

TOWN OF AURORA, NC
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
Tuesday, September 3, 2024, Meeting

A regular meeting of the Aurora Town Board of Commissioners was held at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, September 3, 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] Steve McCormack
[X] Jeff Peed

Attendance:
[X] Judi Lannon – Town Clerk/Finance Officer
[] James Ham - Public Works Interim Director
[X] Rhonda Stallings - Administrative Assistant/Utility Billing
[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

Under Public Comment Bonnie Walker addressed the Board of Commissioner on the horrible state of the roads in town. Several areas of concern were discussed such as N 6th Street, N 5th, 3rd Street at Main and the intersection of Hwy 33 east. The Board agreed and also conceded that there were many other locations including grading of all the gravel roads. A discussion regarding the severe understaffing in the public works department as well as re-staffing that is currently underway took place. The board requested the Town Hall seek estimates from paving contractors for sectional pothole repairs at the worst locations.

Consideration of Minutes

The proposed minutes of the June 20, 2024, recessed meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Peed and seconded by Commissioner Jordan and were approved with a 4 to 0 vote.

The proposed minutes of the July 17, 2024, special meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner Bahhur and were approved with a 4 to 0 vote.

Old Business

Under Old Business the Mayor gave an overview of the Aurora Industrial Park Contractors Meeting that was conducted that morning, September 3rd, at the Nutrien Employee Center. The meeting went very well with 10 contractor companies in attendance. Aurora Leadership Council Chairman Kurt Ryan presented the Town of Aurora Revitalization efforts and how that ties in directly with the Industrial Park. Other presenters at the AIP meeting were: Beaufort County Community College; The East Group

engineering firm; Davis Hartman Wright, LLP; Beaufort County Economic Development as well as AIP project founders Allen Paul and Mayor Williams.

Next under Old Business the Clerk updated the Board on the status of the Town's water utility and NCDEQ compliance regarding Operators in Responsible Charge. Our contracted OCR, Lee Sasser, B-Well and B-Distribution, started working with the Town on August 29th in overseeing our testing and reporting functions as required. The Town's new Public Works Director will begin work on September 30th and is working to obtain his B Well and B Distribution criteria. The town has spoken with Christina Smith, Beaufort County Public Works Director, and she is aware that the Town may need to have the county water interconnection opened in the near future if directed by NCDEQ for compliance reasons.

Under New Business the Board entered in to closed session to discuss personnel issues. Commissioner Peed made the motion to enter 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 record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes and 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 Jordan and passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

After returning to open session, the Clerk reported that Buck Electric Company would help the Town with our Generac emergency generator maintenance.

Mayor and Board Comments

The Mayor updated the Board regarding Steve Goldman's desire to move his tire recycling business to the Aurora Industrial Park.

Adjournment/Recess

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

Clif Williams, Mayor

Judith S. Lannon, Town Clerk