

TOWN OF AURORA, NC
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
Monday, March 4, 2024, Meeting

A regular meeting of the Aurora Town Board of Commissioners was held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, March 4, 2024, at the Town Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order with the following present:

Officials Present: [X] Clif Williams, Mayor

Commissioners

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

Attendance: [X] Judi Lannon – Town Clerk/Finance Officer
[X] Various members of the public were in attendance

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 Peed. The motion passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

Public Comment

There was no citizen participation during the Public Comment period.

Consideration of Minutes

The proposed minutes of the January 2, 2024, meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Peed and seconded by Commissioner Jordan and approved with a 4 to 0 vote.

The proposed minutes of the January 22, 2024, meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner McCormack and approved with a 4 to 0 vote.

The Public Hearing advertised and scheduled to take place at this evening's meeting to hear Public Comment regarding the Town's intent to convey lot number 10 of the Aurora Industrial Park to Bul-Hed Corporation has been tabled/postponed on the advice of the Town Attorney.

Old Business

Commissioner Jordan reported that he had met with the citizen wanting to purchase the half acre lot on Main Street near the marina and the individual did not wish to pay the assessed value. He felt that the Town Board had an obligation to all the other citizens of the Town and that further discussion needed to take place.

Next under Old Business the pump at the wastewater treatment plant still needed to be repaired and was still being operated manually. Willis Electric from Pamlico County was supposed to make the repair. Also, the 3rd Street lift station was still not repaired. Pearson Pumps had been contacted and according to their scheduler, McIver Barwick, the job should be completed this month in March. He also stated that they had received the new electrical box needed for the installation.

Discussion regarding Public Works continued on to the subject of potholes. Commissioner Peed has information of a better product for patching potholes and it can be purchased by the five gallon container as opposed to a pallet of the product. We may be able to purchase it at Lowe's.

New Business

Under New Business there was a brief discussion regarding the consideration of budget amendment requests from the Richland Township Fire and Rescue Tax bookkeeper. After a general discussion It was decided that the Richland Township Fire and Rescue Tax Board should consider these items first and then the Town Board will consider the request.

At this time a motion was made by Commissioner Peed, seconded by Commissioner Jordan and approved with a 4 to 0 vote to enter into 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; and 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.

Upon returning to open session a motion for the Clerk to calculate an hourly increase for the added reporting functions for the water and sewer utility as well as the directing of labor under Public Works be added to Rhonda Stallings hourly wage was made by Commissioner Peed and seconded by Commissioner Jordan. The motion passed with a 4 to 0 vote. The Mayor stated that a long overdue increase for the Town Clerk be calculated in this year's upcoming budget.

Mayor and Board Comments

Mayor Williams asked for an update regarding what had occurred when the county building inspector refused electrical service to a location at the end of Bridge Street. Commissioner Jordan had spoken with the building inspector after the fact and was told that the service had been denied and the individual had been fined. The Town Clerk confirmed that a zoning application to the Town had been reviewed and approved by the Mid-East Commission. The next step in the process was the county building inspector. Commissioner Bahhur expressed his concerns as to whether the citizen had been treated fairly. After some discussion the issue came to a close.

Adjournment/Recess

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Bahhur and seconded by Commissioner Peed to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

Clif Williams, Mayor

Judith S. Lannon, Town Clerk