

Village of Aurora Board of Trustees March 27, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held at 5:30 p.m. in the Aurora Firehouse meeting room.

Present: Mayor Jim Orman, Trustees JD Balloni, John Miller (5:37 p.m.), and Janet Murphy

Absent: Matt Bianconi

Others

Village Officials: Clerk Ann Balloni and Account Clerk Christine Tanner,

Inns of Aurora: Jodi Bennett

Call to Order: Mayor Orman called the special meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

2025/2026 Village Budgets

The Village Board discussed an austere budget due to the significant costs to operate and maintain the former Wells College water plant. Water and Sewer funds must balance, with expenses equaling revenue. General Fund has somewhat more flexibility, and funds can be moved temporarily from General to Water/Sewer, but it must be replenished within the fiscal year.

The Village Board made substantial cuts to the General Fund in case it is necessary to move money from General to Water/Sewer. The Water Fund Budget increased by \$200,000.00 for operation and maintenance of the water plant and the Sewer Fund Budget lost \$50,000.00 in Revenue from Wells College. The Village Board cut \$165,000.00 from line items in the General Fund to try to save money overall. Cuts included the swim program, donations to local organizations, building maintenance, and no employee cost of living raises.

Village taxes will remain at approximately the same rate due to the unanticipated increase in water and sewer rates. Water rates are expected to increase 2.5 times the current rate, and sewer will increase 1.25 times the current rate. The trustees continue to work with the village engineer to determine the best formula to equal the water plant expenses, but all options result in much higher costs for users. Additionally, Mayor Orman is in contact with local and State representatives for emergency funding.

On motion by Trustee Murphy, second by Trustee Balloni, the Village Board voted to approve the Tentative 2025/2026 Budgets and present as the proposed 2025/2026 Budgets at the April 10, 2025 Budgets Public Hearing.

AYES: Balloni, Miller, Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Bianconi

Motion carried.

Adjournment: On motion by Trustee Balloni, second by Trustee Miller, the Village Board voted to adjourn the special meeting at 7:15 p.m.

AYES: Balloni, Miller, Murphy, and Orman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Bianconi

Motion carried.