Town of Edmonston
Town Council Regular Council Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2025, Via Teleconference (VIRTUAL)

1. Mayor Gant called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M

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, Police Clerk Derria Faison, and Town Attorney Jason DeLoach. Council Member Sarah Turberville was absent.

2. Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence

3. Public Comment - There were no public comments.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Minutes

i. The minutes from the April 8 Town Council Regular meeting.
ii. The minutes from April 7, and 21, Town Council Work Session meetings.

Council Member Johnson motioned, seconded by Council Member McCauley, to accept the minutes from the April 8th regular Town Council meeting and the April 7th , and 21st , Town Council Work Session meetings.
Vote:
Ayes: Bonilla, Johnson, McCauley
Nays: None
Motion Carried
Absent: Turberville

B. The consideration of the introduction of ordinance No. 2026-OR-01. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF EDMONSTON AMENDING CHAPTER 440 “VEHICLES, PUBLIC REPAIRING OF” OF THE TOWN CODE BY AMENDING § 440-2 AND ADDING A NEW § 440-3 TO PROHIBIT SPRAY PAINTING AND REFURBISHING OF VEHICLES IN OR ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY. Council Member McCauley motioned, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to accept the introduction of ordinance No. 2026-OR-01 as presented.

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

C. The consideration of a contract with Solar SME for the installation of solar panels on the Town Hall and the construction of a solar canopy for the Town Hall parking lot in the amount of $135,000. (This is a Maryland Energy Administration Grant) Council Member McCauley motioned, seconded by Council Member Bonilla, to accept the consideration of a contract with Solar SME for the installation of solar panels on the Town Hall and the construction of a solar canopy for the Town Hall parking lot in the amount of $135,000.

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

D. The consideration of the introduction of ordinance 2026-OR-02. **AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF EDMONSTON TO AMEND THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 – 2026.** Council Member McCauley motioned, seconded by Council Member Bonilla, to accept the consideration of the introduction of ordinance 2026-OR-02 as presented.

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

E. The consideration of the introduction of ordinance 2026-OR-03. **AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF EDMONSTON TO APPROPRIATE AND ADOPT THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 - 2027.** Council Member McCauley motioned, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to accept the introduction of ordinance 2026-OR-03 as presented.

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

F. The consideration of the adoption of a safety policy for the Town of Edmonston. Council Member McCauley motioned, seconded by Council Member

Johnson, to accept the consideration of the adoption of a safety policy for the Town of Edmonston.

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

G. The introduction of ordinance 2026-OR-04 adopting a records retention policy for the Town of Edmonston and creating a retention schedule. (Policy to be reviewed and approved by the State of Maryland) Council Member McCauley motioned, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to accept the introduction of ordinance 2026-OR-04 adopting a records retention policy for the Town of Edmonston and creating a retention schedule. (Policy to be reviewed and approved by the State of Maryland)

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

H. The consideration of approval of the following employment contracts:

1. Rod Barnes, Town Administrator
2. Eric Beale, Police Chief

Council Member McCauley motioned, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the renewal of the following employment contracts:

1. Rod Barnes, Town Administrator
2. Eric Beale, Police Chief

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.

- **Upcoming Initiatives:**
  Chief Beale announced a traffic enforcement initiative in partnership with Morningside and Forest Heights, focusing on stop sign runners, speeders, and aggressive drivers to prevent road rage incidents.
- The Chief also plans to hold quarterly crime meetings at the Rec Center starting in late June to keep residents informed about local and regional crime trends, scams, and fraud.

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

- Edmonston Day parade and festival is Saturday, June 6 beginning at 2 p.m.
- KUDOS to the team for the great Mother/Daughter Tea event. Over 75 participants attended. Thanks to Derria, Averi, Jamileth, Mr. Bonilla, and Ed Hooker for their efforts.

7. Council Dialogue

Council Member Bonilla volunteered to assist during the Edmonston Day event.

8. Mayor's Comments

- **Acknowledgment of Team Effort:** The Mayor thanked Ms. Avery, Ms. Jamileth, Ms. Derria, Chief Beale and his crew, Mr. Bonilla, and volunteer Ed for their work in executing the Mother's Day event, noting that while the Mayor has ideas, it takes the team to carry them out during work hours.
- **Event Success:** The mayor highlighted that the event featured real China (not paper), which was donated by Ed and Mr. Barnes for the evening. The mayor described the atmosphere as pleasant and beautiful, mentioning that the lieutenant's wife attended along with council members.

9. Closed Session (If required) PLEASE **STATE PURPOSE AND WHO IS ATTENDING.**

10. Adjournment

Council Member Bonilla moved, seconded by Council Member Johnson to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:24 p.m.

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

ATTEST:

_____

Derria Faison, Police Clerk _____

Tracy R. Gant, Mayor