

AURORA TOWNSHIP ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES  
Youth and Community Center, 313 Gale Street, Aurora, IL  
April 11, 2023

**I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Township Clerk Cassidy Alexander called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and read the notice of the Annual Town Meeting. She then led all present in the pledge of allegiance.

**II. Invocation**

The invocation was led by Pastor Torrez

**III. Welcome and Introduction of Elected Officials**

Clerk Alexander thanked everyone for coming and introduced Supervisor Bill Catching, Trustee Dolores Hicks, Trustee David Moore, Trustee Sam Núñez, Trustee Juanita Wells, Assessor Davis Offutt and Highway Commissioner Jason Owens, and herself.

**IV. Roberts Rules of Order**

Clerk Alexander asked for a motion to approve Robert's Rules of Order and Dr. Peggy Hicks so moved, with Juanita Wells the second. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

**V. Appointment of Parliamentarian**

Alexander appointed David Moore to be parliamentarian.

**VI. Payment of Moderator**

Clerk Alexander asked for a motion to pay the moderator the amount of \$75. Dr. Peggy Hicks so moved and Jason Owens seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**VII. Nominations for Moderator**

a. Alexander called for Nominations for Moderator. Dr. Peggy Hicks nominated Pastor John Burch, seconded by Chet Donaldson. The nomination was accepted by voice vote.

b. Clerk Alexander asked if there were any other nominations, and hearing none, asked for a motion to Close the Nominations. Juanita Wells so moved and Jason Owens seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**VIII. Election and Swearing in of Moderator**

Alexander called for the Question of John Burch for Moderator. Pastor Burch was elected in a unanimous voice vote. Town Clerk Alexander swore in Pastor John Burch as moderator.

**IX. Approval of the Minutes of 2022 Annual Town Meeting**

Moderator Burch took over the meeting and asked for a motion from the floor to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting of April 12, 2022, and to approve them as written by the town clerk to be available for inspection. So moved by David Moore, second by Bill Catching. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

**X. Presentation of the Supervisor's Annual Financial Report**

Moderator Burch asked for a motion from the floor to dispense with the reading of the Supervisor's Annual Financial Report as of March 31, 2023, and that the report be accepted and placed on file subject to audit. Motion so made by Dr. Peggy Hicks and seconded by Eva Rodgers. Motion passed by voice vote.

**XI. Presentation of the Highway Commissioner's Annual Financial Report**

Moderator Burch asked for a motion from the floor to dispense with the reading of the Highway Commissioner's Annual Financial Report as of March 31, 2023, and that the report be accepted and placed on file subject to audit. Motion so made by Dolores Hicks and seconded by Juanita Wells. Motion passed by voice vote.

**XII. Additional Business**

a. Moderator Burch asked for a motion from the floor to pass **Resolution 2023-19 Transfer of Surplus**

**Road and Bridge Liability Insurance Funds to Joint Bridge Fund.** Bill Catching so moved and Dr. Peggy Hicks seconded. Highway Commissioner Owens explained that this transfer was to go toward the funds for the repair of the Ashland Avenue bridge. Motion passed by voice vote.

b. Moderator Burch asked for a motion from the floor to pass **Resolution 2023-20 Authorizing the Township Supervisor to Execute a Lease with Trellis Group, LLC.** Jason Owens so moved and Juanita Wells seconded. Supervisor Catching explained that there is a \$60-70 million mixed-use building planned to go up next to, and just north of, our township offices and it is a tight fit. The developer wants the use of some of our green space for storage of equipment and use of the Spring Street entrance. The township will receive \$40,000 for its inconvenience. Motion passed by voice vote. [NOTE: The above wording replaces the wording on agenda item Resolution 2023-20 because it was found to be the correct legal terminology just before the meeting, and was presented to the electorate as shown above.]

c. Moderator Burch asked for a motion from the floor to pass **Resolution 2023-21 Declaration of Surplus Township Vehicles.** David Moore so moved and Dolores Hicks seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

d. Moderator Burch asked for a motion from the floor to pass **Resolution 2023-23 Aurora Township Illinois, Regarding Funds Duly Appropriated for Goods, Services, or Projects But Not Paid For During Current Budget Year.** Juanita Wells so moved and David Moore seconded. Highway Commissioner Owens said this resolution is in the best practice to have on the record to save money from one tax year to the next, to be responsible. It will not raise taxes. Motion passed by voice vote.

e. **Consideration of Changing Starting Time for Regular Board Meetings**  
Burch said there had previously been talk of changing the time for board meetings. Dr. Peggy Hicks said she sees no problem with the current 4 pm starting time. Eva Rodgers agreed. There was almost no discussion and no objection to keeping the 4 pm start time. No motion was needed.

### **XIII. Public Comment**

Burch asked if there was any additional business. Hearing none, he opened the floor for public comments. He asked that each speaker stand, give their name and address, and limit their comments to three minutes.

Valerie A. Jeffrey asked what will happen to the old Carson-Pirie-Scott building at Northgate shopping center. Bill Catching said it is privately owned and not within the Township's authority, but that there are plans for it to be a self-storage facility and restaurant.

Eva Rodgers said she is concerned about potholes and asked if they were the problem of the City of Aurora or the Township. Highway Commissioner Owens said it depends on whether it is unincorporated territory or not. Ms. Rodgers asked where the township ends and the city begins. Owens explained that the borders are very confusing, and the city annexes property all the time, with results often like a checkerboard. He referred Ms. Rodgers to the township map on our website: [www.auroratownship.org](http://www.auroratownship.org).

Jeffrey Downsaid complained about a dog next door to him that is between the township and the city. Owens also referred him to the map website.

### **XIV. Adjournment**

Burch asked for a motion to adjourn, which was made by Jason Owens and seconded by Juanita Wells. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Cassidy Alexander

Aurora Township Clerk