



## VILLAGE OF AURORA NEWSLETTER

October 2023  
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The Village Office is open Monday-Thursday from 10-4 and contacting us to make an appointment is appreciated. To meet with the mayor, clerk, treasurer, or code enforcement officer, please call (315) 364-7293 or contact us via email:

Mayor (Jim Orman) – [mayor@auroranewyork.us](mailto:mayor@auroranewyork.us)

Clerk (Ann Balloni) – [villageclerk@auroranewyork.us](mailto:villageclerk@auroranewyork.us)

Deputy Clerk (Deborah Brooks) – [deputyclerk@auroranewyork.us](mailto:deputyclerk@auroranewyork.us)

Code Enforcement Officer [rarzoning@gmail.com](mailto:rarzoning@gmail.com)

To contact Aaron Van Arnum or Mike White at the DPW, please call (315) 364-5239

Message from the Mayor.

Hi All,

Greetings to all of you. We hope you have enjoyed another beautiful Aurora summer! This also means we have completed our swim program for the year. We were the only village to offer a free swim program on the lake. We also partnered with Wells College to use their pool for swim lessons and on those days where the weather didn't cooperate. Our sincerest appreciation to Ann Balloni and Carolyn Connors for supervising and coordinating the program and to the lifeguards who made it possible. We received many compliments and thanks for having this available to all.

The Village of Aurora has applied for two funding programs. Both are part of the NY Forward program known as the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI). This year we have joined together with the Villages of Cayuga and Union Springs in a joint application. We believe there is strength in numbers, and we have put together a strong application.

We have also submitted an individual application for our village only. Both are requesting funding for items such as new business investment, parkland, waterfront projects and partnering with Wells to refurbish Cleveland Hall for private/public sector use. These applications have taken almost a year to develop and involved an enormous amount of time and effort working with the Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development. The funding for the joint application is up to \$10.5 million (split three ways). The single application is up to \$4.5 million. The DRI was explained in great detail at a well-attended public meeting in Union Springs on September 7th. The competition among municipalities is very strong so please wish us well!

If you haven't met our newest DPW employee, Aaron Van Arnum, please take the time to introduce yourself. Aaron has proven to be a very dedicated worker. In addition, he is outgoing and always willing to take the extra step in keeping our village looking and functioning well. Together with Mike White, they form an outstanding team who continue to work in your best interests. Aurora is very fortunate to have them here.

Thanks to all of you for your patience while Court Street was re-paved. Suit Kote did the work, and the finished product is excellent. However, with this new road, we need to keep in mind the location of the playground and that the speed limit is 15mph.

We would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to the Aurorafest committee for a very successful celebration. It was good to see a vibrant parade led by the Goddess of Aurora, Caroline Zabriskie. The parade also featured the fire department, Sheriff Brian Schenck, Wells College President Jon Gibraltar, the Buffalo Bills drum corps, marching bands and bagpipes and numerous other entries. Kudos to Anastasia Benson for organizing this large parade. And the turnout at the golf course was amazing. Thanks to Kevin Fitzgerald (golf course) and Wells College for partnering with the committee to provide us with a beautiful day. Aurorafest continues to grow, and we look forward to next year.

And finally, it is the time of year when our Wells students return to Aurora. They are part of our village for most of the year. When you see them, please extend a warm Aurora welcome to them. And please feel free to attend their sporting events at the fields behind the Wells Golf Course. There is no admission, and their teams are very competitive. Welcome back Wells!

Thanks and enjoy the beautiful autumn,

Jim Orman

#### **From the Department of Public Works**

**DIG SAFELY** has provided the village with materials to help guide you through your project. If your project requires any type of excavation, please contact the Village Code Enforcement Officer or the Department of Public Works.

And remember, any project should begin with a consultation with the Village Code Enforcement Officer. Projects that do not require Board review may still include a permit fee, insurance certificate, or electrical inspection. Always ask first!

**WATER METERS:** We are engaging in a multi-year project to install new water meters. Eventually, the new meters will have a separate reader that is put on the outside of the house. The outside readers are a touch pad that the DPW can read using a hand-held device. If your meter is in an awkward place or hard to read, contact Mike at the DPW and we will try to expedite your installation.

We are still having difficulty getting actual reads on some property owner's meters. If you are not in town during the reading period, please designate someone to read it for you or contact the Village DPW and arrange to have Mike or Aaron do the reading. We may not have a clear understanding of your water usage and estimating can result in higher charges.

## **Annual Reminders**

**KAYAK RACKS:** The DPW are putting the kayak racks away for the winter. If you have not already done so, please remove your kayak from the village racks ASAP. Thank you for your cooperation!

**LEAF BLOWER** pickup dates: October 19 – December 15 or first snow

**Leaves/brush must be in bags for pickup prior to October 19.**

Please pile brush and leaves separately, keep catch basins free from leaves and grass clippings and be aware that **stones and walnuts will not go through the leaf blower!** Brush should be in four-foot lengths or smaller. If you have a large amount of brush or lawn debris, Mike White will drop off the Village's trailer for you to fill as you clean up your yard. Contact Mike at 364-5239. The DPW will do their best to pick up leaves and brush daily, but sometimes they are called away to perform their other duties. Your patience is appreciated.

**When the snow flies, once the first sweep is complete, please move your vehicles to a cleared space so the DPW can easily plow the entire road.**

### **From the Aurora Volunteer Fire Department**

#### **Exciting news!**

The fire department received a \$50,000.00 grant from the Emerson Foundation for a new ambulance stretcher. We are starting a fundraising campaign for a new ambulance soon and the grant is a big step toward achieving our goal. We are extremely grateful to the Emerson Foundation for their gift and to our member, Anthony Westmiller, for writing and administering the grant application.

### **From the Aurora Historical Society**

Join us for the Fall Crawl through Time – October 7 & 8 at the following, participating museums:

Historian's Corner at Ledyard Town Hall, 9-12 on Saturday  
1099 Poplar Ridge Road

Aurora Masonic Center, 12-5 on Saturday & Sunday  
325 Main Street

Patrick Tavern, 12-5 on Saturday & Sunday  
302 Main Street

The Press of Robert LoMascolo, 12-5 on Saturday & Sunday  
2211 Moonshine Road

Howland Farm Museum, 12-5 on Sunday  
1395 Sherwood Road

Details can be found on the village website homepage under "Ongoing Activities" or the Aurora Historical Society Facebook page.

## **Village Board Schedule**

**Community Preservation Panel – First Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. (Complete applications must be received at least 10 days before a meeting review.)**

**Planning Board – Second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. (Complete applications must be received at least 10 days before a meeting review.)**

**Board of Trustees – Third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. (Items for agenda consideration must be submitted in writing at least 7 days prior to the meeting.)**

**Zoning Board of Appeals – Fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., as needed (Complete applications must be received at least 10 days before a meeting review.)**