

Edenton Town Council Minutes  
May 22, 2023

The Edenton Town Council met on Monday, May 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers for committee meetings.

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.

**Administrative Committee**

**Groundman/Apprentice Job Description and Pay Scale**

Councilman High stated that Hunter Chamberlain, Interim Electric Director requested the addition of the Groundman/Apprentice job classification to the Town's salary schedule and job classifications. He explained this position is needed to create an entry-level position for the electric department linemen career. Currently new hires are classified as Third-Class Linemen, which typically requires two years of training/certification to obtain. This current model is a disadvantage to the Town for pay purposes and a disadvantage to the employee due to a lack of career growth the first two years of employment. The addition of this position would correctly align the training plan for a new hire. This job classification would be a grade 14 (Hiring Rate – \$37,924) versus the existing grade 16 (Hiring Rate - \$41,811).

This item was recommended to be placed on the next regular meeting agenda for approval.

**Finance Committee**

**FY23/24 Annual Budget Work Session Update**

Councilman Dixon stated that the first initial draft of the FY23/24 Annual Budget has been completed. He stated that the draft was sent by email to the Town Council. The Finance Committee will meet on May 24, 2023 for the committee work session and the public notice will be submitted to the local newspaper on May 23, 2023 and the draft budget will be posted online May 26, 2023. This information will remain online until the public comment session at June 12, 2023 full council meeting. A special meeting will be called after the May 24 for full council's working session.

It was noted that the 2023/24 budget has no increase in the \$.43 cents tax rate and no increase in water and sewer rates. There was an overall increase in electric charge of 1.62% for energy cost and 11.24% for demand cost. There was also an increase in residential basic customer charge from \$11.10 to \$15.50 for residential, customer charge increase from \$25.20 to \$30.00 for small commercial and public housing, facility charge increase from \$105.00 to \$500.00 for large general service and coincidental peak demand. These increases were driven by the rising cost for purchased power and the inflation of material/equipment cost since the last increase on July 1, 2019.

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