

TOWN OF AURORA
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, May 9, 2024

The Aurora Town Board met at the town hall on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 7:00 pm. Officers present were Chairman CJ Young, Supervisor I Jeff Toll, Supervisor II Andy Przybyl, Treasurer Melissa Zamzow, and Clerk Ann Mosling. Several residents were in attendance.

Chairman Young called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, and attendees recited “The Pledge of Allegiance.”

The clerk verified that the meeting Agenda was posted on Tuesday, May 7th at these locations: 1) Town of Aurora website (www.townaurora.com), 2) Town Hall board, and 3) Town board located at Midway Gas and Oil.

CJ ascertained that an action item for the discussion of the Olsen Mill conditional use permit was not added to the Agenda for this month’s meeting. Discussion may be had today but any decision must be made at a meeting that is properly noticed to all residents and therefore must be made at the next board meeting after proper notification and posting has been given. The Board, and specifically the clerk who had made this error in the agenda, sincerely apologizes for this error and for any and all inconveniences it may have caused our residents, and for the necessity of having to attend next month’s meeting to resolve any issues and/or recommendations with the conditional use permit. **A motion was made by Jeff, and seconded by Andy, to approve the agenda and proceed with the meeting. Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Andy, and seconded by Jeff, to approve the Minutes from: 1) the Town of Aurora Annual Meeting on April 10, 2024, 2) the Regular Monthly Board Meeting on April 10, 2024, and 3) the Road Inspection on April 21, 2024, and enter them into the official record. Motion carried.

Officers’ Reports:

A) Treasurer’s Report:

The checking account beginning balance for **April 2024** was \$185,219.56.

Deposits: \$19,023.70, including \$24.93 in earned interest

Payments: \$36,097.70, with one outstanding check totaling \$30.16

The month-end cash on-hand balance was \$168,115.40.

YTD Receipts: \$951,854.53 YTD Disbursements: \$1,358,785.49

Missy will check with the bank about the mysterious \$913 deposit they made to the account.

A motion was made by Andy, and seconded by Jeff, to approve the Treasurer’s reports. Motion carried.

B) Clerk:

- 2023 Municipal Financial Report (Form CT) – taxes for 2023 completed and filed
- Annual SLFRF Compliance Report (WI1883) report filed. All funds reported as consumed. Received a notification that the SLFRF will be audited by an IRS agent. Reviewed all copies of invoices included within the “2022-Culverts” project. Ann needs to pull additional invoices for culverts on Cottonville and Cypress roads.
- Fire alarm panel experiencing intermittent alarms “Trouble/Trouble Battery”. Ahern replaced batteries in January and both test good. Discovered panel is not properly charging the batteries as voltage is reading low. Ahern says panel is an old model and cannot get parts. Quote presented to the board. **CJ made a motion, seconded by Andy, to accept the quote to replace the fire panel. Motion carried.**

C) Board

- The town received a letter from Waushara County Zoning Dept stating Olsen’s Mill is out of compliance with the conditional use permit: the issue is loading and unloading trucks after 5pm. Current operational hours are 7am-5pm. Jacob explained that they strictly do not allow trucks to unload at the mill after 5pm. However, he does use the same truck/s for deliveries as other functions of the mill, and he needs to be able to load the truck/s in preparation for the next day’s deliveries before the close of business for the day. It is

this conflict that has caused the process of loading trucks for the next day to occasionally run a little late. Therefore, he is not asking to extend his operational business hours; rather, just an extension to 5:30pm to only load trucks in preparation for the next day's deliveries, which is a quiet gravity-fed process. Further discussion and possible decision will be made at the next board meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 13th to make a change to the conditional use permit or specific addendum for a 1-hour for the loading of trucks for the next day's delivery. Andy will apprise the county zoning dept.

- Nathan appeared before the board to inquire about getting internet access to Auroraville, and the funding designated by the state for it. The town board does not have any jurisdiction over the expenditure of government aid monies or the planning of where Internet-capable cable/fiber will be laid. The board directed Nathan to the State of WI, and provided him with the names of his district representative and state senators.

Business:

1. Discussion with possible decision of dead trees in the road right-of-way and close to power lines on the property of Doug Lane/W135 Cumberland Ave. Update: awaiting quote from Gabe's Top It or Drop It to see how much this will cost.
2. The Town of Aurora's cell tower real estate assessment will be taxable in 2024 according to Andrew Jennings in the county's Land Records Dept. Currently the personal property tax for the cell tower is being paid by Hoosier Towers, but the State has eliminated personal property tax as of 1/1/2024. Some cell towers are exempted from real estate tax if they are used to support the government's emergency communications (which are usually AT&T towers), but ours is NOT because it is classified as a D2 Commercial Property so the value of the tower has been converted to a real estate assessment and we will receive a tax bill. ***CJ will contact Andrew Jennings to have the tower surveyed to create a new tax parcel. The parcel document would identify that property owner TofA is leasing to Hoosier Towers in care of their mailing address so the tax bill would be sent directly to them.*** (as discussed in the BOR)
3. Implement drainage solution of the town hall east parking lot: 1) CJ will have Allie bring a tanker to flush the drain and ensure it is not plugged, 2) Jeff will bring a skid loader to remove the grass berm at the north edge of the parking lot to allow water to flow off the parking lot surface.
4. Quote not received from John Chamberlain to inspect and replace as needed fascia on the town hall to prevent rodents from getting under the siding and into the building.
5. An application for a Temporary Class B Liquor License received from the Berlin River Riders for the annual Truck and Tractor Pull was rejected because the WI Dept of Revenue has updated the liquor license applications and it requires the new applications to be used. Additionally, the Operator's License application for Tyler Polfuss will be reviewed when license payment is confirmed by the clerk. The Board will review both license applications once the new form is submitted and payment for each is confirmed. Ann will contact the Berlin River Riders.
6. Road report: *Current road projects include:* 1) Shorten 36th Ct to the edge of the Allen Chikowski's property and hire Nate Olson/Olson Legal Group at \$250 per/hr to draw up a 60' easement to enable snow removal and traffic to turn around at the end of the road. Project is on hold due to the interference of the County Zoning Dept. 2) Riverdale/Sunset Lane water drainage: dig a ditch and install a culvert along the road right-of-way on Sunset Lane to the property line. 3) Waiting for quote from Gabe's about dead trees in the road right-of-way and close to power lines on property of Doug Lane, W135 Cumberland Ave. 4) Street sign replacement east of Highway 49. *New projects identified in road inspection:* 1) Czech Rd overlay 2) Chicago wedge 3) 2 culverts dropping out on Cumberland Ave. The Board will finish current projects and review the remaining budget at the July meeting before taking on new projects.
7. **A motion was made by Andy, and seconded by Jeff, to approve the scheduled payments. Motion carried.** Checks were signed by CJ and Melissa.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Ann Mosling, Clerk