

Edenton Town Council - Meeting Summary **Tuesday, May 9, 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.

<u> Annual Update - Edenton-Chowan Partnership</u>

- Council heard an annual update from the Edenton-Chowan Partnership, an economic development nonprofit that receives money yearly from both the Town of Edenton and Chowan County.

Administrative Committee

- Renewal of Health Insurance:

- Council adopted a renewal of the employee health insurance policy. Sharp increases seen last fiscal year for a policy renewal were not seen this year.
- Town Council Meeting Procedure Review:
 - This item was tabled until June. Town Manager Corey Gooden requested the tabling because he could not be present at the meeting and wanted to personally bring it forward for council to discuss.
- Timber Sales at Northeastern Regional Airport
 - Councilors authorized the sale of timber on the east side of the Town's airport property to North Point Timber. The forestry consultant – Michael D. Neal and Associates – will receive a 10 percent commission. The clearing of the trees was cited to be in accordance with FAA landing zones.

Public Works Committee

- Cemetery Ordinance
 - Council adopted refined language for the existing cemetery ordinance, adding in Clean Sweep days on Feb. 1, May 1, Aug. 1 and Nov. 1. Artificial flowers and wreaths will be permitted for 14 days before through 14 days after seasonal holidays or memorials.

Only adornments attached directly to monument stones may remain during sweeps. All items other than flowers, wreaths and flags are prohibited – this includes ornaments, statues not attached to a permanent monument stone, solar lights, glass, plastic or wooden objects, commemorative items, benches, chairs, stones, vigil lights, candles, shepherd hooks, bird feeders and similar items. When fresh flowers become faded or exceed a seven day limit, they will be removed.

New Business

- Surf, Wind & Fire Food Truck Resolution
 - Council adopted a resolution, requested by Surf, Wind & Fire Manager Timmy Turner, to allow the sale of alcohol along East King Street between South Broad Street and Colonial Avenue for a "Sunday Street Party." Council also approved a batch resolution for the first Sundays through the end of the year to allow alcohol sales for the street parties.
- N.C. Dept. of Commerce Building Reuse Grant The Herringbone
 - Council approved the release of a \$25,000 Building Reuse Grant to The Herringbone, as long as the business welcomes at least five employees to their project. They are now estimated to have over 40 employees. The Town originally matched 5 percent of the \$25,000 grant, or \$1,250.
- Electric Utility System Relocation
 - Council approved the relocation (and budget amendment) of four utility poles, upon NCDOT request, at the intersection of N.C. 32 (Poplar Neck Road) and N.C. 37 (Haughton Road). The relocation would allow NCDOT to modify the intersection to improve traffic flow and safety. This relocation will cost \$61,100.

Items Considered Timely & Important

- Council discussed resident compliments on the ongoing street resurfacing across town.
- Councilman Sambo Dixon reaffirmed a stance taken by Councilman Elton Bond that supported the need for identifying streets without curb and gutter or sidewalks and improving those streetscapes.
- Councilman Hackney High discussed encouraging the Town Manager, who was absent at the meeting, to reach out to regional, state and federal partners in addressing the gun violence across town.
- Council discussed the Hotel Hinton project and noted that SAGA met with town leaders recently and updated them on adding lighting, cameras and a rear fence, as well as their application for new market tax credits.