

TOWN OF AURORA
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
August 19, 2025

The following members of the Aurora Town Board met on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of holding a work session. The Board met in-person at the Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Avenue, East Aurora, New York.

Present:	Raymond Wrazen Charles Snyder	Councilman Supervisor
Via Zoom:	Joseph McCann	Councilman
Absent/Excused:	Brigid Maloney Luke Wochensky	Town Attorney Councilman
Others Present:	David Gunner Elizabeth Cassidy Richard Miga Martha Librock Doug Crow Nick Fodero Joshua Greene	Highway Superintendent Code Enforcement Officer Asst. Code Enforcement Officer Town Clerk Planning Board Chairman IT Consultant Planner for LaBella Associates

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

1) Internet and Phone Service (GoNet Speed, Spectrum, Vaspian):

Supervisor Synder, IT Consultant Nick Fodero and Kathleen Moffat Assistant to the Supervisor recently met with representatives from GoNet Speed to determine whether switching internet and phone providers for some locations would result in cost savings for the Town.

IT Consultant Nick Fodero discussed the differences between the three companies (Spectrum, GoNet Speed and Vaspian), what they offer and costs. GoNet Speed would be 300 mbps, currently with Spectrum our mbps is 50. GoNet Speed is proposing a 5-year term. To leave this term early we would have to pay out months not used. Or current agreement with Spectrum ends August 2026, to end this agreement there would be a buyout cost of approximately \$6,535.06. Both GoNet Speed and Vaspian offer seasonal phone services at the Pool and Hamlin Park when they are not in use. No additional charge to suspend or reactivate services. Councilman McCann asked if we could get an exact amount from Spectrum if we were to leave agreement early. Will also find out if GoNet Speed would buy out Spectrums agreement for the Town to switch.

2) Comprehensive Plan:

Joshua Greene, Planner for LaBella Associates, handed out the newest version of the Future Land Use map. We are in the final review process; but changes can still be made. LaBella received comments from the committee and took those into consideration. Joshua explained the Future Land Use map and the changes that have been made. LaBella provides suggestions and things to look at, comprehensive plan helps to set goals. Planning Board Chairman Crow feels the goals need to be slimmed down. Crow is concerned that the community will feel there are too many changes at once.

3) Highway Superintendent:

A) Request to purchase mini excavator:

Highway Superintendent Gunner is requesting approval from the Town Board to purchase a new Caterpillar model 303.5 Mini Excavator from the NYS Government Contract list (Southworth-Milton, seller) for the price of \$66,608.00. The vendor understands that this approval is contingent upon funding and approval of the 2026 Budget. A smaller excavator works better in the Parks.

B) Tree removal and Route 400 sign:

Highway Superintendent Gunner explained that in Major Park there are a couple large trees that have fallen into the creek that could possibly cause some risk to the boardwalk due to flooding. These trees have been there for some time and due to the drought are more noticeable. Due to the risk of Town Employees, the cost and minimal possible damage the Town Board agrees to wait until Spring to reassess. Highway Superintendent Gunner will keep an eye on it.

The Town is responsible to maintain the circle at the end of the 400. NYS is helping with a design for landscaping and a sign. NYS is working on a program that is like Adopt a Highway where local nurseries or landscapers can adopt the circle and maintain it. Sign location was discussed. Superintendent Gunner will reach out to local nurseries to see if any of them would be interested in maintaining the circle. He will also reach out to local service organizations to see if any of them would like to help with the cost of the sign.

4) Town Codes:

A) Lighting:

Councilman Wochensky sent an email with some suggestions. LED requirement, why don't we require LED lighting on all new installations. Code Enforcement Officer Cassidy suggested a phrase, future more efficient lighting, so we don't have to change the code again when it's only to progress. Recycling and disposal: add a provision, around the proper recycling and disposal of hazardous lamps such as mercury and sodium. Revisions will be made and will be discussed again later at another meeting.

B) In-Law Apartments:

Councilman Wochensky asked via email to table this discussion.

C) Alarm Systems:

Section 35-9 Administrative review. A few changes were made. The Chief of Police *whose jurisdiction is the Town of Aurora*, ~~of the Town of Aurora~~. Building Superintendent was changed to Code Enforcement Officer. Aurora Municipal Center changed from 5 South Grove Street. All board members are good with it as written.

D) Site Plan:

Councilman Wochensky asked via email to table this discussion.

E) Ponds, Sewers, Solar Energy, Subdivision/ODA, Zoning:

Ponds: Policy has the current fee schedule written on it. Code Enforcement Officer Cassidy would like to eliminate that, so the code does not have to be changed every time the fees are changed

Sewers: Changed definition Superintendent to Superintendent of Highways of the Town of Aurora.

Solar Energy: Will make changes as noted. Current code references the old zoning code identifiers from the map. Now it references our commercial districts.

Subdivision/ODA: Prior to a submittal of a subdivision application, a preliminary meeting with the developer, property owner, Town Supervisor, Superintendent of Highways and Code Enforcement Officer is required to discuss the proposed subdivision. This meeting will review the basic site design concept and advise the developer as to potential problems or concerns and will assist the developer in determining the information needed to begin the process. Added in ODA section, no accessory building shall be erected in the front yard.

Zoning: Amended the definition of building height to include a shed or single slope roof. Also, delete 116-8.5D(3), 116-8.5E(3) and 116-8.6E(3) as there is no multiple-family development allowed in an A or C district.

5) Memorials/Memorial Benches:

Currently there is no policy written for Memorials/Memorial Benches. The Town Board will ask the Code Committee to start brainstorming and come up with a policy.

6) Videoconferencing:

Supervisor Snyder stated that Councilman Wochensky volunteered to do work on this policy.

The work session ended at 8:01 pm.

Karin L. Dojnik
Deputy Town Clerk