

MINUTES OF A MEETING AS HELD BY THE  
TOWN OF AURORA PLANNING & CONSERVATION BOARD

April 2<sup>n</sup>, 2025

Members Present: Doug Crow, Chairman  
Angela Griffis  
Timothy Stroth  
Chris Contento  
Chelsea Root

Alternate Member: William Heidt  
Ben Garvey

Absent/ Excused: Laurie Kutina  
Norm Merriman

Also Present: Liz Cassidy, Code Enforcement Officer

Chairman Doug Crow presided over the meeting which began at 7:01 p.m. at the Town Hall, 575 Oakwood Avenue, East Aurora, NY. He led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman, Doug introduces new alternate to the Planning Board, Ben Garvey. Ben and William Heidt will be voting members at this meeting

Ben Garvey introduced himself to the Planning Board and is looking forward to being more involved in the community

Chairman, Doug Crow asks for a motion to approve the minutes from February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Tim Stroth makes a motion to approve the minutes for February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Seconded by Angela Griffis

Upon a vote being taken:

Ayes-7

Noes-0

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

- a. Chairman, Doug Crow states he and Angela will be attending Climate Game Night at the Senior Center, Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. They will be combined with the Open Space Committee. It is expected to be a full house. The Climate Committee project, to try to do more activities to eventually get our NYS Climate Smart Certification to a higher level. We are currently bronze, but very close to silver. There are presently only 17 towns in NYS at the silver level.
- b. Chairman, Doug Crow asks for an update from Tim Stroth, on the South Towns Working Group

Tim Stroth states the meetings are quarterly. Therefore, there is no new update.

- c. Chairman, Doug Crow asks Angela Griffis for an update regarding the Town Comprehensive Plan.

Angela Griffis states the Open House meeting at the high school was well attended. There was plenty of feedback. The next committee meeting is next Tuesday. She is hoping to get more details of the feedback given. There was plenty of interest in what the committee is working on.

Chairman, Doug Crow inquires when there will be series of proposals that might be semi-final.

Angela Griffis states it needs to be final by October. More content will be built in the next few months, leaving enough time for it to be reviewed by the Town Board, prior to approval.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Referral from the Town Board for a recommendation on LL-4 2025 which modifies Town Code sections 65-6a Stop Work Orders, and 116-85B Agricultural Zoning Permits. This was discussed at the February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Chairman, Doug Crow states, the Town Board does not usually send Local Laws back to the Planning Board, so there is question as to why. Possibly because the Local Law was not provided for review at the prior meeting.

CEO, Liz Cassidy reconfirms the previous discussion from the February meeting, regarding Town Code, section 65-6A, and 116-85B.

Chairman, Doug Crow asks for a motion.

Tim Stroth makes a recommendation to the Town Board to approve the Local Law- 4 2025, 65-6A and 116-85B

Seconded by William Heidt

Upon at vote being taken:

Ayes- 7

Noes- 0

Motion carried

***The digital recording for the remaining minutes is incomplete. The remaining minutes are based on written notes.***

- b. Referral from the Town Board for a recommendation on LL- 5 2025, for a moratorium on rezoning.

Chairman, Doug Crow states at the last Planning Board meeting there was an informal discussion regarding the possibility of a moratorium being approved for any rezoning applications submitted between now and when the Comprehensive Plan has been completed. The Planning Board had split, mixed feelings. No vote was taken. No recommendations were made.

To continue this discussion, Chairman, Doug Crow recognizes that applications submitted prior to the completion of the Comprehensive Plan, potentially could change in final decisions. Opinions may change.

Chelsea Root asks about the length of time to rezone.

Chairman, Doug Crow states it is a minimum of two months.

Angella Griffis states a one-year moratorium would be more realistic depending on changes to zoning.

Chelsea Root states she is in favor.

William Heidt states he would be opposed.

Chairman, Doug Crow states there have been a couple cases in which the Town Board wishes there was a moratorium in place, making it easier to reject those cases until the new plan is in place.

Angela Griiffis is in favor.

Tim Stroth states he would support a moratorium as well.

Chris Contento states he opposes a moratorium.

Chairman, Doug Crow states the Board is still divided.

CEO, Liz Cassidy states a public hearing is scheduled for April 14, and the vote will be on a subsequent meeting.

Chairman, Doug Crow asks for a motion.

Tim Stroth makes a motion to recommend to the Town Board approve Local Law 5 2025, enabling the time to complete the Comprehensive Plan.

Seconded by Angela Griffis.

Upon a vote being taken:

Ayes- 5

Noes- 2 Chris Contento  
William Heidt

Motion carried.

CEO, Liz Cassidy, needed to be excused for the remainder of this meeting. She has requested the DEC Wetland Regulation changes topic be tabled until the May meeting.

Chairman, Doug Crow honors the request.

There is an informal discussion within the group.

Tim Stroth forwards an email to all members for review.

COMMUNICATIONS: none

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

CORRESPONDENCE: none

Chairman, Doug Crow asks for a motion to adjourn.

Tim Stroth makes a motion to adjourn at 8:15 pm

Seconded by Chelsea Root

Upon a vote being taken:

Ayes-7

Noes-zero

Motion carried.

**THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING WILL BE WEDNESDAY May 7<sup>th</sup>, AT 7:00 P.M.  
AT THE TOWN HALL, 575 OAKWOOD AVENUE, EAST AURORA, NEW YORK**