

Edenton Town Council Minutes
Special Meeting
June 27, 2022

The Edenton Town Council met in special session on Monday, June 27, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers. The following members were present: Mayor Jimmy Stallings, Councilman Elton Bond, Councilman Roger Coleman, Councilman Aaron Coston, Councilman Samuel Dixon, Councilman Hackney High and Councilman Craig Miller.

Mayor Jimmy Stallings called the meeting to order.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation from Bird Scooters. Chris Stockwell and Erienne Dickman both gave the presentation to the Town Council on the idea of having Bird Scooters available in Edenton for residents and visitors to use for quick trips around town.

The Town Council requested that staff to research the pros and cons of the program and see what regulations other towns have put in place for the scooters in their communities. No action was taken by the Town Council.

The next item on the agenda was the adoption of the FY 2022/23 budget and budget ordinance.

Corey Gooden, Town Manager stated that tax rate for the FY 2022/23 budget will be \$.43 cents per \$100.00 valuation. He stated that the increase in the tax rate was needed to help cover the rising costs of fuel, materials and supplies.

Corey Gooden, Town Manager stated that the Town Council held its public comment session at the June 14 meeting and no comments were received at the meeting and that no comments were received via email or in person at Town Hall.

Corey Gooden, Town Manager stated that the FY 2022/23 was revised with the revisions shown in orange for a more accurate revenue/expense projections. He stated that these revisions resulted in a recommended 43 cent/\$100 tax rate (versus the original 41 cent/\$100 tax rate); a waste/recycling monthly rate increase for residential (\$6.50 vs. \$4.50), small commercial (\$18.50 vs. \$12.80), large commercial (\$74 vs \$51.20), and housing authority (\$650 vs. \$450); and a water & sewer rate increase of \$1.50 per 1,000 gallon increment.

Councilman Dixon made a motion to approve the budget ordinance as presented. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Stallings requested a motion to amend the agenda to allow for Town Manager Corey Gooden to read comments into the record that were not read at the June 14 Council meeting.

Councilman High made a motion to amend the agenda as requested. Councilman Dixon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The following comments were received by Maridale Jackson, resident of 218 Osprey Drive.

Mr. Gooden, please read these questions into the record during the public comment segment of the June 14, 2022, Edenton Town Council meeting:

Thank you for taking a first step in removing the Confederate monument from what will become Edenton's universal welcome mat at the waterfront end of Broad Street.

When will the Chowan County Board of Commissioners take formal public action on accepting the Edenton Town Council's offer to cede ownership of the monument?

Is there a possibility that they might not?

If and when the County Commissioners do resolve to accept ownership, what is the timeline for actually moving the monument?

If the entire process takes more than a few months, are there interim plans that would keep the monument from being one of the first things seen by Harbor Town ferry passengers or people drawn to Edenton by an expanding interest in Black history sites, or the soon-to-open Herringbone restaurant?

Thank you.
Maridale Jackson
218 Osprey Drive

The next four items were reviewed and voted on in one motion.

C. Adoption of FY22/23 Waste & Recycling Rate Increase - residential (\$6.50 vs. \$4.50), small commercial (\$18.50 vs. \$12.80), large commercial (\$74 vs \$51.20), and housing authority (\$650 vs. \$450).

D. Adoption of FY22/23 Water & Sewer Rate Increase - increase of \$1.50 per 1000-gallon increment

E. Approval of the Annual Cemetery Maintenance Contract - Jim R. Hedgepeth dba Jimmy Jack's Lawn Care. The maintenance contract will serve a term between July 1st, 2022 to June 30th, 2023. The contract annual total is \$85,560 and this will be paid in (12) monthly installments totaling \$7,130.

F. Approval of Tank Maintenance Contract - Southern Corrosion, Inc. The service contract will serve a term between July 1st, 2022 to June 30th, 2023. The contract annual total is \$49,681 and will be paid as one lump sum within this time period.

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

The next item on the agenda was the approval of the Revised CG2 Rider for solar customers.

Corey Gooden, Town Manager stated that the town staff met with residents to review any revisions that were needed to the CG2 Rider. He stated that town staff worked directly with the residents and Electricities to develop the final draft for approval. This document includes the CG2 Rider application/approval and the Interconnection Agreement.

Corey Gooden, Town Manager stated that the document is complete with the exception of the Standby Supplemental Charge (\$/kw) for the AC nameplate capacity. Upon completion of a cost of service study from Electricities, town staff will recommend what this charge should be for customers.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the revised CG2 rider for solar customers. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The next item was the approval of the Trolley Pub Ordinance and Application.

Corey Gooden, Town Manager stated that the ordinance and application were updated to address concerns from citizens and to match the required insurance requirements. Updates include requiring an authorized cup/mug to be used during operation and the approval of the Town Council. The additional update includes matching the ordinance and application for the insurance requirements, naming the Town of Edenton as an additional insured entity for not less than \$1,000,000.00.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the trolley pub ordinance and application. Councilman High seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The next item for review was the resolution for the Project Grand Slam – NC Department of Commerce.

Corey Gooden, Town Manager stated that staff met with the North Carolina Department of Commerce Representative Sarah Bernart and a local industry representative to discuss their plans for site expansion and employment increase. The industrial client was interested in sharing specifics around their expansion and explore opportunities with the Department of Commerce for a Building Reuse Grant.

Corey Gooden, Town Manager stated that the deadline for submission was June 23rd, 2022 and that each party was able to submit all supporting documentation for the application for the June round. The Town of Edenton submitted a letter of support on behalf of the Mayor and Council for this project. In the interest of confidentiality, this project is labeled as project "Grand Slam". This project has the ability to expand the site by over 19,000 sq. ft. and create an additional 25 jobs for the Chowan County area.

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

The next item for review was the budget amendment for insurance proceeds for damage to dumpster.

Corey Gooden, Town Manager stated that the budget amendment is for the insurance proceeds received from an insurance claim where a town owned dumpster was damaged from a vehicle accident. This budget amendment totaled \$3,144. This total equals the replacement cost for Public Works to replace the container.

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

The last item was the end of fiscal year budget amendments.

Virginia Smith, Finance Officer stated that these amendments will transfer funds from one departmental budget to another departmental budget within the Fund to assure the budget is balanced. She stated that majority of the amendments pertain to balancing salary & wages, FICA and the increase of fuel purchases.

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

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