TOWN OF AURORA, NC
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
August 1, 2022 Meeting

A regular meeting of the Aurora Town Board of Commissioners was held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, August 1, 2022, 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
	[ ] Jeff Peed
	[X] Tina Taylor
Attendance:	[X] Judi Lannon – Town Clerk/Finance Officer
	[X] Chuck Bonner – Public Works Director
	[X] Various members of the public were in attendance

Mayor Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Jordan led in prayer. Commissioner Peed was unable to attend.

Mayor Williams requested a motion to amend the proposed Agenda to include under New Business, consideration of a fuel stipend for the Recreation Coordinator. The motion to approve the agenda with the proposed amendment was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Bahhur with a 3 to 0 vote.

Public Comment
Steve Goldman spoke to council regarding his plans to purchase the Hooker Oil building located at 114 NC Highway 33 E and place a tire recycling facility on the site. His plans are to purchase the existing main building and truck scale. Mr. Goldman's plans were well received by the Board of Commissioners for potential job growth and revenue. The Clerk reported that she had assisted Mr. Goldman with his zoning application, and it was being reviewed by the zoning administrator, the Mid-East Commission.

Mr. Goldman let the Town Board know that he handled demolition services as well and informed the council that he had been contracted by the Fossil Museum to take down a house they owned on 5th Street. A short discussion took place regarding the planning and cost of municipal condemnation.

Consideration of Minutes
The proposed minutes of the February 7, 2022, meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Jordan, with a 3 to 0 vote.

Old Business
The Town Clerk presented to council the Golden Leaf Foundation Resolution of Intent to develop the "Town of Aurora Drainage Ditch and Tributary Maintenance and Easement Plan" which resolves to: locate future funding for easements procurement; enable Public Works the staff and time to maintain drainage ditches once the implementation of the study is complete; and consider additional tax revenue

such as a stormwater utility fee that may be necessary to implement the study in order to be granted the $255,000 as applied for by the Town. The motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Bahhur and approved with a 3 to 0 vote.

New Business
The Clerk presented the Notice of Award from the NC Division of Coastal Management /DEQ NC Resilient Coastal Communities Program for Engineering and Design work for the Wetland Restoration at the Wastewater Treatment Plant signed by the governor.

Next under New Business, council considered the Mid-East Commission contract to administrate the $74,885 above Resilient Coastal Communities Program Phase 3 grant. Amotion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Jordan to have the Mid-East Commission administrate the RCCP Phase 3 grant. The motion passed with a 30 to 0 vote.

Also under New Business, council considered and reviewed the final draft of the NC Land & Water Fund grant application for the Flood Risk Reduction Study of Bailey's Creek Tributary and for the $1000. 00 application agreement to prepare the document by Jamie Heath with the mid-East Commission. After some discussion surrounding the work performed by the Aurora Resilient Coastal Communities Program Committee and the water shedding issues of Bailey's Creek within the town, a motion to approve the draft of the application and the contract to write and submit the document to the NC Land and Water Fund was made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner Taylor and passed with a 3 to 0 vote.

Lastly under New Business, Recreation Director Curt Hendrix requested a fuel stipend for the use of his personal vehicle with related activities in town that include maintenance of the ball fields, the yard of the month, the bird watching group and weekly "take a kid fishing" to name just a few. After some discussion and calculation, it was agreed upon that a tank full of fuel each month would be a good place to start. A motion to that affect was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Jordan. The motion passed with a 3 to 0 vote.

Staff Reports
The Public Works Director Chuck Bonner gave an overview of the smoke testing that would be taking place to locate leaks in the drainage system. Discussion also took place regarding the 3rd Street lift station and why it is still being inundated during heavy rain events.

The Clerk was asked to provide the balance of the American Recovery Act Funds that had been earmarked for lift stations; she reported that $63,945.39 had been paid to Pearson Pumps for their rehab of the 3rd Street lift station leaving a balance of $98,590.31 in the American Recovery Act Funds.

Recreation Coordinator Curt Hendrix provided a written report that included the donation of a portable well for the Community Garden by Nutrien. The well is solar powered and capable of pumping 16 gallons of water a minute.

Board Comments
The mayor shared with the Board that Nutrien had requested he serve on their newly formed Nutrien Land Board, and he was honored to accept.

Adjournment
There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Bahhur and passed with a 3 to 0 vote.

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Clif Williams, Mayor Judith S. Lannon, Town Clerk