

Edenton Town Council Minutes
November 12, 2019

The Edenton Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The following members were present: Mayor Roland Vaughan, Councilman Steve Biggs, Councilman Elton Bond, Councilman Samuel Dixon, Councilman Craig Miller. Absent was Councilman Roscoe Poole and Councilman Jimmy Stallings.

Mayor Roland Vaughan called the meeting to order.

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Steve Biggs gave the invocation.

The minutes from the special meeting of July 22, 2019 and regular meeting of October 8, 2019 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 public hearings.

The first public hearing was for Case No. TA 19-03: A text amendment to the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) amending Article X, Permissible Uses Article XI, Supplementary Use Regulations to add Short-Term Rental as a permissible use in the R-5, R-10, R-14, R-20, RA, CD, CN Zoning Districts and to establish supplemental use regulations governing short-term rentals in Article XI, Section 180.14.

Planner Elizabeth Bryant presented the staff report.

Mayor Vaughan stated that three letters have been submitted by individuals that were not able to attend the meeting, Cheryl Orr, Don Pariseau and Kim and Grant Andersen. They are available for review.

Mayor Vaughan opened the floor for public comment.

Cynthia Harding, property owner and Air BnB owner spoke regarding the short term rental ordinance.

Anne Edwards, resident of East King Street, spoke about the nuisance of Air BnB. She stated that the property that is next to her does not have on site management. She requested the Council to table any consideration to approve the ordinance governing Air BnB's.

Mayor Vaughan closed the public hearing.

Councilman Miller made a motion to table the text amendments for the short term rentals until more review can be made by staff members and Town Council in relation to whole house structures and on site management. Councilman Dixon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The second public hearing was for Closeout Public Hearing for FY 14 Community Development Program for the Jimbo's Jumbos Economic Development project financed with \$520,433.75 of Community Development Block Grant funds (100% of the total program costs) received from NC Department of Commerce, Rural Economic Development Division.

Ms. Knighton stated that it has been advertised for the Town Council to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of reviewing and assessing the performance of the Town's Jimbo's Jumbos Economic Development program. The project was financed with \$520,433.75 of funds received from a Community Development Block Grant which represented 100% of the total project costs that the town received from the NC Department of Commerce, Rural Economic Development Division. With these funds the town has installed 2,500 lineal feet of three phase electrical reconductoring, replaced 18 existing 40 foot poles with 18 new 45 foot poles, installed 7 new 45 foot poles and a three phase conductor. The funds also paid to install 4,000 lineal feet of a 10-inch water line and 2,400 lineal feet of water line. These improvements to the Town's water and electrical system allowed for an expansion of Jimbo's Jumbos that created 82 new full time jobs with 85% of those jobs being filled with persons of prior low-moderate income status.

Mayor Vaughan opened the floor for the public hearing.

There being no comments from the public the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Mayor Vaughan called for a motion on the Adoption of FY 2014 Community Development Program Closeout Resolution.

Councilman Biggs made a motion to adopt the resolution. Councilman Dixon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Vaughan called for a motion on the Adoption of FY Community Development Program Closeout Grant Project Ordinance.

Councilman Miller made a motion to adopt the project ordinance. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was committee reports.

First on the agenda was the administrative committee.

Councilman Biggs stated that the first item was a recommendation that Council approve covenants for properties Town acquires within the North Oakum Street and Moseley Street Neighborhood Redevelopment Zones as presented.

Councilman Bond made a motion to approve the covenants for the redevelopment zones. Councilman Biggs seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Biggs stated that the second item was a recommendation that Council contribute \$500 towards the purchase of marker in memory of Thomas & Crowder Patience, runaway slaves from Edenton who enlisted and served in the Union Army.

Councilman Biggs made a motion to approve the contribution of \$500. Councilman Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Biggs stated that it is recommended Council approve the 2019 Records Retention Schedule as presented.

Councilman Biggs made a motion to approve the records retention schedule as presented. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Biggs stated that the last item was a recommendation Council approve pre-employment physicals & non-emergency on-the-job injuries agreement with Vidant Medical as presented.

Councilman Biggs made a motion to approve the agreement with Vidant Medical as presented. Councilman Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was the Finance Committee.

Councilman Dixon stated that the first item was a recommendation that Council approve Capital Project Budget Ordinance for Street Repairs & Resurfacing Phase II as presented.

Councilman Dixon made a motion to approve the budget ordinance for street repairs and resurfacing phase II. Councilman Bond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Dixon stated that the second item was a recommendation that Council approve Amendment to the Improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Capital Project Budget Ordinance as presented.

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

Next on the agenda was the Utilities Committee.

Councilman Bond stated that the first item was a recommendation that Council approve grant administrative services agreement for the Peanut Drive/Paradise Road Industrial Development Fund Project as presented.

Councilman Bond made a motion to approve the grant administration services agreement. Councilman Biggs seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Bond stated that the last item was a recommendation that Council approve amendment to engineering services agreement for the 2018 Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project as presented.

Councilman Bond made a motion to approve the engineering services agreement for the 2018 Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project. Councilman Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was new business.

Resolution, Accepting NC Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan, Well Rehabilitations & New Finished-water Ground Storage Tank and Construct new 740-gpm High-service Pump Station.

Ms. Knighton stated that staff has been working on phase II of the water supply upgrade program and the Town received approval last year for a \$1.3 million dollar low interest loan from the NC Department of Environmental Quality. The debt had to be approved by the NC Local Government Commission and was approved in October. This low interest loan will pay for the rehabilitation of four existing deep water wells, the construction of a 500,000 gallon new finished ground storage tank located at the Beaver Hill water storage tank and also construct a new high service pump.

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

Next on the agenda was items considered timely and important.

Councilman Miller asked if there was a timeline in place for the Brew Pub project. Ms. Knighton stated that a local contractor has been hired to begin the interior demolition work so that the planning and design phase can begin.

Councilman Miller asked if there were any updates on the Hotel Hinton project. Mayor Vaughan stated that the project has hit a snag. He stated that the tax credit program for the State of NC is under audit and this is placing projects on hold.

Councilman Biggs stated that he has had several discussions with residents about the issues at the park with older kids being on the playground equipment.

Next on the agenda was public comment.

There being no comments from the public the meeting was adjourned.