

**Town of Edmonston (Via Zoom)**  
**Town Council Regular Council Meeting Agenda**  
**Wednesday July 15, 2020 7:00 P.M.**

**1. Call to Order:**

Mayor Gant called the virtual meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. and teleconference attendees were: Council Member John Johnson, Sarah Turberville from Ward 2 and newly elected Members Hilary Chester and Betsy McCauley from Ward 1, Town Administrator Rod Barnes, Town Clerk, Averil Gray, Police Chief Demetrius Harris and Town Attorney Suellen Ferguson.

2. **The Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Mayor Gant who asked for reflection during the Moment of Silence on the pandemic's affect to the education system as families deal with Distant Learning.

3. Mayor Gant welcomed newly elected Ward 1 Council Members Hilary Chester and Betsy McCauley and expressed excitement about the work for the Town this Council can do going forward.

4. Mayor Gant expressed appreciation to outgoing Council Members Selita Bennett-White and Sophia Layne for 9 years of service to the Town.

5. **Public Comment:** there was no public comment.

**6. Old Business:**

- i. The consideration of a resolution in support for the "Black Lives Matters" was presented. Council Member Turberville moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the "Black Lives Matters" resolution.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley Johnson, Turberville  
Nays: None  
Motion carried

**7. New Business:**

- i. The consideration of approval of the following minutes from the Regular Council Meeting minutes from June 10, 2020 council meeting were presented. Council Member Turberville moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the June 10, 2020 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Council Members Chester and McCauley were not

yet on the Council and abstained from voting. Mayor Gant voted in this case.

Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Turberville, Mayor Gant  
Nays: None  
Motion carried

- ii. The consideration of a hazardous duty pay schedule for the Town employees and the COVID 19 grant funds from Prince George's County was presented. Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the hazardous duty pay schedule as presented.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville  
Nays: None  
Motion carried

#### **8. Police Chief Report (Police and Code Enforcement):**

Chief Harris reported that Sgt. Young is involved with rental inspections and other code issues. Lt. Heyward is focused on the review of technical infrastructure of remote work in police cars. Over 700 "red light" citations were approved last month. He is looking into adding "flashing lights" at the entry to the trails off Decatur Street as an enhanced safety measure. Launch for the Department's Citizen Advisory in August is going forward. The new design of cruisers is complete and there will be a press release about the changes.

9. **Town Administrator Report** Rod reported that the Ingraham Street curb and gutter replacement is underway. 90% of the design phase of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue/Crittenden sidewalk project is complete with proposed construction start late fall or early winter. The Town continues to receive good response in the food distribution on Friday when 64 boxes of produce are distributed and every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday when Victory Grace Center distributes food. Mr. Barnes reminded Council of Dumpster day on Saturday, July 18 11a.m. – 3p.m.

#### **10. Council Dialogue:**

Council Johnson mentioned involvement in the Friday food deliveries, yard of the month and complemented Public Works on efforts to keep the Town clean.

Council Member Turberville asked if a survey can be provided to businesses to assess loss of revenue. Secondly, she would like Council to consider the possibility of aiding from reserve funds. Mr. Barnes

indicated that a rebate on business personal property tax might be one way to assist businesses.

Council Member Chester suggested home businesses be included for funding consideration.

Mayor Grant agreed that the Council should consider different avenues to assist businesses with pre-determined specific criteria in place. Also mentioned the Town looks forward to Dumpster Day as the usual event had to be cancelled this Spring due to the pandemic.

11. **Adjournment** At 7:55 pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Chester.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion carried

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Mayor, Tracy R. Gant

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Averi Gray, Town Clerk