

## **Village of Aurora Board of Trustees May 24, 2023 Minutes**

The meeting was held at the Aurora Firehouse Meeting Room at 6:00 p.m.

**Present:** Mayor James Orman, Trustees Matt Bianconi, L. John Miller, Janet Murphy, and Frank Zimdahl

### **Others Present**

**Village Officials:** Clerk Ann Balloni, ZBA member Laura Holland, Planning Board member Tee-Ann Hunter, and Historian Dr. Linda Schwab

**Members of the Public:** Grace Bates, Jodi Bennett, Barb Blom, Jessie DeWitt, Sue Edinger, Shirley Egan, Virgil Farlow, Lydie Haenlin, Ken Larson, Tracy Leffingwell, Rob LoMoscolo, Victoria Mares, Laurie Roberts, John & Sandy Wendler, and Stephen Zabriskie

**Call to Order:** Mayor Orman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and all rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Changes to the Agenda:** Williamson Law Book contracts and Right of First Refusal discussion added under New Business.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**April 19, 2023:** On motion by Trustee Bianconi, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to approve the April 19, 2023 Regular and Organizational Meeting minutes.

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman, and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**April 27, 2023:** On motion by Trustee Bianconi, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to approve the April 27, 2023 Special Meeting minutes, with the correction that Trustee Zimdahl attended via Zoom.

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman, and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**May 2, 2023:** On motion by Trustee Bianconi, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to approve the May 2, 2023 Special Meeting minutes.

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman, and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Announcements**

**Mayor:** Mayor Orman attended the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network conference held at Wells College and included information on the Cayuga County Water & Sewer Authority plan to extend sewer service from the south end of the village to the Tompkins County line.

**Clerk:** Ms. Balloni reminded the trustees of the Cayuga County Village Association dinner on Tuesday, May 30 at the Wells College Golf Club. Ms. Balloni further announced that the village still needs lifeguards to run a swim program this summer.

**Treasurer's Report:** On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Zimdahl, the Village Board voted to accept the March & April Treasurer's Reports.

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Budget Modifications**

**GENERAL FUND**

\$ 8,632.66	FROM	A1990.4 Contingent Account
\$ 486.85	TO	A1210.4 Mayor- Contractual
339.64		A1330.4 Tax Collection – Contractual
1,127.04		A1410.4 Clerk/Treas. – Contractual
554.30		A1410.41 Clerk/Treas. – Copier
3,024.00		A1620.21 Buildings – Post Office
20.41		A1620.41 Buildings – DPW Phone
2,974.23		A5110.4 St. Maintenance – Contractual

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

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**WATER FUND**

\$ 1,163.34	FROM	F1990.4 Contingent Account
TO		F8310.4 Water Administration – Contractual
\$1,796.23	FROM	F1990.4 Contingent Account
TO		F8320.4 Source of Supply – Contractual

On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to accept the Budget Modifications in the Water Fund.

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**SEWER FUND**

\$ 149.88	FROM	G1990.4 Contingent Account
TO		G8110.4 Sewer Administration – Contractual

\$ 727.76                      FROM G1990.4 Contingent Account  
TO                                  G8130.48 Sewage Treatment – Engineer

\$ 1,619.00                      FROM G8130.47 Sewage Treatment – Sludge  
TO                                  G8130.45 Sewage Treatment – Chemicals

On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to accept the Budget Modifications in the Sewer Fund.

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Transfer from G8130.2 Sewage Treatment -Equipment encumbered \$28,857.71 for the Flomatcher Unit rebuild to Sewer Repair Reserve G231.

On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to accept the Encumbrance in the Sewer Fund.

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Bills**

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

Voucher #364-373, 375-380, 382, 387-389, 391-395, 398-404, and 405-407

Total: \$92,267.14

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Voucher #364, 371, 374, 381, 390, 397, 403, and 405-407

Total: \$17,970.65

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Voucher #366, 369, 373, 374, 383, 384, 396, 399, and 405-407

Total: \$28,709.12

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Reports**

**Code Officer:** No report

**Historian** (see attached): Dr. Schwab reported on recent presentations, queries, correspondence, and research.

**Lake Property Ad-Hoc:** Grace Bates presented maps with her vision for a lakefront park at the south end of town. Discussion ensued with the trustees on the following:

- Ms. Bates offer to help purchase lakefront for the village
- Village Right of First Refusal on some of the parcels and where that stands with Wells College
- Aurora Rt 90 Group's offer to include a 10' easement for public use on a 300' parcel they offered to purchase from Wells College
- Speculation on private property
- The potential for the village to gain significant lake access south of the 300' parcel
- Initiating discussion with all parties

Trustee Zimdahl thanked Ms. Bates for the presentation

**Old Business:** No Old Business was discussed

### New Business

#### **Delinquent Water and Sewer Accounts:**

##### **Resolution # 23-22: 2022-2023 Delinquent Water and Sewer Accounts**

RESOLVED that there be levied and assessed against the real property of the Village of Aurora, the following sums for the fiscal year 2021-2022 totaling \$4,241.73.

On motion by Trustee Bianconi, seconded by Trustee Zimdahl, the Village Board voted to add the Delinquent Water and Sewer Payments onto the Village Tax Bills.

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman, and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Carried unanimously.

#### **Climate Task Force:**

##### **RESOLUTION #23-23: TO IMPLEMENT A CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY TASK FORCE AND APPOINT A CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY COORDINATOR**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Aurora adopted the New York State Climate Smart Communities Pledge by Resolution on February 16, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village wishes to obtain Certification under the Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Program by taking proactive steps towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, a Climate Smart Community Task Force serves as a central body of leadership that promotes and supports climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies within the community and will act as an advisory group to the municipality on any community issues related to climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, the CSC Task Force will meet at least twice a year and maintain meeting minutes and attendance records for each meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, the CSC Task Force will consist of community members, municipal representatives, and other relevant stakeholders; and

**WHEREAS**, a CSC Coordinator is responsible for convening and managing the task force as Chair, serving as a liaison between the CSC task force and the chief executive officer and other officials, and interfacing with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation on the CSC program as needed.

**THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that a Climate Smart Community Task Force be initiated with the initial membership list below; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Village of Aurora appoints Tee-Ann Hunter, Village of Aurora Planning Board, as the Climate Smart Community Coordinator.

Initial Membership List for CSC Task Force:

Name	Affiliation
John Wendler	Community member
Marie Dentes	Community member

FIRST: Trustee Miller

SECOND: Trustee Zimdahl

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman, and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Carried unanimously.

**Animal Control:** Sandy Wendler brought concerns to the Board regarding the number of stray cats on the south end of town. A group was brought in a few years ago to assist Wells College with a spay/neuter/release program, but the population has increased again.

Residents in town have also managed to catch and spay/neuter some of the cats, but many remain elusive.

The Board suggested that Ms. Wendler contact Wells College and the residents and organize a volunteer committee to address the problem.

**Contracts**

On motion by Trustee Bianconi, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to approve the following, annual contracts:

Blair Law Firm  
SCAT VAN  
Aurora Free Library  
Aurora Historical Society  
Aurora Masonic Center  
Morgan Opera House  
REV Youth Theatre  
Williamson Law Book ( increase of \$534.00)

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

**Board Appointments:** On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Zimdahl, the Village Board voted to approve the following Board appointments:

**CPP** – Julia Rossmann  
**Planning Board** – John Wade  
**ZBA** – Brad Brokaw

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

**Schedule Special Meeting:** On motion by Murphy, seconded by Zimdahl, the Village Board voted to schedule a special meeting on Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 4:00 p.m., to discuss the Village Right of First Refusal, as well as, a potential new hire.

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

**Adjournment:** On motion by Trustee Bianconi, seconded by Trustee Zimdahl, the Village Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:35

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