

TOWN OF AURORA, NC
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
Special Meeting
Wednesday, October 14, 2025

A Special Meeting of the Aurora Town Board of Commissioners was held at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at the Town Hall. Mayor Pro-Tem Jeff Peed called the meeting to order with the following present:

Officials Present: [x] Jeff Peed, Mayor Pro Tempore

Commissioners Present: [X] Omar Bahhur
[X] Coley Jordan
[X] Steve McCormack

Attendance: [X] Judi Lannon – Town Clerk/Finance Officer
[X] Rhonda Stalling – Administrative Asst/Utility Billing

The Special Meeting was called for the Town to meet with Bob Taylor, Program Development Coordinator, NC DEQ to discuss the Town's ability to obtain funding for the replacement of the 3rd Street sewer force main and retrofitting of the 3rd Street lift station. Also attending the meeting were Kristen Downs Viable Utility Engineer, NC DEQ, Jamie Heath and Pat Harris with the Mid-East Commission. There were also several citizens in attendance.

Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Peed opened the meeting and explained the "lay of the land" and addressed the Town's economic challenges and customer base. The Town has made great strides in overcoming staffing issues but is still a year away from not having to contract out for Operators in Responsible Charge. There are 302 meters currently in use on our system.

The discussion began with rates for the utility. The 2025-26 budget vs actual line item was provided indicating the expenses incurred since July one. The rates must be based on the expenses and there are no grants for the day-to-day costs.

The discussion turned to grant funding and the differences in Community Development Block Grants and Drinking Water Infrastructure grant/loans. Mr. Taylor also spoke about the timing of grants is always a factor, especially with equipment replacement and necessary repairs.

The Board and Mr. Taylor returned to the discussion of utility rates. All agreed that ultimately, the building of capital reserve is the goal all the while maintaining the system properly. He also advised to check the industry standard information within our AIA studies which give various material replacement methods. He advised the Town to proceed with the rate study to be completed by NC Rural Water.

Adjournment/Recess

There being no further business, Commissioner McCormack made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bahhur and passed with a 3 to 0 vote.

Jeff Peed, Mayor Pro-Tempore

Judith S. Lannon, Town Clerk