



Edenton Town Council - Meeting Summary

Monday, September 25, 2023

The purpose of this notice is to summarize items from the meetings and is not comprehensive. This summary does not replace the official minutes. Go to the Town of Edenton's YouTube Channel for a video of the full meeting, or our website for the official minutes.

Present: Mayor Jimmy Stallings, Samuel Dixon, Hackney High Jr, Aaron Coston, Elton Bond, Craig Miller, Roger Coleman, and Town Manager Corey Gooden.

Presentation

- Public Information Officer Update

- Public Information Officer Tyler Newman shared with Council the results of the new Public Information Officer position after six months with the Town. Information was shared in regards to the Town's social media presence, newsletter and publication updates, website redevelopment, news media relations, events, policies, and more.
- The Town's Facebook page has now reached 1.2 million people in the past six months. The redesigned homepage for the Town's new website was also shared with Council.

Special Meeting

Resolution - Fall 2023 Funding Virginia Well Replacement

- Council **unanimously** voted to approve a resolution to affirm the intent to pursue funding for one additional well site for the Town's water system.
- The resolution presented will acknowledge the Town's interest to construct, plan for, and conduct a study for a project for the construction of a new well to replace the existing Virginia Road Well. This project is necessary in the long-term viability for the Town's water system.

NCEMPA – First Alternate Commissioner

- Council **unanimously** approved the appointment of Interim Electric Director Hunter Chamberlain to First Alternate Commissioner for the Town of Edenton on the North Carolina Eastern Municipal Power Association (NCEMPA). The Town of Edenton is a member of the NCEMPA because the Town owns and operates its own electric distribution

system. Each of the municipal members of NCEMPA have a primary commissioner that is appointed to the Board of Commissioners (BOC) and may have two alternates.

NCEMPA – First Alternate Rate Committee

- Town Manager Corey Gooden informed Council that he was also **recommending** Hunter Chamberlain to represent the Town of Edenton as the First Alternate on the Rate Committee. The Rate Committee makes recommendations to the NCEMPA Board of Commissioners for rate changes. Currently the Town Manager is the primary representative.

Budget Amendment – Runway 1-19 Lighting Rehab

- Council **unanimously** approved a budget amendment for \$37,970 for a work authorization approved on August 28, 2023. This is all in regards to the lighting rehab project on Runway 1-19 at Northeastern Regional Airport.

Administrative Committee

- **Employee Certification Tables**
 - **This item was forwarded to full council.** An update to the Town's employee certification tables was presented, adding new certifications for various departments, including the new Public Information Officer, as well as restructuring compensation for certain classes and continuing education.
- **Social Media & News Media Policy**
 - **This item was forwarded to full council.** The Public Information Officer devised a new and comprehensive policy for the Town's social media presence. A short policy dedicated to news media relations is also included within the greater framework.

Finance Committee

- **Electric Department Backyard Machine Financing Proposal**
 - A loan proposal from Truist Bank for the Electric Department's Altec Digger Derrick Backyard Machine was **forwarded to full council** in October. The machine will help Electric crews reach areas that were previously inaccessible by traditional truck-mounted equipment. Southern Bank and Truist both submitted offers. Truist had the lowest interest rate at 5.38% which would save the town approximately \$2,621 in interest over the life of the loan. Southern Bank offered 5.94%. There are no closing costs with the Truist loan, which would result in an additional \$200 savings. The first loan payment would be due in October 2024.