

Town of Edmonston  
Town Council Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday January 10, 2023 (Via Zoom Teleconference)

1. Mayor Gant called the meeting to order at 7:07 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 Acting Police Chief Eric Beale.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Mayor and was followed by a moment of silence.
3. Public Comment – There was no comment from the public.

1. Old Business

- a. The final approval of the Stormwater Management Best Practices Grant Program for flood mitigation assistance to residents was presented.  
Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the Stormwater grant program with adjusted language included from the Town Attorney.  
Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried
- b. The final approval of ordinance 22-OR-08 modifying the Personnel Policies and Guidelines under Section 8-4 Holiday Pay the following sentence: Police Department employees are paid 8 hours of additional pay on all specified holidays unless they are on designated leave and establishing Juneteenth and the day before Christmas as designated holidays was presented.  
Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Chester to approve modifying the ordinance to clarify holiday pay.  
Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried

2. New Business

Minutes

- i. December 13, 2022, Work Session Meeting Minutes
  - ii. December 14, 2022, Work Session Meeting Minutes
  - iii. December 14, 2022, Regular Session Meeting Minutes
- Council Member Johnson moved, seconded by Council Member McCauley to approve the December work and regular session meeting minutes.  
Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried
- b. The consideration of the selection of Alexander and Cleaver as the Town Attorney beginning February 1, 2023, and approval of the

Mayor to sign a 3-year contract when approved by Town Attorney Suellen Ferguson was presented.

Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Chester to approve, after review of the contract with adjusted language including Council review of service after 1-year.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

- c. The introduction and approval of ordinance 23-OR-01 amending the town's Code of ordinances, Chapter 285 concerning Property Maintenance was presented. The painting of the outside of home with no paint chipped/discoloration.

Council decided to postpone action until further discussion and research of other similar ordinances in the County and surrounding Towns.

- d. The introduction and 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.

Council Member Johnson moved, seconded by Council Member McCauley to amend Code pertaining to acceptable materials for driveways.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

- e. The consideration of Resolution 2023-R-01 establishing the locations for the speed cameras being installed by Altumint in the 4800 Block of Kenilworth Avenue and the 5100 block of Kenilworth Avenue was presented. With established locations, Acting Police Chief Beale noted a 30-day warning phase publishing information about the new speed cameras can take place.

Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the location and installation of the new speed cameras.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

- 3. Acting Police Chief Beale gave the monthly Police and Code Enforcement reports. Included in Acting Police Chief Beale's police report were a total of 6 crimes of auto theft or theft from an auto with 176 premise checks, 37 traffic stops and 130 calls for service. Revenue generated from red light camera totaled \$6,150. Under code compliance he reported there were 12 municipal infractions, 5 warning letters and 3 violation follow-ups.

Acting Police Chief Beale wants to establish an Explorer program for the Town for young people ages 14-20 as an introduction to police work and providing schoolwork support exposure to other experiences. In addition, he wants to start a Citizen's Academy that is open to all ages which provides exposure to police work.

Council Member Turberville questioned the startup of a Citizen's Academy prior to establishing a Police Advisory board which the Police Department presented as a priority under former leadership. Council Member McCauley noted that a Citizen's Academy might produce good candidates for an Advisory board. Mayor Gant likes the idea of a Citizen's Academy to create exposure and experiences for the community. Acting Police Chief Beale will continue working on both.

4. Rod Barnes gave the town administrator report (General Government and Public Works). He reported winners of the Christmas decorations: 5202 Emerson St. - Orellana and Bonilla family, 4905 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue - Pineda family, 4707 Decatur - Peters/Ayala family and at Fountain Park - Sanchez family # 5106, Ruttala family #5112, and Moni family #5110. Edmonston has been approved again as a host site for a Chesapeake Bay Corp volunteer. The Town has received partial funding for the Lafayette Street sidewalk project and the safe streets project has completed the 90% review for the safe streets project. The winter newsletter is underway and will feature information on the upcoming election and events.

5. Council Dialogue

Council Members Johnson and McCauley had no further comments. Council Member Turberville received positive comments from residents about the Decatur Street holiday decorations and noted the good investment. Council Member Chester declined the invitation to attend the League of Cities racial justice seminar due to work schedule conflicts.

6. Mayor's Comments

Mayor Gant commented on the attractive main street holiday decorations and wished everyone a Happy New Year. She noted that she will attend a MML upcoming legislative reception at Calvert House.

7. Adjournment. At 7:54 Council Member Chester moved, seconded by Council Member McCauley to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

---

Tracy R. Gant, Mayor

---

Averi Gray, Town Clerk