

## **Village of Aurora Board of Trustees May 19, 2021 Minutes**

The meeting was held via Zoom at 6:00 p.m.

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

### **Others Present**

**Village Officials:** Clerk Ann Balloni and ZBA members Karen Hindenlang & Laura Holland

**Inns of Aurora:** General Manager Sue Edinger

**Finger Lakes Land Trust:** Craig Burch

**Members of the Public:** Marie Dentes, Robin Driskel, Jacci & Virgil Farlow, Tracy Leffingwell, Ron Siegmund, and Steve Zabriskie

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

**Changes to the Agenda:** No changes

### **Approval of Minutes**

**April 13, 2021:** On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to approve the April 13, 2021 public hearing minutes.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**April 21, 2021:** On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to approve the April 21, 2021 regular and organizational meeting minutes.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**May 3, 2021:** On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to approve the May 3, 2021 work session minutes.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Visitor Recognition:** The Board recognized Jacci & Virgil Farlow who submitted a letter (attached) questioning the comprehensive plan update process. Mayor Bennett explained that a steering committee consisting of board members and residents with legislative/zoning knowledge will submit a list of community stakeholders to the Village Board of Trustees for approval. Labella Planners will meet with the stakeholders and schedule a charrette, whereby interested residents can review and ask questions of the stakeholders/planners regarding the update. Additional public meetings and at least one public hearing is planned, as well.

Mayor Bennett noted that several residents have asked to be stakeholders and remarked that those who are interested will be included in the process. Per Labella, the stakeholders will be looking at strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) during the review.

### **Announcements**

**Mayor:** Mayor Bennett reported healthy, quarterly sales tax revenues.

Mayor Bennett informed the Board that the Aurora Historical Society must vacate their current location and find a new home. The Inns of Aurora have allotted space for the society for the past few years but now need the area for employee offices. Complicating the issue is the need for a climate-controlled area for the historical records and the village is working with the historical society on finding an appropriate spot.

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

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Budget Modifications**

#### **GENERAL FUND**

\$ 169.45	FROM	A1990.4 Contingent Account
129.83	TO	A8510.4 Community Beautification-Contractual
28.40	TO	A7180.4 Youth Recreation Facility – Contractual
11.22	TO	A1410.42 Clerk/Treasurer – Telephone
\$ 588.82	FROM	A7520.4 Historical Preservation – Contractual
	TO	A7520.2 Historical Preservation - Equipment

On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to accept the Budget Modifications in the General Fund.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

#### **SEWER FUND**

G8130.2	Sewage Treatment – Equipment	\$13,857.71
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On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to accept the Budget Modifications in the Sewer Fund.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**ENCUMBRANCES**

General Fund

A7310.1	Youth Program – Personnel Services	\$11,638.00
A7310.2	- Equipment	\$ 2,400.00
A7310.4	- Contractual	\$ 2,000.00

A7520.2 Historical Preservation – Equipment \$ 1,788.82

A8010.43 Zoning – LaBella To A238Z Zoning Reserve \$10,000.00

A8020.41 Planning – LaBella To A238Z Zoning Reserve \$ 10,000.00

On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to accept the Encumbrances in the General Fund.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Bills

**General:** On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Bates, the Village Board voted to approve the General Fund Abstract #12 for payment.

Voucher #378-388, 390-393, 396-405, and 408-412

Total: \$77,353.81

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Water:** On motion by Trustee Bianconi, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to approve the Water Fund Abstract #12 for payment.

Voucher #382, 391, 392, 395, 399, 406, and 407

Total: \$12, 530.54

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Sewer:** On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #12 for payment.

Voucher #379-382, 391, 391, 394, 396, and 406

Total: \$34,414.99

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Water Improvement Project:** On motion by Trustee Bianconi, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to approve the Water Improvement Project Fund Abstract #12 for payment.

Voucher #410

Total: \$1,430.00

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**IO Park Foundation Grant:** On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to approve the Park Foundation Grant Abstract #12 for payment.

Voucher #389

Total: \$2,362.50

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Reports**

**Code Officer** (see attached): Officer Green reported on recent permit activity and fire inspections.

**Historian** (see attached): Dr. Schwab reported on an upcoming display at the Aurora Historical Society, queries, committee work, the continued success of the Patrick Tavern Farmer's Market, and the history of the Wells College bridge connecting Main Building with Glen Park.

**CWIO** (see attached): Trustee Bates reported that the Cayuga Lake Watershed Intra-Municipal Organization changed their title to Cayuga Watershed Intra-Municipal Organization (CWIO).

An update was given on the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council.

The NYSDEC phosphorus report on Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) comment period is extended to August.

**Old Business:** Mayor Bennett gave an update on the secondary water source plan advocated by the Cayuga County Water & Sewer Authority (CCWSA) but recently shelved due to opposition. The plan may be revived due to staunch proponents and federal funding.

The current CCWSA project proposal is to provide water and sewer to Honoco road, using the Wells College water plant and Village wastewater treatment plant. Both plants require upgrading to serve Honoco as described in the CCWSA master plan.

The Village researched grant money for a new water plant, but Wells College requested money from the same grant to replace filters in their water plant. Congressman Katko's staff met virtually with Mayor Bennett and Village Engineer, Ken Teter, along with President Gibraltar from Wells College. Katko staff recommended applying for the replacement filters as they were more likely to receive funding and required that the village, as the municipality, submit the application on behalf of Wells College.

### **New Business**

**Finger Lakes Heritage Area Designation:** Trustee Bates submitted a template resolution to support designating the Finger Lakes as a heritage area. The Board requested time to review the resolution before committing and Trustee Bates reminded them that the deadline for submission is June 1, 2021.

### **Contracts**

**Blair Law Firm:** On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to renew the annual contract with Blair Law Firm for legal services at \$175/hour (increase of \$25.00/hour).  
AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Scat Van:** On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to approve the annual donation of \$700.00 to the Transportation Project for Cayuga County.  
AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Aurora Free Library:** On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to approve the annual donation of \$2,400.00 to the Aurora Free Library.  
AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, and Murphy  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: Miller (AFL Board member)  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Morgan Opera House:** On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to approve the annual donation of \$2,400.00 to the Morgan Opera House.  
AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, and Murphy  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: Miller (AFL Board member)  
Motion carried unanimously.

### **Hire Permanent CEO:**

#### **Resolution #21-22: to Hire a Permanent Code/Zoning Enforcement Officer**

**WHEREAS,** Dan Green was hired as the Code/Zoning Officer on a temporary basis on February 17, 2021;  
and

**WHEREAS,** Dan Green has expressed interest in changing his status from temporary to permanent Code/Zoning Enforcement Officer; and

**WHEREAS,** Dan Green is certified as a Code/Zoning Enforcement Officer;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Aurora hire Dan Green as the permanent Code/Zoning Enforcement Officer at \$28.60/ hour

FIRST: Trustee Miller

SECOND: Trustee Bates

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

NAYS: None

Carried unanimously.

**Hire Lifeguards:** On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Bates, the Village Board voted to hire Dalton Elser, Ian Murray, and Jamison Murray as lifeguards for the summer, and authorize Mr. Elser to hire two additional lifeguards once interviews are complete.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment:** On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Bates, the Village Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.