Town of Edmonston
Town Council Regular Council Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2026, Via Teleconference (VIRTUAL)

1. 7:05 P.M. Call to Order – Mayor Gant

In attendance were Council Member Betsy McCauley, Council Member John Johnson, Council Member Michelle Bonilla Town Administrator Rod Barnes, Police Chief Eric Beale, Town Clerk Averi Gray, and Police Clerk Derria Faison. Absent: Council Member Sarah Turberville.

2. The mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

3. Public Comment

- Dave Blair, Decatur Street suggested organizing a basketball tournament for kids and adults with the goal being to get people out moving and doing something fun.He volunteered to assist with a program.

Mayor's Response

Mayor Tracy Gant was enthusiastic about Dave's idea and suggested:

- Connecting Dave with "Mentoring Through Athletics," a group that works with the town
- Also proposed organizing a 3K walk/run event that would bring out everyone
- Asked Rod Barnes to collect Dave's contact information in the chat

Dave expressed that the 3K walk/run sounded like a good idea and agreed to provide contact information.

4.. NEW BUSINESS

A. Minutes

i. The minutes from the January 6 Town Council Closed Session meeting.
ii. The minutes from February 11 Town Council Regular Session meeting.

Council Member Johnson motioned, seconded by Council Member McCauley, to accept the minutes from the January 6th regular Town Closed Session and the February 11th regular session.
Vote:
Ayes: Bonilla, Johnson, McCauley
Nays: None
Motion Carried
Absent: Turberville

B. The consideration of the introduction of ordinance **NO. 2025-OR-11**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF EDMONSTON AMENDING THE TOWN CHARTER TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 432 "VEHICLE SPRAY PAINTING AND REFURBISIHING SERVICES ON VEHICLES" TO REGULATE COMMERCIAL SPRAY PAINTING AND REFURBISHING SERVICES FOR VEHICLES IN THE TOWN.

Council Member McCauley motioned, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to accept the consideration of the introduction of ordinance NO. 2025-OR-11 AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF EDMONSTON AMENDING THE TOWN CHARTER TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 432 "VEHICLE SPRAY PAINTING AND REFURBISIHING SERVICES ON VEHICLES" TO REGULATE COMMERCIAL SPRAY PAINTING AND REFURBISHING SERVICES FOR VEHICLES IN THE TOWN.
Vote :
Ayes: Bonilla, Johnson, McCauley
Nays: None
Motion Carried
Absent: Turberville

C. The consideration of the approval of the Town of Edmonston Investment Policy.

Council Member McCauley motioned, seconded by Council Member Bonilla, to approve the Town of Edmonston Investment Policy.
Vote:
Ayes: Bonilla, Johnson, McCauley
Nays: None
Motion Carried
Absent: Turberville

D. The approval of the disposal of the 2000 Ford F450 Dump Truck on Govdeals.com.

Council Member McCauley motioned, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to accept the approval of the disposal of the 2000 Ford F450 Dump Truck on Govdeals.com.
Vote :
Ayes: Bonilla, Johnson, McCauley
Nays: None
Motion Carried
Absent: Turberville

5. Police Department Report (Police and Code Enforcement) –Police Chief Beale gave the monthly reports for Police and Code.

Operation Blue Light

- Announced the upcoming Operation Blue Light partnership with Prince George's County Police on Friday and Saturday, March 20th and 21st.
    - Explained it's a community engagement initiative, not an enforcement action.
    - During the daytime officers will engage the community through bike patrol and foot patrol.
    - At night: proactive patrol focusing on Buchanan Street and Tanglewood areas to address racing cars and noise complaints
    - Partnership includes Hyattsville, Riverdale Park, and other jurisdictions county-wide. Officers will have cruise lights on so residents can identify and approach them

6. Town Administrator Report (General Government and Public Works) – Rod Barnes

- The Town Administrator reported that the Loteria/Bingo night was coming on Friday, March 13; Dumpster Day on March 28 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- Spring Art Camp March 20-April 3 from 1 to 3 p.m. each day; Chyna and Operation Arts will be leading the painting of the barricades at 51st & Buchanan.
- Prince George's County DPW&T will be repairing the storm drain at 51st & Decatur this spring.
- The Port Towns received a $332,000 grant for weatherization. Low-to-moderate income residents can apply for grants to acquire energy star appliances and upgrade HVAC.
- Rod thanked Averi Gray and Jamileth Mendez for their work to celebrate Black History with the unveiling of the mural at Buchanan & Kenilworth Avenue.
- Mr. Barnes reported he attended an open house on a proposed bike/pedestrian improvement plan for Kenilworth Avenue. The project runs from Good Luck Road to 52nd Avenue.
- The Port Towns is working with a PALS class sponsored by MNCPPC to develop a wayfaring signage program for the Port Towns.
- The Port Towns Sector Plan is going through hearings. A representative will be at the April 8 Town Council meeting to review the plan with the Council
- Voter registration and Filings for Mayor and Town Council are open until 5:00 p.m., April 3.

7. Council Dialogue

1. Council Member McCauley directed that there should be no scrap metal people collecting scrap metal on Dumpster Day.

She asked about the trail at the Recreation Center. Mr. Barnes indicated that due to increased cost had eliminated the trail, but an outside exercise pad will be developed.

2. Council Member Bonilla supported the dog event idea.

8. Mayor's Comments

Pet Fair

- Initially stated they weren't doing the dog show this year.
- After the discussion, the staff agreed to bring back the pet day event in the future.
- Shared experience attending Senator's pet event in Greenbelt, describing features like chipping, training, and specialized food.
- Commented on becoming a better animal lover thanks to Edmonston.

- **Acknowledgments and Appreciation**
  - Thanks to Rod and the staff for their hard work on the Black History mural unveiling, calling it "beautiful".
  - Expressed pride in the artwork and excitement about Rose's upcoming artwork display in June.
  - Noted that other Port Towns mayors are impressed with Edmonton's decision to beautify an industrial area.
  - Thanked the "grant writing machines in Edmonton" Rod Barnes and Chief Beale for their work.

County Executive Meeting

- Expressed strong appreciation for County Executive Braveboy's approach to working with municipalities.
- Highlighted that the County Executive is holding regular monthly meetings.
- Emphasized this represents a positive change, with the county now following up and creating task forces based on municipal input.
- Mentioned bringing up issues like red tape for stop sign cameras approval and lighting differences between town LED lights and county/state roads.
- Noted the County Executive set up a work group to address these concerns.

Other Comments

- She requested the website updates for all events so legislative officials can attend.
- Mentioned attending MML Advocacy Day to speak with legislators.
- Announced the upcoming MML essay contest for fourth graders, inviting Council members to participate in judging.
- Excited about the Mother/Daughter Tea on May 9.

9. Adjournment

Council Member McCauley moved, seconded by Council Member Bonilla to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Vote:
Ayes: Bonilla, Johnson, McCauley
Nays: None
Motion Carried
Absent: Turberville

ATTEST:

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_____ Tracy R. Gant, Mayor

Derria Faison, Police Clerk