

**VILLAGE OF EAST AURORA
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
May 19, 2025 - 7:00 PM**

Present:

Trustee Lazickas
Trustee Cameron
Trustee Viger
Trustee Flynn
Trustee Scheer
Mayor Mercurio

Absent:

Trustee Rabey

Also Present:

Maureen Jerackas, Clerk-Treasurer
Shane Krieger, Village Administrator
Patrick Welch, Police Chief
Chris Trapp, Village Attorney
Scott Jakubczak, Streets Foreman
Rich Miga, Code Enforcement

Approx. 125 Members of the public

A Motion by Trustee Viger to approve the Village Board minutes for May 5, 2025, seconded by Trustee Flynn and carried with unanimous approval.

Trustee Cameron moved to approve the payment of Abstract for May 19, 2025 with a total of \$73,344.87 seconded by Trustee Flynn and carried by unanimous approval.

SPEAKERS AND COMMUNICATIONS (I)

- Proclamation for National Public Works Week May 18-24, 2025

National Public Works Week Proclamation

WHEREAS, public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities, and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to public health, high quality of life, and well-being of the people of The Village of East Aurora, NY; and,

WHEREAS, these infrastructure, facilities, and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, who are engineers, managers, and employees at all levels of government and the private sector, who are responsible for rebuilding, improving, and protecting our nation's transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the citizens, civic leaders, and children in The Village of East Aurora, NY to gain knowledge of and maintain an ongoing interest and understanding of the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities; and,

WHEREAS, the year 2025 marks the 65th annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association/Canadian Public Works Association be it now,

RESOLVED, I, Peter Mercurio, Mayor do hereby designate the week of May 18–24, 2025, as National Public Works Week. I urge all citizens to join with representatives of the American

Public Works Association and government agencies in activities, events, and ceremonies designed to pay tribute to our public works professionals, engineers, managers, and employees and to recognize the substantial contributions they make to protecting our national health, safety, and advancing quality of life for all.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A Motion by Trustee Lazickas, to open the Public Hearing at 7:07pm to consider an application from Rachel and William Denz, 863 Lawrence Ave, for a permit to keep other than household pets, for six hens, seconded by Trustee Viger and carried with unanimous approval.
 - The applicant spoke about why she wanted hens. Mayor Mercurio asked if it would be kept clean, and the applicant responded that it would be.A Motion by Trustee Lazickas to close the public hearing at 7:09 pm, second by Trustee Cameron, and carried with unanimous approval.
- A Motion by Trustee Lazickas, to open the Public Hearing at 7:10pm to consider the Site Plan application from Jim Bammel of Bammel Architects, for Bank of Holland at 250 Quaker Rd. The request is to construct an addition and alteration to the north side facade of the building that faces Quaker Rd for an externally illuminated sign, second by Trustee Viger and carried with unanimous approval.
 - The applicant spoke about the project.A Motion by Trustee Cameron to close the public hearing at 7:11pm, seconded by Trustee Scheer and carried with unanimous approval.
- A Motion by Trustee Lazickas, to open the Public Hearing at 7:12pm to consider a permit to maintain 3 dogs for 293 Center St, Melissa and Mark Ramsey, second by Trustee Viger, and carried with unanimous approval.
 - The applicant spoke about wanting to adopt another dog. The Village Board stated that if that dog became unavailable, she had one year to get another dog and submit the new dog's information to the clerk treasurer within one year as the permit is specific to the dog.A Motion by Trustee Viger to close the public hearing at 7:15pm, seconded by Trustee Lazickas and carried with unanimous approval.
- A Motion by Trustee Cameron, to open the Public Hearing at 7:15pm to consider Local Law Moratorium on unnecessary tree trimming in the village, second by Trustee Lazickas and carried with unanimous approval.
 - Village Attorney Trapp reviewed the process of doing a moratorium. Mayor Mercurio discussed changing the wording to only the trees in the right-of-way.
 - Kim McAtee- 440 Girard Ave- She is against tree trimming and reads three letters from other residents who are also against tree trimming in the Village.
 - Jesse Griffis- Chairman of the Village Tree Board- He believes that section 240 needs to be updated and believes all projects that involve trees should be signed off on by the DPW and a liaison from the Village Tree Board. He also believes that there should be a permitting process for the cutting of any Village trees.
 - Jim Clark- 358 South Grove- He read a letter from Cathy Castile, who is against tree trimming, and Mr. Clark is also against tree trimming.
 - Susan Russell-159 Sycamore- She is for the moratorium and spoke about the value of shade trees.

- Chrissy Hoffman- 659 Oakwood (real estate office there)- She is for the moratorium and spoke about the effect of property values.
- Lynn Chimera- 170 Pine St- She is for the moratorium.
- Sam Hoffman- He is for a moratorium.
- Nancy Smith- 195 Sycamore- She is for a moratorium, would like a stronger local law for tree trimming and listed various places with various situations with their tree trimming.
- Kim Deperno- 19 Hamlin Ave- She is for a moratorium and would like more public input.
- Sheila Giblin- 772 East Fillmore- She spoke about a situation on her property. She is for the moratorium
- Ed Cereno- 175 South Grove- He stated that he is with the Buffalo Audubon Society. He supports a moratorium for the birds and insects and submitted a diagram to the Village Board.
- Mary Ann Colopy- HPC Chairperson- She spoke about demolition by neglect. She supports a moratorium.
- Holly Maciejewski- 218 Center- She supports a moratorium. She said that she had an open case with the Public Service Commission, Case # 25-01038, for a cease and desist.
- Jennifer Brazil- 115 Blake Hill Road- She is for a moratorium.
- Zach Goodrich- 533 Prospect- He supports a moratorium.
- Wendy Saglime- 200 King St- She supports a moratorium.
- Bob Sowyrda- 37 Woodside Ave- He supports a moratorium due to the importance to the environment.
- Ashley Curry- 110 Maple- She informed the Village Board how much they should appreciate the residents using their resources to help.
- Tim Noon- 764 Oakwood- Village Tree Board Member- He supports a moratorium and a change in the code.
- Ethan Fry- Center St- He is for a moratorium and would like more transparency from NYSEG.
- Ellen Neumaier- 284 Mill- She is for a moratorium.
- Michelle Biella- 370 South Park Pl- She is for a moratorium. She spoke about the Scenic Bypass.
- Lia Oprea- Sardina NY- She supports a moratorium. She spoke about Springville and the Scenic Byway.
- John Newton- 230 Lap Road- He is for a moratorium and states that more options are available.
- Sue Deprice- 659 Oakwood- She supports the moratorium and spoke about the franchise agreement.
- Holly Maciejewski- 218 Center- She spoke about county roads.
- Susie Jackson- Warren Dr- She thanked the volunteers, asked about underground utilities and supports a moratorium.

A Motion by Trustee Lazickas to close the public hearing at 8:15pm, seconded by Trustee Flynn and carried with unanimous approval. Mayor Mercurio thanked the community for coming out.

PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS

- Discuss the idea of a bait-and-shoot program to control the deer population in the Village.
 - Christine Peruzzini- 439 Center St- She spoke in favor of the bait and shoot program. She said that the Garden Club supports this and spoke of the DEC doing this in other municipalities.
 - Kim Kaiser- 538 Oakwood- She supports the program and states that she was injured by the deer in the Village.

Village Administrator Krieger spoke about the program. The Village would file a permit with the DEC. The program would take place in the winter months at night by police, probably with crossbows. He believes the number of deer is a safety concern based on past events. Village Administrator Krieger said

that the deer killed would go to a butcher shop and the meat would be donated. Police Chief Welch spoke about the officers being a part of the process to make sure it was safe for the residents.

- Joe McCann- Town of Aurora Councilman- He said that the Town only approved the additional doe permits. He stated that this needs to be managed to prevent younger trees from being destroyed by the deer, preventing Lyme Disease, and keeping the deer from dying in inhumane ways.
- Lynn Chimera- 170 Pine St- She supports this program and stated that she recently had four tick bites in her own yard in the Village.
- Jennifer Brazil- 115 Blake Hill Road- She wants the Village Board to remember that deer are not the enemy.
- Bob Sowyrda- 37 Woodside Ave- He wanted to make sure that the meat was not being wasted.
- Jesse Griffiths- 1955 Boise Rd- He stated that he agrees with Joe McCann and supports this program.
- Jim Worth- 172 North St- He is in support of this program
- Donna Fierle- 412 Oakwood- She supports the program.
- Cindy Bojack- Sycamore St- She spoke about a high school grant that the board could look into. Police Chief Welch spoke about the resources and proven program they will follow.
- Sandy Roemer- Brooklea Dr- She spoke about her Lyme Disease. She supports this program and the moratorium.
- Zach Goodrich- 533 Prospect- He asked about the desired deer population, and he supports this program.
- Discuss how to use the Sports Court area in Hamlin Park- Trustee Scheer stated that we currently have two pickleball courts, and the other two were converted into badminton to reduce league play. He said that there are still residents affected by the noise, even though we put in sound barriers and reduced the hours. Trustee Lazickas said that they looked at more options for the area and found that a lot of people support pickleball. He stated that they spoke about maybe additional sound barriers or sound deadening. Trustee Scheer spoke about other options for the courts and got a lot of feedback from the residents.
 - Barbara Jordan- 255 South Grove St- She supports pickleball and believes the park should be locked at night.
 - Dave Jordan- 255 South Grove St- He supports pickleball.
 - Dan Georger- 200 South Grove St- He supports pickleball.
 - Rachelle Francis- 225 Sycamore St- She supports the moratorium and the bait and shoot program. She is against pickleball in Hamlin Park.
 - Kim Hauptman- 407 Prospect- She supports pickleball.
 - Cindy Bojack- 259 Sycamore- She is against pickleball.
 - Zoey Hoffman - 2762 Blakely Rd- She said that she came for the trees, but also supports pickleball.
 - Chris Roller – 473 Griggs Place- He supports pickleball.
 - Steve Chasey- 771 Lawrence Ave- He supports pickleball at Hamlin Park.
 - Leslie Wade- 239 Sycamore- She is against pickleball.
 - Tom Coffee- He is against pickleball.
 - Bill Shanahan- 251 Greenwood Dr- He is against pickleball and suggested shuffleboard.
 - Lisa Hoffman- 1095 Mill Rd- She suggested using sound barrier curtains and she will see if the Tennis Center has some.
 - Jack LaRough- 75 North Willow- He supports pickleball.
 - Paula Zagrobeny- 64 South Willow- She suggested using softer balls and supports pickleball.
 - Colleen O'Connor- 839 Mill- She supports pickleball.
 - Molly Barrie- 525 Linden- She supports pickleball.
 - Sam Hoffman- 775 Martin Dr- He supports pickleball.
 - Nate Wayman- 522 Linden- He supports pickleball.
 - Kelly Zwack - 4117 Blakeley- She supports pickleball

- Bill Smith- 529 Prospect Ave- He supports the moratorium and the bait and shoot. He said he would like pickleball to be quieter.
- Sue Russell- 159 Sycamore- She is against pickleball.
- Nancy Young- 262 Oakwood Ave- She is against pickleball.
- Glen Klein- Underhill Rd-He supports pickleball.
- Amanda Kozarovskis -221 Sycamore- She is against pickleball.
- John Patterson- Lower East Rd, Colden- He supports pickleball.
- Dave Knoll- 579 Crescent Ave- He is for pickleball.

OFFICIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- A motion by Trustee Cameron to Approve an application from Rachel and Willam Denz 863 Lawrence Ave for a permit to keep other than household pets, for six hens was seconded by Trustee Viger and unanimously approved.
- Resolution of the Village of East Aurora of a Determination of Non-Significance pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) in the matter of the Site Plan Application for 250 Quaker Road, for addition and alter the north facade of the building facing Quaker Road, to accommodate an externally illuminated sign.

WHEREAS, the applicant has filed Part 1 of the Short Environmental Assessment Form (SEAF) with this Board, a copy of which is included by reference and made a part hereof, relating to the proposed project at 250 Quaker Road, East Aurora, New York, wherein the applicant, Jim Bammel of Bammel Architects, PC; and

WHEREAS, the Village Planning Commission, after carefully and fully reviewing the application, including the Site Plan attached thereto, with any and all amendments and modifications, and considering comments and documentation presented for and against the project, voted in the majority recommending approval, with findings; and

WHEREAS, the Village SEQRA Intake Committee carefully and fully reviewed Part 1 of the SEAF submitted by applicants including the Site Plan attached thereto, and the above-referenced amendments and modifications; and

WHEREAS, the Village SEQRA Intake Committee, after their review of the above, prepared Parts 2 and 3 of the SEAF with a recommendation of the issuance of the Negative Declaration of Environmental Significance for submission to, and consideration by, the Village Board; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees, upon taking an independent hard look and reasoned evaluation of the above-referenced information, comments and written documentation, including, but not limited to, Part 1 of the SEAF; comments, recommendations, findings and conditions of the Planning Commission, the Site Plan and the recommendation of the SEQRA Intake Committee and that Committee's completed Parts 2 and 3 of the SEAF concerning the potential environmental impacts of the project; all of which are incorporated by reference herein; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board, upon carefully and fully reviewing all the information, comments and written documentation in regard to the project, made a finding that there are no significant environmental impacts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of East Aurora as Lead Agency has determined that the proposed action described in the SEAF, submitted by the applicants, for the site plan proposed to for addition and alter the north facade of the building facing Quaker Road, to accommodate an externally illuminated sign at 250 Quaker Road, as detailed in the Site Plan Application dated March 5, 2025, is classified as an Unlisted Action and therefore issues a Negative Declaration, that this development will not have a significant environmental impact and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be required nor prepared. The foregoing resolution was duly made by Trustee Flynn and seconded by Trustee Scheer and carried on May 19, 2025.

- **Resolution of the Village Board of East Aurora Approving the Site Plan for 250 Quaker Road, applicant Jim Bammel of Bammel Architects, PC, architect for Bank of Holland at 250 Quaker Road to construct an addition and alteration to the north side facade of the building that faces Quaker Road for an externally illuminated sign.**

WHEREAS, an application has been submitted for Site Plan Approval at the above referenced property by applicant Jim Bammel of Bammel Architects, PC,

WHEREAS, the Village Board referred the site plan to the Planning Commission for review, comment and recommendation, and the Planning Commission resolution, recommending site plan approval, with findings and one condition; and

WHEREAS, the Village's SEQRA Intake Committee considered the application and reviewed Part 1 of the Short Environmental Assessment Form submitted by the applicant and completed Part 2 and Part 3 thereof on behalf of the Village, and it was the recommendation of the SEQRA Committee and approved by the Village Board as a Negative Declaration, including that the proposed development plan is a Unlisted Action and would have no significant environmental impact; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board at a public meeting reviewed and considered further the comments and all written materials submitted by the applicant and all other information and recommendations before the Board, including minutes of prior Village Board meetings and the recommendations from the SEQRA Intake Committee and Planning Commission, and the referral and response from the Erie County Division of Planning declaring: No Recommendation; proposed action has been reviewed and determined to be of local concern; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board received and considered the Site Plan, the above referenced upgrades, and any and all amendments thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board has separately considered the environmental impacts of the project, declared itself Lead Agency and issued a Negative Declaration of environmental significance, with the proposal classified as an Unlisted Action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Village Board as follows:

The Findings of Fact of the SEQRA Intake Committee, the resolution with findings of the Planning Commission, and the site plan application, all information included in the minutes taken in relation to the abovementioned Village Board and Planning Commission meetings are herein incorporated by reference, including the following findings of the Planning Commission:

Findings:

The PC takes no position on the signage.

The project does not call for removal of any trees. If trees are removed, the applicant will plant two trees for every one removed.

The project design is consistent with the existing Village Code.

Condition:

PC recommends the applicant provide the Village Board with a rendering of the final project.

The Resolution of the Village Board considering the environmental impacts of the project and the issuance of a Negative Declaration of environmental significance is incorporated herein by reference.

The Site Plan relating to the proposed project at 250 Quaker Road, East Aurora, New York, wherein the applicant proposes an addition and alteration to the north side facade of the building that faces Quaker Road for an externally illuminated sign. existing buildings, as detailed on documents submitted with the application, are hereby approved and is subject to the following additional conditions:

The resolution is effective immediately approving the issuance of a development, construction permit as hereinbefore set forth, subject to compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws and codes.

The foregoing resolution was duly made by Trustee Cameron and seconded by Trustee Viger and carried on May 19, 2025.

- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to Approve an application to maintain 3 dogs for 293 Center St, Melissa and Mark Ramsey with the ability to modify the application within one year if the current dog becomes

unavailable and a new dog is obtained in its place and submitted to the clerk-treasurer within one year, seconded by Trustee Viger, and unanimously approved.

- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to Approve Temporary Use Permit for Baker Memorial UMC- Wendy Mix - Strawberry Festival June 28th, 2025, from 10 am to 3 pm, seconded by Trustee Flynn, and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Cameron, to Approve Temporary Use Permit for Roycroft Campus Corp, Alan Nowicki Roycroft Campus Art and Antique Show on June 28th-29th, 2025, from 10:00 am-5:00 pm, seconded by Trustee Lazickas, and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Cameron, to Set a public hearing on June 16, 2025 for a Special Use Permit, Christopher Sterlace at 77 Knox Rd to operate a BnB in an existing non-conforming owner-occupied two-family dwelling, seconded by Trustee Scheer, and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Flynn, to Set a public hearing on June 16, 2025 for a Special Use Permit, Tony Day at 644 Oakwood Ave General Riley House to continue to operate as speakeasy with light food, outdoor seating, and occasional outdoor music, seconded by Trustee Viger, and unanimously approved.
 - Mayor Mercurio would like the applicant to define what occasional outdoor music means.
- A motion by Trustee Viger, to Set a public hearing on June 16, 2025 for a Site Plan Application, Chris Contento owner of 425-433 Prospect Ave, to add a balcony to a third-floor apartment over an existing bump out on the second floor, seconded by Trustee Lazickas, and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Cameron, to Set a public hearing on June 16, 2025 for an Amended Site Plan Application, Nathan & Chelsea Root of Left Coast Taco at 54 Elm St for the reconfiguration of the patio and parking lot then permanently install the patio at the front of the building, seconded by Trustee Viger and unanimously approved.
- Resolution Granting the State of New York Authority to Perform the Adjustment for the Owner and Agreeing to Maintain Facilities Adjusted Via Satet-let Contract

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation proposes the capital project of

ADA COMPLIANCE AND PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL UPGRADES NY ROUTES 182,
93,104,265,78,952Q AND 39. US ROUTE 20A.

TOWNS OF NIAGARA, LEWISTON, CLARENCE, LANCASTER, AND CHEEKTOWAGA
VILLAGES OF DEPEW, LANCASTER, EAST AURORA, AND SPRINGVILLE
PIN 5815.22, 0265487

in the Village of East Aurora located in Erie County use if not in the project description,
and

WHEREAS, the State will include as part of the above-mentioned project the work to be
done pursuant to Section 10, Subdivision 24, of the State Highway Law, as shown on the contract
plans relating to the project and meeting the requirements of the owner, and

WHEREAS, the service life of the adjusted facilities will not be extended, and

WHEREAS, the State will provide for the adjustment of the above-mentioned work, as shown on
the contract plans relating to the above-mentioned project.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Village of East Aurora approves of the work to be done as shown on the contract plans.

BE IT RESOLVED: the Village of East Aurora will maintain or cause to be maintained the adjusted facilities as shown on the contract plans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Mayor or Village Administrator has the authority to sign, with the concurrence of the Village Board, any and all documentation that may become necessary as a result of this project as it relates to the Village of East Aurora, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the clerk of the Village of East Aurora is hereby directed to transmit five (5), certified copies of the foregoing resolution to the New York State Department of Transportation.

Moved By: Trustee Viger

Seconded By: Trustee Scheer

Vote: Unanimously Approved

- A motion by Trustee Scheer, to Approve Budget Adjustments for the 2024/25 fiscal year, seconded by Trustee Cameron, and unanimously approved.

A.5.3120.0420	Police maint service contract	\$11,000.00	A.5.3420.0110	Dispatch Salary and Wages	\$ 11,000.00
A.5.5142.0470	highway snow removal	\$ 2,000.00	A.5.1620.0420	Buildings- maint & repairs	\$ 2,000.00
A.5.5142.0470	highway snow removal	\$ 5,000.00	A.5.8560.0430	Tree purchase	\$ 5,000.00
A.5.5142.0470	highway snow removal	\$ 4,000.00	A.5.8510.0411	Playground needs	\$ 4,000.00
A.5.1210.0440	Mayor training, travel & dues	\$ 75.00	A.5.1320.0410	Auditor Contract Svcs	\$ 75.00
A.5.1325.0420	Village Admin maint, contract	\$ 51.00	A.5.1325.0200	Village Admin Equipt	\$ 51.00
A.5.1640.0110	Central Garage Salaries	\$ 5,100.00	A.5.1620.0110	Buildings- Salaries & Wages	\$ 5,100.00
A.5.1640.0110	Central Garage Salaries	\$ 6,500.00	A.5.1640.0140	Central Garage Overtime	\$ 6,500.00
A.5.1640.0432	Central Garage Gas	\$ 800.00	A.5.1640.0431	Central Garage Electric	\$ 800.00
A.5.3410.0470	Fire Dept- Janitorial Supplies	\$ 150.00	A.5.3410.0497	Fire Dept- EMS supplies	\$ 150.00
F.5.1990.0400	Contingency Acct- Cont	\$20,000.00	F.5.1380.0410	Fiscal Agent Fee- Fin adv & counsel	\$ 20,000.00
F.5.8310.0126	Water admin Def comp	\$ 500.00	F.5.1380.0410	Fiscal Agent Fee- Fin adv & counsel	\$ 500.00
F.5.8340.0126	Transfs & Dist def comp	\$ 1,500.00	F.5.1380.0410	Fiscal Agent Fee- Fin adv & counsel	\$ 1,500.00
F.5.8310.0440	Water admin training, travel	\$ 615.00	F.5.8320.0470	Bulk Purchase of Water	\$ 615.00
F.5.8340.0200	Transfs & Dist equipt	\$14,000.00	F.5.8320.0470	Bulk Purchase of Water	\$ 14,000.00

- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to Permission to advertise Park Pl waterline replacement and curb bids when the bid documents are ready, seconded by Trustee Cameron, and unanimously approved.

- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to Approve the surplus of bikes listed to be donated to the Rotary Club for the Go Bike Buffalo Organization bike collection, seconded by Trustee Scheer, and unanimously approved
- A motion by Trustee Viger, to Permission for the Mayor to sign a contract in conjunction with the Town of Aurora for Skylighter for the 3rd of July Fireworks, seconded by Trustee Lazickas, and unanimously approved
- A motion by Trustee Cameron, to Permission for the Chief of Police to attend the International Association of Chiefs of Police conference in Denver CO October 18-21, 2025, seconded by Trustee Lazickas, and unanimously approved
- A motion by Trustee Viger, to Permission for the Mayor to sign a contract with the County of Erie accepting \$15,000 in grant funding for SWAT Equipment for ERT program participation, seconded by Trustee Lazickas, and unanimously approved
 - Mayor Mercurio thanked Linsey Lorigo for the grant funding.
- A motion by Trustee Cameron, to Permission for the Mayor to sign a contract with the County of Erie accepting \$7,000 in grant funding for Playground Equipment in Hamlin Park, seconded by Trustee Scheer, and unanimously approved
 - Mayor Mercurio thanked Lindsey Lorigo for the grant funding.
- A motion by Trustee Viger, to Approve new members of the East Aurora Fire Department: Gayle Hutton, Ethan Egloff and Alexander Seybolt, seconded by Trustee Lazickas, and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- Discuss permission to hire DPW summer help program for Tree GIS- Clerk-Treasurer Jerackas explained about the program and said that General Foreman Stoll will use funds from his budget. Trustee Viger asked about the cost of the GIS program, Clerk- Treasurer Jerackas stated that we have already paid for it. Trustee Lazickas asked if we have the budget for it, Clerk-Treasurer Jerackas confirmed that there are funds in the tree budget. The Village Board agreed this would be a good thing, and will vote on the person once selected. The DPW will post the job on our website and interview in the next couple of weeks.

OLD BUSINESS

- Discuss a Local Law Moratorium on unnecessary tree trimming in the Village- Mayor Mercurio likes the idea of a 90 day moratorium and stated that NYSEG is not interested in making a smaller trim box. Trustee Scheer spoke about how other municipalities are in a different situation because they have their own electricity. Trustee Lazickas said we need to bring them to the table. Trustee Scheer agrees. He said that we need to figure this out, the sooner the better. Village Attorney Trapp said that the purpose of this motion is to create local laws to allow tree trimming in the future, but not to negotiate. He said the need for agreement would have to do with the local law. Mr. Trapp said that the Public Safety Commission shows a complaint, but no case order or assignment; it is basically only a petition at this time. It was asked what happens if we need longer than a 90-day moratorium. Village Attorney Trapp stated that we can reexamine the moratorium at the end of the date. Trustee Flynn asked about liability. Village Attorney Trapp stated that they could honor it, they could file a lawsuit in State Supreme Court striking the provisions of the moratorium or they could do what they want, and then the Village Board would have to decide to take action or not.

- **Motion by Mayor Mercurio, to declare the Board of Trustees as Lead Agency for SEQR purposes and after carefully and fully reviewing all of the information with regard to the proposed Local Law setting a moratorium relative to the trimming of trees in the Village and finding no significant environmental impact, hereby issues a Negative Declaration and that a draft environmental impact statement shall not be required, seconded by Trustee Cameron and unanimously approved.**
- **A Motion by Trustee Lazickas, WHEREAS, the Village of East Aurora has been designated as a Tree City based the expansive tree canopy throughout the Village and its overall beauty throughout the community, and
WHEREAS, urban forests have long been recognized as important aspects of any densely populated municipality, and
WHEREAS, trees enhance the property values on the properties upon which they are located and provide habitats for birds and animals in a community, an
WHEREAS, excessive trimming has occurred not for regular maintenance by an existing utility, but rather for capital investments by a third party that wishes to enter the Village for profit purposes, and
WHEREAS, questions exist with respect to the rights of the respective parties to engage in such work in the Village, and
WHEREAS, the preservation of historic districts within the Village such as Roycroft, Fillmore Avenue, and East Main Street, as examples, is critical to the life and fabric of the Village, and
WEHREAS, there is an economic value to the Village which has been used on multiple occasions for purposes of movie and other theatrical productions which may be harmed by virtue of the unwarranted destruction of the tree canopy in the Village, and
WHEREAS, the safety of the residents and property within the Village of East Aurora is of paramount importance, and
WHEREAS, there exists provisions in the Village Code addressing Historic Preservation which must be aligned with this most recent action,
NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Village of East Aurora, acting in the best health and safety interests of the residents and property owners of the Village hereby suspends the further trimming of trees by any entity within the Village limits within the Village right of way, except for emergency purposes and then only upon prior notice to the Village, and declares a 90 day moratorium on the trimming of any trees within the right of way owned by the Village in the Village of East Aurora pending further recommendations from the Code Enforcement Office, the Village Administrator, the Village Attorney, and the development of a local law pertaining to same, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village shall re-examine the continuation of the moratorium at the completion of this initial period in order to fully and adequately protect the residents of the Village, seconded by Trustee Cameron and unanimously approved.**

- Discuss the Bait and Shoot Program- Mayor Mercurio asked about the cost of materials to execute the program and stated that we need numbers on that. Village Attorney Trapp suggested calling West Seneca to see what was their cost.
- Discuss the Sports Courts at Hamlin Park- Trustee Lazickas will talk to South town's Tennis. Trustee Flynn and Scheer agree that residents shouldn't have to live like this. The Village Board discussed different options and agreed that we need to try new sound mediators. They discussed using quieter balls and beefing up poles to remediate sound. Mayor Mercurio said that they will put up one net with quieter balls and see if that helps. He said that they are trying to find a balance and a fair solution.

SPEAKERS AND COMMUNICATIONS (II)

- Kimberly McAtee- 440 Girard- She wanted to thank the EA Fire Dept for coming to the preschool, she said that Tom Morris and Aaron Denz were so delightful.
- Jesse Griffis- Village Tree Board- He wanted to thank the Village Board. He asked who would be notifying the parties involved. Village Attorney Trapp stated that he will work with Shane to let the parties involved know.

Department Head and Trustee Reports

Police Chief – none

Streets Foreman – He stated that the DPW is patching roads, redoing the ball diamonds, and is working on the new bathrooms at the park.

Code Enforcement – He stated that the mailers for all fire inspections for multifamily units. He stated that musicfest venues are getting done. Mayor Mercurio asked about the fire inspection process and if the Air BnB's are still being watched. He confirmed the process and stated that they are still watching the Air BnB's.

Village Administrator- He spoke about the Hallmark movie being filmed in East Aurora and that there will be certain parts of the streets closed for a day in June, recreating Carolcade. He said that they will pay for any overtime and that the fake snow is safe.

Clerk Treasurer- none

Trustee Viger- none

Trustee Rabey- none

Trustee Scheer- none

Trustee Cameron – none

Trustee Lazickas- none

Mayor Mercurio- none

EXECUTIVE SESSION-

- A motion by Trustee Lazickas to open an executive session at 10:52pm Negotiation of a contract providing professional services, seconded by Trustee Cameron, and unanimously approved.
A motion by Trustee Lazickas to close the executive session at 10:58pm, seconded by Trustee Rabey and unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Trustee Viger to adjourn the meeting at 10:59pm. Seconded by Trustee Lazickas and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Jerackas
Village Clerk-Treasurer