

Town of Edmonston
Town Council Regular Session Minutes
Wednesday, September 14, 2016, 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gant @ 7:05 pm. In attendance: Council Members: Bennett-White, Johnson, Layne-Bee, Pooley, Town Attorney Suellen Ferguson, Police Chief Stephen Walker and Town Administrator Rod Barnes.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Gant.

The agenda was approved as presented.

2. Public Comment:

- a. Robert Makana, 4901 52nd Avenue spoke to the Council about concerns with traffic on 52nd Avenue and potential accidents. He suggested a speed bump could potentially help.

3. Presentations:

George Martin Sr., owner of Martin Industrial addressed the Council concerning his changes in tenants at the Martin Industrial Park. He is seeking soft tenants and working with them. Examples are the DC Rollergirls and a Church. He asked the Council for assistance in supporting this effort with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission in relationship to the parking requirements. Both tenants are seeking U & O permits but are having difficulty with the parking requirements. He suggested that the Council may need to lobby for changes at the County and at the M-NCPPC level or create a committee to study the issue. In addition, he suggested that there be a template for an architect to certify life safety issues in order to obtain the necessary permits.

Mr. Martin also supported the concept of annexing the property on the South side of Lafayette Street that is currently in Riverdale Park. The Town Attorney indicated that the property would need to be de-annexed prior to any consideration by the Town. Mayor Gant said that the Town likes to get along with its neighbors and would be very careful about discussing that issue.

4. Unfinished Business:

5. New Business:

- a. The Town Council minutes from the regular meeting on July 13, 2016 meeting were presented for consideration.
 - i. Council Member Layne-Bee moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the minutes of the Town Council regular meeting on July 13, 2016.

Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Bennett-White, Layne-Bee and Gant.
Nay: None
Abstain: Pooley
Motion carried.
- b. The Town Council report for the closed meeting on July 13, 2016 meeting was presented for consideration.

- i. Council Member Bennett-White moved, seconded by Council Member Layne-Bee to approve the report for the closed meeting conducted on July 13, 2016.
Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Bennett-White, Layne-Bee and Gant.
Nay: None
Abstain: Pooley
Motion carried.
- c. The consideration of acceptance of the July & August check registers and the August 31, 2016 revenue/expenditure report were presented.
 - i. Council Member Pooley moved to accept the July & August check registers and the August revenue/expenditure report, seconded by Council Member Johnson.
Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Pooley, and Gant.
Nay: Layne-Bee, Bennett-White
Motion carried.
- d. The consideration to declare the following items as surplus and to authorize the disposal of the items on govdeals.com.
 - i. 2006 Chevrolet 4x4 Pickup with Meyer Model C-7.5 Snow Plow
 - ii. Meyer Model C-7.5 Snow Plow
 - iii. Boss 9' Snow Plow
 - iv. Council Member Layne-Bee moved to declare the items as presented as surplus and authorize the disposal of them on govdeals.com, seconded by Council Member Pooley.
Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Pooley, Layne-Bee, Bennett-White, and Gant.
Nay: None
Motion carried.
- e. The consideration of the extension of the Professional Maintenance Landscape contract at the same price as FY15-16 (\$16,920). (The bid allows for 3 extensions). Council Member Bennett-White asked for clarification if it was 2 extensions or 3. Town Administrator Rod Barnes had checked the bid documents and it was 3 extensions.
 - i. Council Member Johnson moved, seconded by Council Member Pooley to approve the renewal of the Professional Maintenance Landscape contract as presented.
Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Pooley, Bennett-White, Layne-Bee and Gant.
Nay: None
Motion carried.
- f. The consideration of a supplemental Letter of Agreement with the State Highway Administration to purchase road salt as needed during FY16-17 at an established price of \$64.23/ton plus a 8.22% overhead cost for SHA and authorize the Mayor to sign the Letter of Agreement in the substantial form as presented per modifications by the Town Attorney.
 - i. Council Member Pooley moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the Letter of Agreement with the State Highway Administration per modifications by the Town Attorney.
Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Pooley, Bennett-White, Layne-Bee and Gant.
Nay: None
Motion carried.

- g. The appointment of Council Member Pooley to the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area Inc. was presented for consideration.
 - i. Council Member Johnson moved, seconded by Council Member Bennett-White to approve the appointment of Council Member Pooley as the Town's representative to the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area Inc. Governing Board.

Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Pooley, Bennett-White, Layne-Bee and Gant.

Nay: None

Motion carried.

- 6. **Police Report:** Chief Walker distributed the monthly Code and Police Reports. He is reviewing new reporting requirements that recent legislation requires.

Chief Walker reported on a one day White House conference he attended,

Chief Walker reminded everyone about the Port Towns Day celebration on Saturday from noon until 7:00 p.m. at Bladensburg Waterfront Park.

Chief Walker conducted promotion ceremony for Police Officer Patrick Thompson and Police Officer David Young. Thompson was promoted to Corporal and Young was promoted to Master Police Officer.

7. Council Dialogue:

- a. Council Member Pooley asked about a potential foreclosed property list. Chief Walker indicated we have a vacant property registration program.
- b. Council Member Johnson asked if trees could be cut back around the stop signs at Hamilton. He attended Cottage City and Colmar Manor Day.
- c. Council Member Layne-Bee asked Chief Walker about up-to-date permits for driveways in her ward. Chief Walker indicated that the proper permits had been obtained. She also reported that the Santos Property was being purchased by Full Citizenship and turned into a parking lot.
- d. Council Member Bennett-White reported that the Youth Committee meeting was successful with planning a Youth Day on September 30 from 4 to 7 at the Rec Center. A logo was designed and a letter will be developed to go to all parents inviting participation by young people 14 to 20. She said Bladensburg High School will be having its homecoming on September 24. They are having a parade on Highway 450. She encouraged everyone to attend.
- e. Mayor Gant reported that she hosted the MML Board of Directors meeting the past weekend at College Park. Mayor Gant commented that the Mexican Independence Day celebration sponsored by Edmonston was a big success. She was proud to be in Edmonston and pleased with the excellence exhibited by the Police Department for the event. She will be releasing a public service announcement in October that is being developed by MML. It is about racial violence and encouraging talking.

8. Adjournment:

- a. A motion to adjourn the regular meeting and to move into a closed session to discuss personnel matters under General Provision Article 3-305(b)(1) was made at 8:35 p.m. by Council Member Pooley, seconded by Council Member Layne-Bee.

Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Layne-Bee, Bennett-White, and Gant.

Nay: None

Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

9. Closed Session to discuss personnel matters under General Provision Article 3-305(b)(1).

Passed and approved this 12th day of October, 2016 by the Edmonston Town Council as the official minutes for the regular Town Council meeting conducted on September 14, 2016.

Tracy R. Gant, Mayor

Rod Barnes, Town Administrator