

TOWN OF AURORA, NC
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
Monday, October 2, 2023, Meeting

A regular meeting of the Aurora Town Board of Commissioners was held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, October 2, 2023, at the Town Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order with the following present:

Officials Present: ☒ Clif Williams, Mayor

Commissioners Present: ☒ Omar Bahhur
☒ Coley Jordan
☒ Jeff Peed
☐ Tina Taylor

Attendance: ☒ Judi Lannon – Town Clerk/Finance Officer
☐ James Ham – Public Works Director in Training
☒ Various members of the public were in attendance

Commissioner Taylor was not able to attend the meeting.

Mayor Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Peed led in prayer.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner Bahhur. The motion passed with a 3 to 0 vote.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Presentation to Council

Jamie Heath, Planner with the Mid-East Commission gave an overview of a funding arrangement for the upgrade of the wastewater treatment facility. Since the Town was not selected to continue the project under the Resilient Coastal Communities Phase 4, alternative funding was researched by Jamie Heath and the engineering firm of RK&K who have worked with the Town on the project for the last two years. The Town could apply for funding through a FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure In Communities (BRIC) and Capability and Capacity Building (C&CB) grant as an Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community or (EDRC) applicant. After much discussion on the importance of keeping the project momentum, and the appreciation of the hard work of Jamie Heath and the staff of RK&K, a positive unanimous opinion was reached. A motion was made by Commissioner Peed to apply for the BRIC/C&CB grant for the continued upgrade to the Towns wastewater utility. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jordan and passed with a 3 to 0 vote.

Consideration of Minutes

The minutes of the June 26, 2023, recessed meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Bahhur and seconded by Commissioner Jordan and approved with a 3 to 0 vote.

Next the minutes of the July 3rd meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner Bahhur and were approved with a 3 to 0 vote.

Lastly, the minutes of the July 21st recessed meeting were considered and approved on a motion by Commissioner Peed and seconded by Commissioner Bahhur and approved with a 3 to 0 vote.

Old Business

Under Old Business the Board continued the discussion of mowing issues and ordinance violations. The Clerk advised that the state 160D zoning legislation removed the mister meaner and associated fine schedule from all city and town ordinance. The Planning Board would be working with the Mid-East Commission in establishing a civil penalty fee schedule and utilizing the zoning violation information comprised by the Aurora Leadership Council moving forward.

New Business

Under New Business the Clerk directed the council's attention to the NC DEQ Mandatory Lead Service Line Inventory Requirements. After some discussion, the Clerk was advised to respond to NC DEQ and request resource information on conducting the lead inventory and funding for staffing requirements.

Next under New Business was the item of Follow up on Outstanding Personnel Issues. A motion was made by Commissioner Peed, seconded by Commissioner Bahhur and approved with a 3 to 0 vote to enter in to closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(1) To prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes. Closed Session Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(4) To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body. Closed Session Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(6) To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee.

Adjournment/Recess

After the meeting returned to regular session, a motion was made by Commissioner Peed and seconded by Commissioner Jordan to adjourn this evening s meeting. The motion to adjourn passed with a 3 to 0 vote.

Clif Williams, Mayor

Judith S. Lannon, Town Clerk