**Village of Aurora Annual Organizational Meeting, April 15, 2015**

**Present:** Mayor Bonnie Bennett, Trustees Grace Bates, Janet Murphy, Alan Ominsky, and Kit Van Orman

**Others Present:** Village Clerk Ann Balloni, Village Treasurer Deborah Brooks, Village Historian Linda Schwab, David Brooks, Brian Brown, Marie Dentes, Tom Dewitt, Robin Driskel, Nancy Gil, and Laura Holland

**Call to Order:** Mayor Bennett called the Organizational Meeting to order at 7:02 pm and all rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Annual Mayoral Appointments and Swearing In Ceremony**

**Deputy Mayor -** Janet Murphy

**Village Clerk/Tax Collector -** Ann Balloni

**Deputy Clerk/Treasurer –** Deborah Brooks

**Village Board Annual Organizational Resolutions**

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-05: DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that *The Citizen* is hereby designated to be the official newspaper of the Village of Aurora.

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED** that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion moved by Trustee Bates

Seconded by Trustee Ominsky

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-06: DATES OF REGULAR and SPECIAL MEETINGS**

**WHEREAS;** the Open Meetings Law requires that the news media and public must have at least 72 hours notice prior to the holding of any regularly scheduled meeting [Public Officers Law 104(1)]. This can be accomplished by notifying the public and the news media of each specified meeting. Alternatively, the board may authorize the clerk to send a single letter to the news media, with a corresponding public posting of a notice indicating the schedule of the regular board meetings, as adopted by the board of trustees at the organizational meeting. This notice to both the news media and the public should state the dates of the meetings, the place of the meetings, and the times at which the meetings will be held, and

**WHEREAS;** no state law prescribes the number of frequency of meetings which must be held by a board of trustees. The board of trustees decides, by resolution adopted at the organizational meeting, when they will meet, and also,

**WHEREAS;** no state law prescribes the procedure for calling or holding a special meeting of the board of trustees. There is often confusion as to who can call, or require a special meeting. With regard to special meetings, the Open Meetings Law requires that notice be given to the news media and to the public as soon as practicable after the calling of the special meeting. See Public Officers Law 104(2), and

**WHEREAS;** notice requirements to village officials are not stated in stature, but case law has indicated that any notice procedure adopted must be reasonably calculated to ensure that all members of the board of trustees have notice of the meeting. This may be accomplished by having the village clerk contact each member individually, or by having individual trustees contact other trustees by letter, phone, or personally. In adopting such rules, it is wise to remember that is some emergency situations it may be necessary to call a special meeting on quite short notice. Thus, the procedure should be flexible, without any provisions which might delay the meeting. Thus, a mailing is usually not a good method of calling a special meeting, and

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Aurora shall meet on the third (3rd) Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Firehouse Meeting Room. Notification of a change in date, time or place shall be timely.

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED** that Special Meetings of the Aurora Board of Trustees of the Village of Aurora may be called by the Mayor or by the Clerk upon request of two members of the Board. If called by the Clerk, the Mayor, the remaining Board Members and the Public shall BE given three (3) days notice unless an emergency exists, in which case notice shall be given as early as possible.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Organizational Meeting for 2016 shall be held on the third Wednesday in April (April 20, 2016).

Moved by Trustee Murphy

Seconded by Trustee Van Orman

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-07: RULES and PROCEDURES**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Aurora shall be governed by Roberts’ Rules of Order.

Moved by Trustee Van Orman

Seconded by Trustee Ominsky

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

 **VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-08: PROCUREMENT POLICY**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees continue the Procurement Policy which was adopted on April 21, 2010.

Motion Moved by Trustee Ominsky

Seconded by Trustee Van Orman

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-09: ADVANCED APPROVAL OF CLAIMS**

**WHEREAS** the Board of Trustees has determined to authorize payment in advance of audit of claims for public utility services, postage, freight and express charges, and credit card claims so as not to incur penalty fees, and

**WHEREAS,** all such claims shall be presented at the next regular meeting for audit, and

**WHEREAS,** the claimant and officer incurring or approving the same shall be jointly and severally liable for any amount disallowed by the Board of Trustees.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

 **Section 1:** that the Board of Trustees authorizes payment in advance of audit or claims for public utility services, postage, freight and express charges and all such claims shall be presented at the next regular meeting for audit and the claimant and officer incurring or approving the same shall be jointly and severally liable for any amount disallowed by the Board of Trustees.

 **Section 2:** that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion made by Trustee Bates

Seconded by Trustee Ominsky

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION 15-10: MILEAGE ALLOWANCE**

**WHEREAS,** the Board of Trustees has determined to pay a fixed rate for mileage as reimbursement to officers and employees of the Village who use their personal automobiles while performing their official duties on behalf of the Village;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,**

 **Section 1**. that the Board of Trustees shall approve reimbursement to such officers and employees at the current IRS rate per mile.

 **Section 2.** That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion made by Trustee Van Orman

Seconded by Trustee Ominsky

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-11: ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS AND CONFERENCES**

**WHEREAS,** there is to be held during the coming official year a) the New York State Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting and Training School, b) The New York Conference of Mayors and Fall Training School for fiscal officers and municipal clerks; c) County Association Meetings; d) Annual Meetings; e) Training Schools, and f) etc.

**WHEREAS,** it is determined by the Board of Trustees that attendance by certain municipal officials and employees at one or more of these meetings, conferences or schools, benefits the municipality.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

 **Section 1.**  That the following officers and employees are hereby authorized to attend the following schools: the mayor, trustees, clerk/tax collector, treasurer, WWTP operators, members of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board and Community Preservation Panel and Village Attorney.

 **Section 2.** That this Resolution shall take place immediately.

Motion made by Trustee Murphy

Seconded by Trustee Ominsky

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-12: DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORIES**

**WHEREAS,** the Board of Trustees have determined that Village Law 4-412 (3) 2 required the designation of banks or treasuries for the deposit of all village monies:

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

 **Section 1.** That the Board of Trustees does hereby designate the following institutions as depositories of all monies received by the Village Treasurer, Clerk and Receiver of Taxes.

 Names of institutions: **CAYUGA LAKE NATIONAL BANK**

 **TOMPKINS TRUST COMPANY**

 **FIRST NIAGARA COMMERICAL BANK**

 **Section 2.** That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by Trustee Van Orman

Seconded by Trustee Ominsky

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-13: BENEFITS PACKAGE**

**HOLIDAYS**

 \* New Years Day

 \* Memorial Day

 \* Independence Day

 \* Labor Day

 \* Thanksgiving Day and Friday

 \* Christmas Day

When News Year Day, Independence Day and Christmas Day fall on Sunday, employees shall have Monday off. When they fall on Saturday, they shall have Friday off.

When Christmas falls on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, employees shall have one-half (1/2) day on December 24th.

**VACATIONS - NON-CUMULATIVE:**

Ten (10) days after first year of employment

Fifteen (15) days after five (5) years of employment

Twenty (20) days after ten (10) years of employment

Vacation dates to be set in consultation with supervisor.

**PERSONAL TIME - NON-CUMULATIVE:**

Two (2) days in each of first five (5) years

Three (3) days in each year thereafter

**SICK TIME – NON-CUMULATIVE**

One day per month worked, cumulative to a total of sixty (60) working days.

\*Non-cumulative - Not reimbursable if not used.

**HEALTH INSURANCE (1/16/94):**

1. Active Employees:

1. Full-time: village will pay full cost of individual or family policy, as provided through Excellus of Central New York.
2. Part-time: part-time employees are eligible for coverage but must pay the premium through payroll deduction.

2. Retirees:

Full-time employees who have served the village faithfully and conscientiously for at least 20 years and choose retirement at age 62 shall have coverage continued until age 65 at which time the retiree shall be provided with individual Medicare supplementary coverage.

**RETIREMENT:**

Coverage under the New York State and Employees Retirement System Tier III, Tier IV, Tier V, and Tier VI. Coverage paid – 97% by the Village and 3% by the employee.

**SOCIAL SECURITY:**

Employer pays 7.65% of income earned by employee into system. Employee has a like amount deducted from earnings.

**WORKERS’ COMPENSATION**:

Coverage paid in full by employer for injury or illness of employee that occurs while at work.

**NEW YORK DISABILITY INSURANCE:**

Coverage paid in full by employer for injury or illness of employee that occurs while not at work.

Motion by Trustee Ominsky

Seconded by Trustee Van Orman

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-14: WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION POLICY &INCIDENT REPORTING**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees continue the Workplace Violence Prevention Policy which was adopted on June 16, 2010.

Motion Moved by Trustee Murphy

Seconded by Trustee Ominsky

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-15: SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees continue the Sexual Harassment Policy which was adopted on October 18, 2000.

Motion Moved by Trustee Van Orman

Seconded by Trustee Ominsky

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-16: AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) EMPLOYMENT POLICY**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees continue the American with Disabilities Employment Policy which was adopted on October 18, 2000.

Motion Moved by Trustee Van Orman

Seconded by Trustee Ominsky

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-17: RIGHT TO KNOW POLICY**

**WHEREAS** New York State mandated local municipalities inform employees of the New York State Right to Know Policy regarding health effects and hazards of toxic substances and,

**WHEREAS** the Village of Aurora has continuously and conspicuously posted the New York State Right to Know Policy on Village properties,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees adopt the New York State Right to Know Policy.

Motion Moved by Trustee Ominsky

Seconded by Trustee Van Orman

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-18: CODE OF ETHICS POLICY**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees continue the Code of Ethics Policy which was adopted on November 4, 1970 with universal pronoun revisions.

Motion Moved by Trustee Ominsky

Seconded by Trustee Murphy

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-19: AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS** the Village of Aurora is mandated by New York State to adopt a Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution; and

**WHEREAS** the Village of Aurora Board of Trustees considered Resolution #15-19 at their April 15, 2015 Regular Meeting; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Village of Aurora, Location code 40420, hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees’ Retirement System based on the time keeping system records or the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the clerk of this body and post Resolution #15-19 on the Village of Aurora bulletin board for 30 days.

FIRST: Trustee Ominsky

SECOND: Trustee Van Orman

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Village Board of Trustees Assignments**

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Alan Ominsky

RECREATION, PARKS & PUBLIC EVENTS: Janet Murphy

STREETS & PUBLIC SAFETY: Kit Van Orman

WATER & SEWER: Grace Bates

**Village Board Appointment Resolutions**

**Village Historian –** Dr. Linda Schwab

On motion by Trustee Van Orman, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board re-appointed Dr. Linda Schwab as Village Historian.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Village Attorney –** Thomas Blair

On motion by Trustee Van Orman, seconded by Ominsky, the Village Board re-appointed Thomas Blair as Village Attorney.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-21: RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PANEL INCLUDING A ONE YEAR TERM AS CHAIR**

**WHEREAS:** Chris MacCormick’s term on the Community Preservation Panel expires on May 31, 2015; and

**WHEREAS:** Chris MacCormick has expressed an interest in continuing to serve on the Community Preservation Panel, including serving as Chair through May 31, 2016;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** on nomination of the Mayor with approval of the Village Board of Aurora re-appoints Chris MacCormick to the Community Preservation Panel for a term ending May 31, 2020

MOVED: Trustee Bates

SECONDED: Trustee Van Orman

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-22: RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PANEL**

**WHEREAS:** Dan DiSanto has expressed an interest in continuing to serve on the Community Preservation Panel,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** on the nomination of the Mayor with approval of the Village Board of Aurora re-appoints Dan DiSanto to the Community Preservation Panel for a term ending May 31, 2019

MOVED: Trustee Ominsky

SECONDED: Trustee Bates

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-23: APPOINTMENT AS CHAIR TO THE PLANNING BOARD**

**WHEREAS:** Pat Bianconi has served as Interim Chair to the Planning Board due to the resignation of Nancy Gil; and

**WHEREAS:** Pat Bianconi has expressed an interest in continuing to serve as Chair on the Planning Board;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** on the nomination of the Mayor with approval of the Village Board of Aurora appoints Pat Bianconi as Chair to the Planning Board for a term ending May 31, 2016

MOVED: Trustee Van Orman

SECONDED: Ominsky

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-24: RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING BOARD**

**WHEREAS:** Frank Zimdahl’s term on the Planning Board expires on May 31, 2015 and

**WHEREAS:** Frank Zimdahl has expressed an interest in continuing to serve on the Planning Board,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** on nomination of the Mayor with approval of the Village Board of Aurora re-appoints Frank Zimdahl to the Planning Board for a term ending May 31, 2020

MOVED: Trustee Murphy

SECONDED: Trustee Ominsky

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-25: RE-APPOINTMENT AS CHAIR TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

**WHEREAS:** John Dentes is currently Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals; and

**WHEREAS:** John Dentes has expressed an interest in continuing to serve as Chair on the Zoning Board of Appeals;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** on the nomination of the Mayor with approval of the Village Board of Aurora re-appoints John Dentes as Chair to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending May 31, 2016

MOVED: Trustee Van Orman

SECONDED: Trustee Ominsky

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-26: RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

**WHEREAS:** Karen Hindenlang’s term on the Zoning Board of Appeals expires on May 31, 2015; and

**WHEREAS:** Karen Hindenlang has expressed an interest in continuing to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** on nomination of the Mayor with approval of the Village Board of Aurora re-appoints Karen Hindenlang to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending May 31, 2020

MOVED: Trustee Ominsky

SECONDED: Trustee Bates

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 15-27: APPOINTMENT OF LAURA HOLLAND AS ALTERNATE ON THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

**WHEREAS:** the position of Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals is vacant due to the resignation of Cathy Patella; and

**WHEREAS:** Laura Holland has expressed an interest as serving as Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** on nomination of the Mayor with approval of the Village Board of Aurora appoints Laura Holland as Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending May 31, 2020.

MOVED: Trustee Murphy

SECONDED: Trustee Ominsky

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

 On motion by Trustee Van Orman, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to adjourn the Organizational Meeting at 7:22 pm.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Call to Order:** Mayor Bennett called the regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees to order at 7:23 pm. All present remained.

**Approval of Minutes:** On motion by Trustee Van Orman, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to approve the March 18, 2015 minutes.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Announcements**

**Mayor:** The Wells College Farmer’s Market hired a new manager and they are looking for a larger indoor/outdoor space to run the market year round. Dempsey insurance will be contacted to determine any potential liability issues if the location chosen is on village property.

**Clerk:** Good Shepherd Catholic Community submitted a letter (attached) asking for relief from their water/sewer bill due to an incident with their furnace that flooded the basement.

On motion by Trustee Ominsky, seconded by Trustee Van Orman, the Village Board voted to adjust the sewer portion of the water/sewer bill to reflect payment for average use for Good Shepherd Catholic Community (Account #1199).

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Balloni also announced that mold was discovered behind the wall between the meeting room hallway and the kitchen. Cleantec was hired and promptly cleaned and disinfected the area.

**Visitor Recognition:** Mayor Bennett welcomed all visitors and there were no comments.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Treasurer Brooks reported having a software problem and will present the March and April reports at the May 20, 2015 Village Board meeting.

**Budget Modifications**

**General Fund:**

$219.70 From A1410.2 Clerk/Treasurer – Equipment

$219.70 To A1410.4 Clerk/Treasurer – Contractual

$74.96 From A1620.45 Buildings – Fuel Oil

$74.96 To A1620.42 Buildings – Water/Sewer

$1,076.84 From A7310.4 Youth – Contractual

$4.41 To A7310.2 Youth – Equipment

$1,081.25 To A801.01 Code Officer – Personal Services

$226.98 From A7310.2 Youth – Equipment

$226.98 To A8010.4 Zoning – Contractual

On motion by Trustee Van Orman, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to accept the Budget Modifications for the General Fund.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Bills**

**General Fund:** On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Van Orman, the Village Board voted to approve the General Fund Abstract #11 for payment.

Voucher #386, 388-392, 394-401, 403, 404, 407-411, 413-416, 418, 420, 421, 423-427.

Total: $8,908.90

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Water Fund:** On motion by Trustee Van Orman, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to approve the Water Fund Abstract #11 for payment.

Voucher #387, 389, 400, 402, 406, 417, 421, and 422.

Total: $3,919.29

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Sewer Fund:** On motion by Trustee Ominsky, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to accept the Sewer Fund Abstract #11 for payment.

Voucher #389, 393, 400, 403, 405, 407, 408, 412, 416, 417, 419, and 421.

Total: $3,737.22

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Committee Reports**

**Code Enforcement Officer:** See attached. Officer Piechuta conducted five inspections.

**Village Historian:** See attached. Dr. Schwab reported on Aurora Historical Society activities and working at the County Historian’s Office on searching deeds.

**Buildings and Grounds:** Trustee Ominsky reported that he is working with the Village Safety Committee on Office security systems and included a quote from Herrtronics in the Board packets. Mr. Ominsky also reported that the post office door has been repaired and the sewer plant has a new email address – aurorah2o@auroranewyork.us

**Parks and Recreation:** Trustee Murphy reported that she consulted with DPW Superintendent, Kurt Wilmot, on 2 locations for the kayak racks; Dublin Lane and Lafayette Ext.

On motion by Van Orman, seconded by Bates, the Village Board voted to purchase 2 kayak racks capable of holding 6 kayaks each.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Murphy further reported that the summer swim program will hold educational programs at the Wells College Boathouse on opposite weeks of the swimming lessons. Ms. Murphy plans to attend a Peachtown School board meeting to discuss joining both programs for the summer.

**Streets and Public Safety:** Trustee Van Orman reported that the construction vehicles on Court St for the Wallcourt project create a one way traffic effect and the speed bumps will not be placed on Court St until the construction project is complete. Ms. Van Orman further reported that the crosswalk signs are up at Sherwood Rd, Cherry Ave, and Dublin Hill Rd.

**Water and Sewer:** Trustee Bates reported that the next Intermunicipal Organizational (IO) meeting of the Cayuga Lake Watershed is April 29, 2015 at 7:00 pm at Wells College, Stratton Hall, Room 212. The IO Restoration Protection Plan includes a cross section of farmers, businesses, and residents. Ms. Bates further reported that Interlaken received a $30,000.00 grant and membership in the IO was instrumental in their being awarded the grant money. Hilary Lambert of the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network is giving a presentation at the May Village Board meeting.

**Old Business**

**Public Hearing:** Mayor Bennett reminded those present that the public hearing for the 2015-16 village budgets continues from the March 18, 2015 Village Board of Trustees meeting.

Mayor Bennett asked if there was any public comment and there was none.

On motion by Trustee Van Orman, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to close the public hearing on the 2015-16 village budgets at 8:55 pm.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**2015-16 Budgets:** On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to accept the proposed 2015-16 village budgets.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Zoning Amendments:** Mayor Bennett reported that she met with candidates to act as facilitator for 3 public sessions during the zoning amendment process. Cayuga County Planning is interested for a cost of $9000.00 - $10,000.00. George Franz, professor of Design and Planning Environmental Review at Cornell University, offered to help for $5,000.00. Judith Breslor and Matt Rogers from the New York State Planning Federation requested $1,800.00 plus travel and hotel expenses.

On motion by Trustee Ominsky, seconded by Trustee Van Orman, the Village Board voted to spend up to $5,000.00 to hire a facilitator for three meetings plus review of the final law.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**New Business**

**Wells Water System:** Wells College Interim President Tom deWitt presented an argument that the Village hasn’t been paying a fair share for water, purchased from Wells College. Mr. deWitt accused the Village of accepting subsidized water from the Wells College Community and explained the $1.25/1000 gallons price that the Village has paid for decades will increase to $4.40 as of July 1, 2015. Mr. deWitt informed the Village Board that a letter was going out to village residents the following day explaining Wells College’s position and to give residents prior notice that their water rates may increase significantly. Mr. deWitt submitted an outline of water costs (attached) produced by himself and Brian Brown; Wells Director of Facilities, Operations and Services which will be included in the letter to village residents.

Mayor Bennett explained that, when the agreement was made between Wells College and the Village many years ago, there was a 60/40 cost share for water/sewer. The cost to run the sewer plant per year was approximately $100,000.00 and, as Wells was responsible for 60% of the water usage, Wells was billed $60,000/year for the sewer cost. Currently, the ratio is closer to 53/47 and has been for the past several years. Mayor Bennett further explained that the $60,000/year that Wells College continues to pay for sewer would, realistically, be closer to $95,000.00 if Wells was billed for current costs. Mr deWitt indicated that Wells would be willing to pay their fair share for sewer if the Village paid a fair share for water.

Mr. Brown added that the figures submitted reflect the actual cost to run the Water Plant with no profit margin to Wells. Mr. Brown further noted that new filters will cost $170,000 which is not currently in the outline. He also noted that if the Village took responsibility of the operation of the Water Plant from Wells, grants and other funding is available for upgrades or a new facility. Mayor Bennett replied that her understanding is that the grants and funds available through New York State are targeting low income municipalities and that Aurora wouldn’t qualify.

Mayor Bennett explained that, while Wells College retains the water, the Village is responsible for distribution, meter readings, billing, repairs, maintenance, and is required by New York State law to hold a portion of the funds in reserve. Mayor Bennett further explained that, by New York State law, the Village cannot make money off of water/sewer billings and are required that the books zero out. The New York State Comptroller’s Office completed an audit of the Village in 2013 and declared the Village water/sewer budgets to be in good order.

Mr. deWitt explained that he has spent the last three years balancing the budget for Wells College. He noted that they depreciate their equipment instead of saving and then buying the equipment as the Village does. He added that the golf course uses 2% of the water, which is not metered. Mr. deWitt felt that as Wells grows (goal of 700 students) the rates will be adjusted yearly to accommodate these changes.

The Village Board questioned the salary figures noted on the outline regarding how many employees were represented. Mr. deWitt replied that the figures represented 50% each of two employees time.

Mayor Bennett agreed that negotiations for a new agreement are overdue and reminded Mr. deWitt that she suggested reviewing the agreement with him in 2013 when he became Interim President but, at the time, Mr. deWitt was not interested. Mr. deWitt replied “that’s not true.”

Mr. deWitt requested a review of the village sewer costs to compare with the water costs that he and Brian Brown, submitted. Mayor Bennett informed Mr. deWitt that she would consult with the Village Department of Public Works Superintendent, Kurt Wilmot, and then schedule a meeting with Mr. deWitt, Mr. Brown, Mr. Wilmot, and Trustee Bates, to review and discuss.

**May Village Association Dinner:** Mayor Bennett reminded the trustees that Aurora hosts the May Village Association Dinner on May 26, 2015 at the Aurora Inn. The topic is Everything Old is New Again and the guest speaker is Village Historian, Dr. Linda Schwab.

**Adjournment:** On motion by Trustee Ominsky, seconded by Trustee Van Orman, the Village Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Next Meeting:** May 20, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Balloni

Village Clerk