

TOWN OF AURORA, NC
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
Monday, December 1, 2025, Meeting

A regular meeting of the Aurora Town Board of Commissioners was held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, December 1, 2025, at the Community Center. Mayor Pro-Tem Jeff Peed called the meeting to order with the following present:

Officials Present: [X] Jeff Peed, Mayor Pro-Tempore

Commissioners

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

Attendance: [X] Judi Lannon – Town Clerk/Finance Officer
[X] Rhonda Stallings – Admin. Assistant & Utility

Billing

[X] Various members of the public were in attendance.

Mayor Pro Tempore Peed led in prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

After welcoming all in attendance, the Mayor Pro-Tem opened the floor for public comment. There was no public comment received.

Consideration of Minutes

The proposed minutes of September 25, 2025, special meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner McCormack and seconded by Commissioner Jordan and passed with a 3 to 0 vote.

The proposed minutes of October 1, 2025, special meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner McCormack and passed with a 3 to 0 vote.

Upon consideration of the proposed minutes of the October 6, regular meeting, the Board was not in agreement with the last sentence of the paragraph containing the Boards dialog to reduce the reconnecting of service fee for the water and sewer utility from \$50

to \$25. The validity of the parliamentary action was questioned, as the Board did not amend the agenda to discuss the issue. However, the motion had been seconded and passed with a majority vote. A motion to strike the last sentence questioning the parliamentary action was made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner McCormack and passed with a 3 to 0 vote. The minutes of the October 6, 2025, regular meeting were approved as amended, with a motion by Commissioner McCormack and second by Commissioner Jordan, with a vote of 3 to 0.

The minutes of the October 14, 2025, special meeting were then approved on a motion made by Commissioner McCormack and seconded by Commissioner Jordan. The motion passed with a 3 to 0 vote.

The minutes of the November 3, 2025, regular meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner McCormack and seconded by Commissioner Jordan and passed with a 3 to 0 vote.

Recognition of Service

Commissioner and Mayor Pro-Tempore, Jeff Peed, was recognized for his sixteen years of dedication to the Town of Aurora. He was presented with a plaque commemorating this service to his community.

Oath of Office

Paris Ireland, Assistant Clerk, Beaufort County Superior Court administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Elect, James Curtis Hendrix, Jr.

Clerk Ireland then administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Commissioner Dalton Bennett

And lastly Mrs. Ireland administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Commissioner Galene Williams.

Old Business

Under Old Business, Jamie Heath Planner with the Mid-East Commission provided the new council with updates on all current infrastructure projects. (attached)

The first item was the Boards consideration the proposed RK&K contract to provide the for Engineering and Environmental Report for the replacement of the 3rd Street Sewer

Force Main as necessary for the application to the NC DEQ, Division of Water Infrastructure grant application for the project. Commissioner Jordan who had been on site at the time of the repair of the line in May 2025, he explained the nature of “orangeburg” pipe and how it was used from the 1940’s to the 1970’s how it over time becomes brittle and wears out and by now has outlived its’ expected viability. Upon review of the contract for engineering and reporting for the NC DWI grant application, Mayor Hendrix requested a motion to approve the contract. A motion to approve the contract was made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner Bennett. The motion passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

RCCP Phase 4 (Resilient Coastal Communities Phase 4) Treatment Plant project which includes wetland restoration, berm improvement and sludge removal. (attached)

NC Land and Water Fund, Bailey’s Creek Nature Based Tributary Improvements to reduce flooding.

Fall round of Drinking Water Infrastructure grant applications for water and sewer line and valve replacement.

New Business

Under New Business the newly seated Board of Commissioners appointed Mayor Pro-Tempore. A motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to appoint Commissioner Steve McCormack as Mayor Pro-Tempore. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bennett. The motion passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

Mayor And Board Comments

Mayor Hendrix addressed the Board and all in attendance and stated that this was a fresh start. We have lots of opportunities here and a really great group of people to make it happen. He wanted to address a topic that he had seen, and had discussed with board members and citizens alike, and that was the situation at the marina with a citizen that wants water service but the town administration has been advised by NC DEQ that the service cannot be provided in a flood plane without jeopardizing the Towns water permit to serve the public. After input from staff and Commissioners, the Mayor indicated that the Town will keep seeking more information and get back together on the issue as soon as possible.

The Board also addressed property owners' ordinance violations and it was noted that enforcing these ordinances is currently limited due to mandatory changes in the NC 160D state statute. The Clerk explained that we must start with 160D compliance and go forward with the Aurora Leadership Council's zoning compliance database they had compiled. She then explained that NC state statute 160D tries to modernize planning but impacts small towns by requiring code updates without funding. It removes the misdemeanor violations that the town once enforced with fines for ordinance violations. The Town currently has a contract with the Mid-East Commission to facilitate the planning for NC 160D ordinance changes.

She then informed the new Board that a new Planning Board been appointed by the Town Board in September and that that "Advisory Board" would consider the 160D changes and fee schedules and then conduct a Public Hearing before they render a recommendation to the Town Board, which will also conduct a Public Hearing in order to receive public comment on the ordinance changes.

Adjournment/Recess

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner McCormack and approved with a 4 to 0 vote.

Curt Hendrix, Mayor

Judith S. Lannon, Town Clerk