

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Aurora took place on Monday, January 26, 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 streamed via YouTube.

Present:	Joseph McCann	Councilmember
	Raymond M. Wrazen	Councilmember
	Jessica Armbrust	Councilmember
	Charles D. Snyder	Supervisor
Others Present:	Brigid Maloney	Town Attorney
	Rich Miga	Assistant Code Enforcement Officer
	Chris Musshafen	Aquatics/Recreation Director
	Paul Ernst	Zoning Board Chairman
	Rod Simeone	Zoning Board Member
	Douglas Crow	Planning Board Chairman
	Patrick Welch	Chief of Police
	David Gunner	Highway Superintendent
	Jeffrey Markello	Town Justice

Supervisor Snyder opened the meeting at 6:30 PM with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The first item on the agenda was a Public Hearing of which there was no topic, so Supervisor Snyder moved on to the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember McCann moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the January 12, 2026 meeting and January 20, 2026 working session minutes, the January 26, 2026 – 2025 Encumbered Abstract of Claims, vouchers 1865 to 1896, to be paid from the following funds:

Action #19
1/12/2026 TB &
1/20/2026 work
session min,
1/26/26 & 1/26/26-
25 enc abstracts
aprvd

General Fund	\$	23,399.62
Part Town Fund	\$	110.11
Highway Part Town Fund	\$	6,566.07
Village Bridge Repairs	\$	122,574.74
Special Districts	\$	77,970.94
Grand Total Abstract	\$	230,621.48

And the January 26, 2026 Abstract of Claims, vouchers 1 to 53, to be paid from the following funds:

General Fund	\$	12,725.14
Highway Part Town Fund	\$	24,068.47
Trust & Agency	\$	293.78
Grand Total Abstract	\$	37,087.39

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

AUDIENCE I: none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilmember Wrazen moved to approve payments with funds disbursed from budget line H7 5120.210 to Azar Design company for professional services:

Action #20
Azar Pymts for
culverts aprvd

Pymt #	Amount	Project	Dates
23	\$ 858.00	Church St culvert	11/29-12/31/25
23	\$ 952.38	E. Fillmore Ave culvert	11/29-12/31/25
11	\$2,252.80	Shearer Ave culvert	11/29-12/31/25
13	\$ 646.59	Cornwall Rd culvert	11/29-12/31/25
10	\$4,855.31	Brooklea Dr bridge	11/29-12/31/25

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

Councilmember Armbrust moved to approve a correction to Action #9 in the January 12, 2026 board meeting minutes. The board approved vacation roll over hours from 2025 to 2026 for Elizabeth Cassidy and Rich Miga in the amount of 12 and 24 hours respectively; this was corrected to 24 hours for Elizabeth Cassidy and 20 hours for Rich Miga. Councilmember Wrazen seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #21
Req for correction
to vac rollover
hours in 1/12/26
minutes (Action
#9)
aprvd

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

Action #22
SEQR negative
declaration for
1073 Davis Rd ODA
adopted

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Aurora declares itself lead agency with regard to SEQR for the Open Development Area (ODA) application for a cold storage addition to an existing building at 1073 Davis 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, determines that the action is an Unlisted action; and further

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Aurora has determined that this Unlisted action 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 Open Development Area application for an enclosed cold storage addition on an existing building on an ODA lot at 1073 Davis Road, East Aurora, NY.

Upon a vote being taken: ayes – three, noes – none, recusal – one
Motion carried. Supervisor Snyder recused himself as the former property owner.

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

Action #23
ODA application
1073 Davis Rd
adopted

WHEREAS, Chapter 99 of the Code of The Town of Aurora establishes standards for landowners who wish to develop or subdivide land that lacks adequate public road frontage for standard lot development (known as "Open Development Area"); and

WHEREAS, Robert Neil Hopkins, Jr. ("the Applicant") has filed an Open Development Area (ODA) application to be able to construct a rear addition on the west side of an existing building on the existing ODA lot at 1073 Davis Road; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant has made a reasonable attempt and effort to comply with specifications of Chapters 99 of the Code of the Town of Aurora; and

WHEREAS, the applications and supporting documentation were forwarded to the Erie County Division of Planning whose response was that the proposed action has been reviewed and determined to be of local concern and they have no recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant applied for and the Zoning Board of Appeals granted the following variances to permit an addition to the existing building on this ODA lot: 55 feet frontage, 2.21 acre lot size, 124.37 feet front yard setback, 21.85 feet side yard setback, 55 feet ingress/egress width 70.04 feet lot width, no driveway bump-outs required.

WHEREAS, the Town of Aurora Planning Board recommended that the Town Board approve the Open Area Development application for 1073 Davis Road; and

WHEREAS, as an unlisted action under SEQRA the Town Board found that this will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Chapter 99 Article VI - Open Development Area of the Code of the Town of Aurora, the Town Board does hereby approve the Open Development Area application for a rear addition on the west side of an existing building on the existing ODA lot at 1073 Davis Road, East Aurora, New York.

Upon a vote being taken: ayes – three, noes – none, recusal – one
Motion carried. Supervisor Snyder recused himself as the former property owner.

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

Action #24
Local Law 4-2025
rezoning
moratorium
extension thru
5/8/26 aprvd

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2025, the Town Board of Aurora approved Local Law 4-2025, Establishing a Six-Month Moratorium on new applications for rezoning requests; and

WHEREAS, Local Law 4-2025 was filed with the NYS Department of State on May 8, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Section 5 of the Local Law states the term of the Moratorium may be extended for up to two additional periods of up to three months each by resolution of the Town Board upon a finding of necessity for such extension; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board approved a three (3) month extension on the Moratorium, which extension is set to expire on February 8, 2026; and

WHEREAS, an additional three (3) month extension is required on the Moratorium to allow more time for the Comprehensive Plan to be completed and adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves an additional three (3) month extension on the Moratorium on new applications for rezoning requests, until May 8, 2026, in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Town of Aurora and to maintain the status quo with respect to zoning code designations.

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

Town Attorney Maloney stated this is the final extension of the moratorium to Local Law 4-2025; if the Comprehensive Plan is not adopted by the end of this 3 month extension, another extension would require a new Local Law.

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

Action #25 SEQR
Lead Agency
declaration by TB
adopted

WHEREAS, the Town of Aurora is in the process of developing a new comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Aurora is duly qualified to act as lead agency and has requested lead agency status with respect to compliance with SEQRA which requires environmental review of certain actions undertaken by local government; and

WHEREAS, the proposed action is a Type I action pursuant to the Rules and Regulations of the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board will forward Part I of the Full Environmental Assessment Form along with the copies of the draft comprehensive plan to Potentially Involved and/or Interested Agencies; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT, RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Aurora declares itself lead agency with regard to SEQR for this action.

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

Councilmember Wrazen expressed his thanks to Town Attorney Maloney, Supervisor Snyder and Code Enforcement Officer Cassidy for their work in helping ensure there aren't further challenges going forward.

Councilmember McCann moved to refer the Comprehensive Plan to the Planning Board for review and comments. Councilmember Armbrust seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #26
Refer Comp Plan
to Planning Board
aprvd

Councilmember McCann inquired about next steps after Planning Board review and commentary. Supervisor Snyder stated that a Public Hearing be set and held and if all goes to plan, the board would adopt the Comprehensive Plan during March 9, 2026 town board meeting. Councilmember McCann was confirming that barring issues, the board should not require a further moratorium extension (and thus a new Local Law) based on the timeline projected by Supervisor Snyder. Supervisor Snyder further clarified that various entities like abutting towns and DEC have 30 days to respond to SEQR. Councilmember Wrazen asked Assistant Code Enforcement Officer Miga

when the SEQR notifications are going out, to which he responded they would be going by the end of this week.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Councilmember Wrazen moved on a request from Supervisor Snyder to add a motion to enter executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss the conduct of an employee to which no action will be taken. Councilmember McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #27
Exec session
added to agenda

Councilmember Armbrust moved to approve hiring Fontanese Folts Aubrecht Ernst Architects, P.C. to provide the construction documents for the Town of Aurora to acquire bids for the work to be performed at the Town Courts at a cost not to exceed \$48,000 as detailed in the proposed contract. Funds will come from the following budget lines:

- \$16,955 – Committed Funds for Building Improvement
- \$31,045 – Fund Balance Assigned for Capital Improvements

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

Action #28
Hire FFAE for Town
Court construction
proj aprvd

Councilman Wrazen moved to authorize the Supervisor and Councilmembers to sign the 2026 Highway 284 Agreement (Agreement for the expenditure of Highway moneys – DB fund). Councilmember McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #29
Sup & Board
authorized to sign
2026 Hwy 284
agreement

Councilmember McCann moved to approve a request for the Town Attorney to prepare a Local Law to increase the Highway Superintendent's salary for providing dog control services for the Towns of Sardina and Holland in the amount of \$5,000. Councilmember Armbrust seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #30
Req for Town Atty
to create local law
for HWY Super
salary increase for
addl't dog control
svcs aprvd

Councilmember Armbrust moved to approve the Highway Department to purchase a new grapple truck in the amount of \$287,012 which is contingent upon adoption of the 2027 budget. Councilmember McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #31
HWY purch of
grapple truck from
'27 budget aprvd

Councilmember McCann moved to refer the Special Use Permit and Site plan review applications for the property at 359 Quaker Road to the Planning Board for review and comments. Councilmember Wrazen seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #32
Refer 329 Quaker
Rd SUP & Site plan
to Planning Brd
aprvd

Councilmember Wrazen moved to approve a Temporary Use Permit to 42 North's Brewski event for attendee parking using Knox Farm State Park Soccer Fields on February 21, 2026 from 11 AM – 4 PM. Councilmember McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #33
TUP for Brewski
parking at KFSP
aprvd

Councilmember McCann moved to authorize Justice Court action for Thomas Hagner, E. Aurora, for an expired building permit at 10 Creekview Court, E. Aurora (Town Code Chapter 65-4(l)). Councilmember Armbrust seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #34 Justice
court for Thomas
Hagner, 10
Creekview Ct
authorized

Councilmember McCann asked Assistant Code Enforcement Officer Miga for clarification about how the process works. Officer Miga stated building permits need to be closed out through the Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Compliance process. This is a new dwelling that requires an occupancy survey and a final building inspection.

Councilmember Armbrust moved to approve the following 2026 budget transfer of \$1,107 for the Town clerk due salary changes:
From: A1410.105 – Deputy 1
To: A1410.413 – PT Contractual
Councilmember McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #35
Town Clerk '26
budget transfer
aprvd

Councilmember Wrazen moved to authorize Supervisor Snyder to sign an intermunicipal agreement with the Town of Colden for an out-of-district (OOD) water customer at 8815 Falls Road. Councilmember McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #36
Auth Supvsr to sign
OOD permit w/
Town of Colden
aprvd

Councilmember Armbrust moved to approve OOD water customer status for Nathan Kalwicki of 8815 Falls Road, PO West Falls, NY contingent upon receipt of the SBL from Erie County and a signed agreement from Mr. Kalwicki agreeing to pay an annual debt service fee to the Town of Aurora. Councilmember McCann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #37 Grant
OOD permit 8815
Falls Rd once SBL &
signed agreement
rcv'd from Kalwicki
aprvd

Councilman McCann moved to set 6:30 PM on Monday, February 9, 2026 at the Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Avenue, East Aurora, as the time, date and place for a public hearing on a site plan application for 50 Center Ridge Road. Councilman Wrazen seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #38 Public
hrng set for 50
Center Ridge Rd
site plan

COMMUNICATIONS and REPORTS:

A. Recreation Director – December 2025 Report
B. EAPD – December 2025 Report
C. NYSDEC – Salt Storage Grant

D. NYAOT – 2026 Meeting Information
E. Supervisor – December 2025 Report

BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS/LIAISONS:

Councilmember Armbrust stated the NYAOT Newly Elected Official training was helpful. Has access to the training materials and happy to share with any interested parties.

Councilmember Wrazen stated there wasn't a January Open Space meeting due to limited agenda items. Dale Morris officially left the committee, but there is a good candidate to fill his vacancy, Councilmember Wrazen will forward the candidate information to the rest of the town board.

Supervisor Snyder thanked Highway Superintendent Gunner and his crew, specifically Mike Ingelfinger for quickly addressing the frozen water line in the municipal center on Monday, January 26. There was further discussion with Superintendent Gunner about the cause and diagnosis of the issue.

On a different topic, Supervisor Snyder stated he's attempted in earnest and expressed difficulty in connecting with Waste Management in order to talk through a change they are initiating to change to supplied refuse and recycling totes sometime in April. He'd like to bring Waste Management in to attend an upcoming board meeting to present this change and have open dialogue with the board. There was board discussion about wanting to ensure we have the correct information in order to properly inform residents about this change. Supervisor Snyder said he'd continue to reach out to his contact at Waste Management.

Finally, Supervisor Snyder expressed it was both a pleasure and honor to attend the West Falls Fire Company installation dinner for the 8th year. He finds it incredible to see the dedication and output from a volunteer fire company as they serve their community.

AUDIENCE II:

Town Justice Jeffery Markello thanked the board for their efficiency at conducting meetings and for approving the court construction proposal. It means a great deal to the Town Court from a safety and security standpoint. He, too, acknowledged that this has been in the works for some time and expressed gratitude for Paul Ernst of Fontanese Folts Aubrecht Ernst Architects, P.C.. While Judge Markello had hoped for more feedback from the Office Court Administration in reviewing the drawings, he informed that office that we'll be proceeding with the drawings as they are.

STAFF REPORTS:

Highway Superintendent Gunner shared that there is a shortage of salt across the country but that we're in good shape for the Town of Aurora and the brine program has made a big difference. In response to a question from Supervisor Snyder, Superintendent Gunner explained when salt is used vs. brine. Due to the extreme winter season, he is expecting a big pothole season in the spring. Highway Superintendent Gunner wanted to inform the board that this is the final item from the grant won. He recommends that we begin preparations for the next grant since they take time to win. Supervisor asked about the plan for the existing grapple truck, Highway Superintendent stated it would be sold with a favorable return expected.

Police Chief Welch stated they've installed the sharps depository at the Police Department with good participation as well as a medication drop box. They've communicated this to the public. The Police Department is in a winter lull with community policing save weather related issues. Police Chief Welch met with Councilman Wochensky last week to review the new platform for CodeRed. Additionally Chief Welch alerted the board to an email based scam by persons attempting to represent themselves as village planning officials requesting money. This too was shared with the public via social media. Finally, Chief Welch thanked the Highway Department for their diligence with keeping up on the roads during snow season.

Councilmember McCann offered a kudos to Chief Welch about how actively EAPD uses social media to keep town and village residents up to speed.

Assistant Code Enforcement Officer Miga shared that he and Code Enforcement Officer Elizabeth Cassidy would be in training for several days the week of January 26, 2026 with the department clerk working abbreviated hours but offering department presence for the public.

Recreation Department Director Musshafen discussed unforeseen cancellation of some events due to the weather. Reviewed upcoming events in the short term and also the work being done in preparation for the 250th July 3 festivities.

Planning Board Chairman Crow indicated that he's been traveling and was unable to attend some meetings. He's looking forward to the February Planning Board meeting where they will discuss the Comprehensive Plan and a few other referred projects.

At 7:14 PM Councilmember Armbrust moved to enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter, with no action to be taken during the session. Seconded by Councilmember Wrazen. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #39
Board enters
exec session

Councilmember McCann moved to come out of executive session at 7:47 PM. Seconded by Councilmember Armbrust. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #40
Board exits
exec session

Councilmember McCann moved to adjourn at 7:48 PM. Seconded by Councilmember Wrazen. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #41
Meeting
adjourned

Jeanne H. Viger
Town Clerk