Village of Aurora Board of Trustees January 21, 2026 Regular 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, John Miller (videoconference), and Janet Murphy

Others Present
Village Officials: Clerk Ann Balloni, IT Specialist Jon Gans, ZBA Member Laura Holland, and Historian Dr. Linda Schwab
Aurora Historical Society: President Shirley Egan

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: No changes

Approval of Minutes: On motion by Trustee Balloni, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to approve the December 17, 2025, minutes
AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, and Orman
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Announcements

Mayor: Mayor Orman met with Cayuga County Planning & Economic Development as the Village consultants on the future of Wells College campus. A design and development survey will be distributed soon to village residents.

Mayor Orman, Inns of Aurora General Manager Sue Edinger, and Well Golf Course owner Kevin Fitzgerald met briefly with the Cayuga County Industrial Development Agency at their annual meeting.

Mayor Orman and Trustee Balloni met with representatives from the Hiawatha Institute, who have submitted a purchase offer for Wells College. No specific plans were discussed, but funding is in place for the purchase. Mayor Orman requested a proposal, and one is expected on the Institute's next visit to Aurora.

Trustee Murphy: Trustee Murphy and Clerk Balloni attended the January 20 Cayuga County Association of Village's (CCAV) meeting. Kari Terwilliger from County Planning discussed the challenges in the department due to the County Legislature's cutting staff positions. The Planning Department will no longer have staff to assist with NYForward/DRI funding applications and it was noted in the meeting by multiple village officials that the Planning Department has brought in millions of dollars through their assistance with the DRI applications and another $10 million is pending. Ms. Terwilliger confirmed that current contracts with municipalities signed prior to the budget cuts will be honored.

Several village representatives spoke in support of the planning department at the county legislature budget hearing, but to no avail. At the CCAV meeting, it was noted that the county legislators do not

attend their district's village board meetings or interact with village officials and appear disinterested in the knowledge and opinions of local government.

Visitor Welcome: No comments.

Treasurer's Report: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Balloni, the Village Board voted to accept the December Treasurer's Report.
AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, and Orman
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 #8 for payment.
Voucher #209-252
Total: $16,954.08
AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, and Orman
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Water: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to approve the Water Fund Abstract #8 for payment.
Voucher #98-120
Total: $18,796.05
AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, and Orman
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer: On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #8 for payment.
Voucher #73-82
Total: $8,014.93
AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, and Orman
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Aurora Ledyard Historical Society (see attached)**:** President Egan gave a detailed summary of the finances and events throughout 2025.

Ms. Egan mentioned the increase in electric bills at Patrick Tavern and explained to the Board that, as the Village owns the building, the Society added that the Village pay the electric bills to the updated MOU, currently in the review process.

Mayor Orman thanked Ms. Egan for all her work and specifically for assisting the Village pro bono with the Wells College/Village of Aurora archives.

Code Officer (see attached): Officer Greer reported on shipping containers removed at 492 Main St, issuing a condemned notice at 348 Main St, and permit & application updates.

Historian (see attached): Dr. Schwab reported on interpretive signage for local tourism, recent queries, DRI updates, and assisting an Ithaca college student with a documentary on Aurora. Dr. Schwab added that the Aurora Ledyard Historical Society had an increase in membership from Wells alums since Wells announced their closure.

Old Business

Website/Cybersecurity: Mr. Gans presented a revised proposal (attached) to create a new website and adhere to NY State mandates for municipal cybersecurity. Additionally, Mr. Gans noted a tiered payment system, given the Village's budget constraints for the current fiscal year.

On motion by Trustee Bianconi, second by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to accept Mr. Gans proposal to create a new village website and update Village technology with NY State mandates.
AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, and Orman
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Audit Committee: Mayor Orman appointed Trustee Miller and Trustee Murphy to meet with Treasurer Christine Tanner and Account Clerk Deborah Brooks to review the Village finances.

Updated Building Fee Schedule (attached): On motion by Trustee Murphy, second by Trustee Balloni, the Village Board voted to amend Officer Greer's fee schedule to increase a Fireworks Permit to $250.00.
AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, and Orman
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Trustee Balloni, second by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to adopt Officer Greer's permit fee schedule with the fireworks amendment.
AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, and Orman
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Appoint Election Inspectors:

Resolution #26-01 – To Appoint Election Inspectors for the WEDNESDAY, March 18, 2026 Village Elections

WHEREAS: The Village of Aurora is holding Village elections on **WEDNESDAY,** March 18, 2026; and

WHEREAS: Bonnie Bennett, Tee-Ann Hunter, and Anne Reynolds have expressed interest in being election inspectors, Bennett for a full shift and Hunter and Reynolds splitting a shift; and

WHEREAS: Appointing alternate election inspectors is recommended if any inspectors are not able to fulfill the appointment; and

WHEREAS: Michael Groth and Susan MacCormick have expressed interest in being alternate election inspectors;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Village of Aurora Board of Trustees appoint Bonnie Bennett (12-9), Tee-Ann Hunter (12-3:30), and Anne Reynolds (3:30-9) as Election Inspectors, and Michael Groth and Susan MacCormick as alternates, for the **WEDNESDAY,** March 18, 2026 Village elections, from a half hour prior to the opening of the polls (Noon – 9:00pm) until the conclusion of the vote count, at a rate of $16/hour.

FIRST: Trustee Murphy
SECOND: Trustee Bianconi
AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, and Orman
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment: On motion by Trustee Balloni, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m.
AYES: Balloni, Bianconi, Miller, Murphy, and Orman
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Balloni
Village Clerk