

## Village of Aurora Board of Trustees October 20, 2021 Minutes

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

**Present:** Mayor Bonnie Bennett, Trustees Grace Bates, Matt Bianconi, Janet Murphy, and Jim Orman (6:27)

### **Others Present**

**Village Officials:** Clerk Ann Balloni, ZBA member Laura Holland, and Engineer Ken Teter

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

**Members of the Public:** Mike Bricco and Jim Kirkwood

An additional attendee did not identify themselves

**Call to Order:** Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**Changes to the Agenda:** Land purchase is removed from Old Business.

Added under New Business:

- Resolution to accept the settlement agreement with Avangrid to receive gross utility taxes
- Turn over delinquent taxes to Cayuga County
- Discuss Jim Kirkwood's seawall repair proposal

### **Approval of Minutes**

**August 18, 2021:** On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to approve the August 18, 2021 minutes

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, and Murphy

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Orman

Motion carried unanimously.

**September 15, 2021:** On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to approve the September 15, 2021 minutes

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, and Murphy

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Orman

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Announcements**

**Mayor:** the valve replacement on Dublin Hill Road was successful

### **Clerk**

- Village Treasurer Deborah Brooks filed the annual report with New York State
- Records continue to be disposed per the LGS-1 Schedule (see attached list)
- The Village once again received a loyalty reward from New York State Workers Comp
- The Cayuga County Tobacco Alliance is asking municipalities to review/update their tobacco policies

**Treasurer's Report:** On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bates, the Village Board voted to accept the June, July, and August Treasurer's Report.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Bills**

**General:** On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to approve the General Fund Abstract #5 for payment.

Voucher #127-131, 133-137, 140-143, 145-147, 149, 150, 152-155, 157-159, and 161-163

Total: \$21,070.59

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Water:** On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bates, the Village Board voted to approve the Water Fund Abstract #5 for payment.

Voucher #126, 139, 142, 143, 150, 158, 160, 162, and 164

Total: \$7,993.41

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Sewer:** On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bates, the Village Board voted to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #5 for payment.

Voucher #130-132, 142-144, 148, 149, 151, 154, 157, 158, and 162

Total: \$8,325.15

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Park Foundation Grant:** On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to approve the Park Foundation Grant Fund Abstract #5 for payment.

Voucher #138 and 156

Total: \$498.56

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Reports**

**Code Officer** (see attached): Officer Green reported on recent permit activity

**Historian** (see attached): Dr. Schwab reported on committee work and recent queries.

### **Miscellaneous**

**Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization (CWIO):** Elizabeth Thomas, chair of the committee, gave a presentation to the Town of Ledyard highlighting the new funding formula for municipalities.

The group submitted a grant application to the Park Foundation requesting funding for a watershed manager.

### **Old Business**

**Comp Plan Steering Committee:** the committee will hold a public hearing to receive comments on the Draft Plan, possibly via Zoom. Trustee Bates suggested having the hearing in person, in a bigger space than the firehouse meeting room.

**Water Update:** The Cayuga County Health Department (CCDOH) granted the Village a 60-day extension to solve the water pressure problem at the Inns of Aurora Spa. Mayor Bennett and Village Engineer, Ken Teter, met with Inns of Aurora representatives and discussed a plan to build a new water tank on Sherwood, paid for by the Inns of Aurora. Mayor Bennett notified Eileen O’Conner from CCDOH and is waiting on her response. If CCDOH approves the plan, the next step is to draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Village Board of Trustees and the Inns of Aurora.

**Court Street:** Trustee Murphy inquired on the status of traffic calming options for Court St now that the Inns of Aurora Taylor House/parking lot project is complete. Trustee Orman echoed Trustee Murphy’s concerns regarding the increase in traffic and speed on Court St despite a posted 15 mph limit. Trustees Bates, Murphy, and Orman are all Court St residents. Mayor Bennett responded that the Village DPW is researching cost estimates for permanent speed bumps.

### **New Business**

**Introduction to Local Law #4 of 2021:**

**VILLAGE OF AURORA RESOLUTION #21-25  
INTRODUCING LOCAL LAW #4 OF 2021 ENTITLED  
“A LOCAL LAW TO EXTEND A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON NON- RESIDENTIAL PERMIT  
APPLICATIONS**

Introduced by: Trustee Bianconi  
Seconded by: Trustee Bates  
Dated: October 20, 2021

**WHEREAS,** the Village of Aurora Board of Trustees (“Village Board”) has found that it is necessary and prudent to adopt a new local law extending a moratorium on non-residential permit applications for the purposes of allowing additional time for the Village to update its zoning laws; and

**WHEREAS,** this proposed Local Law is a “Type II” action and is not an action reasonably anticipated to “affect the environment” pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.5(c)(30) of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR), and thus is exempt from environmental review thereunder; and

**WHEREAS**, this action involves the adoption or amendment of a zoning ordinance or local law and is not subject to an Opt-Out Agreement between the Village and the Cayuga County Planning Board; therefore this action may be subject to review by the Cayuga County Planning Board pursuant to General Municipal Law § 239-m(3)(ii); and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that

1. The Village Board hereby introduces Proposed Local Law #4 of 2021 in the form annexed hereto for consideration and adoption.
2. The Village Board hereby finds and determines that the within action is a Type “II” action and not reasonably anticipated to “affect the environment” pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.5(c)(30) of SEQR, and thus is exempt from environmental review thereunder.
3. The proposed Local Law #4 of 2021 is hereby referred to the Cayuga County Planning Board for review pursuant to General Municipal Law §239(l-m).
4. The Village Board will conduct a Public Hearing via Zoom on October 28, 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 #4 of 2021.

The question of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call was as follows:

Trustee Bates: AYE

Trustee Bianconi: AYE

Trustee Murphy: AYE

Trustee Orman: AYE

Mayor Bennett: AYE

Vote: Resolution carried by a vote of 5 to 0

(Clerk’s note: the public hearing for Local Law #4 of 2021 was rescheduled for November 10, 2021 at 3:30 p.m.)

**Park Foundation Grant:**

**VB Resolution #21-26: To Allocate the Remainder of the Park Foundation Grant Funds to Upgrade the CWIO Website**

**WHEREAS:** the Village of Aurora is a dues paying member of the Cayuga Lake Watershed Inter-Municipal Organization (CWIO); and

**WHEREAS:** the Village of Aurora on behalf of CWIO, holds a contract with the Park Foundation for an organizational assessment of CWIO; and

**WHEREAS:** funds remain in the Park Foundation Grant fund following the completion of the project, conducted by CBI; and

**WHEREAS:** the Park Foundation is agreeable to allowing the remainder of the grant funds to be used to update the CWIO website;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Village of Aurora allocates the remainder of the Park Foundation Grant fund towards updating the CWIO website.

**FIRST:** Trustee Bates

**SECOND:** Trustee Bianconi

**AYES:** Mayor Bennett, Trustees Bates, Bianconi, Murphy and Orman

**NAYS:** None

Carried unanimously.

**Cayuga County Hazard Mitigation Plan:**

**VB Resolution #21-27: Adopting the Cayuga County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

(Name of Jurisdiction) Village of Aurora

(Governing Body) Board of Trustees

(Address) 456 Main Street Aurora, NY 13026

**WHEREAS,** the Village of Aurora has gathered and submitted information to Cayuga County for the County Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

**WHEREAS,** the County Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village of Aurora is a local unit of government that consulted with the village DPW, village engineer, and the Aurora Volunteer Fire Department to comment and provide input in the Plan and the actions in the Plan; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village of Aurora Board of Trustees have reviewed the Plan and affirms that the Plan will be updated no less than every five years;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Village of Aurora Board of Trustees of the Village of Aurora adopts the County Hazard Mitigation Plan as this jurisdiction's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the Plan.

ADOPTED this 20th day of October, 2021 at a meeting of the Village of Aurora Board of Trustees

FIRST: Trustee Bates

SECOND: Trustee Murphy

Mayor Bennett: AYE

Trustee Bates: AYE

Trustee Bianconi: AYE

Trustee Murphy: AYE

Trustee Orman: AYE  
Vote: 5-0

**Avangrid (NYSEG) Settlement:**

**VB Resolution #21-28: Avangrid Settlement Agreement**

**WHEREAS:** Computel has been working on behalf of the Village of Aurora to receive gross utility tax payments from Avangrid (NYSEG), per Local Law #1 of 1969; and

**WHEREAS:** Computel has reached a settlement with Avangrid that amounts to \$1,500.00 for the Village of Aurora;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Village of Aurora agrees to the settlement with Avangrid negotiated by Computel.

First: Trustee Bates  
Second: Trustee Murphy  
AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Murphy, and Orman  
NAYS: None  
Carried unanimously.

**2021 Delinquent Taxes** (see attached): On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to turn over the delinquent taxes list to Cayuga County Real Property.  
AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Murphy, and Orman  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Jane Morgan's Little House:** The trustees all lamented the significant loss to the village of Jane Morgan's Little House, an Aurora institution for close to 60 years. Jane Morgan opened her dress shop in 1962 at 347 Main St. Upon Jane's retirement, Randi Zabriskie took over ownership of the business in 1994 after working with Jane for 20 years. The business was moved to 378 Main St in 2007, leasing the downstairs of the building from Pleasant Rowland. Ms. Rowland and the Inns of Aurora decided to use the space to sell Inns of Aurora Merchandise.

**Adjournment:** On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.  
AYES: Bennett, Bates, Bianconi, Murphy, and Orman  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Balloni  
Village Clerk