: 1) Roofing systems inspection and assessment; 2) Electrical Facilities Inspection and Assessment; 3) Building and Site Needs Assessment; and 4) Capital Plan Report. She noted that we are in the process of getting quotes for duct cleaning at Gleed. Bryan Smith noted that the roof assessment would involve an infrared thermogram that would show areas of moisture.
- 3) CDBG
Supervisor Jeffe notified the Board that the Village is no longer pursuing CDBG funding for the roof repair/replacement at the Senior Center. Therefore, the Town will have two items on its CDBG grant fund request – Development of the Town's Comprehensive Plan and support of Rural Transit Service program. She noted that the grant applications are due October 25th.
Councilman Harris moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign, submit and execute contracts with the Erie County Community Development Block Grant (ECCDBG) program for the following projects upon approval of the ECCDBG:
 - 1) Development of the Town of Aurora Comprehensive Plan
 - 2) Continuation of the Rural Transit Service, Inc. programCouncilman Bach seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken:
ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.
Action #360
Supervisor authorized to submit CDBG grant application.
- 4) Erie County Proposal for Town to take over Grover Road.
In a letter dated 10/18/10, Highway Superintendent David Gunner, states it is his recommendation that the Town decline taking over Grover Road from Erie County. He noted that the Town take-over of Grover Road would result in increased taxes to the residents outside the village.

- 5) **Water District WG-Fire Supply (WG-FS) Fund Balance**
In 1995 a district was created in connection with Water District 6 to cover fire protection within the area of the town outside the village. A bond resolution was adopted for \$207,000 - Water District 6 expended \$36,000 and a B.A.N. was issued for \$171,000. The improvements were made and the B.A.N. was paid. Water District WG-Fire Supply has a remaining cash balance of \$83,591.18. 17.4% of the balance should be paid to Water District 6 and the remainder to the Part Town fund. This will be placed on the 10/25/10 agenda.
- 6) **Recreation Department – Donations to others**
Recreation Director Peggy Cooke is requesting approval to be able to donate pool memberships to not-for-profit organizations that contribute to the community. Supervisor Jeffe asked the Board members for their opinion, noting that there is a fine line between gift of public funds and whether or not an entity is eligible for this type of funding. The Board agreed that there is a need to identify and document the service each entity is providing to the Town before any decision can be made on this request.
- 7) **SWECS Law**
Councilwoman Friess stated that the demolition bond section of the proposed code may not be necessary for small wind energy conversion systems. It is directed more towards large systems. If that section was removed from the code it could be replaced with fines and/or liens that would go into effect if the tower needed to be removed by the Town. Supervisor Jeffe noted that the Planning Board agrees with the 100' tower height. Councilwoman Friess addressed the section about noise sensitive receptors and will send an email to the Planning Board requesting that they make a list that could then be attached to the application form. Bryan Smith stated that abutting properties should be listed as a noise sensitive receptor.
- 8) **Dog Law**
As of 1/1/11, NYS Agriculture and Markets will no longer be in the dog licensing business. Municipalities will be responsible for the licenses, tags, and renewal notices. The changes in the Ag & Markets Law need to be incorporated in to a local law for the Town. A draft of a local law for Aurora is being reviewed by the Town Attorney and will be given to the Board in the near future.
- 9) **Building Department proposed fee schedule**
Patrick Blizniak, Superintendent of Building, is requesting to increase fees associated with building permits. He supplied copies of fees from other towns and a list of fees that he proposes the Town adopt. Supervisor Jeffe asked the Board to review the proposal for discussion at a future meeting. She also stated she was going to request Mr. Blizniak's proposal be put in table format so it's easier to read.
- 10) **Town Code revisions.**
Patrick Blizniak, Superintendent of Building, is suggesting changes to the Open Development Area code. Supervisor Jeffe asked the Board to review these suggested changes and that the Town Attorney will also be asked for input.
- 11) **Highway/DPW Study**
Councilman Bach stated he had attended the first meeting of the committee and that the discussion evolved around what information/documentation each municipality would be requested to supply to CGR for them to be able to complete the study.
- 12) **2010 Budget**
Supervisor Jeffe stated she received a letter from County Clerk Kathy Hochel and in it Hochel gives an estimated 2010 year end mortgage tax distribution for Aurora of \$139,020.72.

10/19/10

Town Board Work Session

Page 3

13) 2011 Preliminary Budget

Councilman Collins questioned the budget line for website manager and stated he thought that was going to be removed from the proposed budget. Supervisor Jeffe stated it is to be removed, it was an oversight. There were thought to be percentage discrepancies in some of the highway payroll lines – some appear to have 2.5% increases while others are as high as 3.5%. Supervisor Jeffe responded that those budget lines will be reviewed. Councilman Collins talked about a resolution addressing health insurance for part time elected and appointed positions, along with a resolution with regard to a part time assessor.

14) American Legion Donation

Bill Kuppel from the American Legion Post 362 in East Aurora stated that the Town of Aurora has been giving the Legion a \$500 donation every year. He noted that the Town of Elma gives the Legion in their town much more than that and he would like to ask the Aurora Board for a larger donation. Supervisor Jeffe stated she and the Board will take it under advisement.

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk