

**TOWN OF AURORA, NC
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
December 2, 2019 Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Aurora Town Board of Commissioners was held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, December 2, 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

Commissioners Elect: [X] Coley Jordan
[X] Tina Taylor

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

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

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

Mayor Williams presented and read a Proclamations of Appreciation for the service of Commissioner W.C. Boyd. The Board thanked him for his years of service. Mayor Williams then presented a plaque to Commissioner Farrow observing his four years of service to the town. Commissioner Farrow had also previously received a Proclamation of Appreciation from the town as he had chosen not to run for reelection. Commissioner W.C. Boyd was also presented with a plaque commemorating his six years of service. All in attendance stood as they thanked both Commissioners for their dedication to the Town of Aurora.

Mayor Williams conducted the oath of office in succession for newly elected Commissioner Coley Jordan and newly elected Commissioner Tina Taylor.

The meeting was then opened for public comment which none was received.

Under Old Business the Clerk gave an update on the inventory and subsequent sale of surplus property of the former Aurora Police Department. At this time, the Sheriff's Department had not yet contacted the Town to schedule the visit. The Clerk was trying to locate the most current PD inventory.

The Clerk then gave an update on zoning issues that were being compiled. She will be gathering information for council on how the Town should proceed in selecting and appointing a new (advisory board) planning/zoning board. She asked that the town council, as their interacting with residents, to keep in mind who might be willing to serve in this capacity. She and the Public Works Director, Chuck Bonner were having some difficulty locating the Town "right of way" on John Drive where some trees needed cutting. Commissioner Jordan advised that he was able to research "right of way" on the County's Tax GIS website.

Under new business the Clerk presented a Resolution and Lease Agreement for the new JCB backhoe. The Clerk had worked with the supplier "Company Wrench" in getting the interest rate down from 6.5 to 3.8 on a lease to own agreement. The Mayor thought that a purchase agreement would be better and he offered to contact the supplier. Commissioner Peed explained that the lease agreement may be better, as the Town could not write off the interest as a business expense. It was agreed to move forward and execute the Resolution and Lease agreement. A motion was made by Commissioner Peed and seconded by Commissioner Jordan to approve the Resolution and Lease Agreement for the new JCB backhoe with a 4 to 0 vote.

The Public Works Director Chuck Bonner gave an oral report which included:

- Installation of the lighted Christmas decorations and coordinating that with the electrician
- Staff safety training session in Grifton on December 4th covering Fire Extinguisher Classification, Treatment Plant/Well Site safety and Gas Chlorine Maintenance and Safety
- Update on wastewater treatment plant repairs involving the installation of baffles and new venturi nozzles
- The Director informed the Board that he had been in contact with NC Wildlife and had permission to paint lines and put up signs to keep patrons from blocking the boat ramps at the marina.
- He also discussed up grading the Christmas decorations in time for next year.

The Recreation Director Curt Hendrix gave an oral report which included:

- Update on the Scouting Council meeting and plans for two big weekends that will draw scouts and their families to Aurora.
- He has contacts at Ironwood County Club in Greenville that can provide him with used equipment to set up a short (par-three) course at the ball field.
- Basketball season has begun at the Snowden gym. The girls team is off to a really great start.
- Update on the Fossil Museum activities. The Museum will be offering a special reject dig site for College level educational purposes. The Museum will also be conducting Fossil Festival without the partnership of the Aurora/Richland Township Chamber of Commerce.

The Town Clerk Judi Lannon gave an oral report which included: FEMA had scheduled a conference call for tomorrow regarding damages the Town sustained in Hurricane Dorian; she was completing the annual sales tax report; and the completion of the Powell Bill Fund reporting deadline of December 1st had been met.

Under Board Comments the Mayor let the Board know that Representative Keith Kidwell had made contact with the Golden Leaf Foundation on behalf of the Town regarding replacement generators for the water and sewer utility. Beaufort County Economic Development will assist in the grant application for these generators. He also gave an update on the Industrial Park. The AIP team had conducted an informational briefing for contracting companies on November 13th. There are several contracting companies that have now requested the information packet and that the project is moving along.

Commissioner Peed stated “welcome aboard” to the new commissioners.

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

Clif Williams, Mayor

Judith S. Lannon, Town Clerk