

Town of Edmonston
Town Council Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday February 8, 2023 (Via Zoom Teleconference)

1. Mayor Gant called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and teleconference attendees were Council Members, Hilary Chester, Betsy McCauley, John Johnson and Sarah Turberville, Town Administrator Rod Barnes, Town Clerk Averil Gray, and A/Chief Eric Beale.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Mayor and was followed by a moment of silence.
3. Public Comment: Victoria Gourdin from Congressman Glen Ivey's office shared information about connecting with the Representative.

Mayor Gant indicated that the Council agreed on making changes to the agenda during the Work Session, removing items a. and h. from the agenda.

Council Member Turberville moved, seconded by Council Member Chester to approve the removal of items a. & h. from the agenda.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

4. Old Business

a. The re-consideration and introduction of ordinance 23-OR-01 amending the town's Code of ordinances, Chapter 285 concerning Property Maintenance addressing exterior paint peeling, chipped and/or discolored paint. **Removed from the agenda.**

b. The final consideration of approval of ordinance 23-OR-02 amending the Town's Code of ordinances, Chapter 215-4 concerning specifying the type of materials allowed for driveways was presented for consideration.

Council Member Chester moved, seconded by Council Member McCauley to approve Ordinance 23-OR-02.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

5. New Business

c. Minutes

i. January 11, 2023, Work Session Meeting Minutes

ii. January 11, 2023, Closed Session Meeting Minutes

iii. January 11, 2023, Regular Session Meeting Minutes

Council Member Turberville moved, seconded by Council Member McCauley to approve the January work, regular session and closed session meeting minutes.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

- d. The introduction and approval of ordinance 23-OR-03 amending the Town's Code of Ordinance, Chapter amending Chapter 34, Elections, deleting voter registration by the election officers or the Town Clerk was presented for consideration.

Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the ordinance 23-OR-03.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

- e. The consideration of designating a 2015 Ford Explorer Police Cruiser as surplus and authorization to list it on govdeals.com was presented.

Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the sell of the 2015 Explorer Police Cruiser.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

- f. The consideration of renewal of a 3-year contract for mowing and landscaping services with Professional Lawn Maintenance Services Inc at an annual cost of \$38,503.50 was presented for approval.

Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Turberville to approve the renewal of a 3-year contract for land.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

- g. The consideration of approving the Maryland Department of Agriculture to spray for mosquitos between May 31, 2023, through September 27, 2023, at an estimated cost of \$1,300 was presented.

Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Chester to approve the mosquito spraying.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

- h. The consideration of approving a request of \$25,000 from the nonprofit, End Time Harvest Ministries for services provided to the Port Town communities using ARPA funds. **Removed from the agenda.**

- i. The consideration of designating the water wagon as surplus and authorization to sell it to Professional Lawn Maintenance Services Inc. for \$700 was presented.

Council Member Johnson moved, seconded by Council Member McCauley to approve the sale of the water wagon.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

j. The consideration of the appointment of the following residents to the Election Board:

- **Charles Mays: Chief Judge - Ward 1**
5205 47th Ave
- **Meredith Massey: Judge – Ward 1**
5204 47th Ave
- **Ingrid Ali: Alternate Judge Ward 1**
4805 51st Ave
- **Monique Burton: Judge Ward 2**
5020 Kenilworth Ave
- **Audrey Pabs-Garnon: Alternate Judge Ward 2**
5018 Kenilworth Ave

Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the Election Board appointments.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

k. The consideration of award of bid for sidewalk construction on 51st Avenue, Emerson, and 52nd Avenue to Alcoa Concrete, Edmonston in the amount of \$142,586.00. (Community Development Block Grant)

Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve awarding the sidewalk construction bid.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

l. The consideration of approval to construct a 10x15 storage shed at the back of the parking lot for storage of supplies to J.O.M. Painting in the amount of \$9,500.00. Includes concrete pad and electrical was presented.

Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the storage shed construction.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

m. The consideration of approval to replace the 2 license plate readers Police currently use from Elsag in the amount of \$33,350 was presented. (Maryland State Police Grant FY23 Local Agency License Plate Reader Grant)

Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Chester to approve the replacement of license readers.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

6. Police Department Report (Police and Code Enforcement) – Acting Police Chief Beale reported a felony assault on Lafayette Place in January and the victim survived the shooting. Three auto thefts also occurred during the month. Code Compliance noted 13 municipal infractions, 3 stop work orders and 4 violation follow-ups. Two police candidates are being introduced.

7. Town Administrator Report (General Government and Public Works) – Rod Barnes noted Edmonston, Riverdale and Brentwood are receiving training over four sessions on the design and maintenance of rain gardens. Regular Town Council meetings will now broadcast live on Facebook and YouTube. The Town website is currently non-functioning but we are hopefully nearing a solution to this problem. Port Towns quarterly meeting is looking for new project ideas and asks for survey responses.

8. Council Dialogue

Council Member Johnson noted motorists making an illegal turn at the front entrance into Fountain Park.

Council Member McCauley is excited as the prospect of two new Police officers.

Council Member Turberville had no further comments.

Council Member Chester is excited about the Stormwater Grant program.

9. Mayor's Comments

Mayor Gant noted the PGCMA is providing a letter of support toward rent stabilization. Alonzo Washington has moved into a MD State Senator position, so a delegate position is now open. She wants the new police officers to focus on crime committed by youth and laws protecting property.

10. Closed Session - to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals and/or to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

11. Adjournment

At 8:05, Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to adjourn to a closed-session meeting and not return.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Mayor, Tracy Gant

Town Clerk, Averi Gray