

TOWN OF AURORA  
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION  
November 14, 2022

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Monday, November 14, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of holding a work session. The Board met in-person at the Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Avenue, East Aurora, New York. The meeting was streamed via Zoom and YouTube.

Present:	Charles D. Snyder	Councilman
	Luke Wochensky	Councilman
	Joseph McCann	Councilman
	James F. Granville	Councilman
	James J. Bach	Supervisor
Others Present:	Brigid Maloney	Town Attorney
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Code Enforcement Officer
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Shane Krieger	Chief of Police
	Kathleen Moffat	Asst. to Supervisor/Bookkeeper
	Elizabeth Wilber	Live Stream Coordinator

Supervisor Bach opened the work session at 6:30 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1) East Aurora Baseball/Softball:

William Wlodarczyk, East Aurora Baseball & Softball, Inc. treasurer, presented two checks totaling \$5,000.00 (\$2,500.00 for 2022 and \$2,500.00 for 2023) to the Town Board for diamond dirt for the baseball diamonds at Gleed Avenue and Community Pool Park. Councilman Wochensky asked what they see in the long-term. Mr. Wlodarczyk responded that they want to keep growing the program and the goal is longevity. He noted that Dan Mirsky is now the president of their organization. The Board thanked Mr. Wlodarczyk and the East Aurora baseball organization for their contribution towards diamond dirt.

2) Health Insurance:

April Hartloff of Hartloff Benefits spoke to the Board about the Town's health insurance renewal and the plans offered by Highmark BCBS and Independent Health. The Town currently offers four plans. Ms. Hartloff noted that Highmark insurance premiums are set to increase 10% for 2023 and that Independent Health is a better option. NY Child Health Plus, HSA's, HRA's, matching contributions were discussed briefly. The plans proposed to be offered from Independent Health are: Flexfit Platinum Option #2; iDirect Gold Copay Option #3; iDirect Silver Copay Deductible; and iDirect Silver Coinsurance Deductible. Ms. Hartloff stated that Univera's rates are not competitive.

3) Temporary Use Permit – Lancaster Soccer Tournament at Knox Farm State Park:

Tony Manetta from the Lancaster Depew Soccer Club (LDSC) spoke to the Board via Zoom. LDSC is requesting to use the KFSP soccer fields for their annual soccer tournament on July 28, 29 and 30, 2023. The fields that the group normally uses for the tournament are being reconstructed. Mr. Manetta stated that they will use volunteer staffing for traffic control/parking and clean-up. LDSC will provide porta-potties and a dumpster if needed. Councilman McCann asked about parking on the west end of the property as it might be 'iffy' due to weather. The Town will have to check the Polo schedule to be sure there isn't a conflict. The Arsenal Soccer Club is aware of the request and will have teams playing in the tournament.

4) Site Plan Review – 1757 Emery – BnB proposal:

The owners of 1757 Emery Road are proposing to operate a short-term rental (BnB) on the second floor of their attached garage. The Planning Board has already reviewed the site plan and recommended the Town Board approve the site plan with the following conditions:

- The site plan is amended/updated to show existing conditions, driveway materials, turn-out and proposed parking area.
- A public hearing be held for neighbor input.
- When/if the property is no longer owner occupied, the BnB use will no longer be valid.

Councilman McCann stated that the Town needs to have a short-term rental code.

5) Civil Service New Position Duties Statement:

The Town is requesting to form a new position for a temporary second Assessor to allow Town Assessor Roger Pigeon to overlap with the new Assessor that is to be hired due to Roger's pending retirement. The Town submitted a New Position Duties Statement which was certified by Erie County Personnel officer Tami Burns-DiCioccio.

6) Court Clerk – request to hire:

Town Justices Anthony DiFilippo IV and Jeffrey Markello are requesting that the Town Board approve their hiring of Elizabeth Wilber as a full time Aurora Court Clerk at a rate of \$17.34 per hour effective November 16, 2022. Mrs. Wilber is currently employed as Secretary to the Town Supervisor.

7) Request to purchase tires/wheels – Highway:

Highway Superintendent David Gunner is requesting approval to pay Preischel Brothers Service, Inc. \$5,191.60 for labor and materials to replace eight tires and two wheel rims on the triaxle Kenworth truck that were damaged by another highway vehicle due to operator error. The damage was reported to Selective Insurance.

8) Request to purchase radios/GPS for Highway and Parks vehicles:

Highway Superintendent Gunner is requesting to purchase new two-way radios with GPS systems from Saia Communications, Inc. for ten (10) highway trucks with base stations at the highway office and highway shop. The initial cost of labor, materials and one month of service is \$9,994.30. Mr. Gunner noted that there are enough funds in DB5112.433 and DB5110.433 to cover this expense in 2022.

Mr. Gunner is also requesting to purchase new two-way radios with GPS from Saia Communications, Inc. for four (4) Parks department trucks from the 2023 Budget. The estimated cost is \$3,247.01 and would be disbursed from A7110.424.

9) Pool Restroom construction/renovation project – Change Orders:

The Board is being asked to approve four change orders for the Pool Restroom construction/renovation project:

- |                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| 1. Electric subpanel   | \$1,075.00 |
| 2. Sidewalk subgrade   | \$2,248.00 |
| 3. Metal roof flashing | \$2,786.00 |
| 4. Masonry rebuild     | \$1,938.00 |

All of the change orders fit into the project's contingency.

10) Special Event permit application:

Michael and Ashley Bojanowski, 1840 Boies Road, submitted an application for a special event permit for a Christmas light display synchronized to music. Vehicles park along the sides of Boies Road to view the display and listen to the music on their car radios. Police Chief Krieger stated that this has been held in prior years and does cause traffic issues especially if it snows.

Robert Aronica, Boies Road, spoke at length about the display and what he says are dangerous situations with cars double parking along the road and people getting out of their cars. Mr. Aronica also questioned the length of the light display – six weeks – and asked if something that long is one event. He suggested that the display be from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and only on

certain nights, not every night of the week. Mr. Aronica stated that at times the residents in that area can not get into or out of their driveways because of the traffic.

Sara Aronica, Boies Road, stated that the music loop should be shorter than forty minutes, six weeks is too long for the display, and she is concerned that an ambulance would not be able to get down Boies Road at certain times in the event of an emergency.

Highway Superintendent Gunner noted that area of Boies Road is a big snow drift area.

Chief Krieger stated that as long as this event is being held, safety will be an issue. Mr. Krieger noted that the Police Department does put up no parking signs, but they do not last and if they respond to a call in that area, once the patrol car leaves, things go right back to what they were.

Councilman Wochensky stated that there needs to be reasonable precautions.

Supervisor Bach suggested tabling the request and talking to the petitioner.

Martha Librock  
Town Clerk