

VILLAGE OF EAST AURORA VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

March 16, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Present:

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

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
22 Members of the public

A Motion by Trustee Rabey to approve the Village Board minutes for March 2, 2026, seconded by Trustee Flynn and carried by unanimous approval.

A Motion by Trustee Cameron to approve the payment of Abstract for March 16, 2026, with a total of \$61,343.39, seconded by Trustee Scheer and carried by unanimous approval.

SPEAKERS & COMMUNICATIONS (I)

- Tim Noon- 764 Oakwood- He said that the Village Tree Board is planning for the Arbor Day celebration at the High School. He said that there will be a proclamation for the Mayor to sign and invited all of the Trustees. Mayor Mercurio said that he loves going to the Arbor Day celebration.
- Nancy Smith- 195 Sycamore- She said that she respects and appreciates everything the Village Board is doing and all the time they give. She said three cheers and thanked Trustee Flynn and Trustee Viger for their service on the Village Board. She said that during a budget meeting that she attended, Trustee Flynn said that a proposal from Bradley Tree needs to happen and Mrs. Smith appreciated that. She also had a question about the tree management plan. General Foreman Stoll said that the Village is going to get some training from Jarrod on a maintenance program for young trees. Mayor Mercurio noted that General Foreman Stoll is going back to be an arborist himself and how beneficial that will be for the Village.
- Jesse Griffis- Chairperson for Village Tree Board- He said that he would like Hamlin Park to get its own dedicated line in the budget for tree maintenance. General Foreman Stoll said that his plan is to maintain newly planted trees around April or May of every year. Mr. Griffis asked when the GIS would be finished for the trees. General Foreman Stoll said that he is thinking it will be done by mid-summer and that he is working with the website to try to make it a little easier to manage. Mr. Griffis said that he would like a stamp of approval on the inventory by the Village Arborist so it would be suitable for grants later.

- Holly Maciejewski- 218 Center- She thanked Trustee Flynn and Trustee Viger for all they have done with the Village Board. She wanted to verify if a meeting happened with NYSEG about the trees. Village Administrator Krieger said that the Village has one scheduled. Mayor Mercurio noted that there are agreements with NYSEG that are currently with the Village Attorney. She asked if NYSEG was providing some sort of financial restitution to the Village, Village Administrator Krieger said that they have not heard anything about that.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A Motion by Trustee Cameron to Open a Public Hearing at 7:15pm to Consider a Moratorium on the development of any self-storage facilities, seconded by Trustee Rabey and carried with unanimous approval.
 - Code Enforcement Officer Cassidy said that this moratorium has been requested by members of the Village Planning Commission. She said that they are concerned about the fact that in the village, we're only allowed to place self-storage facilities in our manufacturing districts, which are fairly limited. She said that when the last self-storage facility went in over on Commerce Way, there were members who felt that this was not the best and highest use of a manufacturing parcel, and they would like to put a moratorium in place in order to re-evaluate this type of use within the village entirely.

A Motion by Trustee Lazickas to Close a Public Hearing at 7:16 pm to Consider a Moratorium on the development of any self-storage facilities, seconded by Trustee Viger, and carried with unanimous approval.

OFFICIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to approve the Temporary Use Permit for Heart of Music Festival, June 13, 2026 starting as early as 1pm with the Aurora Ice Rink ending music at 10pm with the venue closing at 11pm and everyone else ending music at 9pm and closing at 10pm, pending an approved Certificate of Liability Insurance (To the clerk at least a month prior) and the approved Part 18 paperwork from Erie County. (to the clerk by noon the Friday before), seconded by Trustee Rabey, and was unanimously approved.
 - Trustee Lazickas said that he spoke to the AIA and they did not want the later closing time of midnight.
- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to approve a Temporary Use Permit for Peggy Cooke, Aurora Ice Association, Inc., for the East Aurora Classic Market, 115 Riley Street, from 7 am-1 pm Wednesdays and Saturdays from May until November, with alcohol for tasting only and selling of bottled alcohol without the intent to consume on site with all proper approvals from the State and Local authorities, seconded by Trustee Flynn, and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to approve a Temporary Use Permit for Jamie Dingro, EA Famers Market, 115 Riley Street, from 7 am-1 pm Wednesdays and Saturdays from May until November, with alcohol for tasting only and selling of bottled alcohol without the intent to consume on site with all proper approvals from the State and Local authorities, seconded by Trustee Cameron, and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Rabey, to approve a Temporary Use Permit for Jerrica Hinman, Hometown Market EA, 54 Elm Street & 644 Oakwood, monthly on Thursdays from 4pm-7pm & Sundays from 10am-2pm from May to October, seconded by Trustee Scheer, and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Cameron, to approve a peddler solicitor permit for Michael Yohe to operate a horse-drawn carriage, seconded by Trustee Lazickas, and unanimously approved.

- A motion by Trustee Cameron, to refer to the Planning Commission on April 7, 2026 the Site Plan application from Roger Andrews of Sestor Properties at 47 Elm Street to revitalize the existing lot into a multi-use commercial retail, and office building, seconded by Trustee Viger, and unanimously approved.
- I, Mayor Mercurio, appoint Joshua Best to replace Ray Byrnes on the Historic Preservation Commission for the term to expire April 5, 2027 pursuant to Village Code Chapter 156; and duly put to a roll call vote which resulted in the following:
Trustee Lazickas - Aye
Trustee Flynn - Aye
Trustee Cameron - Aye
Trustee Scheer – Aye
Trustee Viger- Aye
Trustee Rabey- Aye
Mayor Mercurio – Aye
 - Mayor Mercurio said that he appreciates all the time and effort Ray spent volunteering with the HPC.
- A motion by Trustee Viger, to set a public hearing April 20, 2026 for Special Use Permit application Erin Redding and Zachary Goodrich at 533 Prospect Ave. for a detached garage ADU, seconded by Trustee Lazickas, and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to set a public hearing April 20, 2026 for Special Use Permit application from James Boglioli of Benderson Development for Five Below at 123 Grey St. The proposal is for staging merchandise outside of their storefront, seconded by Trustee Rabey, and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Cameron, to give permission for the mayor to sign an MOU with the PBA, seconded by Trustee Rabey, and unanimously approved.
- **MODIFY 2025/2026 BUDGET** March 16, 2026
Trustee Flynn, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:
BE IT RESOLVED, the Clerk–Treasurer is hereby authorized to modify the 2025/2026 Budget in the following manner:
Revenue – Appropriated Fund balance - \$ 60,000
Expenditures –
Parks and Recreation Maintenance and Repairs 5.7140.0420 - \$60,000
Arborist Hamlin Park trees

Revenue – Appropriated Fund balance - \$ 196,000
Expenditures –
Street maintenance Equipment 5.5110.0200 - \$196,000
Move DPW reserve money already approved to spend into the budget

The following resolution was seconded by Trustee Cameron and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Cameron, to Consideration to approve the use of the Village Arborist for tree care in Hamlin Park. This work includes pruning and general care, seconded by Trustee Rabey, and unanimously approved.

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

Budget Transfers	2025-2026				
FROM			TO		
A.5.3120.0126	Police Deferred Comp	\$ 900.00	A.5.3120.0125	Police Longevity	\$ 900.00
A.3420.0130	Dispatch Part time	\$15,000.00	A.5.3420.0140	Dispatch OT	\$ 15,000.00

- A motion by Trustee Lazickas, to give permission to advertise for the RFP for the feasibility study once the documents are ready, seconded by Trustee Scheer, and unanimously approved.
- A motion by Trustee Rabey, to give permission for the Mayor to sign an agreement with AMR for Emergency Medical Services, seconded by Trustee Lazickas, and unanimously approved
 - Village Administrator Krieger reviewed the agreement with AMR and said that it's a 3% steady yearly increase versus a variable rate.

Speakers & Communications (II)

- Suzanne Mercurio- 129 Center Street- She thanked all of the department heads and the Village offices for all they do to make East Aurora the best village. She gave her best wishes to Trustee Viger and Trustee Flynn and said they would be missed. She thanked Mayor Mercurio for making East Aurora the wonderful place it is to raise their family and that she is very proud of him.

Department Head and Trustee Reports

Police Chief– He said that the new officer started today and said that he is very happy with the progress that the three new part-time dispatchers are making. He said that he has become a part of the Erie Crime Analysis Board. He thanked the DPW for all their hard work at the police station. He said that his officers have been attending trainings involving mental health and drug-involved death investigations. He said that the burn ban starts today and ends May 14. He said that he visited both cannabis shops in town to check security footage, and both are running well. He said that there have been questions about the camera on Main Street, which the police department has utilized in the winter, and will be moving the camera back to Hamlin Park when the weather allows.

General Foreman- He said that the DPW has been chipping brush early due to the storm damage, and let the residents know to put their brush out. He said that they have been cold patching the road and that they opened up yard waste on Fridays from 7 am-2 pm. He said that he met with Lucas from Parkitects to get going on the playground grant coming up in May for New York Plays. He said that Lucas is going to give him some layouts and designs, and also come to the next Hamlin Park Committee meeting as well.

Code Enforcement Officer- She said that every year she has to do a report for the Department of State on the activities of her office. She said that she will bring the report to the next board meeting for the board to look at.

Village Administrator- none

Village Clerk-Treasurer- She said that the Village Budget is ready and that she has it down to 1.94% increase in taxes. She said that the capital plan from the Capital Committee is also ready to be viewed and will be posted on the website tomorrow. She said that the Village got back its fiscal stress monitoring scores and had no designation. Mayor Mercurio thanked all of the department heads for keeping their budgets tight, the Trustees for going through everything in detail, and Maureen for working hard to get the numbers down. Clerk-Treasurer Jerackas said that she is also getting everything ready for the election on Wednesday.

Trustee Lazickas- He said that the Hamlin Park Committee met and currently has plans to hopefully revamp the playground at Hamlin Park, and discussed a few ideas of grants and public fundraising. Trustee Scheer noted that a playground is around \$750,000, but the one mentioned online in Orchard Park costs two million dollars. He thanked General Foreman Stoll for finding the parts and fixing up the playground that is currently at

Hamlin Park. Mayor Mercurio said that the owners of Main and Hamlin are doing a partnership to get private donations for the playground. Trustee Lazickas said to please come out and vote on Wednesday.

Trustee Cameron- She asked about data centers and asked if they could become a problem that the board needs to address in the Village. Code Enforcement Officer Cassidy said that the code says that if it's not stated, then it's not allowed. Trustee Cameron to come out to vote.

Trustee Scheer- He said that he has really enjoyed working with Trustee Flynn and Trustee Viger and will miss having them on the Village Board. He said that Mayor Mercurio has become a good friend and that he is a person who does great things for the community. He said Mayor Mercurio is always doing kind things that nobody knows about and is very impressed with his character. Mayor Mercurio thanked Trustee Scheer for his kind words.

Trustee Rabey- He thanked Trustee Flynn and Trustee Viger for serving on the Village Board and said that it was a pleasure to work with both of them. He said that Mayor Mercurio is a very genuine and authentic person and does good things for people. He said to come out and vote.

Mayor Mercurio- He said that he really appreciated working with Trustee Flynn and Trustee Viger. He said that he appreciated Trustee Viger's analytical precision and perspectives. He said that Trustee Flynn's love for the Village was evident in all of her decisions and that she is all heart. He thanked Ernie for everything that he does for the Village.

Trustee Flynn- She said that it's been an honor to serve on the board and enjoyed meeting all the new people. She said that she knows the Village is in good hands with all the staff and elected officials.

Trustee Viger- She said that Mayor Mercurio was a joy to work with and that it's been great to work with all of the Trustees. She thanked the Village Tree Board for their dedication and passion for the trees and the Village.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Lazickas to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm. Seconded by Trustee Viger and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Jerackas
Village Clerk-Treasurer