

May 27, 2025

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Aurora took place on Tuesday, May 27, 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 Joseph McCann James F. Granville Charles D. Snyder	Councilman Councilman Councilman Supervisor
Absent/Excused:	Raymond M. Wrazen	Councilman
Others Present:	Brigid Maloney Elizabeth Cassidy David Gunner Paul Ernst Rod Simeone Douglas Crow Tim Stroth	Town Attorney Code Enforcement Officer Highway Superintendent ZBA Chairman ZBA Member Planning Board Chairman Planning Board Member

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

The first item on the agenda was a Public Hearing on an Open Development Area (ODA) application for an accessory building on an ODA lot at 1040A Sweet Road, East Aurora, NY. The Supervisor opened the hearing at 6:30 p.m. and asked if anyone wished to comment. Hearing no one, the Supervisor closed the hearing at 6:31 p.m.

AUDIT PRESENTATION

Erica Handley and Kyle Patronik from Drescher & Malecki, the Town’s outside auditors, were in attendance for the presentation of the 2024FY Audit summary. Ms. Handley spoke about the products of the audit, which are currently in draft format, and the responsibilities of Drescher Malecki in conducting the audit, preparing the Annual Update Document and helping the Town compile the CAFR, which in past years has resulted in the Town receiving financial reporting excellence. Ms. Handley and Mr. Patronik reviewed the major funds, including General, Part Town, Highway and Water and stated there are no reportable findings. Ms. Handley noted that the observations include the Town looking at the functions that the Logics (financial) program offers for tracking projects and keeping IT Policies updated, including data backup and disaster recovery. They also explained GASB 101, which determines government accounting standards and requires the Town to look at its liabilities, including compensation, pension and benefits.

Councilman McCann moved to approve consent agenda including the May 12, 2025 meeting and May 20, 2025 work session minutes of the Town Board and the May 27, 2025 Abstract of Claims, consisting of vouchers 650 to 705, to be paid from the following funds:

			Action #186
	General	\$ 60,683.42	5/12 & 5/20
	Highway/DB	304,711.73	minutes &
	Trust & Agency	284.86	5/27 abstract
	Special Districts	<u>\$ 78,713.62</u>	aprvd
	Grand Total Abstract	\$ 444,393.63	
Councilman Wochensky	seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken:		
ayes – four	noes – none	Motion carried.	

AUDIENCE I: none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

LOCAL LAW 5 - 2025

A LOCAL LAW TO AUTHORIZE A SIX-MONTH MORATORIUM PROHIBITING THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS AND PERMITS FOR BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS.

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 Prohibiting the Review and Approval of Applications and Permits for Battery Energy Storage Systems” in the Town of Aurora.

SECTION 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this local law is to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Aurora and to maintain the status quo by temporarily prohibiting the review and approval of applications and permits for Battery Energy Storage Systems as provided herein for a period of six months from the date of the adoption of this local law while the Town Board studies, analyzes and determines potential appropriate revisions and amendments to the Town Code regarding the propriety of Battery Energy Storage Systems (as defined below), in connection with the Town’s development of a Comprehensive Plan.

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.

SECTION 3: DEFINITIONS.

BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM:

A system consisting of electrochemical storage batteries, battery chargers, controls, power conditioning systems and associated electrical equipment, assembled together, capable of storing energy in order to supply electrical energy at a future time, not to include a stand-alone twelve-volt car battery or an electric motor vehicle.

SECTION 4. 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 5. ENACTMENT 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 or permit for Battery Energy Storage Systems shall be accepted, processed or approved by the Town.

SECTION 6. EXTENSION OF MORATORIUM.

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

SECTION 7. 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 8. 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 Granville	Aye
Councilman Wochensky	Aye
Councilman McCann	Aye
Supervisor Snyder	Aye

ayes – four	noes – none	Motion carried.
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Action #187
LL 5-2025
6-month
Battery
storage
moratorium
adopted

Councilman McCann moved to table Local Law Intro 3-2025, rezoning of 1342 Quaker Road, per the request of the applicant’s attorney. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four
noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #188
LL Intro 3-
2025 1342
Quaker
rezoning
tabled

Councilman Granville moved to approve a Special Event Permit to the Friends of Griffins Mills for the Griffins Mills Heritage Day to be held on Saturday, August 2, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the area of the intersection of West Falls Road and Mill Road. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four
noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #189
Griffins
Mills
Heritage day
special event
permit aprvd

Councilman Wochensky moved to approve the extension of double coverage for the Town Justice Court by Judge Jeffrey Markello through Friday, July 4, 2024. Judge Markello will receive the full salary wages of retired Judge DiFilippo for the 6/11/2025; 6/25/2025; and 7/9/2025 payrolls. Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four
noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #190
J. Markello
to receive
additional
wages for
June justice
court
coverage

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman McCann moved to refer a request from Rachel Krajewski/Carner Development Group, to rezone 1196 Big Tree Road (aka East Main Street; Route 20A) from A and RR to C2, to the Planning Board for review and recommendation(s). Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four
noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #191
1196 Big
Tree
rezoning
referred to
planning brd

Councilman Granville moved to refer the proposed zoning code amendments regarding In-Law Apartments, Dwelling Group, Dwelling Unit, etc., to the Planning Board for review and recommendation(s). Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four
noes – none

Motion carried.

Action #192
Zoning code
amendments
referred to
planning brd

Councilman McCann moved to set 10:00 a.m. on June 20, 2025 at the Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Ave., East Aurora, as the time, date and place for a bid opening for the replacement of the electric partition wall at the Aurora Senior Center. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four noes – none Motion carried.

Action #193
Bid opening
for SrCtr
movable
wall set

Councilman Granville moved to grant permission to the NYSDEC to control giant hogweed at Majors Park (441 Olean Road). Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four noes – none Motion carried.

Action #194
NYSDEC to
control
hogweed at
Majors Park

Councilman McCann moved to approve the following budget amendment to record the insurance coverage for a damaged fire hydrant on Mill Road:

- Add revenue line ZM2680 Insurance recoveries
- Increase revenue line ZB2680 Insurance recoveries by \$4,686.50
- Increase appropriation line ZM3410.400 Fire hydrant rental by \$4,686.50

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

Action #195
Budget
amendment
for hydrant
damage
insurance
aprvd

Councilman Granville moved to declare two Dell Optiplex 3050 computers (Town ID #2186 and 2000) as surplus inventory. The hard drives will be removed for destruction at a later date and the remaining hardware will be recycled. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four noes – none Motion carried.

Action #196
2- Dell
computers
declared
surplus
inventory

Councilman Wochensky moved to approve the following budget amendment to record an increase in CHIPS funding:

- Increase revenue line DB3501 State Aid CHIPS by \$9,368.45
- Increase appropriation line DB5112.433 by \$9,368.45.

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

Action #197
Budget
amendment
for CHIPS
funding
aprvd

Councilman Wochensky moved to authorize a TE9 speed limit study for Mill Road from the Village of East Aurora line to Davis Road (aka: Route 240). Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four noes – none Motion carried.

Action #198
TE9 for Mill
Road
authorized

Councilman McCann moved to authorize a TE9 speed limit study for Sweet Road between Mill Road and Center Street. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four noes – none Motion carried.

Action #199
TE9 for
Sweet Rd
authorized

Councilman McCann moved to approve the request from the Kiwanis Club of East Aurora to install a six-foot long bench at Community Pool Park in memory of John and Pam Voss who were members of Kiwanis and devoted to the Aktion Club. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – three noes – none abstain – one (Snyder) Motion carried.

Action #200
John & Pam
Voss
commemor-
ative bench
aprvd

Councilman Granville moved to approve adding the 1st year head lifeguard rate of \$19.00 to Jacob Winfield's list of approved rates while he is working as a head lifeguard. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four noes – none Motion carried.

Action #201
Head
lifeguard
rate added
for Jacob
Winfield

Councilman McCann moved to accept a donation of 12 XL Rawlings batting helmets valued at \$700 from Linda Poisinelli for Aktion Club baseball. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken:
ayes – four noes – none Motion carried.

Action #202
Donation of
batting
helmets
aprvd

Councilman Wochensky moved to approve a Temporary Use Permit to East Aurora Baseball and Softball for use of Community Pool Park for their Day of Play on Saturday, May 31, 2025, which will include a parade of their teams, American Legion presentation of colors, National Anthem, Hall of Fame induction, mural dedication and baseball games from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken:
ayes – four noes – none Motion carried.

Action #203
TUP for EA
Baseball
event at
Community
Pool Park
aprvd

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

- Building Dept. – April 2025 report
- EAPD – April 2025 report

BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS/LIAISONS:

Councilman McCann stated he attended the cupola dedication in Griffins Mills.

Councilman Granville commented on the Memorial Day events held in West Falls.

Supervisor Snyder stated he had the honor of placing a wreath at the Oakwood Cemetery Memorial Day ceremony. Mr. Snyder noted that the NY Forward grant accepted projects have been announced and treatment for the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid has begun at JP Nicely West Falls Park.

AUDIENCE II:

John Hughes, Blakeley Road, thanked the Board for authorizing the two TE9's. Mr. Hughes stated he would like to see a more personal contact with the NYSDOT to let them know the Town's concerns about traffic and speed limits and following Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) guidelines.

STAFF REPORTS:

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated the John and Pam Voss memorial bench will be installed near the Community Pool Park playground.

Tim Stroth stated he's served on the FHWA committee and offered his services to assist in the TE9 effort.

Councilman McCann moved to adjourn at 7:16 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Granville. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four noes – none
Motion carried.

Action #204
Meeting
adjourned

Martha L. Librock
Town Clerk