

**VILLAGE OF EAST AURORA
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
February 2, 2026 – 7:00 PM**

Present:

Trustee Lazickas
Trustee Cameron
Trustee Viger
Trustee Scheer
Trustee Rabey
Mayor Mercurio

Absent:

Trustee Flynn

Also Present:

Maureen Jerackas, Clerk-Treasurer
Shane Krieger, Village Administrator
Patrick Welch, Police Chief
Jeff Stoll, General Foreman
Joe Trapp, Deputy Village Attorney
Elizabeth Cassidy, Code Enforcement Officer
36 Members of the public

A Motion by Trustee Cameron to approve the Village Board minutes for January 20, 2026, seconded by Trustee Rabey and carried by unanimous approval.

A Motion by Trustee Viger to approve the payment of Abstract for February 2, 2026, with a total of \$156,455.00, seconded by Trustee Scheer and carried by unanimous approval.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A Motion by Trustee Lazickas to Open a Public Hearing at 7:03pm to Consider an application for 270 Buffalo Rd, Knox Mansion, as part of Stonegate, to consider making it a local landmark, seconded by Trustee Scheer and carried with unanimous approval.
 - Mary Ann Colopy- HPC Chairwoman- She spoke about Village Law Code 156, since the 1980's and reviewed the criteria to get the local landmark designation. She spoke about Henry and Seymore Knox and that the building was restored in the 1980's when it became the condo association. She spoke about the architect and the land is over 50 years old. Mayor Mercurio asked if there are 86 owners of Stonegate, Mary Ann Colopy did not know. Mayor Mercurio asked if Stonegate requested Local Landmarking or if the HPC did it on their own. Mary Ann Colopy said that a resident came to the HPC meeting with concerns and the HPC filed the application because of that. Mayor Mercurio asked if the Local Landmarking was the only way to keep the building from being demolished and he asked if the HPC would have to weigh in before it was demolished because it's over 50 years old. Mary Ann Colopy said yes, but that there would be further safeguards with this local landmark designation in place and spoke of some other things that would need approval if changes were made. Mayor Mercurio asked if the expense to repair the building would be more under this designation. Mary Ann Colopy explained how repairs would have to use items that needed to be the same or similar to what was already there. She also said that they can apply for grants from SHPO, and she said that the HOA

would have to see if they qualify. Deputy Village Attorney Trapp said that he would look into getting the information to see if an HOA like Stonegate would qualify. Mayor Mercurio asked if 100% of people needed to vote for any demolition to go through, Mary Ann Colopy said yes and added comments about demolition by neglect.

- Rachel Krajewski- 16 Church and 670 Main- She said that she is a supporter of historic preservation, but believes that it should be voluntary for property owners to become a local landmark.
- Mason Winfield- 360 Buffalo- He is opposed to the destruction of historic architecture. He spoke about the vast history of East Aurora. He said that the building should be preserved and not even considered for demolition.
- Mark Jans- 270 Buffalo Road- He said that he is on the HOA Board for Stonegate and thinks this whole situation is being blown out of proportion. He said that if they were put on the national registry, the costs for the owners would escalate. He said that the Knox mansion is a great facility but it needs to be maintained and something needs to be done with it.
- Matthew Oreskovic- 270 Buffalo Road- He said that there was a vote by mail and the demolition was voted down. He asked if there was grant money available to maintain the property. He said that the building needs upgrades and upkeep and wanted to see if there was a way to work with the town and other organizations to help with that.
- Tom Collins- 270 Buffalo Rd, unit #36- He believes that it should be up to ownership to decide if they want to become a local landmark
- Lisa Lubozynski- 270 Buffalo Rd, unit #80- She supports the landmark status for the mansion and has concerns that anyone can tear the building down. She spoke about how the HOA is more like a business and thinks that the residents are not in favor because they don't understand.
- Kirk Colopy- 365 South Grove- He spoke about the price house and how they were marked for demo and how they were made a local landmark. Mayor Mercurio spoke about how Trustee Scheer helped to get that done and prevented demolition by neglect. Kirk Colopy spoke about this situation to note a history of designation without applying. He suggested using the building to make more units to help pay for the upkeep of the mansion and that he supports this being a landmark.
- Mary Ann Colopy- HPC Chairwoman- She noted that Rachel is a business owner and she pays people to do her paperwork for her but the residents do their own COA and it costs them nothing. Rachael Krajewski said that she does her own paperwork.
- Sarah Orca- 206 Greenwood Dr- She said that her mother lives at Stonegate and her book club uses the mansion. She said that she would support fundraising for this.
- Kathy Youngs- 270 Buffalo Rd- She said that she worked for CTG in another Knox Mansion downtown and believes that there has to be a way to find a purpose for this mansion without tearing it down. She said that the residents learned about the historical factor after the fact.
- Mayor Mercurio said that more has to be looked into in order to find a way to sustain this. Trustee Scheer commented on the condo suggestion. Trustee Lazickas shared memories and other ideas. He said that he is glad others showed up to talk about this. Deputy Village Attorney Trapp that anything that you want to make public record should be submitted to the clerk.

A Motion by Trustee Rabey to close the public hearing at 7:50 pm, seconded by Trustee Lazickas, and carried with unanimous approval.

- A Motion by Trustee Lazickas to Open a Public Hearing at 7:50pm to Consider a local law to amend the Village Code Chapter §214 Solid Waste, seconded by Trustee Viger and carried with unanimous approval.
 - Clerk Treasurer Jerackas said that the only change is to add the ability for residents to get a garbage tote and/or a recycling tote but only one. She said that they are looking for a fee of \$150 per tote per year or \$300 per set per year. She said that the rest of the changes are for clarification and not to change the current process
- A Motion by Trustee Viger to close the public hearing at 7:52pm, seconded by Trustee Lazickas, and carried with unanimous approval.

OFFICIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to approve a local law to amend the Village Code Chapter §214 Solid Waste, seconded by Trustee Rabey, and duly put to a roll call vote, which resulted in the following:
Trustee Lazickas - Aye
Trustee Cameron - Aye
Trustee Scheer – Aye
Trustee Viger- Aye
Trustee Rabey- Aye
Mayor Mercurio – Aye
 - Mayor Mercurio asked about the residents’ ability to get extra small totes. Clerk-Treasurer Jerackas said that only the 96-gallon totes will be available.
- A motion by Trustee Rabey, to approve setting the fee for the extra tote at \$150 per year for property owners only, seconded by Trustee Lazickas, and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to Approve a Temporary Use Permit, Anthony Amabile II, Riley Street Station, for EA St. Patrick’s Party at Riley Street Station on March 21, 2026, from 2 pm to midnight in their parking lot at 27 Riley Street, seconded by Trustee Scheer, and unanimously approved.
 - Trustee Cameron asked about the 3-on-3 tournament taking place at the rink that day. The applicant said that he knew about it and didn’t think it would be a problem. He said that they submitted an updated map of the parking lot. He said the setup would be similar to Musicfest, and they have never had a problem. He said that they will have amplified music from 1-8:30pm, but their special use permit allows them to have it until 10. He said that he met with all the department heads on Friday and talked about having a snow fence put up. He said that they will recycle and clean up that night. Mayor Mercurio asked Police Chief Welch if he had any issues. The Chief said that he did not because they already met and discussed.
- A motion by Trustee Cameron, to Refer a Special Use Permit application to the Planning Commission for Erin Redding and Zachary Goodrich at 533 Prospect Ave. for a detached garage ADU, seconded by Trustee Viger, and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to approve a Temporary Use Permit for Bunny Hop 5K Rotary Club-Sean Cunningham April 4th, 2026 from 7 am–3 pm, seconded by Trustee Rabey, and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Viger, to Temporary Use Permit, Hamlin Park for the Kiwanis Club of EA for a Chicken BBQ, Sean Cunningham, June 3rd, 2026 from 8 am–9 pm, seconded by Trustee Cameron, and unanimously approved.

- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to Approve Budget Adjustments for the 25/26 fiscal year, seconded by Trustee Viger, and unanimously approved

Budget Transfers	2025-2026				
FROM			TO		
A.5.1990.0400	CONTINGENCY	\$35,000.00	A.5.1420.0411	VILLAGE ATTY- OTHER LEGAL COUNSEL	\$ 35,000.00
A.5.1480.0410	PUBLIC INFO SVCS	\$ 2,000.00	A.5.1320.0410	AUDITOR- CONTRACT SVCS	\$ 2,000.00
A.5.1620.0470	BUILDINGS- DEPT SUPPLIES	\$ 450.00	A.5.1620.0420	BUILDINGS- MAINT & REPAIRS	\$ 450.00
A.5.1640.0470	CENTRAL GAR- DEPT SUP	\$ 600.00	A.5.1640.0490	CENTRAL GAR- CONTRACT SVCS	\$ 600.00
A.5.1950.0400	SPL ASSETS- OPER EXP	\$ 8,400.00	A.5.1950.0410	SPL ASSETS- DISTRICT 8 SEWER	\$ 8,400.00
A.5.8560.0430	SHADE TREES- TREE PRCH	\$ 400.00	A.5.8560.0420	SHADE TREES- MAINT & REPAIR	\$ 400.00
F.5.1990.0400	CONTINGENCY	\$ 90.00	F.5.1950.0410	SPL ASSETS- DISTRICT 8 SEWER	\$ 90.00
F.5.1990.0400	CONTINGENCY	\$13,000.00	F.5.8340.0420	TRANSFS & DIST- MAINT & REPAIRS	\$ 13,000.00
F.5.8340.0126	TRANS & DIST- DEF COMP	\$ 300.00	F.5.8340.0125	TRANS & DIST- LONGEVITY	\$ 300.00
A.51990.0400	CONTINGENCY	\$ 2,500.00	A.5.1440.0410	ENGINEERING SVCS- ENGINEERING	\$ 2,500.00

- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to Approve a Temporary Use Permit for Meaghan Tent, Town of Aurora, for the Town Summer camp, sports, and theater programs, seconded by Trustee Scheer, and unanimously approved
- A motion by Trustee Rabey, to Consider appointing the following to the position of Part-time Public Safety Dispatchers pending a successful background check:
 Ian Schrader, 296 Parkdale Ave, East Aurora, NY, effective 02/10/26
 Kaitlyn Keller, 6350 Seneca Street, Elma, NY, effective 02/11/26.
 seconded by Trustee Lazickas, and unanimously approved.
 - Police Chief Welch spoke about change over and the need for new dispatchers.

NEW BUSINESS

- 30 Day Liquor notice for the nail salon at 134 Grey Street- The Village Board and Code Enforcement agree that they need more information from the applicant. Mayor Mercurio asked Clerk-Treasurer Jerackas to follow up with the owner.

Speakers & Communications (II)

- Kirk Colopy- 365 South Grove- He thanked Trustee Scheer for what he did for the Price house. He spoke about a saying from an old HPC chair that said “HPC leads the willing”. He spoke about the need to oppose the owners wishes and also said that the HOA doesn’t have a unanimous vote.

Department Head and Trustee Reports

Police Chief– He said that this is his quiet time of year and that police department is working on annual trainings. He said that they had a minor police car accident. He said that the sharps depository in the lobby of the police station is now a medication drop off as well.

General Foreman- He said that the DPW has been busy the past 2 weeks with snow, ice and water leaks. He said that the sidewalk plow has been a great addition and that the DPW is still good on salt. Trustee Lazickas asked why we use salt and not cinders. General Foreman Stoll responded that the cinders plug up the storm sewers.

Code Enforcement Officer- none

Village Administrator- none

Village Clerk-Treasurer- She said that her and Village Administrator Krieger met with PESH and they did a walk through that went well. She said the new Facebook page is up and running. She said that the Village notified Waste Management that they made a mistake on the recycling dates on the mailer and Waste Management said that they will be sending new mailers to the residents with corrections. She also said that the information was posted on the website and Facebook. She said that she is currently interviewing for the part time clerk position.

Trustee Viger- She thanked General Foreman Stoll and the DPW for the great upkeep in regard to the storms. She also asked about the snow pile in the median by McDonalds, General Foreman Stoll said that the state takes care of that but he will make a call.

Trustee Rabey- none

Trustee Scheer- He said that he has heard many compliments from residents about the sidewalk plow and the person driving it and wanted to pass that on to General Foreman Stoll and the DPW.

Trustee Cameron- She reminded everyone about the budget meeting on Saturday morning at 8:30am in the boardroom.

Trustee Lazickas- He thanked General Foreman Stoll and the DPW for all their hard work. He also wanted to remind everyone that there is a parks committee meeting this Wednesday at 7pm in the conference room.

Mayor Mercurio- He thanked the DPW for all their hard work keeping up with the weather. He said that people really love the sidewalk plow and the capital plan made that happen. He suggested letting your faucets drip at night during this really cold weather to try and prevent bursting pipes. He said that he would like to see some sidewalks north of South Street and on the west side of Buffalo Road. He asked General Foreman Stoll to look into what would be involved in getting that done.

Mayor Mercurio announced his candidacy for re-election for Mayor of East Aurora. He said that he loves this Village and is thankful to have the trust of the residents.

Trustee Scheer announced his candidacy for re-election for Village Board Trustee and said that it is an honor to serve on this Board and loves serving his community.

Trustee Lazickas asked if the wall at Knox Farm can be fixed and if we can look into that. He also said that the farmhouses in town need to be fixed to prevent demolition by neglect. Mayor Mercurio spoke about the walls at Geneseo and the Roycroft and how they received funds via fundraisers and politicians. Trustee Scheer spoke about the history of the wall.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Viger to adjourn the meeting at 8:26pm. Seconded by Trustee Lazickas and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Jerackas
Village Clerk-Treasurer