

Town of Edmonston
Town Council Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday September 8, 2021, 7:00 P.M. (Via Zoom Teleconference)

1. Mayor Gant called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. and teleconference attendees were Council Members, Hilary Chester, Betsy McCauley, John Johnson, Sarah Turberville, Town Administrator Rod Barnes, Town Clerk Averl Gray, Police and Chief Elliott Gibson Sr.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Mayor and it was followed by a moment of silence.
3. Public Comment was opened by the Mayor. There were no comments from the public.
4. Old Business. There was none.

5. New Business

a. The consideration of approval of the following minutes.

- i. Virtual Work Session Meeting minutes from July 14, 2021.
- ii. Virtual Closed Session Meeting minutes from July 14, 2021.

Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Chester to approve the minutes from the virtual work session and closed session meetings on July 14, 2021.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

- iii. Virtual Regular Council Meeting minutes from July 14, 2021.
- iv. Work Session Strategic Planning July 17 & 18, 2021.
- v. Virtual Work Session Meeting minutes from August 10, 2021.

Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Turberville to approve the minutes from the virtual meeting on July 14, 2021 and the work session minutes from July 17 & 18 and August 10, 2021.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

6. Police Department Report – Chief Gibson gladly shared that there were no crimes to report for the month of August. He reported that the traffic impound statistic averaged 40 per month. The police department will soon be in full complement. Officer Ortiz is now certified to patrol alone and in a couple of weeks Officer Shepherd will be certified to patrol alone as well. Chief Gibson also indicated that as of October 1st this year, new legislation is expected allowing speed cameras to be attached to Red Light cameras and suggests the Town explore as a possibility for use.
7. Administrator Barnes reported additional mosquito spraying on Tanglewood Avenue and that WSSC is beginning a major project replacing 2.65 miles of water mains and house connections up to the property line. Current water pipes

are nearing the end of their life cycle having been installed 60 to 100 years ago. The new lines will have a life expectancy of at least 100 years. Work will begin this fall and is expected to be completed in fall of 2023. Work will occur between 8am – 4pm with a 48-hour prior notice of water shutdown. The Town will be included in pre-construction briefings.

8. Council Dialogue

- Council Member Turberville complimented the Police Department work in that no crimes were reported in August.
- Council Member McCauley also complimented the Police Department work. She also asked that the department continue the review of adding speed cameras to the red-light cameras. Concern was expressed that WSSC also keep the Town informed during the projected work as it affects traffic flow.
- Council Member Chester reported on the planning of the upcoming Hispanic Heritage Festival on September 25th. She also shared that the DMV area could expect 8-10 families Afghan refugees according to sources associated with her work.
- Council Member Johnson had no further comments.

9. Mayor's Comments

Mayor Gant complimented the Police Department work, staffing-up and hearing of no crime statistics during the month of August. Mayor Gant expressed excitement about the upcoming 1st Annual Fitness and Gun Violence Awareness Rally on September 11th and gave a brief rundown of the event. Attendees will include merchandise and information vendors, elected officials, fitness demonstrations, health resources, testing, screenings, and kid activities. The Police Department was to provide parking and traffic direction. A flyer on the event's line-up will be distributed to the community.

10. Adjournment – At 8:09 pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member McCauley and seconded by Council Member Chester.
Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville
Nays: None
Motion Carried

Mayor, Tracy R. Gant

Averi Gray, Town Clerk