TOWN OF AURORA, NC
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
Monday, May 5, 2025, Meeting

A regular meeting of the Aurora Town Board of Commissioners was held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, May 5, 2025, 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] Steve McCormack
	[X] Jeff Peed
Attendance:	[X] Judi Lannon – Town Clerk/Finance Officer
	[X] Ashley Barnes – Public Works Director
	[X] Rhonda Stallings – Administrative Assistant
	[X] Scott Davis – Town Attorney
	[X] Various members of the public

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

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Bahhur and seconded by Commissioner McCormack. The motion passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

Public Comment

Beverly Horvath addressed the Board regarding the ten percent increase in water sewer rates that went into effect with the January 24, 2025 billing cycle. She stated that she could understand a necessary increase, however she is requesting an explanation for the upward shift in sewer charges and the downward shift in water charges. The Clerk advised that it cost more to treat the wastewater and the cost reflected lab analysis and chemical treatment. Commissioner Peed requested that the Town have an outside entity review or audit our percentage correction. NC Rural Water Association had initially pointed out the needed correction in the rate structure as sewer was costing the town more revenue than water. Rhonda Stallings agreed to contact Mike Houston with NC Rural Water as well as research other towns our size with both water and sewer utilities for comparable rate structures.

Consideration of Minutes
The proposed minutes of the March 3, 2025 meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Bahhur and seconded by Commissioner Peed and passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

The proposed minutes of the March 5, 2025, recessed meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Peed and seconded by Commissioner Bahhur and passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

Old Business
Under Old Business the Clerk shared with the Board that there had been no bids received in response to the Request for Proposals for the Resilient Coastal Communities Phase 4 WWTP project. Jamie Heath Planner with the Mid-East Commission will guide the Town through initiating a second Request for Proposal process for the project to rehab the two wet cells at the wastewater treatment lagoon. Mayor Williams reported that CMF would be installing the access piers at the lagoon very soon.

New Business
Under New Business the Finance Officer presented the overview of the fiscal 2024-2025 Expenditures and 2025-2026 Budget projections. The Town is slightly under projected spending in the General Fund due to low staffing and over in projected spending in water and sewer due to contracted Operators in Responsible Charge. It was agreed that the water and sewer line item budget needs to have each fund listed separately. It was also agreed that the Board would consider the proposed budgets at the upcoming June regular meeting.

Also, under New Business the Board considered the water and sewer utility penalty and payment due dates. After careful review of the Town Ordinance section 34-9 and a lengthy discussion the Board decided to have the penalty of 10% to be added to delinquent accounts after the close of business on the 15th of the month. A motion to do so was made by Commissioner Peed and seconded by Commissioner McCormack. The motion passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

Next under New Business, the Board considered the Resolution and Amended Audit Contract with Carr, Riggs and Ingram, PLLC. A motion was made by Commissioner Peed to approve the 2021-2022 amended audit contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McCormack and passed with a 4 to vote.

Lastly under New Business, The Board considered the Resolution and 3M - PFASS Settlement Agreement as prepared by Baron & Budd, P.C. A motion to approve the agreement was made by Commissioner Peed and seconded by Commissioner Jordan. The motion was approved with a 4 to 0 vote.

At this time Commissioner Peed made a motion to enter into 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. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bahhur and passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

Adjournment/Recess
Upon returning to open session a motion was made by Commissioner Peed to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bahhur and approved with a 4 to 0 vote.

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Clif Williams, Mayor Judith S. Lannon, Town Clerk