

Edenton Town Council Minutes
July 13, 2021

The Edenton Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 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 following minutes were presented for approval: Special Meeting April 19, 2021; Special Meeting April 21, 2021; Regular Meeting May 11, 2021; Special Meeting May 24, 2021.

Councilman Bond made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda were committee reports.

The Administrative Committee had three items for approval.

Councilman High stated that the first item was a recommendation that Council approve purchase of Acoustic (Gunfire) Sound Detection System as presented.

Bobby Darling with ACOEM, Inc. was present via zoom to answer any questions and Chief Henry King was also present.

Chief King stated that the project would begin by covering a one square mile radius in town.

Councilman High made a motion to approve the purchase of the acoustic sound detection system as presented. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman High requested that this new system be advertised to the citizens so that they are aware of it being used.

Councilman High stated that the second item was a recommendation that Council adopt Resolution to accept Federal Funds under American Rescue Plan Act as presented.

Councilman High made a motion to adopt the resolution as presented. Councilman Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman High stated that the last item was a recommendation Council approve Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding with the College of the Albemarle as presented.

Councilman High made a motion to approve Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding with the College of the Albemarle as presented. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Finance Committee had one item on the agenda for approval.

Councilman Coleman stated that it was recommended Council approve amendment to the Hurricane Dorian FEMA Capital Project Ordinance as presented.

Councilman Coleman made a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Councilman Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Public Works Committee had four items on the agenda.

Councilman Miller stated that the first item was a recommendation to approve bid award to Waff Contracting for replacement of Wave Break Panels on the Breakwater as presented.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the bid award as presented. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Miller stated that the second item was a recommendation Council approve bid award to Waff Contracting for replacement of Pier & Boatslips at Edenton Harbor as presented.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the bid award as presented. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Miller stated that the third item was a recommended Council approve bid award to Waff Contracting for replacement of bulkhead at Sunfish Park as presented.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the bid award as presented. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Miller stated that the last item was a recommendation Council approve granting of temporary construction easements & permanent easement to NC Department of Transportation for the Bolton's Bridge Replacement Project as presented.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the granting of easements to NCDOT as presented. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was new business.

Mayor Stallings stated that the first item was NC Session Law 2021-5b/SB 722 Local Government Redistricting/Census: Recommend town **not** opt to hold At Large contest on regular election date in 2021.

Terry Meyers with the Chowan County Board of Elections was present and explained to the Mayor and Town Council that the 2020 census information was not ready and that redistricting would not be completed in time for an at large election to be held in November 2021. The Town Council can opt to not have that election and wait until March 2022 to hold the at large and ward seat election together. If everything is completed for the redistricting, the filing period for the elections would be held in December 2021 with elections being held in March 2022.

Councilman High made a motion to agree with SB 722 and postpone the At Large Seat election in November 2021 and hold it in March 2022. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Stallings stated that the second item was Capital Project Budget Ordinance Building Reuse Grant & One NC Fund Grant, Nebraska Plastics, Inc.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the capital project budget ordinance. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Stallings stated that the third item was the approval of State of North Carolina American Rescue Plan Act Award.

Councilman Bond made a motion to approve the ARPA Award. Councilman High seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Stallings stated that fourth item was the Capital Project Budget Ordinance, American Rescue Plan Act Funds.

Councilman High made a motion to adopt the Capital Project Budget Ordinance. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Stallings stated that the last item was budget amendment to General Fund, Police Department Equipment.

This budget amendment was for funds that were donated to the Police Department for the purchase of camera to be installed at landlords' property and added to the Police Department network of cameras.

Councilman High made a motion to approve the budget amendment. Councilman Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was items considered timely and important.

Councilman Miller asked for an update on Old Hertford Road project to help Ms. Emma Godfrey, resident to come to the Council meeting recently and expressed concern with flooding after heavy rains.

Corey Gooden, Public Works Director, explained that he has been working with contractors to obtain bids on the work needed to make improvements in the area. He stated as soon as all the bids are obtained this item would be presented to Town Council.

Councilman Miller requested an update on the signs for the high school athletic accomplishments that were discussed at a previous meeting.

Councilman High stated that he hoped to have a report soon on this item.

Councilman Miller asked if there was any information on the additional lighting that was requested by the Downtown Ambassadors.

Councilman High requested that for the next agenda that decorative lighting for the end of Broad Street be discussed.

Councilman High also requested that a restart of the Young Folks Committee be discussed at the next meeting.

Councilman Coleman stated that Council recently approved improvements for the waterfront and suggested that bids for lighting in the park be added to those improvements.

Councilman Coleman asked that the "Meet the Council" forums be started with quarterly meetings by district. He also requested a restart of the Town Newsletter for residents.

Mayor Stallings stated that he had an item that need Council's attention. He stated that in the next few months a large meeting was going to be held and he requested that funds up to \$2,000 be approved for use of Town Funds for this event.

Councilman High stated that if private donations could be solicited to help fund for this event.

Mayor Stallings made a motion to appropriate up to \$2,000 for the special event. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

There was no one present for public comment.

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