



Edenton Town Council - Meeting Summary

Tuesday, December 12, 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, Hackney High Jr, Samuel Dixon, Aaron Coston, Elton Bond, Craig Miller, and Town Manager Corey Gooden.

Present post-reorganizational meeting: Bob Turner and Patrick Sellers.

Special Presentations

Local Christmas Artist Acknowledgment

- Destination Downtown Edenton Executive Director Ches Chesson acknowledged and thanked Bryan Vazquez, a student at John A. Holmes High School, for his artwork on the windows of the old Sears and Peebles buildings. The Mayor and Council commended Bryan for his artistic gift.

Road Diet Traffic Study Overview

- Town Manager Corey Gooden provided the public with a presentation that addressed resident concerns with a potential "road diet" of Broad Street (reducing from 4 lanes to 2 with a center turn lane).

Public Comment

- Several members of the public spoke during the public comment period, primarily in regards to the Broad Street road diet proposal and two other proposals: a four-way stop at MLK Avenue/Albemarle Street/Granville Street and a four-way stop at Terry Avenue and Robin Lane.

Administrative Committee

Human Relations Commission - Annual Update

- Council heard and approved the annual update from the Human Relations Commission, as submitted to the Town Manager and Administrative Committee Chair Hackney High Jr.

Electric Pole Service Agreement Amendment

- To allow for internet expansion and camera operation at various town-owned properties, the Council **unanimously approved** an amendment to the Electric Pole Service Agreement, so that work can begin with Fybe to expand internet services for both town staff and the public to utilize.

Public Works Committee

Broad Street NCDOT Road Diet

Granville Street & W. Albemarle/Dr. MLK Jr. Avenue Four-Way Stop

Terry Avenue & Robin Lane Four-Way Stop

- These three items were tabled until an upcoming council meeting in January.

New Business

Response Letter for LGC for the Town of Edenton FY22/23 Audit

- Council **unanimously approved** a response letter to the Local Government Commission, after the annual audit report produced no findings. Council remarks and staff notes explaining various audit items were included in the letter, which is available for the public upon request.

Budget Amendment – Runway 1-19 Pavement & Lighting Rehab

- Council **unanimously approved** a budget amendment for a pavement and lighting rehab project at Northeastern Regional Airport. The amendment was for \$1,400, accepting proceeds from an N.C. Division of Aviation grant to put towards preliminary engineering services for sediment and erosion control permit fees.

Remarks

- Mayor Jimmy E. Stallings gave his final remarks as Mayor of the Town of Edenton, having served on the Town Council and as Mayor for a combined 24 years.

Reorganizational Meeting

Oaths of Office

- Judge Meader Harriss administered the oaths of office to Mayor W. Hackney High Jr., Councilman Bob Turner, Councilman Patrick Sellers and Councilman Samuel Dixon.

Election of Mayor Pro Tem

- Councilman Samuel Dixon nominated Councilman Elton Bond to continue as Mayor Pro Tem. No other nominations were received. Council **unanimously approved** this election.

Boards, Commissions, and Committee Appointments

- Council reviewed and approved the new board, commission, and committee assignments following the reorganizational meeting.

Approval of Roster of Firemen

- Council **unanimously approved** the roster as presented. 10 paid firefighters, 29 volunteers, 1 junior firefighter, 16 retired members, and 1 non-member were approved.

Items Considered Timely and Important

- Councilman Bob Turner inquired about the development of a new hotel behind Speedway on Claire Drive. The Town Manager said the process is still ongoing.
- Councilman Craig Miller inquired about the parking lot next to Creswell Furniture and its possibility of being utilized again in the future. The Town Manager said discussions had been had, but no updates are available.
- Mayor W. Hackney High Jr. gave his first remarks as Mayor of the Town of Edenton, thanking all those who had supported him, and pledged to move forward in unity, to serve all of Edenton and its residents. He also advised council he would seek a new way of delivering items considered timely and important, via opposite seating order each meeting.
- Councilman Samuel Dixon thanked Ches Chesson for his work with Destination Downtown Edenton.