

**TOWN OF AURORA, NC
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
October 7, 2019 Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Aurora Town Board of Commissioners was held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, October 7, 2019, at the Town Hall. Mayor Clif Williams called the meeting to order with the following present:

Officials Present: [X] Clif Williams, Mayor

Commissioners Present: [X] W. C. Boyd, Police
[X] John Farrow, Public Works
[X] Brad Lee, Water and Sewer (Mayor Pro Tempore)
[X] Jeff Peed, Buildings and Facilities

Attendance: [X] Judith Lannon – Town Clerk/Finance Officer
[X] Chuck Bonner – Public Works Director
[X] Curt Hendrix – Recreation Coordinator
[X] Various members of the public were in attendance

The Mayor opened the meeting a few minutes after seven with Commissioner Peed not in attendance. Commissioner Boyd led in prayer and Mayor Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion to approve the proposed Agenda was made by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and approved with a 3 to 0 vote.

Guest Speaker Reverend Cliff Harvell with the NC Conference of the United Methodist Church Disaster Response Mission addressed the council on the need of citizens who were still in recovery mode from hurricanes Florence and Dorian. He has asked that the Town consider allowing a short term lifting of the moratorium on travel trailers used by the Methodist workers. After a short discussion, the Board agreed to discuss the topic further.

Commissioner Peed joins the meeting in session.

The proposed minutes for the regular September 3, 2019, meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Boyd and seconded by Commissioner Farrow, with a 4 to 0 vote.

The Clerk provided the Board with a Resolution of Tentative Award to A.C. Shultes of Carolina, Inc. of Rocky Mount, NC for the water treatment plant upgrade. The proposed Resolution had been prepared by grant administrator Shannon Russell and had been requested by NC Department of Environment Quality and the NC Division of Water Infrastructure. The Resolution was adopted upon a motion by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Peed and approved with a 4 to 0 vote.

The Clerk updated the Board on the status of the daycare facility. The current "lessee", Anthony Tyre, had closed the daycare on September 30th and has been compliant with the lease agreement. She

also reported that she had spoken with Christy C. Weathers and Mrs. Weathers would not be properly licensed until January.

Under New Business the Clerk presented a Resolution and proposed Land Purchase Agreement for the planned Aurora Industrial Park. The agreement had been prepared by the Town Attorney, T.R. Thompson. After a short discussion the Resolution to Approve the Land Purchase Agreement was adopted on a motion made by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Farrow and approved with a 4 to 0 vote.

Public Works Director Chuck Bonner gave a report on the 7th and Helen Street lift station failure caused by an electrical surge during Hurricane Dorian. Once the electricity was restored his team had to correct a blockage in the line. The Public Works Department focused on correcting the problem for three days. This was a potentially hazardous situation and the Director was pleased to report that at no time was any sewage spilt. The Clerk informed council that this was also a costly event with the total amount spent at around \$10,500. She also reported that this amount had been filed with Beaufort County Emergency Management as Damage to Public Infrastructure and that an insurance claim was being filed as well. Commissioner Lee instructed that all employees working on the wastewater system get the advised inoculations for their safety moving forward.

Mr. Bonner then gave his staff report for September. We had wastewater treatment samples taken in July where the parameter for Enterococci was too high. The Director has met with several technicians from NCDEQ and NCRWA who are helping him with training and sampling. He explained that he is making several changes at the wastewater facility that should correct the situation. Regarding the drinking water system, we had a quarterly sampling for Trihalomethanes (TTHM) which also exceeded the allowable perimeter. This required a public notice to all customers on the utility. The notice advised that the water was safe to drink and that automatic flushing devices on the towns' hydrants had been increased and that should help lower the disinfection byproducts. The letter also informed the customer that the Town had received a grant for a new water treatment facility that should be operational in approximately a year. Commissioner Boyd mentioned that he would like to see the trend on these sample numbers matched against the outside temperature.

Recreation Coordinator Curt Hendrix provided a report which highlighted temporarily becoming a Public Works employee and assisting in storm debris cleanup and mowing while they worked on the sewer line problem. The Coordinator was pleased to report that he had met with the Aurora Recreation Volunteer Committee and they have scheduled a Family Fun Day to coincide with the Health Fair being conducted at the school on November second. He is continuing his collaborative efforts in promoting softball; not only in the Top Gun league but also at the school. There was a short discussion regarding maintenance of the ball fields and the pine trees that border the field.

The Clerk reported that the annual Municipal Audit was underway and that she had met with the Town Auditor Larry Carpenter and thus far the proceedings are going very well. She also reported that she has received several complaints from citizens regarding Town Ordinance violations. Most of

these are high grass and yard debris complaints. A list is being formed and letters will be sent to the home owners. Commissioner Peed pointed out that ordinance enforcement can become costly and the town may never collect on any fines issued until the property is sold.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peed, seconded by Commissioner Farrow and approved with a 4 to 0 vote to adjourn the meeting.

Clif Williams, Mayor

Judith S. Lannon, Town Clerk