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Village of Aurora Board of Trustees October 21, 2026, Minutes

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

Present: Mayor Janet Murphy, Trustees JD Balloni, Bonnie Bennett, Matt Bianconi, and John Miller

Others Present
Village Officials: Clerk Ann Balloni, ZBA Member Laura Holland, Former Mayor Jim Orman, Historian Dr. Linda Schwab, Treasurer Christine Tanner, Water Plant Operators Dave Wenzel & Bob Yager, and DPW Supervisor Mike White
Inns of Aurora: Facilities Manager Corey Guerrette

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Murphy 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 Bennett, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to approve the September 23, 2026, regular meeting minutes.
AYES: Balloni, Bennett, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Announcements

Mayor:

- Attended a Zoom meeting with an auditing group who will be sending us a proposal
- Ongoing discussions with Hobart William Smith archivist to identify Village records within the Wells collection sent to them. The mayor is working closely with Village Historian, Dr. Linda Schwab on this project
- Notified by Wells President Susan Henking that a letter is forthcoming from Wells attorney regarding campus zoning
- Conversing with the Village Attorney on Wells Campus marketing plan to sell off the campus piecemeal

Clerk: Reminded the Board of the housing training in Syracuse on November 17 and read a resignation letter from Tony Filer.

Trustee Balloni: A box for retired flags was gifted to the fire department from a young man working towards his Eagle Scout.

The Rt 90 project in Levanna is delayed indefinitely due to NTSDOT determining that the road must be rerouted.

Visitor Welcome

DPW Supervisor Mike White:

- Aaron VanArnum repaired the leaf machine and the DPW is collecting leaves

- Meeting tomorrow with Village Engineer, Ken Teter, and the contractors for the generator project at the sewer plant
- Attended the NYCOM Public Works Training School in Lake Placid
- Mayor Murphy informed Mr. White that Dr. MacAdam sends her appreciation for the DPW fixing the plumbing problem at the Community Medical Center

Water Plant Operator Bob Yager:

- Carbon filters cleaned
- Fire extinguishers inspected
- New alarm system on hold for now
- Repainting offices
- The computers that run the water plant require replacing at a cost of approximately $20,000.00

Treasurer's Report: On motion by Trustee Bianconi, seconded by Trustee Balloni, the Village Board voted to accept the October Treasurer's Report.
AYES: Balloni, Bennett, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Bills

General: On motion by Trustee Balloni, seconded by Trustee Bennett, the Village Board voted to approve the General Fund Abstract #5 for payment.
Voucher #154-192
Total: $27,662.64
AYES: Balloni, Bennett, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Water: On motion by Trustee Balloni, seconded by Trustee Bennett, the Village Board voted to approve the Water Fund Abstract #5 for payment.
Voucher #60-74
Total: $6,838.57
AYES: Balloni, Bennett, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer: On motion by Trustee Balloni, seconded by Trustee Bennett, the Village Board voted to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #5 for payment.
Voucher #56-74
Total: $14,190.37
AYES: Balloni, Bennett, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

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Code Officer (attached): Officer Greer reported on short-term rental renewals, recent permits, and Community Preservation Panel consultations.

Historian (see attached): Dr. Schwab reported on working with the Hobart William Smith (HWS) Archivist on identifying local village documents in the Wells archives donated to HWS.

Dr. Schwab continues working on events, publications, research, accessions, and queries.

DRI Park Committee: Jim Orman reported that the committee consists of himself, Grace Bates, Dave Eckart, Kevin Fitzgerald, and Alyssa Gunderson. The committee received six proposals from interested planning and engineering firms to design the Southern Gateway Park and the committee is considering interviewing representatives from all six firms.

The committee is pleased that all the submissions are from "local" agencies, most within an hour's drive of Aurora and many of them meet the NY State criteria for hiring veteran, disabled, minority, and women businesses. Mr. Orman noted that they are consulting with Cayuga County Parks Department and Cayuga County Soil & Water.

Old Business

Grant Update: Village Engineer, Ken Teter, submitted his update (attached). Mr. Teter reported on purchasing equipment for the new water meters at Wells College, ongoing NYSEG billing issues with Wells/Village account, and meeting with all the key players on the WWTP generator project.

New Business

2026 Delinquent Taxes: On motion by Trustee Miller, second by Trustee Balloni, the Village Board voted to turn over all delinquent taxes to Cayuga County.
AYES: Balloni, Bennett, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Village Archives Letter (attached): Mayor Murphy informed the Trustees that her letter to the NY State Education Commissioner and Archivist requesting access to Village records on Wells College campus was sent. Local and State representatives were copied on the letter.

Village Marketing Letter (attached): Mayor Murphy asked the Trustees if they had any comments before sending CBRE (Wells realtor) a letter encouraging potential buyers to work with the Village on development. The Trustees advised Mayor Murphy to send the letter and cc economic development groups and local and State representatives.

Executive Session: On motion by Trustee Miller, second by Trustee Balloni, the Village Board voted to enter into Executive Session at 6:37 p.m. to discuss potential real estate acquisitions.

No action was taken during Executive Session.

On motion by Trustee Balloni, second by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to adjourn the Executive Session at 7:33 p.m.

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AYES: Balloni, Bennett, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Collier Appraisers Contract: On motion by Trustee Balloni, second by Trustee Bianconi, the Village Board voted to hire Collier Appraisers, at a cost of $6,500.00, for property appraisals bordering the Village Water Plant.
AYES: Balloni, Bennett, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Special Meeting: The Trustees tentatively scheduled a special meeting on November 4, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. to discuss residential/commercial water rates. The date and time are contingent on Mr. Teter's availability.

Adjournment: On motion by Trustee Balloni, seconded by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.
AYES: Balloni, Bennett, Bianconi, Miller, and Murphy
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Balloni
Village Clerk

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