Town of Edmonston
Town Council Work Session Minutes
Tuesday, May 5, 2026, Via Teleconference

1. Mayor Gant called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and teleconference attendees were Council Members Ward 1 Council Members Michelle Bonilla, Betsy McCauley, and Ward 2 Council Members John Johnson, Sarah Turberville, Town Administrator Rod Barnes, Town Clerk Averi Gray, and Police Chief Eric Beale.

Chief Beale and Robert Jones, owner of A Tow Truck Company (ATTC), opened the meeting with a discussion about a proposed pay-to-park system for the industrial area. The concept would require businesses to purchase parking permits to improve compliance and reduce vehicle overflow. Next steps include forming a task force made up of residents and business owners to gather feedback on the proposal. The Town will also reach out to other municipalities that currently use pay-to-park systems to learn about their experiences, including benefits and challenges. After that, the Town will begin seeking bid proposals for the work.

2. Review agenda for May 13 Town Council meeting: There were no suggested edits provided by the Council for the minutes.

A. Approval of minutes

i. Minutes from April 7 and April 21 Town Council Work Sessions.

. ii. Minutes from the April 8 Town Council Regular Meeting.

B. The consideration of the final approval 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 is prepared to move forward with final approval of the ordinance.

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) The Town Administrator provided updates on the solar installation project, which includes having the Town Hall roof re-evaluated to ensure it does not need replacement first.

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.** The revised budget with updated amendment for FY 25-26 will be sent for review before the May 13th regular Town Council meeting. A special Council meeting will be held on May 20th to finalize and adopt the budget ordinance after the public hearing.
Council is prepared to move forward with the approval of the introduction of the ordinance.

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 is prepared to move forward with the introduction of the ordinance.

F. The consideration of the adoption of a safety policy for the Town of Edmonston. Council is prepared to move forward by adopting a safety policy.

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 is prepared to move forward with the introduction of the ordinance.

3. Review the plans for the remodeling of the Edmonston Town Hall. Town Administrator Barnes reviewed remodeling plans with the architect on the possibility of modifying the town hall kitchen.

4. Update on events: Town Clerk Averi Gray reported on the recent election results, where a new Mayor and four new Council Members, two from each Ward, were selected. Plans for the upcoming events were shared.

Mother/Daughter Tea – Saturday, May 9 (2 p.m. to 5 p.m.)
Edmonston Day – Saturday, June 6, (2 p.m. parade, festival 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.)

5. A Closed Session to discuss personnel matters. PLEASE **STATE THE PURPOSE AND WHO IS ATTENDING.** At 8:06 p.m., Council Member McCauley motioned, seconded by Council Member Turberville, to adjourn the Work session meeting and go into a Closed Session to include the Mayor and Council only to discuss contract renewal and not return to the work session.

a. Town Administrator Contract Renewal
b. Police Chief Contract Renewal

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

6. Adjournment. At 8:06 p.m., the work session was adjourned.

Attest: _____ Tracy R. Gant, Mayor

_____
Averi Gray, Town Clerk