

Edenton Town Council Minutes  
May 10, 2022

The Edenton Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 10, 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 Craig Miller and Councilman Roscoe Poole. Absent was Councilman Samuel Dixon and Councilman Hackney High.

Mayor Jimmy Stallings called the meeting to order.

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Roscoe Poole gave the invocation.

The minutes from the regular meeting of April 12, 2022 and the special meeting of April 25, 2022 were presented for approval.

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

Next on the agenda was a presentation of the annual update from the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce. Susan Creed, Executive Director was present and gave the update to the Town Council.

Next on the agenda was Committee Reports.

The Administrative Committee had four items on the agenda.

Town Manager Corey Gooden stated that the first item was the NCDEQ Financial Assistance Agreement for the Harbor Town Ferry Project.

Councilman Bond made a motion to approve the financial assistance agreement. Councilman Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Town Manager Corey Gooden stated that the second item was the Talbert & Bright Work Authorization 18-02 Amendment No. 2 for the Parallel Taxiway.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the amendment No. 2 for the Parallel Taxiway. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Town Manager Corey Gooden stated that the third item was the Commercial Pedal Vehicle/Trolley Pub Ordinance and Application.

This item was tabled so that staff can address concerns that have been submitted by citizens.

Town Manager Corey Gooden stated that the last item was the resolution to transfer ownership of the Confederate Monument to Chowan County.

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

Next on the agenda was the Finance Committee.

Town Manager Corey Gooden stated that there was one item on the agenda, the budget amendment for the Parallel Taxiway Grant from NCDOT DOA.

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

Next on the agenda was the Utilities Committee.

Councilman Bond stated that there was one item on the agenda, the budget amendment for the Bolton's Bridge Utility Line Relocation.

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

The Public Works Committee had one item on the agenda.

Councilman Miller stated that the item for approval was the Landfill/Solid Waste Fee Increase.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the fee increase. Councilman Coleman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was new business.

Town Manager Corey Gooden stated that the first item was the CDBG Grant Administration Resolutions, Policy & Plans approval.

Assistant Town Manager & Planner Dewayne Whealton stated that Insight Planning and Development created 15 policies/plans to be approved and adopted in order to remain compliant with the CDBG-NR grant. The policies/plans include: Project Budget Ordinance, Financial Management Resolution, Housing Assistance Policy, Housing Construction Contract Award Policy, Citizen Participation Plan, Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan, Local Jobs Initiative (Section 3) Plan, Temporary Relocation Policy, Code of Conduct, Fair Housing Policy, Excessive Force Policy, Procurement Standards Policy/Plan, Equal Opportunity Plan, Language Assistance Plan (Providing Meaningful Communication with Persons with Limited English Proficiency), Recipient's Plan to Further Fair Housing.

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

Town Manager Corey Gooden stated that the second item was a budget amendment for the record of insurance proceeds from a police vehicle.

Finance Officer Virginia Smith stated that Town of Edenton Police Department was in vehicle accident that resulted in the total loss of a 2008 Ford Crown Victoria. The vehicle was valued at \$5,672.00 and the budget amendment was needed to recognize the insurance proceeds from the Police vehicle accident involving town owned vehicles and private citizens. This vehicle was deemed a total loss due to age of vehicle, amount of damage, and cost to repair.

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

Town Manager Corey Gooden stated that the next item was a budget amendment for the record of insurance proceeds from landscaping vehicle.

Finance Officer Virginia Smith stated that the Town of Edenton Public Works Department was in vehicle accident that resulted in the total loss of a 1997 Ford F-150 Pickup Truck. The vehicle was valued at \$6,259.56 and the budget amendment was needed to recognize the insurance proceeds from the vehicle accident involving a town owned vehicle and private citizen(s). This vehicle was deemed a total loss due to age of vehicle, amount of damage, and cost to repair. The budget amendment \$6,238.06, was reduced by \$21.50 due to the lack of title.

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

Town Manager Corey Gooden stated that the next item was the budget amendment for the purchase of 2022 Ford F-150 for the Police Department.

Finance Officer Virginia Smith stated that the budget amendment was needed to purchase a new vehicle for the Police Department. The vehicle will be a 2022 Ford F-150 similar to the current Truck within the Police fleet. She stated that the Department is currently down a total of four (4) vehicles due to accidents over the last 2 years. She stated that quotes were received and included in the packet show pricing for three (3) trucks and outfitting three (3) trucks, there would only be one vehicle purchased at this time.

Town Manager Corey Gooden stated that the last item was the 2022 Arbor Day Proclamation.

Assistant Town Manager & Planner Dewayne Whealton stated that the Arbor Day Celebration will be held on Friday, May 13, 2022 at the Boys and Girls Club from 4 – 5 p.m.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the proclamation. Councilman Coleman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was items considered timely and important.

Councilman Miller requested an update on the Hotel Hinton project.

Town Manager Corey Gooden stated that staff is awaiting on appraisal information and plat for the property. He stated that once the sale is negotiated hopefully the project will move forward.

Councilman Miller asked for an update on applications received for Boards and Commissions Vacancies.

Assistant Town Manager and Planner Dewayne Whealton stated that an advertisement for applications was recently placed in the Chowan Herald and reposted on the Town of Edenton website.

Councilman Bond stated that he had received complaints on the drainage on Cabarrus and Johnston Streets after heavy rains.

Town Manager Corey Gooden stated that he would have the Public Works Department follow up on this item.

Next on the agenda was public comment. The Mayor reminded all those who wanted to speak that there was a three-minute limit on comments.

Jessie Rivers, resident of Hawthorne Road, thanked the Town Council for the willingness to relocate the Confederate Statue and stated that she is not thrilled with the location that is chosen for the placement of the statue. She was concerned that local Veteran's may become upset that it is placed at the same location of the Veteran's monument war memorial.

John Mitchener, resident of West Queen Street, stated that he did not agree with the Town Council not allowing comments before the vote on the resolution for the transfer of ownership for the confederate monument. He hoped that Chowan County will reject the offer. He did not agree with proposed relocation at the Veteran's Memorial.

Sam McCloud, Jr., resident of Old Hertford Road, stated that he has an issue with potholes on Old Hertford Road and wanted to know who can fix those.

Town Manager Corey Gooden stated that some paving improvements were scheduled for Old Hertford Road but he would get the Public Works Department to check if repairs could be made immediately.

William Miller, resident of Blount Street, stated that he was disappointed with the transfer of ownership for the Confederate Statue and that the same problems will still exist at the new location.

Virginia Tan, resident of the Edenton Cotton Mill Village has expressed concerns over the trolley pub proposal and sent the following email to the Town Manager:

*Dear Manager Gooden,*

*I would very much appreciate your taking into consideration of the town's residents regarding this proposal.*

*Even though my home is not on the proposed route, it does impact the areas I frequent to enjoy the serenity and beauty of our town, the very essence of why I chose to live here.*

*I very much enjoy sharing that with our visitors and enjoy participating in food and wine/beer/liquor with friends in appropriate locations. And I enjoy the public events which allow drinking and dancing in the streets as a special occasion. I just can't stand the thought of all season, all around town drinking.*

*The rules and regulations point out exactly the pitfalls.*

*Since I came here in 2011, the town has improved the number of places where tourists can enjoy open-air dining and drink. I think that should be enough. We are proud of the beauty, peacefulness and history of our little town; it is not Virginia Beach or Myrtle Beach and I don't want to appeal to their crowds. And our existing trolley and boat tours are respectful of our privacy, let's continue to support those.*

*Thanking you for your consideration, I am*

*Virginia Tan*

*Cotton Mill Village resident*

Mayor Stallings asked Town Manager Corey Gooden to review with the public regarding the transfer of ownership for the Confederate Monument.

He stated that he felt like the Town Council abided by NC General Statutes that confine the movement of the statute within the Town Limits. The Administrative Committee and the Chowan County staff all understood that this had to be moved within the city limits. Concerns received by Chowan County was lack of title of ownership for the statue, that was one of the items requested when considering the resolution.

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

DRAFT