

April 28, 2025

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Aurora took place on Monday, April 28, 2025, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The Board met in-person at the Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Avenue, East Aurora, New York. The meeting was streamed via YouTube.

Present:	Luke Wochensky	Councilman
	Joseph McCann	Councilman
	James F. Granville	Councilman
	Raymond M. Wrazen	Councilman
	Charles D. Snyder	Supervisor
Others Present:	Brigid Maloney	Town Attorney
	Elizabeth Cassidy	Code Enforcement Officer
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Chris Musshafen	Recreation/Aquatics Director
	Karin Dojnik	Deputy Town Clerk
	Paul Ernst	ZBA Chairman
	Rod Simeone	ZBA Member
	Douglas Crow	Planning Board Chairman
	Patrick Welch	Chief of Police
	Jeffrey Markello	Town Justice

Supervisor Snyder opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Councilman Wrazen moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the April 14, 2025 meeting minutes and the April 28, 2025 Abstract of Claims, consisting of vouchers 517 to 576, to be paid from the following funds:			Action #137 4/14/25 minutes; 4/28/25 abstract
	General	\$ 67,352.52	
	Part Town	52.36	
	Highway/DB	25,432.09	
	Trust & Agency	284.86	
	Special Districts	<u>\$ 471,484.56</u>	
	Grand Total Abstract	\$ 564,606.39	

Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken:
ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

AUDIENCE I:

Rachel Krajewski from the Carner Development Group, Church St., stated she is opposed to the moratorium on rezoning. Ms. Krajewski noted that she recently submitted a rezoning application and a moratorium would freeze that application.

Councilman Wochensky responded that her application would not be affected as it has already been received and the moratorium does not go into effect until it is filed with the State. Town Attorney Maloney stated the application beat the moratorium.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Friends of Griffins Mills group requested that the Town help fund the cost of a Griffins Mills Hamlet designation sign that will be installed on the south side of Mill Road across from Luther Road and west of the bridge over Cazenovia Creek. The Friends group has presented a \$810.00 donation to be used toward the \$1,810.00 cost of the sign. Alan Davis, representing the Friends group, stated that next year they would like to have a second sign erected on the north side of Mill Road, west of Grover, and near the sign where the speed limit reduces to 35 mph. and would like the Town’s help with that sign, also.

Councilman McCann moved to approve the Hamlet of Griffins Mills sign and approve payment of voucher number 456 (payable to Visual Impact Signs) from the April 14, 2025 Abstract of Claims for the \$1810.00 cost of

the sign. Funds are being disbursed from A7315.412. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none
Motion carried.

Action #138
One Griffins
Mills sign
aprvd

Councilman Wrazen moved to approve a bench plaque, purchased from Visual Impact Signs in memory of Jim Kittner, former Town employee, for Community Pool Park. Funds are being disbursed from A7110.444 Parks in the amount of \$170.00. Councilman Wrazen seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #139
Bench
plaque in
memory of
J. Kittner
aprvd

Councilman McCann moved to accept a donation of \$810.00 from the Friends of Griffins Mills to be used toward the purchase of the “Hamlet of Griffins Mills Welcomes You” road sign. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #140
Donation of
\$810 for
Griffins
Mills sign
accepted

Councilman McCann moved to adopt the following Local Law; seconded by Councilman Wochensky:

TOWN OF AURORA LOCAL LAW 3 - 2025

A LOCAL LAW, TO AMEND LOCAL LAW 1-1990 KNOWN AS “THE CODES OF THE TOWN OF AURORA”, ADOPTED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF AURORA ON JANUARY 22, 1990 BY AMENDING CHAPTER 65 “THE FIRE PREVENTION AND BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE”, AND AMENDING CHAPTER 116 “ZONING CODE”.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF AURORA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

This Local Law amends a prior Local Law known as “The Zoning Code of the Town of Aurora, Erie County, and State of New York” adopted by the Town of Aurora on June 20, 2022.

SECTION 2. SECTION 65-6A Stop Work Orders

Subparagraph 65A is hereby amended to add new subparagraphs “4” and “5”as follows:

(4) Any work not in conformity with the provisions of an application, plans, specifications, or required amendment to, of which a building permit was issued.

(5) Any work in association with an approved building permit where construction continues past a failed or incomplete inspection.

SECTION 3. SECTION 116-85B Exceptions to Permit Requirements

Subparagraph 116-85(B) is hereby amended to add a new subparagraph “4” as follows:

(4) Agricultural zoning permits shall only be issued for land used in agricultural production as defined in Section 301(4) of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law, Chapter 69, Article 25-AA, that are either located in a state-certified Agricultural District or have received an agricultural assessment.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY.

The invalidity of any word, section, clause, paragraph, sentence, or part or provision of this Local Law shall not affect the validity of any other part of this Local Law which shall be given effect.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the New York Secretary of State.

Action #141
LL 3-2025 -
Chapter 65
and 116 code
changes -
adopted

Upon a roll call vote being taken:

Councilman McCann aye
Councilman Wochensky aye
Councilman Granville aye
Councilman Wrazen aye
Supervisor Snyder aye
Ayes – five Noes – none

Motion carried.

* * * * *

Councilman Wrazen moved to adopt the following Local Law; seconded by Councilman Granville:

**TOWN OF AURORA
LOCAL LAW 4 - 2025**

A LOCAL LAW TO AUTHORIZE A SIX-MONTH MORATORIUM ON ALL REZONING REQUESTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF AURORA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. TITLE.

This Local Law is referred to as the “Local Law Imposing a Six-Month Moratorium on Rezoning.”

SECTION 2. PURPOSE.

The Town of Aurora is undertaking the development of a Comprehensive Plan which is intended to detail the community’s vision for the future, including development, land use, and community priorities. The comprehensive plan is expected to provide strategies addressing housing needs, infrastructure improvements, the revitalization of the Town’s various neighborhoods, the needs for all modes of transportation, farmland preservation, climate resiliency, and natural resource preservation.

This moratorium is intended to be an interim measure to preserve the status quo pending adoption of the Comprehensive Plan and related new or amended planning and zoning regulations in accordance therewith. This moratorium will also avoid rezoning applications that could potentially conflict with or frustrate the recommendations and goals of the updated Comprehensive Plan.

SECTION 3. AUTHORITY.

This moratorium is enacted by the Town Board pursuant to its authority under the New York State Constitution Article IX and NYS Municipal Home Rule Law §10.

SECTION 4. ENACTEMENT OF TEMPORARY MORATORIUM.

For a period of six months, starting with the filing of this Local Law with the NYS Secretary of State, and subject to any other Local Law adopted by the Town Board during this six- month period, no new application for property rezoning to a different zoning district shall be accepted, processed or approved by the Town.

SECTION 5. EXTENSION OF MORATORIUM.

This moratorium may be extended for up to two additional periods of up to three months each by resolution of the Town Board upon a finding of necessity for such extension.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY.

The invalidity of any word, section, clause, paragraph, sentence, or part or provision of this Local Law shall not affect the validity of any other part of this Local Law which shall be given effect.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the NYS Secretary of State.

Upon a roll call vote being taken:

Councilman McCann	aye
Councilman Wochensky	aye
Councilman Granville	aye
Councilman Wrazen	aye
Supervisor Snyder	aye
Ayes – five	Noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #142
LL 4-2025 -
6-month
moratorium
on rezoning
- adopted

* * * * *

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Wrazen moved to amend the agenda by adding the following items to New Business: 6O – LL Intro: Battery Energy storage moratorium; 6P – Pride event at Aurora Municipal Center parking lot; 6Q – Municipal Planning Grant application. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #143
Items 6O,
6P & 6Q
added to
agenda

Councilman Wochensky moved to approve a Temporary Use Permit to Aurora Waldorf School to use JP Nicely West Falls Park for a summer program for current students on June 16 – 19, 2025 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #144
TUP for Aur
Waldorf
school use
of W Falls
park - June
aprvd

Councilman Wrazen moved to approve a Temporary Use Permit to Aurora Waldorf School to use JP Nicely West Falls Park for a summer program for current students on August 25 – 28, 2025 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #145
TUP for Aur
Waldorf
school use
of W Falls
park – Aug.
aprvd

Councilman McCann moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign and send a letter of support on behalf of the Town to the Buffalo and Pittsburgh Railroad in support of the BPRR submitting a grant application to the NYSDOT Passenger & Freight Rail Assistance Program for a project that would repair, replace, rehabilitate and address railroad bridges, turnouts, grade crossings, and more. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #146
Letter of
support to
BPRR
authorized

Councilman Wrazen moved to approve a Temporary Use Permit to Christopher Welch and the Heart of Music Festival to use the parking lot at the east end of the Town managed side of Knox Farm State Park for parking for the music festival. Use of the lot begins at 1:00 p.m. on June 7, 2025 and ends at 10:00 a.m. on June 8, 2025. A \$250 security deposit is required. Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #147
TUP for
Heart of
Music Fest
to use
parking lot
at KFSP
aprvd

Councilman McCann moved to approve the hiring of the following as Seasonal Part-time Laborers at an hourly rate of \$17.00. Start dates will be on or after May 5, 2025:

Action #148
Seasonal PT laborers
aprvd

Nathaniel Bender	45 Center Ridge, EA
Charles Gerken	1573 Boies Road, EA
Christopher Keller	53 Savage Place, EA
Thomas Merletti	664 West Falls Road, WF
Kyle Rosinski	1660 Blakeley Road, EA

Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken:
ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Councilman Wrazen moved to approve the following budget amendment to record the donation from the Friends of Griffins Mills:

- Increase revenue line A2705 Gifts & Donations by \$810.00
- Increase appropriation line A7315.412 Beautification by \$810.00

Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken:
ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #149
Budget amendment for Griffins Mills sign donation
aprvd

Councilman McCann moved to accept the resignation, for retirement purposes, of Town Justice Anthony (Tony) DiFilippo IV effective May 3, 2025. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Councilman Snyder thanked Tony for his service to the Town.

Action #150
Tony DiFilippo resignation accepted

Councilman Wochensky moved to approve Town Justice Jeffrey Markello as being responsible for all Town Justice duties, due to the vacancy resulting from Town Justice DiFilippo’s retirement, for the period May 3 through May 31, 2025; and moved to approve that Mr. Markello received half of Mr. DiFilippo’s salary wages for the May 14 and June 11 payrolls, and Mr. DiFilippo’s full salary wages for the May 28, 2025 payroll. Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #151
Justice Markello to receive wage increase for three pay periods

Councilman Granville moved to approve a new Recreation Department program – Pickup Flag Football – that will be offered over the summer at Hamlin Park to sixth through eighth grade boys and girls. Councilman Wrazen seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #152
Pickup flag football Rec program
aprvd

Councilman McCann moved to approve the hiring of the following as 2025 Seasonal PT Lifeguards (pool staff) and Seasonal PT Recreation Attendants (recreation staff) with pay rates/first day worked for new hires effective on date of orientation and for rehires effective on May 24, 2025:

Community Pool Staff Summer 2025					
Name		Address	Position	Year	New Rate
Charles	Cich	428 Fillmore	LG/WSI/HG	7/6/4	\$18.25/\$19.75/\$18.75
Weston	Valentine	365 South St	LG/WSI/HG	5/4/1	\$17.75/\$19.25/\$18.00
Lillian	Mruzik	218 Olean St	SLC	1	\$18.75
Edward	Randall	1100 Center St	FM	1	\$18.75
Anna	Brinker	201 Glenridge Rd	LG	4	\$17.50
Cassie	Kasubowski	252 South St	LG	4	\$17.50

Elliott	Marshall	40 Girdle Rd	LG	4	\$17.50
Megan	Valentine	365 South St	LG	4	\$17.50
Gregory	Wilber	100 Byeberry Ct	LG/WSI	4/3	\$17.50/\$19.00
Jacob	Winfield	293 Perry St.	LG/WSI	4/3	\$17.50/\$19.00
Johannes	Aubrecht	127 Center St.	LG	3	\$17.25
Addison	Grubka	59 Greystone Ln., OPark ^	LG	3	\$17.25
Kira	Lucyshyn	1 Canterbury Ln.	LG	3	\$17.25
Parker	Nagy	138 North Willow	LG	3	\$17.25
Susannah	Winfield	293 Perry St	LG/WSI	3/2	\$17.25/\$18.75
Erin	Zagrobelny	64 South Willow	LG/WSI	3/2	\$17.25/\$18.75
Tessa	Fowler	26 N. Willow St	LG	2	\$17.00
Paul	Hulme	1040 Porterville Rd	LG	2	\$17.00
Abigail	Jetty	119 Park Pl	LG	2	\$17.00
Emmett	Merrick	255 Geneva Rd	LG	2	\$17.00
Gia	Patterson	280 Greenwood Ct	LG	2	\$17.00
Olivia	Strzelec	17 Tolland Bore	LG	2	\$17.00
Mila	Tunkey	2000 Blakeley Rd.	LG	2	\$17.00
Carter	Gipe	212 Walnut St	LG	1	\$16.75
Taylor	Keohane	985 Mill Rd	LG	1	\$16.75
Luke	Krieger	113 Church St	LG	1	\$16.75
Katie	Phillips	PO Box 206, Springville ^	LG	1	\$16.75
Mason	Szymanski	60 Center Ridge Rd	LG	1	\$16.75

- FM Facility Manager
- SLC Swim Lesson Coordinator
- LG Lifeguard
- HG Head Guard- will be paid head guard rate only while working as a head guard
- WSI Water Safety Instructor- will be paid WSI rate only while working as a WSI
- ^ Non-resident

Park Staff Summer 2025

Name		Address	Position	Year	New Rate
Oliver	Biggs	780 Warren Dr., EA	DCPC	9 th /5 th	\$19.00
Alissa	Dixon	148 Blake Hill Rd., EA	DCPC/AKT	7 th /2 nd	\$19.75
Owen	Boersch	1279 Warren Dr., EA	DCC	2 nd	\$16.75
Elaine	George	6813 Olean Rd., S. Wales ^	DCC	9 th /6 th	\$17.75
Nick	Montgomery	43 First St. Franklinville ^	SP	9 th	\$17.75
Matthew	Ferrara	6062 Vermont Hill, S. Wales ^	SP	4 th	\$17.00
Elijah	Bennet	265 Gleed Ave. EA	Sub	2 nd	\$16.25
Shane	Fraser	762 Main St., EA	TRKC	2 nd	\$16.75
Amelia	Sexton	301 Porterville Rd	THTR/sub	4 th	\$17.25
Kathy	Aures	533 Snyder Rd, EA	PA	19 th	\$18.35
Deaglan	Carney	576 Cresent Ave., EA	SP/sub	4 th	\$16.75
Ivan	Collins	928 Olean Rd, EA	SP/sub	4 th	\$16.75
Jada	Tresmond	160 Blake Hill Rd., EA	DCC	4 th /1 st	\$16.75
Ben	Zeigler	1643 Hubbard Rd., EA	SP/sub	2 nd	\$16.25
Nathan	Roorbach	215 Hamlin Ave., EA	SP/sub	2 nd	\$16.75
Scarlette	Barone	371 South St., EA	HTC	3 rd	\$18.50
Laura	Giallanza	2491 Emery Rd, SW	DCC	1 st	\$16.50
Madelyn	Vanderbosch	208 Treehaven Dr, EA	DCC	2 nd	\$16.75
Sarah	Stanz	261 Mill Rd, EA	DCC	2 nd	\$16.75
Colin	Cassidy	357 S. Park Pl, EA	DCC/AKT	4 th /2 nd	\$16.75
Matthew	Berger	5167 E. Blood, Cowlesville ^	DCC	1 st	\$16.50
Jamie	Thompson	718 W Falls Rd, WF	EXLT/office	1 st	\$17.75
Hailey	Kunz	1008 Davis Rd, WF	EXLT	1 st	\$16.00
Emilia	O’Leary	271 Perry St, EA	TRKC	1 st	\$16.50
Aiden	Chuddy	822 Lawrence Ave, EA	Sub	1 st	\$16.50
Zoe	Giagalione	30 Park Pl, EA	TC	1 st	\$16.50
Madelyn	Pikula	1980 Billington Rd, Elma ^	Office sub	2 nd	\$17.75

DCPC	Day Camp Program coordinator
DCC	Day Camp Counselor
EXLT	Exclusively Little Teacher
PA	Program Assistant
HTC	Head Tennis Coach
TC	Tennis Coach
THTR	Theater
TRKC	Track College
SP	Sports
AKT	Aktion Club
^	non-resident

Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken:
ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #153
2025
summer
pool and rec
attendants
aprvd

Councilman Wrazen moved to approve the following budget amendment to pay an invoice from the Erie County Water Authority for replacement of a damaged fire hydrant (1st hydrant on Mill Road south of Beech Road):

- Add appropriation line ZB3410.401 Fire hydrant damage fees
- Decrease appropriation line ZM3410.400 Fire hydrant rental fees by \$5186.50
- Increase appropriation line ZM3410.401 Fire hydrant damage fees by \$5186.50

Action #154
Budget
amendment
for fire
hydrant
repair aprvd

Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken:
ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Councilman McCann moved to amend the 2025 Organizational Chart with the following:
The Town Clerk appointed Karin Dojnik as Deputy Town Clerk 1 and Sub-registrar of Vital Statistics to fill the unexpired terms of Sheryl Miller through 12/31/2025.

Action #155
K. Dojnik
appt DTC#1
& sub-
Registrar

Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken:
ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Councilman Wochensky moved to refer the Special Use Permit application for a hotel at 1897 Davis Road, West Falls, from Blueberry Treehouse Farm LLC, to the Planning Board for review and recommendation(s). Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #156
SUP for
hotel at 1897
Davis sent to
Planning brd

Councilman Wrazen moved to refer the Open Development Area application for an accessory building at 1040A Sweet Road, E. Aurora, from Ryan Marrs a/a/f Kevin and Erin Meehan, to the Planning Board for review and recommendation(s). Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #157
ODA
application
for 1040A
Sweet sent
to Planning
brd

Councilman McCann moved to set 6:30 p.m. Monday, May 12, 2025 at the Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Ave., E. Aurora, as the time, date and place to hold a public hearing on a proposed local law to set a six-month moratorium on battery energy storage systems. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #158
Public hrg
set for
battery
energy
storage
moratorium

Councilman Granville moved to approve temporary use of the Aurora Municipal Center (AMC) parking lot (excluding the south east portion of the lot) and use of the AMC first floor rest rooms by the East Aurora High School Gay Alliance group for a Pride event on Saturday, June 7, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Councilman Wrazen seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #159
AMC
parking lot
aprvd for
use for Pride
event

Councilman Granville moved to approve submitting an application to Erie County Environment and Planning for a Municipal Planning grant in the amount of \$30,000.00 to upgrade the Town Code. Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #160
Submittal of
application
for code
update grant
aprvd

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

- EAPD – March 2025 report

BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS/LIAISONS:

Councilman McCann stated he participated in the Buffalo Niagara Water Keeper clean-up at Knox Farm State Park. Highway Superintendent Gunner stated his employees picked up the trash and will haul it to the Chaffee Waste Management site. Councilman Wochensky asked Mr. Gunner to take a photo of the truck with the trash in it.

Supervisor Snyder stated he received an email from the WNY Land Conservancy regarding treating hemlock woolly adelgid, an insect that damages hemlock trees, at JP Nicely West Falls Park.

AUDIENCE II: none

STAFF REPORTS:

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated that the highway department started paving Sweet Road today; there are no updates on the bridge contract for Church/E. Fillmore; and his crews are already out mowing.

Police Chief Welch noted that the annual Bunny Hop (5K run) was successful. Mr. Welch also commented on the up-coming Heart of Music Festival, noting that he is bringing in help from the NYS Police because the festival puts a strain on the local police and fire departments.

Chris Musshafen stated that registration for the Day Camps are full; five swim lesson time slots have been added this year; the new playground has been installed at Community Pool Park; and the pool has enough lifeguards for the summer.

Councilman McCann moved to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Wrazen. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #161
Meeting
adjourned

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk