

Village of Aurora Board of Trustees January 20, 2021 Minutes

The meeting was held via Zoom due to the pandemic at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Bonnie Apgar Bennett, Trustees Grace Bates, Matt Bianconi, Thea Miller, and Janet Murphy

Others Present: Village Clerk Ann Balloni, Planning Board Member Pat Foser, Wells College Attorney John Callahan, and Inns of Aurora General Manager Sue Edinger

Call to Order: Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Changes to the Agenda: No changes

Approval of Minutes: On motion by Trustee Bianconi, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to approve the December 16, 2020 minutes.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Announcements

Clerk: Ms. Balloni announced that the quarterly sales tax figures were received (attached), \$47,852.13. Mayor Bennett noted that an increase in sales tax revenue was partly generated by an increase in on-line purchases.

A thank-you letter was received from the Cayuga County Office for the Aging (attached), expressing gratitude for the Village donation to the Meals on Wheels program.

The Aurora Historical Society Annual Report and Financials (attached) were emailed to Mayor Bennett and the Trustees.

Treasurer's Report: On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Bates, the Village Board voted to accept the September & December Treasurer's Report.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Bills

General: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bates, the Village Board voted to approve the General Fund Abstract #8 for payment.

Voucher #253-259, 262, 265, 267, 269-280, 282, and 283

Total: \$12,040.50

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Water: On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to approve the Water Fund Abstract #8 for payment.

Voucher #253, 267, 273, 276, 281, and 284

Total: \$2,903.50

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer: On motion by Trustee Bianconi, seconded by Trustee Bates, the Village Board voted to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #8 for payment.

Voucher #256, 257, 259-261, 268, 270, 274, 277, and 280

Total: \$4,303.81

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

IO Park Foundation Grant: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to approve the IO Park Foundation Grant Fund Abstract #8 for payment.

Voucher #266

Total: \$1,167.50

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Historian (see attached): Dr. Schwab continues to respond to queries, work with the Community Preservation Panel and the Aurora Historical Society, and promote the farmers market at Patrick Tavern

IO: Trustee Bates reported that the Cayuga Lake Watershed Intra-Municipal Organization (IO) has a new chairperson, Liz Thomas, and they are continuing their study of run-off from ditches through a grant from the New York State Department of State.

Ms. Balloni added that the Advisory Committee is scheduling interviews of IO members/non-members as part of the organizational reassessment funded by the Park Foundation Grant.

Old Business: Mayor Bennett updated the Board on water issues with the Inns of Aurora spa.

New Business

Code Enforcement Officer Resignation: John Greer submitted his letter of resignation (attached), effective January 19, 2021.

On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to accept Village Code Enforcement Officer, John Greer's resignation letter.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Bates questioned how pending projects will move forward. Mayor Bennett replied that she is investigating hiring a temporary Code Enforcement Officer to issue simple building permits.

On motion by Mayor Bennett, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Board voted to authorize Mayor Bennett to spend up to \$35.00/hour to hire a temporary Code Enforcement Officer.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Local Law #1 of 2021 (attached): "Temporary Moratorium on Certain Applications and Approvals within the Village of Aurora."

Mayor Bennett referred to a letter (attached) from Planning Board Chairperson, Pat Bianconi, indicating her support for the temporary moratorium.

**VILLAGE OF AURORA RESOLUTION #21-01
INTRODUCING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW # 1 OF 2021
AND SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED
LOCAL LAW # 1 OF 2021**

Introduced by: Mayor Bennett
Seconded by: Trustee Murphy
Dated: January 20, 2021

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Aurora has determined that the Village of Aurora Master Plan and Zoning Law ("Village Zoning Law") are in need of updating and improvement to better regulate, protect and encourage growth and stability within the Village of Aurora; and

WHEREAS, a proposed Comprehensive Plan/Village Zoning Law rewrite would potentially create revised zoning districts and boundaries therefore, an updated and clarified table of uses, clarify definitions for uses and other land use terminology, and set forth new standard for the granting of Licenses, Permits, Special Use Permits and other zoning and land use approvals; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board recognizes that the complexity of this rewrite effort is significant, and compliance with necessary legal requirements and procedures can be time consuming and possibly subject to delays; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board finds that pending the completion of the necessary review, study, referrals, revisions and hearings incidental to the final preparation and adoption of a new Comprehensive Plan and amendments to the Village Zoning Law, unless reasonable measures are taken during the interim period to protect said deliberations and thorough review by the public, the Village Board, the Village Planning Board, the Village Zoning Board of Appeals, the Village Community Preservation Panel and such other interested agencies, any significant variations in the uses where changes are contemplated in the density or type of development as provided under the existing Zoning Law may affect the work of this revision process; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board seeks to protect the integrity of the Comprehensive Plan/Village Zoning Law revision process pending its completion, and to prevent the creation of development incompatible

or inconsistent with the revised Comprehensive Plan/Zoning Law which would obviate its basic intent(s) and purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board further seeks to provide for the orderly transition within the time necessary to accomplish the adoption of a revised Comprehensive Plan/Village Zoning Law by hereby adopting interim legislation for a reasonable time during consideration of the changes in the Comprehensive Plan/Zoning Law to protect the public interest and welfare;

WHEREAS, no other agency has the legal authority or jurisdiction to approve or directly undertake the enactment of a local law in the Village of Aurora, such that there are no other involved agencies within the meaning of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) with respect to the enactment of said Local Law, with the result that the Village Board of Trustees shall act as lead agency in this matter: and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Aurora hereby determines that:

1. The action is a Type II action, and is not subject to SEQRA;
2. It is in the best interests of the Village to adopt a local law imposing a nine month moratorium on the filing, acceptance and/or, approval of applications for rezoning, special and conditional use permits, use variances, site plan, subdivisions, and alterations or extensions of non-conforming uses by the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals, Community Preservation Panel, the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer or the Village Board of Trustees, as the case may be, within the Village of Aurora; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Aurora will conduct a Public Hearing via Zoom on February 10, 2021 at **6:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, for the purpose of taking public comment on, and giving due consideration to, the enactment of Proposed Local Law #1 of 2021; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of said Local Law is available for public inspection on the Village Website, auroranewyork.us, or by appointment at the Village Clerk's Office; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk be and hereby is authorized and directed to publish notice of said Public Hearing in the official newspaper.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Bonnie Apgar Bennett	AYE
Trustee Grace Bates	AYE
Trustee Matt Bianconi	AYE
Trustee Thea Miller	AYE
Trustee Janet Murphy	AYE
Vote: 5-0	

Mayor Bennett reminded the Board that Local Law #1 of 2021 requires County 239 review.

Adjournment: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 pm.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Balloni
Village Clerk