

Town of Edmonston
Town Council Regular Session Minutes
Wednesday July 11, 2018 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gant @ 7:10 pm. In attendance: Council Members: Johnson, Turberville, Bennett-White Layne Bee, Police Captain Billy Sullivan, Administrator, Rod Barnes, Town Clerk, Shantay Dabney and Suellen Ferguson, Town Attorney.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Gant.

2. Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Public Comments:

- a. Jeremy Weiss- provided an update on activities at the Bladensburg Recreation Center. Also requested to be added to the Green Team, discussed "Produce Day" which takes place on the 3rd Thursday of the month and also mentioned the midnight open center for teens for the month of August.
- b. Carl Butler, Crittenden Street- discussed concerns with late night noise; code enforcement on weekends; expressed not needing a Chief of Police because there are not enough officers on the street; and discussed the need for rails on the sidewalk at the new rain gardens at Mrs. Trahan's home.
- c. Adam Ortiz- Hyattsville MD- thanked all for doing great work in the Town, increased communication, green initiatives and improved diversity efforts. Encouraged the Council to see the process through with the selection of a Police Chief, thanked the Town for improved communication, encouraged the Town to keep up the good work.
- d. Grace Kawedo-5206 47th Avenue- Encouraged the Council to keep building on the legacy of past administrations; thanked the police officers for patrolling of the Town; thanked Public Works for snow plowing streets during the Winter; additional advertisement of summer programs; and would like to see more transparency in the Town's financials as in the last newsletter.

4. Old Business:

There was a discussion regarding the hiring of a Police Chief. The Mayor discussed the panel process and mentioned that the Charter requires a Police Chief and a Town Administrator be employed by the Town.

- i. Councilmember Bennett-White moved to amend the charter to say remove the requirement of having a Chief, Councilmember Johnson second. Motion withdrawn.
- ii. Councilmember Bennett-White moved, seconded by Councilmember Layne Bee to continue the conversation of hiring a Police Chief at another meeting.
Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Bennett-White and Layne Bee,
Nays: Turberville
Motion: carried.
- iii. Councilmember Turberville moved to agree to hire the candidate who was recommended by the Mayor contingent upon being able to work out important details concerning his contract and particular issues regarding financial considerations. Motion died due to lack of second.

5. New Business:

- a. The consideration and approval of a letter to circulate to other Port Towns and Riverdale on school violence. Chief Stone, Bladensburg Chief of Police and Mayor Keisha James, Town of Bladensburg provided an update regarding reported gang activity at William Wirt Middle School. Mayor James Chief Stone outlined the many efforts being done at the Middle School to improve school safety and reduce gang activity. At this time, she does not believe Town of Bladensburg

will support the letter. No further action was taken regarding consideration of sending a letter to the affected parties.

- b. Mike Clar, Town Engineer reviewed the proposed road closure plan for the Decatur Street Repairs with the Mayor and Council.
- c. The consideration of approval of minutes from the June 6th Town Council Work Session and the June 6th Town Council Regular Session were presented. Councilmember Turberville moved, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve to the amended minutes from the June 6th Regular Session Meeting and the minutes from the June 6th Work Session.
Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Turberville, Bennett-White and Layne Bee,
Nays: None
Motion carried.
- d. The introduction of ordinance #2018-OR-03 adopting the recodified Town of Edmonston Code Book was presented for consideration. Councilmember Turberville moved, seconded by Councilmember Bennett-White to approve ordinance #2018-OR-03 adopting the recodified Town of Edmonston Code Book.
Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Turberville, Bennett-White and Layne Bee,
Nays: None
Motion carried
- e. The consideration of the award of bid for fence replacement at 47th Avenue Park to the low bidder, Best Fence in the amount of \$6,654.00 (Grant Funds) was presented. Councilmember Layne Bee moved, seconded by Councilmember Bennett-White to consider the award of bid for fence replacement at 47th Avenue Park to Best Fence.
Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Turberville, Bennett-White and Layne Bee,
Nays: None
Motion carried
- f. The consideration of award of bids for the ten (10) Edmonston Beautiful Community Legacy Projects to Classic Home Solutions LLC. (Grant Funds). Councilmember Bennett-White moved, seconded by Layne Bee to award the bid for the ten (10) Edmonston Beautiful Community Projects to Classic Home Solutions LLC.
Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Turberville, Bennett-White and Layne Bee,
Nays: None
Motion carried
- g. The consideration of approval to install an Electric Vehicle Institute (EVI) Level 2 AC charging station at Town Hall with credit card reader. The station is being provided by the Electric Vehicle Institute at no cost to the Town. Grant funds will pay for installation. Councilmember Turberville moved, seconded by Councilmember Layne Bee seconded to approve to install an Electric Vehicle Institute (EVI) Level 2 AC charging station at Town Hall.
Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Turberville, Bennett-White and Layne Bee,
Nays: None
Motion carried
- h. The consideration of approval to finance the purchase of one Chevrolet Tahoe Police vehicle through Ford Motor Credit. The total cost to be financed over 4 years is \$51,424.40 at an interest rate of 5.95%. Councilmember Layne Bee moved, Councilmember Turberville seconded to table the finance the purchase of one Chevrolet Tahoe Police vehicle until the 7/25/2018 meeting.
- i. A draft policy for the use of Town vehicles was presented. Mayor Gant read the draft policy into the record. There was a discussion regarding the policy. Final Draft to be provided at September Town Council meeting.

- j. There was a discussion of renewing the Town's general obligation bonds held by T.D. Bank. The staff provided alternatives. It was recommended to proceed with T. D. Bank with the necessary bond documents produced by the Town Attorney.

6. **Police Report:** Captain Sullivan distributed the monthly Police Reports and provided update on National Night Out.

7. **Council Dialogue**

- a. Town Administrator provided Code Enforcement update; 106 Business Licenses were printed and ready for delivery; the burned home on Taylor Road is under construction and mentioned that National Night Out flyer is posted on the board. Finally, Mr. Barnes mentioned that the Town was a match with the Chesapeake Conservation Corp program. Our intern, Andrew Jones will start August 22 and will work on green initiatives.
- b. Mayor Gant mentioned that the MML Opioid commercial is on the radio.
- c. Councilmember Layne Bee mentioned being passionate about Poop your Scoop.


8. **Adjournment:**


- a. A motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:17 p.m. was made by Councilmember Turberville, seconded by Councilmember Layne Bee to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Turberville, Bennett-White

Nays: None

Motion carried, meeting adjourned.


Shantay Dabney, Town Clerk


Tracy R. Gant, Mayor