

Village of Aurora Board of Trustees June 21, 2023 Minutes

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

Present: Mayor James Orman, Trustees Matt Bianconi (videoconference at 6:30 p.m.), L. John Miller, Janet Murphy, and Frank Zimdahl

Others Present: Village Clerk Ann Balloni, Village Historian Dr. Linda Schwab, DPW Employee Mike White, Cayuga County Planning Representatives Kari Terwilliger & Evan Tuthill, Inns of Aurora General Manager Sue Edinger, McManus IT Solutions LLC Representative Kieran McManus, and Local Residents Shirley Egan, Laurie Roberts, and John Wendler

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: Remove easement discussion under Old Business. Under New Business, add hiring for the Summer Swim Program and increasing Code/Zoning Enforcement Officer hours. Presentations under New Business will be conducted following Announcements.

Approval of Minutes

May 24, 2023: On motion by Mayor Orman, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to approve the May 24, 2023 regular meeting minutes.

AYES: Miller, Murphy, Orman, and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Bianconi

Motion carried.

May 30, 2023: On motion by Mayor Orman, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to approve the May 30, 2023 special meeting minutes.

AYES: Miller, Murphy, Orman, and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Bianconi

Motion carried.

Announcements

Mayor: There is a Cayuga County Economic Development Association meeting on Friday, June 23 at noon. A presentation will be given by the Regional Economic Development Council.

The Aurora Free Library is replacing the roof and equipment will be parked on Cherry Ave for the duration of the work.

July 1 is the 21st annual Blessing of the Boats and July 4 is the 11th annual reading of the Declaration of Independence in front of the Fargo.

Clerk: Ms. Balloni informed the Board of a letter (attached) received from the Town Board of Huntington, NY that included a Voter ID resolution (attached) and advising other NY municipalities to consider adopting the resolution. Ms. Balloni noted that the vote of the Huntington Town Board was 3-2. Mayor Orman suggested contacting NYCOM for their input.

Patrick Tavern Market received a \$500 “starter” grant from Farm Credit East. The grant will be used for advertising and educational events.

Visitor Welcome: Town of Ledyard Historian, Shirley Egan, discussed the Town of Ledyard Bicentennial and noted that it will include a reading of the Declaration of Independence at the Town Hall on July 4 at 11:00. Ms. Egan noted that the Village continuing their annual reading in front of the Fargo accurately reflects the history as the reading would have been done in more than one location, especially in rural areas.

Treasurer’s Report: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Zimdahl, the Village Board voted to accept the May Treasurer’s Report.

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

End of Year Budget Modifications

GENERAL FUND

\$ 3,205.55	FROM	A1410.12 Treasurer- Personal Services
	TO	A1410.1 Clerk – Personal Services

\$ 56.00	FROM	A1410.2 Clerk/Treasurer- Equipment
TO		A1410.4 Clerk/Treasurer- Contractual

\$ 2,224.12	FROM	A3010.4 Public Safety
-------------	------	-----------------------

\$ 28.00	TO	A1210.4 Mayor – Contractual
\$ 2,196.12	TO	A1990.4 Contingent

\$ 147.32	FROM	A1620.12 Buildings Custodian- Per. Serv.
TO		A1620.1 Buildings – Per. Serv.

\$ 20.41	FROM	A1620.4 Buildings – Contractual
	TO	A1620.24 Buildings – DPW

\$.04	FROM	A7510.4 Historian – Contractual
TO		A7510.1 Historian - Per. Serv.

On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Zimdahl, 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

\$ 100.00 FROM F1990.4 Contingent
TO F8340.2 Transmission & Distribution – Equipment

On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Zimdahl, 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

\$ 1,333.22 FROM G8130.47 Sewage Treatment - Sludge
TO G8130.1 Sewage Treatment – Per. Serv.

On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Zimdahl, 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.

End of Year Encumbrances

General Fund

A1620.22 Buildings – Patrick Tavern \$3,300.00 Transfer to Patrick Tavern Reserve A235

A1620.23 Buildings – Firehouse - \$8,500.00 paint overhead doors & trim

A7310.1 Youth Program – Personal Services \$ 14,000.00

A7310.2 - Equipment \$2,400.00

A7310.4 - Contractual \$1,548.75

Use to help accommodate swim program cost increases

A8010.12 Zoning Code – Personal Services \$6,231.75

Use to help cover Code Officer Classroom Training time

A8560.4 Shade Trees – Contractual \$10,000.00

Use to plant trees at WWTP (grant option)

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

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Bills

On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Zimdahl, the Village Board voted to add voucher #31 for \$1,250.00 from Barton & Loguidice to the Sewer Fund Abstract.

General: Trustee Zimdahl questioned if the attorney charges associated with the McGordon House application will be charged back to the applicant. Ms. Balloni replied that in discussion with the Village Treasurer, the applicant will be charged the Village Attorney fees.

On motion by Trustee Murphy seconded by Mayor Orman, the Village Board voted to approve the General Fund Abstract #1 for payment.

Voucher #1-16, 18, and 20-30

Total: \$29,867.73

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Water: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Mayor Orman, the Village Board voted to approve the Water Fund Abstract #1 for payment.

Voucher #8, 13-17, 23, and 27

Total: \$8,637.88

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Mayor Orman, the Village Board voted to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #1 for payment.

Voucher #8, 14-16, 18, 19, and 31

Total: \$7,052.80

AYES: Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, Orman and Zimdahl

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Code Officer (attached): Officer Rhea reported on acclimating to the position, organizing the office, registering for code training, inspections, and reviewing applications. Additionally, Officer Rhea requested an increase to his current 10 hours/week to achieve the needed training along with his other duties. (see New Business)

Historian (attached): Dr. Schwab reported on the current wedding dress display at Patrick Tavern, July 4th and other events, recent queries, and continuing research.

Old Business

Village Park Steps: Trustee Zimdahl discussed the poor condition of the bottom steps leading to the Village Park. Trustee Zimdahl brought the issue up with the previous administration to no avail. Mayor Orman and Trustee Zimdahl will consult with the Village DPW.

New Business

NY Forward Grant Proposal: Kari Terwilliger and Evan Tuthill from Cayuga County Planning discussed a proposal to renovate Cleveland Hall on Wells College campus for business, village, and not-for-profit office space. Ms. Terwilliger and Mr. Tuthill believe that the project has a good chance of receiving funding, though there is a ratio of 3-1 private to public match.

Ms. Terwilliger noted that letters of support will be helpful from the interested parties, and she is optimistic that the project will build on last year's application.

Trustee Murphy cautioned that partnering with Wells could be viewed as the Village favoring Wells especially if Wells has applications for review before the planning Board or CPP.

IT Proposal: Kieran McManus from McManus IT Solutions discussed his proposal with the Village Board to design a new village website for approximately \$4,000.00. The trustees questioned the cost with varying opinions of it being too high and too low. Mayor Orman mentioned that the village also needs videoconferencing ability in the meeting room and that there is State money available to help finance the cost. Mr. McManus offered to submit a new proposal, including the videoconference plan for consideration for the grant funding.

Water Tank Proposal: DPW employee, Mike White, explained the leak issue at the village water tank on Sherwood Road. Though the tank is operational, the repair and upgrades should be done this summer and must be done before winter. The tank will be shut down, once it drains, for the duration of the repair and Wells College will supply water via their tank, though a conserve water advisory will be necessary. Mr. White will submit the required bids for the trustee's consideration.

Board Chair Appointments: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to approve the following appointments presented by Mayor Orman:

Community Preservation Chairperson (one-year appointment) – Jim Burkett

Planning Board Chairperson (one-year appointment) – Pat Bianconi

Zoning Board of Appeals Chairperson (one-year appointment) – Karen Hindenlang

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Increase Code/Zoning Officer Hours: Village Code/Zoning Officer, Bob Rhea, requested an increase to his current 10 hours/week. Mr. Rhea is attending training for his Code Enforcement Officer certification along with participating in the Village Zoning Law renovation, attending Board meetings as needed, reviewing applications, and conducting inspections.

On motion by Trustee Zimdahl, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to increase Mr. Rhea's hours to 20/week.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Summer Swim Program

Hire Lifeguards: On motion by Trustee Zimdahl, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to approve the hiring of Caitlin Brockner, Arianna Davis, Luke Gentry, Louis Hasenjager, Aidan Hulsebosch, and Janelle Smalls to lifeguard for the Village Summer Swim Program at the Wells College Dock. The lifeguards will be paid \$18/hour, will have their certification cost reimbursed by the Village, and be given the option of alternate jobs if the dock is closed due to weather or algae blooms.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Hire Supervisor: Ms. Balloni informed the Board that two candidates for Swim Program Supervisor accepted full-time jobs elsewhere and that she has been performing the supervisor duties, as well as filing the administration paperwork. Ms. Balloni requested that she be paid the stipend of \$1,500.00 given to past supervisors. Trustee Miller suggested raising the stipend to \$1,750.00.

On motion by Trustee Zimdahl, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to pay Ms. Balloni a \$1,750 stipend to supervise the Village Summer Swim Program.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Hire Swim Instructor: On motion by Trustee Zimdahl, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to hire Carolyn Connors to teach swim lessons at the Wells College Pool the weeks of July 10, July 24, and August 7 at \$250/week.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Zimdahl, the Village Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.