

Town of Edmonston  
Town Council Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
June 14, 2023  
Edmonston Town Hall, 5005 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

1. Mayor Gant called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and attendees were Council Members Hilary Chester, Betsy McCauley, John Johnson, Sarah Turberville, Town Administrator Rod Barnes, Town Clerk Averil Gray, Acting Police Chief Eric Beale, and Ward 1 Council Member Elect Kony Serrano Portillo. Town Attorney Jason DeLoach was absent.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Gant followed by a moment of silence.
3. Public Comment – there were no comments from the public.
4. Old Business
  - a. Minutes
    - i. May 10, 2023, Work Session Meeting Minutes
    - ii. May 10, 2023, Regular Session Meeting Minutes
    - iii. May 10, 2023, Closed Session Meeting Minutes

Council Member McCauley moved to approve all minutes from the May 10, 2023, meeting as presented, seconded by Council Member Johnson.  
Vote: Ayes: McCauley, Chester, Johnson, Turberville  
Nays: None  
Motion carried

b. The final consideration and approval of ordinance 2023-OR-04 amending the FY22-23 annual budget was presented for approval. Council Member McCauley moved to approve ordinance 2023-OR-04 amending the FY22-23 annual budget, seconded by Council Member Turberville.  
Vote: Ayes: McCauley, Chester, Johnson, Turberville  
Nays: None  
Motion carried

c. The final consideration and approval of ordinance 2023-OR-03 adopting the FY23-24 annual budget and setting the real estate property tax and business personal property tax rates was presented for approval.  
Council Member McCauley moved to approve ordinance 2023-OR-03 adopting the FY23-24 annual budget seconded by Council Member Johnson.  
Vote: Ayes: McCauley, Chester, Johnson, Turberville  
Nays: None  
Motion carried

d. Mayor Gant thanked outgoing council member Hilary Chester for her service to the Town and presented her with a plant from the Town. Council Member Chester thanked everyone.

5. New Business

- a. The Swearing in Ceremony for Mayor and Town Council members led by the Honorable Mahasin El Amin, Clerk of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County Maryland was held. Newly elected Ward 1 Council Member Kony Serrano Portillo was sworn in, along with Mayor Tracy Gant for her 4<sup>th</sup> term and Council Members Betsy McCauley for her 2<sup>nd</sup> term, John Johnson for his 4<sup>th</sup> term and Sarah Turberville for her 3<sup>rd</sup> term.

Following the ceremony, the Mayor and Council received congratulatory remarks from:

Ethan Sweep, Community liaison for Congressman Glenn Ivey who presented a certificate to Mayor Gant and to each member of the Town Council. Delegate Ashanti Martinez representing District 22 in the Maryland General Assembly made remarks and presented certificates to the Mayor and each member of the Town Council. Also in attendance were County Council Members Jolene Ivey and Krystal Oriadha, Amy Frye Council Member for Colmar Manor, and Rick Gordon Council member in Greenbelt.

Mayor Gant welcomed Elizabeth Mussie, the winner of the Edmonston Junior Mayor contest attending her first meeting along with her sister.

- b. The consideration and approval of a resolution authorizing the creation of the Centennial Fund Bank Account with TD Bank and authorize the Mayor, Town Administrator and Police Chief as signatories was presented.

Council Member McCauley moved to approve the resolution authorizing the creation of the Centennial Fund Bank Account with TD Bank. seconded by Council Member Serrano.

Vote: Ayes: McCauley, Serrano, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion carried

6. Police Department Report (Police and Code Enforcement) – Acting Police Chief Beale reported the stats for May which were two auto thefts, four thefts from autos and one simple assault. Revenue generated from red light camera totaled \$7,261 and \$1,870 from impounds. Code Compliance issued thirty-nine business and one vendor license and completed three flood mitigation grant inspections. Twelve municipal infractions and thirteen violation warning letters were issued.

7. Town Administrator Report (General Government and Public Works) – Rod Barnes reported on the success of the Town's 99<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary celebration on Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. noting it was our first Edmonston Day in four years and thanked staff and the police department for their efforts. He mentioned other upcoming events – July 3<sup>rd</sup> fireworks watch party on Decatur Street bridge, Casino Night, and the National Night Out in August. He and Mayor Gant joined three other Maryland mayors and the Chesapeake Bay Trust for a panel discussion about climate change moderated by Jake Day the Secretary of the

DHCD. Town Administrator Barnes reminded residents that the Stormwater grant program is still open for applications. Town Clerk, Averi Gray described the guidelines for the school bookbag and supply giveaway taking place in July through early August.

#### 8. Council Dialogue

Council Member McCauley thanked outgoing Council Member Chester for her services. She commented that the new sidewalks are a welcome addition reminding residents to not park on or leave trash/recycling bins out after pick-up services complete.

Council Member Serrano expressed thanks to her grandmother, great grandmother, and Mom for their support. All were in attendance.

Council Member Turberville thanked her family and shared her excitement to serve another term on the Council. She also acknowledged outgoing Council Member Chester contributions and welcomed Council Member Serrano.

Council Member Johnson welcomed Council Member Serrano and expressed thanks to the Staff and Police Department for the successful Edmonston Day event. He was particularly impressed with the stilt walker in the parade.

9. Mayor's Comments – Mayor Gant thanked all who attended and participated in the meeting. She also expressed her gratitude to outgoing Council Member Chester, noting her compassion and commitment to the community.

#### 11. Adjournment

At 7:40 p.m., Council Member Serrano moved that the Council adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Johnson.

Vote: Ayes: McCauley, Serrano, Johnson, Turberville

Nays: None

Motion carried

Reception for elected officials followed the swearing in ceremony.

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Tracy R. Gant, Mayor

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Averi Gray, Town Clerk