**TOWN OF AURORA, NC**
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES**
**May 14, 2019 Meeting**

A special meeting of the Aurora Town Board of Commissioners was held at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, May 14, 2019, at the Town Hall. Mayor Clif Williams called the meeting to order with the following present:

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| **Officials Present:** | [X] Clif Williams, Mayor |
| | [X] Sandra Sartin, Interim Town Clerk/Finance Officer |
| **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:** | [ ] Terry Groome – Public Works Director |
| | [X ] Curt Hendrix – Recreation Coordinator |
| | [X ] Brantley Peck – Town Attorney |
| | [X ] Various members of the public were in attendance |

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

No agenda was required for the special meeting because the items listed on the Special Meeting Notice were those for discussion.

The proposed minutes for the April 1, 2019, regular meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Peed and seconded by Commissioner Boyd with a 4 to 0 vote.

The proposed minutes for the April 23, 2019, recessed meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Lee and seconded by Commissioner Farrow with a 4 to 0 vote.

Interim Town Clerk/Finance Officer Sandra Sartin reported that all Police Department evidence has been released by the Superior and District Court Judges for disposal, and evidence destruction is scheduled for May 20, 2019, at the Animal Control facility in Washington. The cost for destruction is $100.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved with a 4 to 0 vote to enter into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1); N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3); N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4); and N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5)(i).

When the meeting returned to regular session, a motion was made by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved with a 4 to 0 vote to approve the proposed Drinking Water System Upgrade Project Ordinance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and approved with a 4 to 0 vote to approve the proposed letter to the Local Government Commission outlining how the Town Board plans to increase the fund balance over the next three years and attempt to increase property tax collections.

Mayor Williams reported that a meeting is scheduled for May 15 in Raleigh with Department of Commerce personnel, Allen Paul, Sandy Acton, Martyn Johnson and himself to discuss grant funds for the proposed Industrial Park.

Two bids were received for the repaving of the section of Main Street near the Marina that was damaged during Hurricane Michael:

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| Garris Grading & Paving, Inc. | $30,364.75 |
| Anderson Grading & Paving | $31,450.00 |

After discussion by the Board, it was determined that "crush and run" should be placed on the road before paving. A motion was made by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and approved with a 4 to 0 vote to approve the lowest bidder, Garris Grading & Paving, Inc., as the contractor for this project. Terry Groome has completed a portion of the work stated on the bids and will contact Garris Grading & Paving, Inc., about reducing the bid.

Interim Town Clerk/Finance Officer Sandra Sartin reported that seven applications have been received for the Town Clerk/Finance Officer position and three applications have been received for the Public Works position and that interviews need to be scheduled for these positions. It was determined that Mayor Williams and Commissioner Lee would complete preliminary interviews for the Public Works position as soon as they could be scheduled.

Recreation Coordinator Curt Hendrix presented a written report of his meetings and activities during the last month to promote the Recreation Department. He is working with the Recreation Committee, Community Watch and local volunteers on activities to bring the Town together.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Farrow and approved with a 4 to 0 vote to add N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5)(i)(i) and N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) to the agenda and to excuse Town Attorney Brantley Peck from the meeting.

After the meeting returned to regular session, Mayor Williams asked the Town Attorney if he would consider cutting his rate per hour when working for the Town. Commissioner Peed asked if he would move from a contract to a retainer. After discussion with Town Attorney Peck, it was determined that part of the previous closed session was about a contract rather than an employee, so this discussion should be in open session. He stated that his current rate is $130 per hour for any work or travel performed on behalf of the Town. He stated that he would bring the Board's concerns to the attention of his partners since such decisions are made by all of them together and will notify the Board of their decision.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion made by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved with a 4 to 0 vote.

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| Clif Williams, Mayor | Sandra Sartin, Interim Town Clerk/Finance Officer |