

Edenton Town Council Minutes
Special Meeting
February 28, 2022

The Edenton Town Council met in special session on Monday, February 28, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The following members were present: Mayor Jimmy Stallings, Councilman Elton Bond, Councilman Roger Coleman, Councilman Hackney High, Councilman Craig Miller and Councilman Roscoe Poole. Absent was Councilman Samuel Dixon.

Mayor Jimmy Stallings called the meeting to order.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation from Wes Mattera to give an update on the John A. Holmes State Champion Signage. A final rendering of the sign was shown to the Town Council and Mr. Mattera stated that they hoped to place signage in five locations around the Town of Edenton.

The second item was a resolution for the Department of Commerce Building Reuse Grant for Project Billfish.

Corey Gooden, Town Manager stated that Project Billfish was an existing industry in the Town of Edenton seeking building reuse funds from the NC Department of Commerce. They have been awarded an incentive package for the Building Reuse Program, as well as customized training funds to be used with the College of Albemarle (COA). The grant amount and company name are confidential until released by the Governor. The award from the Governor's office will be announced on April 20th. Building Reuse funds require a job commitment – Project Billfish has committed to creating 25 new jobs in 2 years. This company has a long history of providing quality jobs in Chowan County and has proven success in growing their business, in addition to being a great community partner. The awarded funds will allow them to expand their existing facility and continue to grow their business.

Councilman Bond made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilman Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The last item was the approval of sale by negotiated offer with upset bid for 304 Court Street.

Corey Gooden, Town Manager explained that recently he spoke with the SAGA Construction and Development Director Bob Howsare about the need for an additional spacing (15ft) along the North East property edge of the SAGA owned property at 113 E. King St. (i.e., Hotel Hinton). SAGA is requesting this additional spacing to allow for the proper set back needs for the structural expansion needs within the architectural plans. The total area requested is roughly 15 ft by 136 ft.

Mr. Gooden stated that since the initial conversation with Mr. Howsare, he had discussed with Town Attorney and the Town can entertain this purchase by requesting that the Town Council approve the private sale through negotiated offer with an upset bid. The Town Manager can start this process if approved by the Town Council and begin soliciting commercial appraisals values immediately. He explained that then the Town Council can choose to affirm to sale the property based upon the highest price and agreed upon terms once the process is complete.

Councilman High made a motion to approve staff begin the process for the sale of 304 Court Street by upset bid process. Councilman Coleman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further items on the special meeting agenda, the meeting was adjourned.