

Town of Edmonston  
Town Council Work Session Meeting Minutes  
March 14, 2023, Teleconference

1. Mayor Gant called the meeting to order at 6:47 p.m. and teleconference attendees were Council Members Hilary Chester, Betsy McCauley, John Johnson, Town Administrator Rod Barnes, Town Clerk Averil Gray and Acting Chief Eric Beale, Council Member Turberville was absent.
  
2. The presentation of the FY23-24 Annual continued with a review of the Police Department budget. Acting Chief Beale noted the budget reflects the following: a fully staffed department with the usual COLA raises. Telephone costs increased as the department has as each vehicle requires the purchase of two sim cards. Mayor Gant inquired about a Capital item inventory list and how often body cameras are reviewed. Acting Chief Beale indicated a bar-coded excel inventory spreadsheet exists and body cameras are reviewed once a week. Training costs will increase to allow for better monitoring and evaluation. Plans to remodel the police storage area to allow for a squad room and storing of evidence and firearms. Acting Chief Beale suggests increasing fuel costs for officers living out of county noting this action requires a policy directive by Council. New parking enforcement efforts are underway on Buchanan with yellow lines being painted allowing for temporary parking during business hours after which cars will be impounded. Acting Chief Beale wants to initiate training for truck inspection. Mayor Gant and Council support the enforcement efforts and suggests researching code to determine business hours and using town services outside of town.

The Town Administrator reviewed the Public Works proposed budget. Mosquito spraying is budgeted again but Council suggests removing as results of spraying has not proven to be worthwhile. Thirty to forty rain gardens will be planted beginning April. Mayor Gant asked if any plants chosen are ones that repel mosquitoes.

Highway user funds have increased and can be used to fix potholes and matching dollars for sidewalk construction. Suggestions were made to include noise meter enforcement, closing off areas on Lafayette during certain hours and installing stop sign cameras. We have decreased the rate in legal claims and new attorney costs are \$215/hour.

3. Adjournment - Mayor Gant adjourned the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

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Tracy R. Gant, Mayor

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Averil Gray, Town Clerk