

Town of Edmonston
Town Council Work Session Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2023, Via Teleconference (ZOOM)

1. Mayor Gant called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. and teleconference attendees were Council Members Hilary Chester, Betsy McCauley, John Johnson, Sarah Turberville, Town Administrator Rod Barnes, Town Clerk Averil Gray, and Acting Police Chief Eric Beale.
2. There was a presentation by Josephine Selvakumar, Planner III, Prince George's County Planning Department on the upcoming Port Town's Sector Plan update. She indicated the team is doing background research and pre-planning activities for a fall kick-off and the expected timeline is 2-3 years to produce the plan. Administrator Barnes shared that the Port Town CDC wants to reactivate their activities which hopefully can be incorporated into the Sector plan.

3. Review Agenda

a. 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

There were no comments or changes expressed by Council regarding the minutes.

- b. 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.

Administrator Barnes noted codes from neighboring Towns and the County that included similar language as Edmonston. Council Member Chester would like to explore alternate language that might tie health & safety issues versus aesthetics more clearly. This item will be removed from the agenda until March to allow for further discussion.

- c. 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. Council had no further comments on this ordinance amendments and are ready to proceed.

- 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. Council had no further comments on this ordinance amendment and are ready to proceed.

- e. The consideration of designation of a 2015 Ford Explorer Police Cruiser as surplus and authorization to list it on govdeals.com. Council Member Turberville asked if the vehicle was being replaced to which Administrator Barnes replied it was not. Chief Beale added that this vehicle is unused, and the department still has one other spare vehicle.
- 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. Council had no further comments on this contract and are ready to proceed.
- 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. Administrator Barnes indicated a \$500 cost increase from the previous year. Council had no further comments on this subject and are ready to proceed.
- h. The consideration of approving a request of \$25,000 from the nonprofit, End Time Harvest Ministries (ETHM) for services provided to the Port Town communities using ARPA funds. Council Member Turberville suggested a process that is open to other nonprofits to request funding. Council Member Johnson suggested Port Towns contribute to ETHM. Mayor Gant indicated the need for a fair and equitable process and is willing to ask Port Towns about contributing. She also noted ETHM works with the youth from our community and provides volunteer support at major Town events. This item will be removed from the agenda to allow for further discussion.
- i. The consideration of designation of the water wagon as surplus and authorization to sell it to Professional Lawn Maintenance Services Inc. for \$700. Administrator Barnes noted that Public Works no longer uses this item. There was no further comments.
- 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 had no further comments on this group established and are ready to proceed. We will secure a Spanish speaking interpreter to assist during the election.

- 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). Administrator Barnes indicated that May 1st is the deadline for completion and The Town is attempting to reduce bid amount to match grant amount awarded of \$124,000. There were no further comments.
- 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. Administrator Barnes noted the lack of storage space for items such as the newly purchased Christmas garland used on light poles on Decatur Street. There were no further comments.
- m. The consideration of approval to replace the 2 license plate readers Police currently use from Eltag in the amount of \$33,350. (Maryland State Police Grant FY23 Local Agency License Plate Reader Grant). Chief Beale noted the new readers are updated and will replace an older less functional model. There were no questions from the Council
- n. At 6:34 p.m., Council Member McCauley a motion was made, seconded by Council Member Chester to enter a Closed Session to discuss personnel matters and police candidates were introduced.

Vote: Ayes: Chester, McCauley, Johnson, Turberville Nays:

None

Motion Carried

At 7:10 p.m., the Work Session resumed with a discussion about the Black History Month program and Tasting event.

At 7:22 p.m., Mayor Gant adjourned the Work Session meeting.

Mayor, Tracy R. Gant

Averi Gray, Town Clerk

