

Town of Aurora | Town Board Meeting | August 24, 2026

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Aurora took place on Monday, August 24, 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 Joseph McCann Charles D. Snyder Jessica Armbrust	Councilmember Councilmember Supervisor Councilmember
Excused:	Raymond Wrazen	Councilmember
Others Present:	Brigid Maloney Chris Musshafen David Gunner Rich Miga Patrick Welch Douglas Crow Paul Ernst Rodney Simeone Donna Bodekor	Town Attorney Recreation Director Highway Superintendent Assistant Code Enforcement Officer Chief of Police Planning Board Chair Zoning Board Chair Zoning Board Member Senior Center Director

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

Supv. 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.

The first item on the agenda was a Public Hearing on the Special Use Permit application for an expansion of the existing ground mounted solar array and system at 2100 Lewis Road, South Wales, NY. Supv. Snyder opened the hearing at 6:32 PM. Hearing no one, he closed the hearing at 6:33 PM.

Councilmember McCann moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of August 10, 2026 Town Board meeting minutes and August 24, 2026 Abstract of Claims, consisting of vouchers 988 through 1039 and P-Card voucher 1040 to be paid from the following funds:

Action #295
8/10/26 Town
Board minutes &
8/24/26
abstract
approved

General Fund	\$	52,462.10
Highway Part Town Fund	\$	172,452.65
Special Districts	\$	79,234.42
Trust & Agency	\$	773.31
Water	\$	22.89
Grand Total Abstract	\$	304,945.37

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

AUDIENCE I: none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilmember Garvey moved to set September 14, 2026 at 6:30 PM at the Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Ave., E. Aurora, as the date, time and place for a public hearing on a proposed Local Law (Intro 10-2026) to increase the Town Clerk’s salary for assuming the responsibility of the Town of Aurora website. Councilmember Armbrust seconded. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #296
Public Hearing
set for Town
Clerk Salary
increase -
webmaster

Councilmember Armbrust moved to set 11 AM, Thursday, September 3, 2026 at the Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Ave., East Aurora, NY as the time, date and place for a bid opening for Town Court Renovation Project at which time bids will be opened and read. Councilmember McCann seconded. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #297
Bid opening for
Town Court
renovations set

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilmember McCann moved to approve a Temporary Use Permit (TUP) to Immaculate Conception School to use the soccer fields of Town managed side of Knox Farm State Park (KFSP) for school team practice August 25, 2026 through November 1, 2026 on Tuesdays and Fridays from 5 PM to 8 PM. Councilmember Garvey seconded. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #298
TUP for
Immaculate
Conception
soccer practice
KFSP approved

Councilmember Garvey moved to approve the purchase of a new 2027 Ford F550 4x4 Dual Wheel Truck with an 11’ Stainless Dump Body from Delacy Ford, Inc.; New York State Office of General Services contract # PC-68978, in the amount of \$77,568. Funds will be appropriated from DB5130.217 contingent upon funding and

Action #299
Purchase of 2027
Ford F550 w/
Dump Body from
2027 budget

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adoption of the 2027 Town budget. Councilmember Armbrust seconded. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

approved

Councilmember Armbrust moved to approve the purchase of a new Fisher Brand Plow, Salt Hopper and Brine Spray to be installed on the 2027 Ford F550 4x4 Dual Wheel Truck from Kaminski and Sons Truck Equipment; New York State Office of General Services Sourcewell contract # 06222-DDY, in the amount of \$30,148.64. Funds will be appropriated from DB5130.217 contingent upon funding and adoption of the 2027 Town budget. Councilmember McCann seconded. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #300
Purchase of
Fisher Plow &
attachments
from 2027
budget
approved

Councilmember McCann moved to approve the purchase of a 2027 Kenworth T380 Cab & Chassis with Swap-Loader Hook Lift installed from Kenworth Northeast Group of Onondaga County contract # 0010914, in the amount of \$195,387. Funds will be appropriated from DB5130.217 contingent upon funding and adoption of the 2027 Town budget. Councilmember Garvey seconded. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #301
Purchase of 2027
Kenworth T380
Cab &
attachments
from 2027
budget
approved

Councilmember McCann stated that these three purchases were discussed in detail during the August 18, 2026 Work Session.

Councilmember Garvey moved to approve the following budget transfer to prevent overdrawn appropriation account:

- From: A1220.102 Bookkeeper \$10,000
- To: A1220.402 Temporary Assistant to Supervisor Contractual \$10,000

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

Action #302
Rubbish budget
transfer
approved

Councilmember Armbrust moved to approve the following budget transfer to correct overdrawn appropriation account from the Supervisor’s office:

- From: SR599 Fund Balance \$4,208
- To: SR9030.800 Social Security \$4,208

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

Action #303
Supervisor
budget transfer
approved

Councilmember McCann moved to declare two Dell Optiplex 9020 computers (Town inventory numbers 2182 & 2158) and one Dell Optiplex 3050 (Town Inventory number 2701) from the Aurora Town Hall as surplus inventory. Hard drives will be removed and destroyed at a later date. All other hardware will be recycled. Councilmember Garvey seconded. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #304
Dell computers
declared surplus

Councilmember Garvey moved to approve the following budget amendment to pay the Great Lakes Building Systems invoice for the cost of the Brivo Door Security System approved at the May 26, 2026 Town Board meeting:

- Reduce A1990 Contingent Account by \$15,674
- Increase A1620.423 Preventative & Contractual Maintenance by \$15,674

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

Action #305
Budget transfer
for Brivo Door
Security System
approved

Councilmember Armbrust moved to accept the resignation of Benjamin Garvey from the position of Planning Board Alternate effective August 17, 2026. Councilmember McCann seconded. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #306
B. Garvey as
Planning Board
Alternate
resignation
accepted

Councilmember McCann moved to adopt the following Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution for Elected and Appointed Officials:

Action #307
2026 Standard
work day
resolution
adopted

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Aurora hereby establishes the following work days for these titles and will report the officials to the New York State and Local Retirement base on their record of activities of an 8 hour Standard Workday:

Name	Title	Record of Activities
Charles D. Snyder	Town Supervisor	16.87
David M. Gunner	Town Highway Superintendent	22.32
Jessica Armbrust	Town Councilmember	3.98
Joseph McCann	Town Councilmember	7.4
Jeffrey Markello	Town Justice	not submitted
James Granville	Town Justice	not submitted
Robert L. Goller	Town Historian	10.75

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

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Councilmember Garvey moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign an Intermunicipal Agreement for one year effective August 12, 2026 between Erie County and the Town of Aurora where as the County desires to assist the Municipality with funding \$5,000 for Beautification/Landscaping and \$2,000 for Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). Councilmember Armbrust seconded. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #308
Supv. authorized
to sign Erie
County
Intermunicipal
Agreement

COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS:

- A. Town Clerk – Jul '26 Water Report
- B. Supervisor – Jul '26 Report

BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS/LIAISONS:

Councilmember McCann stated that he attended a New York State Comptroller seminar on budgeting, waste, fraud, and abuse and that the training provided useful guidance on budget lines, best practices, and identifying concerning trends. He felt the timing was especially helpful heading into budget season.

Councilmember Garvey attended a briefing on the Niagara and Erie County radiological assessment. The Department of Environment & Conservation (DEC) is surveying areas that may contain man-made radiological materials and contacting property owners where ground-level testing may be needed. He encouraged residents to review DEC information and sign up for updates. On a different topic, Councilmember Garvey promoted the upcoming Dare to Repair Café being held on August 27, 2026, noting 24 people were already registered and walk-ins are welcome. Most household items can be brought for repair, with some exceptions. And finally, he reviewed an update on the food-waste composting program, reporting strong growth in participation between the first and second weeks.

Councilmember Armbrust also attended the radiological assessment webinar and described it as informative further explaining that the assessment relates largely to areas associated with Manhattan Project activity and potentially contaminated materials such as slag. More discussion followed about whether slag had historically been used in local roads or driveways and the distinction between naturally occurring radioactivity and contamination requiring remediation.

Supv. Snyder also engaged in discussion with the DEC regarding the radiological assessments and was told that aerial surveys identified a few locations for additional review. Some readings may ultimately be attributable to naturally occurring radioactive material. He had not received complaints from residents regarding DEC contacting property owners. Regarding the Waste Management cart rollout, Supv. Snyder reviewed key launch points; public information and outreach are underway. Carts will be delivered the week of September 21 with service calendars, trash collection using the new carts begins the week of September 28 and that Waste Management representatives will be available during the first week to address questions or problems. He noted the Town of Aurora is the last municipality in Waste Management's local rollout, meaning the company has already worked through the process elsewhere.

AUDIENCE II:

Jesse Griffis, Town resident, spoke in support of managing the local deer population. Mr. Griffis stated excessive deer browsing is preventing young trees from regenerating and allowing invasive plants to dominate local forests. He argued that deer management should consider the broader impact on forests, plants, and wildlife rather than deer alone. He discussed contraception, predators, and limits on development as alternatives but questioned their practicality or cost. While an imperfect but workable management approach, he supported bait-and-shoot. Mr. Griffis raised concerns about chronic wasting disease and dense deer populations.

STAFF REPORTS:

Highway Superintendent Gunner reported that the food-waste composting program has been easier and less costly for the Highway Department than expected stating participation increased significantly and transporting the collected material has been manageable. He reported hearing that Village Department of Public Works may expand yard-waste drop-off to five days a week after its Saturday collection season ends, but emphasized that he had not yet confirmed the change.

Police Chief Welch reported progress on a law-enforcement technology grant application. The department's newest police vehicle is nearly ready for service and a new police officer will begin the following week. There is an increase in aggressive panhandling, primarily along the Village's Main Street corridor, and said the issue is being addressed. He stated that there is continued coordination on courtroom construction above the Police Department. Chief Welch thanked Legislator Lorigo for approximately \$45,000 in police funding over two years, including dispatch upgrades and funding for e-bikes and a replacement speed-monitoring device. There is a new three-way stop at Center and South Streets, with message boards being used to alert motorists.

Assistant Code Enforcement Officer Miga stated that town and village Zoning Board members attended DEC training on floodplain variances and that the Building Department is developing a policy for fencing within the 500-year and 100-year floodplain areas. Officer Miga expected the policy to be completed within the next few weeks and to clarify what types of fencing may be permitted on private property in those zones.

Recreation Director Musshafen said that most summer recreation programs have ended, although chess camp remained underway. He announced an upcoming 30-hour water safety instructor course for

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teenagers interested in teaching swim lessons. He added that extending the pool season is difficult because many lifeguards and supervisory staff leave for college or return to school athletics. Recreation Director Musshafen thanked the pool staff for the season and recognized departing staff member facility manager Eddie Randall.

Senior Center Director Bodekor thanked Legislator Lorigo for support provided to the Senior Center. She announced a Senior Center Open House on September 14 from 9 AM to 12 PM, along with program registration. She also reviewed her participation in the county's Live Erie task force, including discussions about food insecurity, homelessness, working families, children, and older adults. The Recreation Department transferred senior transportation operations to the Senior Center. She said it has added roughly 15 to 20 hours of work per week and presented communication and scheduling challenges. She thanked Chris and the Recreation Department staff for managing the transportation program and praised the Senior Center staff for managing the additional workload. In closing, Senior Center Director Bodekor reported that the new senior van recently broke down on Route 400, but the issue was minor and the vehicle is operating again.

Zoning Board Chair Ernst & Zoning Board Member Simeone - No report.

Planning Board Chairman Crow - No report.

Councilmember McCann moved to adjourn at 7:11 PM, seconded by Councilmember Garvey. Upon a vote being taken: ayes – four, noes – none. Motion carried.

Action #309
Meeting
adjourned

Jeanne H. Viger
Town Clerk