

March 24, 2025

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Aurora took place on Monday, March 24, 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   |
|                 | Karin Dojnik       | Deputy Town Clerk        |
|                 | Paul Ernst         | ZBA Chairman             |
|                 | Rod Simeone        | ZBA Member               |
|                 | Douglas Crow       | Planning Board Chairman  |
|                 | Patrick Welch      | Chief of Police          |

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 Local Law Intro 4-2025, a local law to amend Town Code Chapters 65-6A and 116-85B. Supervisor Snyder opened the hearing at 6:30 p.m. and asked if anyone wished to comment on this local law. Hearing no one, the Supervisor closed the hearing at 6:31 p.m.

The next item on the agenda was a public hearing on Local Law Intro 5-2025, a local law to enact a six-month moratorium on rezoning property in the Town of Aurora. Supervisor Snyder opened the hearing at 6:32 p.m. and asked if anyone wished to comment on this local law. Hearing no one, the Supervisor closed the hearing at 6:33 p.m.

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The Board welcomed Boy Scout Charles Peach who presented his ideas for preventing ambient light from street lights.

Councilman McCann moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the March 10, 2025 meeting minutes; March 18, 2025 work session minutes and the March 24, 2025 Abstract of Claims, consisting of vouchers 331 to 397, to be paid from the following funds:

|                      |                      |                                                                                |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| General              | \$ 403,631.68        | Action #93<br>3/10/25 &<br>3/18/25<br>minutes;<br>3/24/25<br>abstract<br>aprvd |
| Highway/DA           | 37,725.00            |                                                                                |
| Highway/DB           | 64,916.92            |                                                                                |
| Capital/H7           | 32,447.47            |                                                                                |
| Trust & Agency       | 822.46               |                                                                                |
| Special Districts    | <u>\$ 186,238.21</u> |                                                                                |
| Grand Total Abstract | \$ 725,781.74        |                                                                                |

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

AUDIENCE I: none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilman Wrazen moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign a 5-year Agreement for Services with Ronald Engasser whereby Mr. Engasser will plow, rehabilitate and plant timothy grass in the area known as the Mill Road Overlook in exchange for exclusive rights to harvest all hay grown on the property during the term of this agreement. Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five                      noes – none                      Motion carried.

Action #94  
Supv auth to  
sign  
agreement  
for mowing  
etc of Mill  
Rd Overlook

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

Whereas, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has determined that white-tailed deer are overpopulated in the Town of Aurora; and

Whereas, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation recognizes white-tailed deer's role in the deforestation of our landscape and ecological damage, including loss of native plant species and songbirds; and

Whereas, white-tailed deer are known to carry and spread the tick that can transmit lime disease to humans; and

Whereas, over 70,000 car/deer accidents occur in New York State annually; and

Whereas, deer-related crop damage totals over \$59 million annually; and

Whereas, high-density deer populations support the spread of disease and parasites amongst the herds.

Now, Therefore be it resolved, that in order to achieve and maintain a healthy deer population; to promote a healthy and diverse environment; to prevent the transmission of diseases to humans; to reduce the number of deer/vehicle accidents; and to reduce the harm done to farmers, the Town of Aurora declares white-tailed deer a nuisance and intends to bring the deer population back into balance through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Deer Management Assistance Program.

Action #95  
Nuisance  
deer  
resolution  
adopted

Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five      noes – none      Motion carried.

Councilman Wrazen moved to approve payment no. 17 to Azar Design Co. (formerly Foit Albert) in the amount of \$4,778.05 for professional services rendered from January 1 to February 28, 2025 for the East Fillmore Ave., bridge replacement project. Funds will be disbursed from H7 5120.210. Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five      noes – none      Motion carried.

Action #96  
Pynt 17 to  
Azar for E  
Fillmore  
bridge proj  
aprvd

Councilman Wochensky moved to approve payment no. 17 to Azar Design Co. (formerly Foit Albert) in the amount of \$19,162.67 for professional services rendered from January 1 to February 28, 2025 for the Church St. bridge replacement project. Funds will be disbursed from H7 5120.210. Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five      noes – none      Motion carried.

Action #97  
Pynt 17 to  
Azar for  
Church St  
bridge proj  
aprvd

Councilman Granville moved to approve payment no. 3 to Azar Design Co. (formerly Foit Albert) in the amount of \$8,506.75 for professional services rendered from February 1 to February 28, 2025 for the Cornwall Road culvert replacement project. Funds will be disbursed from H7 5120.210. Councilman Wrazen seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five      noes – none      Motion carried.

Action #98  
Pynt 3 to  
Azar for  
Cornwall  
culvert proj  
aprvd

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Granville moved to amend the agenda by adding item 6K – J. Kenefick's National Guard Service. Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five      noes – none      Motion carried.

Action #99  
Item 6K -  
Nat'l Guard  
Svc added to  
agenda

Councilman McCann moved to approve a Temporary Use Permit to the Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper organization for their Annual Spring Sweep cleanup event on April 26, 2025 at the soccer field area of Knox Farm State Park. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five      noes – none      Motion carried.

Action #100  
TUP for Bflo  
Niagara  
Waterkeeper  
cleanup  
event at  
KFSP aprvd

Councilman Wrazen moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign the construction support and inspection agreement with Azar Design Co. for the Church Street and East Fillmore Avenue bridge/culvert replacement project. Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #101  
Supv auth to sign Azar inspection agreement for Church & E Fillmore proj

Councilman McCann moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Architectural/Engineering Consultant Agreement with Azar Design Co. for the Brooklea over Tannery Brook bridge replacement project. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #102  
Supv auth to sign Azar engineering agreement for Brooklea bridge proj

Councilman McCann moved to reappoint David Librock to the Board of Assessment Review for the term 10/1/2024 through 9/30/2029. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four noes – one (Granville) Motion carried.

Action #103  
D. Librock reappointed to B.A.R.

Councilman Wochensky moved to declare a 2014 Ford F150, Vin # ending in 82886, as surplus inventory to be auctioned through Auctions International. Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #104  
Ford F150 vin end #82886 declared surplus

Councilman Wrazen moved to approve the transfer of the Highway shop stipend from Collin Voss to Michael Evens effective 3/29/2025. Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #105  
Hwy shop stipend transferred from C.Voss to M.Evens

Councilman McCann moved to approve the hiring of Hans Ingelfinger, 876 Center St., as a seasonal laborer at a rate of \$17.00 per hour. Orientation will be considered the first day worked. Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #106  
H.Ingelfinger hired as seasonal laborer

Councilman Wrazen moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with Erie County for the \$5,000 funding awarded to the Aurora Senior Center for a new treadmill. Councilman Granville seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #107  
Supv auth to sign agrmt with Erie County for \$5K funding for SrCtr treadmill

Councilman McCann moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Colden allowing the property owners at 8739 Falls Road, PO West Falls, in the Town of Colden to become out of district water customers to the Town of Aurora's Water District 18. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #108  
Supv auth to sign agrmt with Colden for OOD water customer

Councilman Wochensky moved to approve the following budget transfer to correct a budget deficit and replace funds previously transferred:  
From: A1410.105 Deputy Clerk1 \$3,500.00  
To: A1410.413 Contractual \$2,500.00  
A1410.107 PT Help \$1,000.00  
Councilman McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #109  
Town Clerk budget transfers aprvd

Councilman McCann moved to approve extending the time for paying Joseph Kenefick while he is on active National Guard Duty to April 15, 2025 or his date of return, whichever is earlier. Councilman Wrazen seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #110  
J. Kenefick's  
pay extended  
during Nat'l  
Guard svc

#### COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

- Town Clerk/Tax – February 2025 report
- Town Clerk/Water – February 2025 report
- EAPD – February 2025 report
- Comp Alliance Member Loyalty Award letter – Supervisor Snyder stated the Town received a check for \$2,184.00
- Supervisor – February 2025 report

#### BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS/LIAISONS:

Councilman Wrazen stated that those who purchased NEST compost bins will have to pick them up at Erie Community College in early May; the yellow and black trail markers for Majors Park and JP Nicely West Falls Park are ready; and approximately 855 Comprehensive Plan surveys have been received.

Councilman Granville asked if venison donation was part of the deer population program. Councilman McCann responded that it does not require venison donation.

Councilman Wochensky spoke about the Dare to Repair Café and the Green House Gas inventory event at the Aurora Senior Center on 4/7/2025.

AUDIENCE II: none

#### STAFF REPORTS:

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated that there has been a delay with the award of contract for the Church Street/E. Fillmore bridge/culvert replacement project due to the NYSDOT requesting further information.

Police Chief Welch stated there was a vehicle pursuit on St. Patrick's weekend. Chief Welch announced that Charles J. Sergel of Java, NY will receive the Carnegie Hero Award in recognition of his rescuing five-year old Anna Barone from a burning barn on Olean Road in the Town of Aurora on April 17, 2024.

Code Enforcement Officer Cassidy stated she is finalizing the Annual Stormwater report.

Councilman Granville moved to enter into executive session at 7:16 p.m. to discuss a pending litigation matter, with no action being taken during the session. Councilman Wrazen seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #111  
Brd enters  
exec session

Councilman McCann moved to come out of executive session at 7:23 p.m. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #112  
Brd exits  
exec session

Councilman McCann moved to hire Attorney Kevin D. Walsh as outside council at an hourly rate of \$225.00 to respond to the summons served on the Town regarding the Daniel Warmus claim. Councilman Wochensky seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #113  
K.D.Walsh  
hired as atty  
for Warmus  
summons

Councilman Wrazen moved to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Granville. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – five noes – none Motion carried.

Action #114  
Meeting  
adjourned