

## **Board of Trustees Public Hearing and Special Meeting Minutes, September 19, 2022**

**Present:** Mayor Jim Orman; Trustees L. John Miller, Janet Murphy, and Frank Zimdahl

**Absent:** Matt Bianconi

### **Others Present**

**Village Officials:** Clerk Ann Balloni, Fire Chief James Balloni, Planning Board Chairperson Pat Bianconi and Planning Board members Tee-Ann Hunter & Michele Murphy, CPP Chairperson Jim Burkett, and Village Historian Dr. Linda Schwab

**Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development:** Kari Terwilliger and Evan Tuthill

**Members of the Public:** Grace Bates, Kay Burkett, Marie Dentes, Robin Driskel, Mary Dunn, Sue Edinger, Jacci & Virgil Farlow, Sandy Groth, Virginia Johnson, Linda Kabelac, Molly Murphy, Julie Orman, and Laurie Roberts

**Public Hearing Call to Order:** 4:00 p.m.

Kari Terwilliger and Evan Tuthill explained the Village's intent to apply for a NY Forward grant as part of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, initially offered to cities and counties, and extended this year to rural communities.

A list and description of project ideas was presented, and feedback and additional options were requested from the attendees during a question-and-answer session. Representatives from the Aurora Free Library suggested improvements to the Morgan Opera House for energy efficiency upgrades and Ms. Terwilliger encouraged them to send her a proposal for inclusion asap, as the application deadline is September 23, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.

The Board of Trustees adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. and Mayor Orman called the special meeting to order.

The trustees discussed the nine project ideas:

- Public Waterfront Park
- Community Center with Municipal Offices
- Aurora Forward Investment Fund
- Village Park Improvements
- Waterfront Gateway Entrance
- Memorial Playground Improvements
- Historical Walking Tour
- Sidewalk and streetscape Improvements
- Patrick Tavern Improvements

The Board tweaked the ideas to fit the 5 million limits of the grant, settling on including all options at a cost of 4.6 million, with potential inclusion of the library project. The Board reduced the Community Center project cost by removing the addition of a new fire department. The Village is also considering a 25% match for the community center and the sidewalks.

On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Zimdahl, the Village board voted to approve the Vision Statement and Boundaries presented in the current draft of the NY Forward grant application.

AYES: Miller, Murphy, Orman, and Zimdahl  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Bianconi  
Motion carried.

On motion by Trustee Zimdahl, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to include 9 projects at a cost of 4.6 million, with a 25% match for the community center and sidewalk projects, in the NY Forward grant application and set a deadline of September 21, 2022, for submission of any additional project ideas.

AYES: Miller, Murphy, Orman, and Zimdahl  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Bianconi  
Motion carried.

On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to authorize Mayor Orman and Clerk Balloni to finalize the application with the Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development, if any changes are made at the Village Board of Trustees September 21, 2022, regular meeting.

AYES: Miller, Murphy, Orman, and Zimdahl  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Bianconi  
Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** On motion by Trustee Zimdahl, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to adjourn the special meeting at 6:30 p.m.

AYES: Miller, Murphy, Orman, and Zimdahl  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Bianconi  
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Balloni  
Village Clerk