

Edenton Town Council Minutes
April 25, 2022

The Edenton Town Council met on Monday, April 25, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers for committee meetings. The following members were present: Mayor Jimmy Stallings, Councilman Elton Bond, Councilman Roger Coleman, Councilman Samuel Dixon, Councilman Hackney High, Councilman Craig Miller and Councilman Roscoe Poole.

Mayor Stallings called the meeting to order.

The Administrative Committee had four item on the agenda.

Councilman High stated that the first item was the NCDEQ Financial Assistance Agreement for the Harbor Town Ferry Project.

Councilman High stated that this agreement needs approval by the Town Council and signed by the Mayor for the Town to receive the Harbor Town Ferry Project grant in the amount of \$500,000.

This item was recommended to be placed on the next full Council agenda for approval.

Councilman High stated that the second item was the Talbert & Bright Work Authorization 18-02 Amendment No. 2 for the Parallel Taxiway.

Councilman High stated that the capital project ordinance was originally submitted to the council for review and approval in September 2019 for the amount of \$52,610. The 2nd amendment was submitted for council review on 7/27/2020 & adopted on 8/11/2020 in the amount of \$99,148. NCDOT Division of Aviation approved an additional grant amount of \$198,242 to the Northeastern Regional Airport on October 19, 2021. This work authorization will allow the airport to use \$191,400 of the remaining grant funds towards the Parallel Taxiway Project.

This item was recommended to be placed on the next full Council agenda for approval.

Councilman High stated that the third item was the commercial pedal vehicle/trolley pub ordinance and application.

Councilman High stated that at the April regular meeting Mr. John McCall presented a business plan for a trolley pub to operate in the area of the historic district. The plan gave details such as rules and regulations, rates, times, routes, and other information related to the operation. He noted that currently many municipalities allow for similar businesses to operate within their jurisdictions, and several of those have created ordinances defining and regulating commercial pedal vehicles. Town staff has drafted an ordinance and application to be considered for this type of business to operate within the town's limits.

This item was recommended to be placed on the next full Council agenda for approval.

Councilman High stated that the last item was the resolution to transfer ownership of the Confederate Monument to Chowan County.

Councilman High stated that recently himself along with the Mayor, County Commissioner Chair (Bob Kirby), County Manager (Kevin Howard), and Town Manager (Corey Gooden) have worked together to consider all options, Town and County wide, for the Confederate Monument relocation efforts that were approved by the Town of Edenton Council during Full Council on February 8th, 2022. The resolution that has been drafted is to transfer ownership of the Confederate Monument to Chowan County and to relocate the Monument to Veterans Park (located at 101 N Broad. Street – Behind Chowan County Courthouse). It was noted that this resolution presents a location for the relocation that is consistent with the North Carolina GS and would allow for Town Council to relocate the monument prior to the Supreme Court ruling.

This item was recommended to be placed on the next full Council agenda for approval.

The Finance Committee has one item on the agenda.

Councilman Dixon stated that item for discussion was the budget amendment for the Parallel Taxiway Grant from NCDOT DOA.

Councilman Dixon stated that this budget amendment is for \$191,400 and will allow the Airport to use the funds towards the Parallel Taxiway Project. This will be the Second Amendment for this project since initial adoption in September 2019.

This item was recommended to be placed on the next full Council agenda for approval.

The Utilities Committee had one item on the agenda.

Councilman Bond stated that the item for discussion was the budget amendment for the Bolton's Bridge Utility Line Relocation.

Councilman Bond stated that the Bolton Bridge Utility Line relocation was originally adopted in July 2021 as part of the new fiscal year budget in the amount of \$29,724. Due to a price increase by contractor for labor and material, the Electric Director (Mike Nichols) requested a budget amendment for \$37,840.

This item was recommended to be placed on the next full Council agenda for approval.

The Public Works Committee had one item on the agenda.

Councilman Miller stated that the item for discussion was the landfill/solid waste fee increase.

Councilman Miller stated that the Chowan County Commissioners approved an increase in the Solid Waste Fee of \$2.75 for the current County rates. The Town staff recommends that the town increase the Town's fee by \$2.75 for the Residential & Commercial rates and a \$30.00 increase for the Housing Authority rates. This rate increase is needed to combat the \$51,102.43 projected shortfall in landfill cost (if no changes are made). This will allow us an overall increase in revenue projections to a surplus of \$169,037.57 for these Solid Waste fees. This increase will be effective in the June billing cycling.

This item was recommended to be placed on the next full Council agenda for approval.

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