

Town of Edmonston
Town Council Regular Council Meeting Agenda
Wednesday May 18, 2022 (Via Zoom Teleconference)

1. Mayor Gant called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and teleconference attendees were Council Members Hilary Chester, Betsy McCauley, John Johnson, and Sarah Turberville Administrator Rod Barnes, Police Chief Elliott Gibson Sr., and Town Attorney Suellen Ferguson.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Gant and followed by a moment of silence
3. Public Comment –There were no public comments.
4. Ordinance 2022-OR-03 to appropriate and adopt the annual budget for fiscal year 2022-23 was presented for final approval. Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve ordinance 2022-OR-03 on final approval.
Vote: Ayes: Chester, Johnson, McCauley, Turberville
Nays: None
Motion carried.
5. New Business –
 - a. Minutes
 - i. April 5, 2022, Work Session Meeting Minutes
 - ii. April 13, 2022, Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Council Member Johnson moved, seconded by Council Member Chester to approve minutes from all the above-referenced virtual meetings.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, Johnson, McCauley, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

- b. The introduction of ordinance 2022-OR-04 to amend the annual budget for fiscal year 2021-22 was presented for approval. Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the introduction of ordinance 2022-OR-04 to amend the annual budget for fiscal year 2021-22.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, Johnson, McCauley, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

- c. Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Chester to approve designating the Black Eyed-Susan as the Town of Edmonston's flower and the Willow Oak as the Town's official tree.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, Johnson, McCauley, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

- d. Ordinance 2022-OR-05 amending the Town's tree ordinance and creating a tree board was introduced. Council Member Chester moved, seconded by Council

Member Johnson to approve the introduction of Ordinance 2022-OR-05. Council Member Chester asked if language could be added to address conflicts between private property owners when trees are on or near property lines. Town Attorney Ferguson indicated that common law applies for trees shared on or near property lines. If a tree encroaches on your property, you can trim the tree back to the property line. The Town has the right to address hazardous or unsafe trees on private property and dead trees under the property maintenance code. Ms. Ferguson indicated the Town did not want to add language about private property rights related to trees. Town Administrator Barnes suggested that the Tree Board could educate homeowners on the rights. He also suggested putting together a comparison of what is in the property maintenance code and the proposed tree ordinance for Council Member Chester to review.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, Johnson, McCauley, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

- e. The award of bid for a 3-year contract for sanitation services to Bates Trucking was presented for approval subject to the contract approval by the Town Attorney. Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Chester to approve the contract for sanitation services subject to the Town Attorney's approval.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, Johnson, McCauley, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

- f. The approval for the restoration of the Plummer Mural by Collins & Sons LLC in the amount of \$14,365.00 was presented for approval. Council Member Turberville moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve the contract with Collins & Sons LLC to restore the Plummer Mural.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, Johnson, McCauley, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

- g. The approval of Bartlett Tree Experts proposal for tree care services for the pruning of 49 trees, removal of 20 trees, fertilization of 48 trees, severing the vines from 68 trees and treating 37 trees for \$45,715 using ARPA funds was presented for approval. Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Turberville to approve the Bartlett Tree Experts proposal as presented.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, Johnson, McCauley, Turberville

Nays: None.

Motion Carried.

6. Police Department Report (Police and Code Compliance) - Police Chief Gibson gave the April Police and Code Compliance reports. Chief Gibson reported that they are working with DPIE on increased parking enforcement on Buchanan and Tanglewood Streets. He indicated he had two officers out of the office.
7. Town Administrator Rod Barnes reported that the Bike to Work event is on Friday. The Town will have a rest stop at Veteran's Park. The AIB advisors will be here June 23 and 24. Mayor Gant will be hosting a business breakfast meeting at Berliner Specialty on Tuesday, May 24 at 9:00 a.m. for businesses located on Buchanan and Kenilworth. The

Port Towns Quarterly meeting is Tuesday, May 24 at 6:30 p.m. The food pantry is being very successful and needs food.

8. Council Member Chester reported that the staff is setting up the first Walk-n-Talk for Friday, June 3 at 7:00 p.m. The walk will start at Veteran's Park.

Council Member Johnson reported the levy was still very clean.

Mayor Gant reported that PGCMA was hosting a mental health round table on Thursday, May 19 at Prince George's County Community College. The session will be virtual as well. She encouraged everyone to participate. Mayor Gant also reported on a gun violence film that was previewed recently.

9. Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to adjourn the regular town council meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, Johnson, McCauley, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Tracy R. Gant, Mayor

Averi Gray, Town Clerk