

DRAFT

Village of Aurora Board of Trustees May 9, 2024, Public Hearing and Special Meeting Minutes

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

Present: Mayor James Orman, Trustees JD Balloni, Matt Bianconi (Zoom), L. John Miller, and Janet Murphy

Others Present: Clerk Ann Balloni
See attached list

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

Public Hearing for Local Law #3 of 2024, To Regulate Short-Term Rentals

On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to open the Public Hearing for Local Law #3 of 2024 at 6:09 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Alexis Boyce: Ms. Boyce spoke in favor of the Short-Term Rental Law, especially due to the news of Wells College closing so that Aurora can retain its sense of community. Ms. Boyce emphasized various State trainings and conferences that she has attended that strongly recommend municipalities adopting short-term rental regulations.

Robb Jetty: see attached comments.

Burch Craig: see attached comments.

Brody Smith: see attached letter.

Jacci Farlow: Ms. Farlow emphasized the local residents who take advantage of short-term rentals when their family and friends come to visit and noted that visitors need an affordable alternative to the Inns of Aurora. Ms. Farlow added that short-term rentals add a vital component to the village compared to empty houses. Ms. Farlow appreciates the continuing regard for STR owner's concerns.

Virgil Farlow: Mr. Farlow appreciated the trustees listening to the STR owner's suggestions for the law. Mr. Farlow acknowledged that he would like further tweaks but is comfortable with the current draft.

Laurie Roberts: see attached comments.

Michele Murphy: Ms. Murphy identified herself as a long-time resident of the village and a Wells graduate. Ms. Murphy emphasized the "family-oriented neighborhoods" and hopes that they are not a thing of the past. The village and Wells have historically created a balance of generational families, Wells

graduates staying in Aurora, faculty and staff raising their families in college owned houses, and the water/sewer partnership. Ms. Murphy added that Aurora has always been a safe place and she hopes future residents have housing available to them to enjoy the same benefits of a close-nit village.

Wendy Marsh: Ms. Marsh is an attorney representing the Inns of Aurora and questioned the legality of setting a date for pre-existing short-term rentals to continue to operate. Ms. Marsh noted that the “one year prior to December 31, 2023” is only included in the most recent draft of the law.

Pat Foser: Ms. Foser noted that she is a 44-year resident of the village and given our tiny size, we should be preserving housing stock for families.

On motion by Trustee Balloni, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to close the Public Hearing for Local Law #3 of 2024 at 6:34 p.m.

AYES: Balloni, Miller, Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Bianconi

Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Orman noted that several letters and emails were received, most in favor of the law, and all comments will be attached to the minutes for the record.

Trustee Murphy noted that the majority of village residents who commented throughout the process are in favor of the law.

Trustee Miller acknowledged Mr. Jetty’s comments regarding the changing demographics in our area.

On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Balloni, the Village Board voted to table a vote on Local Law #3 of 2024 to the May 15, 2024, regular Village Board meeting.

AYES: Balloni, Miller, Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Bianconi

Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment: On motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Balloni, the Village Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

AYES: Balloni, Miller, Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Bianconi

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Balloni
Village Clerk