

Town of Aurora | Town Board Meeting | May 11, 2026

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Aurora took place on Monday, May 11, 2026, beginning at 6:30 PM. The Board met in-person at the Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Avenue, East Aurora, New York. The meeting was live streamed via YouTube.

Present:	Benjamin Garvey Raymond Wrazen Jessica Armbrust Charles D. Snyder	Councilmember Councilmember Councilmember Supervisor
Excused:	Joseph McCann	Councilmember
Others Present:	Richard Miga Douglas Crow Patrick Welch David Gunner	Assistant Code Enforcement Officer Planning Board Chairman Chief of Police Highway Superintendent

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

Before moving into the Consent Agenda, Supervisor Snyder took a moment to review the process for referring to Town officials and staff with their title versus their first name so that anyone attending or accessing the YouTube stream understands who is being addressed.

Of note, there was a technical error for the first 14 minutes of the YouTube live streamed meeting and no audio or video was captured.

Councilmember Armbrust moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the April 27, 2026 Town Board meeting minutes and the May 11, 2026 Abstract of Claims, consisting of vouchers 474 through 545 to be paid from the following funds:

Action #171
4/27 Town Board
min & 5/11/26
abstract approved

General Fund	\$	28,386.36
Part Town Fund	\$	48.57
Highway Part Town Fund	\$	19,199.05
Village Bridge Repairs	\$	52,687.60
Special Districts	\$	742.50
Trust & Agency	\$	364.46
Water	\$	1,029.67
Grand Total Abstract	\$	102,458.21

Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE I: none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilmember Garvey moved to adopt the following resolution; seconded by Councilmember Wrazen:

SEQR RESOLUTION
612 Buffalo Road (SBL#164.00-1-14)

Action #172
SEQR Negative
declaration for 612
Buffalo Rd Site Plan
and Special Use
Permit

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Aurora declares itself lead agency with regard to State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) for the Special Use Permit and Site Plan applications to convert a former restaurant and bar into indoor play and separate party areas, and the outdoor areas to be used seasonally at 612 Buffalo Road; and further

RESOLVED that after considering the action stated herein, reviewing the criteria contained in Section 617.11 of the Rules and Regulations of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, the Code Enforcement Officer determines that the actions are Unlisted actions; and further

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Aurora has determined that these Unlisted actions will result in no significant adverse impacts on the environment, and therefore, an environmental impact statement need not be prepared; and further

RESOLVED that a negative declaration is issued with regard to the Special Use Permit and Site Plan applications to convert a former restaurant and bar into indoor play and separate party areas, and the outdoor areas to be used seasonally at 612 Buffalo Road, East Aurora, NY.

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

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Councilmember Garvey moved to adopt the following resolution; seconded by Councilmember Armbrust:

Action #173
Site Plan for 612
Buffalo Rd
approved

RESOLUTION APPROVING SITE PLAN
612 Buffalo Road (SBL#164.00-1-14)

Whereas, Casey Caldiero/Village Play has submitted a Site Plan Review Application for a former restaurant and bar to be converted into indoor play and separate party areas, and the outdoor areas to be used seasonally for SBL#164.00-1-14 at 612 Buffalo Road, East Aurora NY; and
Whereas, at their April 1, 2026 meeting the Aurora Town Planning Board recommended approval of the site plan; and
Whereas, the Site Plan application and documents were sent to Erie County Department of Environment and Planning for review and issued a no recommendation, determining it to be of local concern; and
Whereas, the Code Enforcement Officer determined this to be an unlisted action under SEQR and the Town Board found that the project will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.
Now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED that the Site Plan for SBL#164.00-1-14 at 612 Buffalo Road, East Aurora, NY, to convert a former restaurant and bar into indoor play and separate party areas, and the outdoor areas to be used seasonally is approved by the Town Board.

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

Councilmember Armbrust moved to adopt the following resolution; seconded by Councilmember Wrazen:

Action #174
Special Use Permit
for 612 Buffalo Rd
approved

RESOLUTION APPROVING SPECIAL USE PERMIT
612 Buffalo Road (SBL# 164.00-1-14)

WHEREAS, Casey Caldiero/Village Play has applied for a Special Use Permit for a former restaurant and bar to be converted into indoor play and separate party areas, and the outdoor areas to be used seasonally at 612 Buffalo Road, East Aurora, NY; and
WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Aurora referred the Special Use Permit application to the Town of Aurora Planning Board for their review and recommendation; and
WHEREAS, the Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that the Town Board approve the Special Use Permit; and
WHEREAS, as an unlisted action under SEQR the Town Board found that the project will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT
RESOLVED, that pursuant to Town Code §95-2B(2) of the Town of Aurora, the Town Board of the Town of Aurora does hereby grant the attached Special Use Permit, including conditions, to Casey Caldiero/Village Play to convert a former restaurant and bar into indoor play and separate party areas, and the outdoor areas to be used seasonally at 612 Buffalo Road, East Aurora, NY.

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

Councilmember Wrazen moved to approve payments with funds disbursed from budget line H7 5120.210 to Azar Design company for professional services rendered January 31 through April 24, 2026; seconded by Councilmember Garvey:

Action #175
Azar payments #25
E. Fillmore, #12
Shearer, #14
Cornwall and #11
Brooklea approved

Pynt #	Amount	Project
25	\$ 963.64	E. Fillmore Ave culvert
12	\$ 8,159.33	Shearer Ave culvert
14	\$19,641.70	Cornwall Rd culvert
11	\$23,922.93	Brooklea Dr bridge

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Garvey to authorize the supervisor to sign the Azar Design project proposal for the Shearer Avenue culvert project; seconded by Councilmember Armbrust. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #176
Supervisor
authorized to sign
Azar proposal for
Shearer Ave
culvert

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilmember Armbrust moved to amend the agenda by adding an Executive Session for a discussion about an ongoing personnel matter in which no action will be taken; seconded by Councilmember Garvey. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #177
Adding Executive Session approved

Councilmember Wrazen moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign the following Polling Location Lease Agreements with the Erie County Board of Elections (BOE) whereby the BOE will compensate the town for use of town facilities for voting; seconded by Councilmember Garvey:

Action #178
Supervisor authorized to sign polling place lease agreements with BOE

Voting Period	Dates	Location	Rent Paid
Early Voting	6/13-6/31/26	Aurora Municipal Center	\$900
Early Voting	10/24-11/1/26	Aurora Municipal Center	\$900
Primary Election	6/23/2026	Aurora Senior Center	\$100
Primary Election	6/23/2026	Aurora Municipal Center	\$100
Primary Election	6/23/2026	Aurora Highway Garage	\$100
General Election	11/3/2026	Aurora Senior Center	\$100
General Election	11/3/2026	Aurora Municipal Center	\$100
General Election	11/3/2026	Aurora Highway Garage	\$100

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Garvey and seconded by Councilmember Armbrust to adjust the hourly rate of Recreation employee Jennifer Breier from \$20.50 as stated in the March 23, 2026 minutes, Action Item 107, to the \$18.50 rate of pay to be in parity with the other civil service titles in the Town's pay rate chart. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #179
Pay Rate adjustment Rec Department J. Breier approved

Councilmember Armbrust moved to approve the hiring of the following as Highway & Parks Seasonal Part-time Laborers with a start date on or after May 12, 2026; seconded by Councilmember Garvey:

Action #180
Highway & Parks Seasonal PT Laborers approved

Seasonal Laborer	Address	Pay Rate
Harlan Randall	1100 Center St, EA	\$18
Benjamin Myers	512 Fillmore St, EA	\$18
Quinn Howard	1268 Blakely Rd, EA	\$18
Nathan Bender	45 Center Ridge St, EA	\$19
Kyle Rosinski	1660 Blakeley Rd, EA	\$19

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

Councilmember Wrazen moved to approve the following budget amendment to record the Dog Control Services for the towns of Holland and Sardinia:

- Add revenue line A 2268 Dog Control Services, Other Governments and increase by \$25,000
- Increase appropriation line A 3510.102 Dog Control Director by \$5,000
- Increase appropriation line A 3510.431 Vehicle Maintenance & Gas by \$1,500
- Increase appropriation line A 3510.101 Part Time Dog Control by \$8,000
- Increase appropriation line A 3510.451 DCO Supplies by \$1,000
- Increase appropriation line A 3510.900 Capital Reserve by \$9,500

Action #181
Dog Control for Holland & Sardinia budget amendment approved

Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes - four, noes - none. Motion carried.

Councilmember Garvey moved to approve the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to perform free hogweed control services in Majors Park. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Armbrust. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #182
DEC approved to perform free hogweed control services in Majors Park

A motion was made by Councilmember Armbrust and seconded by Councilmember Wrazen to approve the following General Fund budget transfer to correct an overdraw appropriation account:

- From: A 9040.8 Workers Compensation: \$36,603.22
- To: A 1910 Unallocated Insurance: (\$4,511.94)

Action #183
General Fund budget transfer approved

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

COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS:

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- A. Town Clerk – Apr '26 Report

B. Town Clerk – Apr '26 Tax Report

C. Town Clerk – Apr '26 New Garbage Report
- D. Highway – Apr '26 Report Calls & Complaints

E. Highway – Apr '26 Report Dog Control

F. Supervisor – Apr '26 Report

BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS/LIAISONS:

Councilmember Wrazen is organizing a June 4 compost summit with the Town, Village, Erie County and Farmer Pirates to explore a kitchen-organic composting pilot program. Residents will be notified and may attend. He also reported that the hemlock trees at JP Nicely Park were sprayed, but annual monitoring is needed. Sharon Bachman a member of the Climate Smart Task force and of Cornell Cooperative Extension will help train Open Space Committee members, with the audit planned for late summer or early fall.

Councilmember Armbrust attended NYAOT Personnel School, covering legislation, contract negotiations, collective bargaining, leave laws, best practices, and a possible deferred compensation option for employees. Councilmember Armbrust feels there is a lot we can do to adopt some of these best practices to move the town forward. In other news, she will attend the next Library Board meeting, which often conflict with Town Board meetings, as liaison.

Councilmember Garvey reported attending Coffee with a Cop, participating in the ACES Trash Mob cleanup, helping place flags at the Veterans Cemetery on Oakwood, and about an upcoming meeting with Sue Russell of the Climate Smart Task Force regarding next steps for the Natural Resource Inventory.

Supervisor Snyder noted Coffee with a Cop was well attended and reported meeting with Chief Welch and Mayor Wochensky about the East Aurora Police & Fire dispatch program.

AUDIENCE II:

Deb Seeber, Village resident and a Town Senior Center van driver, spoke about a threatening incident involving a senior van rider, said she filed a police complaint, and asked that Town employees be protected from threats while working.

STAFF REPORTS:

Highway Superintendent Gunner reported that uncertainty around State budget and Consolidated Local Street & Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) funding is delaying paving plans. Shearer Avenue is moving into design, with an open house expected around June 10. Cornwall is also moving forward, pending Erie County property issues since most of the land is within the boundaries of Emery Park.

Police Chief Welch reported on staffing challenges at East Aurora Fire Control, a future meeting with DEC about deer management, and continued emergency management planning with Disaster/Hazardous Materials Assistant Coordinator Dan Dytchowskyj.

Assistant Code Enforcement Officer Miga reported the office is busy but managing the workload.

Planning Board Chairman Crow had no report.

Councilmember Wrazen made a motion to move into Executive Session at 7:06 PM and it was seconded by Councilmember Garvey. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #184
Enter Exec
Session

At 8:09 PM, Councilmember Armbrust moved to exit Executive Session and return to the general session; seconded by Councilmember Garvey. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #185
Exit Exec
Session

Councilmembers that moved and seconded meeting adjournment at 8:09 PM were not captured. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #186
Meeting
adjourned

Jeanne H. Viger
Town Clerk