

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
February 11, 2019

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, February 11, 2019 at 5:30 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:	Jeffrey T. Harris	Councilman
	Jolene M. Jeffe	Councilwoman
	Susan A. Friess	Councilwoman
	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Others Present:	Ronald Bennett	Town Attorney
	William Kramer	Code Enforcement Officer
	William Wheeler	Engineer/GHD
	Kathleen Moffat	Assistant to Supervisor

Supervisor Bach led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1) Dissolution of Consolidated Water District No. 1:

The Board discussed the upcoming public hearing and proposed referendum to dissolve the newly formed Consolidated Water District No. 1 in order to go to direct service with the Eire County Water Authority. The Board plans on holding the public hearing on February 25, 2019 and adopting the dissolution approval resolution at that meeting. By approving the dissolution, the Board would then set the date, time and place for a referendum on the dissolution. After a short discussion, the Board stated that they would like to hold the special election on Tuesday, May 14, 2019 in the auditorium at 300 Gleed Ave., from noon until 8:00 p.m. They also want to use absentee ballots. The Town Clerk will inquire as to the availability of the auditorium.

2) CSEA Tentative Agreement:

Town of Aurora members of CSEA Local 1000, Unit #6780, voted to approve the tentative contract agreement for 2019 as follows:

- Contract duration: January 1, 2019 through and including December 31, 2019
- Wages: 2% across the board increase to the wage amounts in Section 9.01
- Town Proposal No. 2: Section 6.02 (Overtime): Modify by deleting the following:
“The work day shall begin at 12:01 a.m.”
- Town Proposal No. 3: Accept as presented 12/10/18, but modify so that the pay reduction is \$0.50/hour and the Union may grieve the Town’s decision. The *original* proposal reads as follows:

Proposal No. 3 – Section 9.01 (Compensation):

Employees may be reduced in pay for performance or conduct reasons subject to the following:

- 1) The Department Head shall notify the employee in writing of the areas the employee needs to improve in their job performance and/or attendance. The employee shall have six (6) months from the time of the written notice to show improvement. In the event there is not a sufficient amount of improvement, the Department Head shall recommend a pay reduction to the Town Board of up to \$1.50 per hour. The Department Head may recommend to the Town Board that the pay reduction be rescinded with improved job performance.
- 2) The employee or the union is not eligible to utilize the grievance procedure for the pay reduction.
- 3) It is further understood this procedure would not restrict the Town from disciplining an employee, which could be a reduction in salary and/or other form of discipline for incompetence or misconduct.

3) MWIA – Benefit charges:

Supervisor Bach stated that several property owners have contacted him regarding the fire hydrant and debt charges for the Master Water Improvement Area. NYS Town Law states that every parcel in a water district (or improvement area) is to be charged, not just those lots that are developed. Mr. Bach will be sending a letter to those residents explaining the law and how they can go about merging parcels, if that is the case.

4) Tax Deadline Extension for furloughed/non-pay Federal employees:

On February 1, 2019, Governor Cuomo signed legislation authorizing local governments to extend real property tax payment deadlines for federal employees that were impacted by the recent federal shutdown. At this time the Board will not consider extending the deadline.

5) JP Morgan – Purchase card:

In a memo to the Board, Kathleen Moffat, Assistant to the Supervisor, is requesting that the Board authorize the Supervisor to apply for a Purchase Card (P-Card) with JP Morgan Chase. The card offers an annual rebate based on the amount spent and would be used to pay vendors that accept P-card payments. Garrett MacDonald from 3+1 answered questions that the Board had. Scott German, Genesee County Treasurer, was also in attendance. Mr. MacDonald stated that the Town's JP Morgan clearing account would be debited every 25 days for purchases made with the P-Card. Councilwoman Jeffe spoke about the Capital One card offering a 2% rebate. Mrs. Jeffe stated she would like to have employees who are currently using the Town credit card to continue to do so for smaller purchases. She also questioned how tracking would be done and who would be responsible. Other issues discussed were how to apply purchases to budget lines, who would monitor this, and how the vendors used would be kept track of, as we would need details for 1099's. Councilman Snyder stated he has reservations about using the purchase card.

6) JP Morgan – US Treasuries:

The Board discussed investing in US Treasuries through JP Morgan Securities LLC, as the Town may earn more interest as compared to CD's. The Town Attorney stated the Board would adopt a resolution authorizing the Supervisor to sign and submit a Public Entity Authority Certificate and Trading Authorization for Brokerage Accounts form.

7) Aid & Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) funding:

In his 2019 budget, Governor Cuomo is proposing to cut AIM funding. AIM is state aid to all New York cities, towns and villages (except NYC). The Town of Aurora would lose over \$78,000. The Association of Erie County Governments has prepared a resolution calling on the Governor to reinstated AIM funding in his budget.

Martha L. Librock, Town Clerk