



Edenton Town Council - Meeting Summary

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

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 W. Hackney High Jr, Bob Turner, Samuel Dixon, Aaron Coston, Elton Bond, Craig Miller, Patrick Sellers, and Town Manager Corey Gooden.

Special Presentation - Edenton Historical Commission

- Mr. Robert Leath, Executive Director of the Edenton Historical Commission, presented before the council and provided an overview of the EHC's past year.

Administrative Committee

Confederate Monument Update

- The town attorney is working to obtain a hearing date with Judge Jerry Tillett, otherwise there is no update at this time.

Finance Committee

2024 CityVision Conference - Council and Manager Travel Request

- **Council approved this item unanimously.** This request would allow Councilman Aaron Coston and Town Manager Corey Gooden to travel to Winston-Salem for the annual North Carolina League of Municipalities' CityVision Conference. It would cost \$1,591.65 for Councilman Coston and \$1,291.65 for Manager Gooden.

New Business

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) – Projects AIA-W-ARP-0004 and AIA-W-ARP-0024 – Sewer AIA Phase(s) 1 & 2

- **Council unanimously approved this item.** This item is to begin a request for qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering Services for two (2) asset inventory and assessment (AIA) sewer collection projects. The projects' individual awards are \$200,000 (for AIA-W-ARP-0004) and \$400,000 (AIA-W-ARP-0024), which totals \$600,000 in services for inspection, administration, engineering, and GIS services from prospective ES groups. Both projects were awarded 100% ARPA grant funding by the NCDEQ-DWI

for Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 applications submittals. Both projects will focus on the overall condition assessment of the Town's sewer collection system and lift stations.

Work Authorization – No. 22-02 – Amendment No. 2 – Hanger Taxilanes (Design) – Northeastern Regional Airport

- **Council unanimously approved this item.** This item would provide a Work Authorization (WA) for Northeastern Regional Airport's No. 22-02 Amendment No. 2 of the Hangar Taxilanes Design project. The WA is a continuation of the Hangar and Taxilane design project. The project funding is 100% part of the State DOA NPE funding and totals \$93,980 in cost. If approved, the formal budget amendment for the project will be presented at the April 22 town council committee meeting.

Manager's Report

Town Manager Corey Gooden reviewed the following items:

- Manager Gooden informed council and the public that town and county staff had two virtual meetings on February 14 and March 13 with SAGA representatives in regards to the Hotel Hinton project. Applications are pending for site development for initial review. At the time of the meeting, no applications had been received yet. A follow up call with SAGA was scheduled for the morning after the meeting for technical questions. Staff hopes to receive materials within the next two weeks.
- Town staff and DDE are continuing to work with the property owner and brokers at the Edenton Village Shopping Center for future retail tenants.
- Public Works recently received sidewalk safety inventory data from an external vendor, which covers the entire town. Public Works has requested some pricing from contractors for sidewalks on various streets. Any sidewalk improvements would possibly start in Ward Four, according to the Town Manager, as growth has been seen in this area and the largest void of sidewalks is also in this area.
- To date, Public Works has delivered 61,520 – which equates to 30.76 tons – of recycling materials.

Items Considered Timely & Important

- **Councilman Bond** said he received a call from East Hicks Street about concrete trucks using the street to access the plant nearby. He expressed worry about children playing in the area.
 - Manager Gooden has been searching for historical vehicle restrictions on East Hicks Street. He has also reached out to the plant nearby, where the plant owner informed him that the gate on East Hicks Street was currently slated to be closed upon completion of the Timbermill project in Chowan County, for which concrete has been needed in large amounts.

- **Councilman Miller** asked about the parking lot beside Creswell Furniture downtown, which is currently not able to be used by the public, per the property owner.
 - Manager Gooden said that the property has been listed for sale for some time, but there is no new update on that front at this time.
- **Councilman Coston** asked about bathrooms downtown at Colonial Park. He asked if a plan had been devised to keep the bathrooms open while the park remains open.
 - Manager Gooden said the current policy is to keep bathrooms open from sunrise to sunset. When the bathrooms are closed or locked, either the park is closed early because of lack of staff, or park staff has left the area to travel to Town Hall, the post office, etc. No violations of this policy have been found at this time.
 - Mayor High asked Manager Gooden to follow up further on the issue.
- **Councilman Dixon** said that recent developments in Edenton have encouraged him on the town's growth.

Closed Session

Council entered into a closed session per NCGS 143-318.11(a)(5) to establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease.