Town of Edmonston
Town Council Work Session Minutes
Tuesday, March 31, 2026

1. Mayor Gant called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. and teleconference attendees were Council Members Michelle Bonilla, Betsy McCauley, Sarah Turberville, Town Administrator Rod Barnes, Town Clerk Averi Gray, and Police Chief Eric Beale. Council Member John Johnson was absent.

2. Proposed FY26-27 Budget Overview – Police, General Government
   Chief Beale and Town Administrator Barnes presented various line items including salaries, equipment, training, and software costs. Council Member Turberville expressed concerns about the growing number of vendor contracts, particularly Lexipol, and the impact on the police department budget. Chief Beale explained the need for Lexipol in providing essential policy management and compliance features by state law and shared that other software systems, including Rescue One for AED maintenance, Power MDS for scheduling and Frontline provide value to the Department. Chief Beale indicated budget reductions in equipment due to existing inventory and grant funding and in specialized training except for mandatory state requirements and/or for position promotion needs. The conversation also addressed vacant positions, benefits, health insurance and Chief Beale expressed a goal to return to full staffing levels of six officers. The Council agreed to postpone further budget discussion until the next Work Session meeting on April 7th. Town Administrator Barnes conveyed that the police and town government share expenses for water and electric bills and indicated that the award of a solar panel grant may help reduce building costs.

3. Closed Session At 8:48 p.m., Council Member McCauley motioned, seconded by Council Member Turberville to go into a closed-session meeting to discuss a personnel matter and not return to the work session meeting.
   Vote: Ayes: Council Members Bonilla, McCauley, Turberville
   Nays: None
   Motion Carried

   Those in attendance were Mayor Gant, Council Members Betsy McCauley, Sarah Turberville, Town Administrator Rod Barnes and Police Chief Eric Beale.

4. Adjournment. 8:48 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Mayor, Tracy R. Gant

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Averi Gray, Town Clerk