

Village of Aurora Board of Trustees October 16, 2024, 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, John Miller (6:18), and Janet Murphy

Others Present: Clerk Ann Balloni, CPP Chairperson Jim Burkett, Aurora Historical Society President Shirley Egan, and Inns of Aurora Facilities Manager Corey Guerrette

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

Changes to the Agenda: Several items are added under New Business:

- Boiler Installation at the water plant
- Cayuga County Water and Sewer Authority (CCWSA) Amendment
- Central New York Regional Planning Development Board (CNYRPDB) Contract
- Preservation Association of Central New York (PACNY) "Seven to Save" Support Letter
- Delinquent Taxes
- Harriet Tubman Highway Resolution

The trustees will enter into Executive Session following the regular meeting.

Approval of Minutes: On motion by Trustee Bianconi, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to approve the September 18, 2024 minutes

AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Miller

Motion carried unanimously.

Announcements

Clerk:

- The roof is finished on the post office.
- Kieran McManus from GuardCloud is conducting an assessment risk of the village's computers (see voucher #186, \$1,500.00)

Visitor Welcome

Corey Guerrette: Mr. Guerrette questioned the status of the village water budget now that the village is operating the water plant. Mayor Orman replied that the village is still seeking definitive numbers from Wells College with assistance from village engineer, Ken Teter, and Barton & Loguidice Engineering Firm. Mayor Orman added that Wells does not break down their budget per building, so it is difficult to ascertain the actual cost to the village, but State agencies have been very helpful with trying to find funding to help the village.

Treasurer's Report: No report

Bills

General: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Balloni, the Village Board voted to approve the General Fund Abstract #5 for payment.

Voucher #167, 169, 172, 174-176, 178-186, 188, 190-196, and 198-204

Total: \$15,773.41

AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Miller

Motion carried unanimously.

Water: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to approve the Water Fund Abstract #5 for payment.

Voucher #167, 168, 170, 171, 182, 183, 187, 196, 197, and 205

Total: \$23,584.46

AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Miller

Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Balloni, the Village Board voted to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #5 for payment.

Voucher #173, 180, 182, 183, 189, 194, 199, 202, and 205

Total: \$3,103.60

AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Miller

Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Aurora Historical Society: Ms. Egan reported on the success of the Fall Crawl and noted that Patrick Tavern had the highest attendance.

Historian (see attached): Dr. Schwab reported on the recommendation of Wells College for “Seven to Save” consideration by PACNY, and DRI projects involving historic properties.

Old Business: No Old Business was discussed.

New Business

CPP Amendments to the Village Zoning Law: Mr. Burkett reminded the trustees that they received the scenic landmark amendment in February and section 700 in July. The board instructed the clerk to have an introductory resolution prepared for the November 20, 2024, regular meeting.

Herrtronic Contract: On motion by Trustee Balloni, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to accept the Herrtronic contract of \$625.00 + \$40/month monitoring, for the alarm system for the water plant.

AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Miller

Motion carried unanimously.

Boiler Installation: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to accept the water plant boiler installation proposal from Mack Brothers Boiler Works for \$11,700.00.

AYES: Balloni, Bianconi Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Miller

Motion carried unanimously.

CCWSA Amendment (attached): On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Balloni, the Village Board voted to approve Amendment 1 of the MOU with the Cayuga County Water & Sewer Authority, dated January 10, 2023.

AYES: Balloni, Bianconi Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Miller

Motion carried unanimously.

NBRC Authorization: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to authorize Mayor Orman “to apply for, accept, and expend grant funds from the Northern Borders Regional Commission (NRBC)”.

AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Miller

Motion carried unanimously.

CNYRPDB General Contract for Services: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to approve the Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board (CNTRPDB) contract for assistance with grant administration.

AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Miller

Motion carried unanimously.

PACNY Support Letter (attached): On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to send a letter of support to the Preservation Association of Central New York’s initiative to add Wells College to the Preservation League of New York State’s “Seven to Save” list.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Delinquent Taxes (attached): On motion by Trustee Balloni, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to turn over all delinquent village taxes to Cayuga County Real property.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Harriet Tubman Scenic Byway Nomination:

Resolution for Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Nomination and Corridor Management Plan Adoption

WHEREAS, the historic qualities of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, as described in the corridor management plan, and the surrounding areas have been appreciated and celebrated for over a century by the residents of New York State, as well as tourists, historians, artists, authors, and other visitors to the region; and it is this unique combination of the journeys of Harriet Tubman and those Freedom Seekers who traveled on the Underground Railroad that create the special sense of place that is vital in telling the New York story of the human desire for freedom and the historic sites they utilized during their journey to emancipation; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, composed of representatives of 22 municipalities along the proposed scenic byway route, committed to working cooperatively to protect and promote the historic, scenic, recreational, and economic well-being of the 544-mile Corridor throughout the state and agreed to pursue the nomination of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Steering Committee, each of the 22 counties contributed to the development of this corridor management plan by encouraging public participation, confirming the vision and goals, and leading individual meetings of the Collaborative; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, consisting of relatives of Harriet Tubman, descendants of Freedom Seekers, Harriet Tubman and/or Underground Railroad historians, representatives from state and federal agencies, has strengthened the historic integrity, representation, and the principles of the corridor management plan; and

WHEREAS, in the process of developing this corridor management plan, the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Steering Committee has strengthened the bonds of inter-municipal cooperation, and the involved entities envision further benefit through scenic byway designation including sustained collaborative progress, increased funding opportunities for recommendations identified in the plan, enhanced partnerships with agencies responsible for the stewardship of resources along and adjacent to the byway route, and an improved visitor experience that interprets and promotes the corridor's intrinsic qualities and resources; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Aurora supports the designation of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway which includes programs for stewardship and enhancement of the historic scenic byway and guidance to manage future activities along its corridor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Aurora confirms that they will not approve any requests for new off-premise outdoor advertising signs along the designated Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway route; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Aurora will work in partnership with the other municipalities along the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway and local and regional stakeholders in order to support future Byway programs, economic development, marketing, and collaborate with these interested entities to explore opportunities for cooperation to realize the Scenic Byway goals.

FIRST: Trustee Janet Murphy

SECOND: Trustee Matt Bianconi

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

NAYS: None

Carried unanimously

Executive Session: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Balloni, the Village Board entered into Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. to discuss “the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property”.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

No action was taken during Executive Session

On motion by Trustee Balloni, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to adjourn the Executive Session at 7:04 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Purchase Offer Authorization: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Balloni, the Village Board voted to authorize Village Attorney, Thomas Blair, to submit a purchase offer of \$10.00 to Wells College for the boathouse dock and lawn property.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment: On motion by Trustee Bianconi, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.