TOWN OF AURORA, NC
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
Monday, April 1, 2024, Meeting

A regular meeting of the Aurora Town Board of Commissioners was held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, April 1, 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] James Ham - Public Works Director
	[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 McCormack and seconded by Commissioner Jordan. The motion passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

Public Comment
Director of the Chamber of Commerce Joy Dunn announced that the Chamber will begin hosting a Friday morning gathering for coffee and treats where commerce and local issues could be discussed. The idea was well received.

Presentation to Council
Dr. Robert Sands from PRI Heath Corps returned to give council an update and presentation of his plan for the Town's Community Garden. The Board was very enthusiastic about Dr. Sand's proposed plans of the Community Garden. He let the Board know that time was running out on his grant and that he wanted to start as soon as possible. The Clerk reported that there was a lease agreement that must be considered as well as an existing Joint Use Agreement currently in place with Beaufort County Schools.

Consideration of Minutes
The proposed minutes of the February 5, 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 March 4, 2024, meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner Bahhur and approved with a 4 to 0 vote.

Old Business
Under Old Business the Board of Commissioners considered the Resolution and Grant Writing contract for the NC DEQ's Asset and Inventory Assessment grant (AIA) Water System Needs Assessment project. The grant opportunity had been presented to the Town by Jamie Heath with the Mid-East Commission at the November meeting. The motion to approve the Resolution and Mid-East grant writing contract was made by Commissioner McCormack and seconded by Commissioner Jordan. The motion passed with a 0 to 4 vote.

Next item under Old Business was the renewal of the lease agreement with Renee Smith-Spivey and Whiz Kidz Early Learning Center, LLC. The motion to approve the renewal of the lease agreement was made by Commissioner Peed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jordan and passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

Continuing under Old Business the next item was the consideration of the Duke Energy Holiday Receptacles proposed installation contract. Commissioner Jordan was asked and accepted to review and meet with Mr. Crowder with Duke Energy and report back to the Board.

Lastly under Old Business several issues under Public Works were discussed.

- Mowing of private lots and billing for the service was discussed.
- Potholes and the material that was to be used and the cost were discussed and the issue was still being researched. Mayor Williams had reached out and spoken with a representative from S.T. Wooten Company who will work up a quote for the worst pothole locations in town.
- Pearson Pumps had been contacted regarding the 3rd Street lift station. We are still on their books and they will replace the electrical panel as soon as possible. They do emergency repairs for cities and towns (which they have done for Aurora) and have to adjust their schedule accordingly.

New Business
Under New Business the Notice of Deficiency received as a result of the NCDEQ inspection of the Water Treatment plant that had taken place on March 21 was discussed. Several issues that were sited had been rectified since the visit such as: Blower fan for the aerator; affixing the lid to the Granular Activated Carbon chamber; chlorine gas exhaust fan; proper storage of chlorine gas cylinders and the use of a

chlorine gas scale. We are now caught up on all monthly operating reports that were past due. A written response from the Town to NCDEQ is due within 30 days

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 Closed Session Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5)(ii) To establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract.
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.

Upon returning to open session a motion to promote Rhonda Stallings from Billing Clerk/Receptionist to Administrative Assistant with a starting increase of $3.50 an hour was made by Commissioner Bahhur and seconded by Commissioner Jordan and passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

Mayor and Board Comments
Further discussion regarding how the two new Public Works laborers were assigned their daily duties took place. Mrs. Stallings had a punch list worked up each day with the input of James Ham.

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

______________________________   ______________________________

Clif Williams, Mayor   Judith S. Lannon, Town Clerk