



HISTORIC TOWN OF EATONVILLE, FLORIDA

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 7:30 PM

Town Hall (Council Chamber) - 307 E Kennedy Blvd. 32751

SPECIAL NOTICE: These meeting minutes are presented in an abbreviated format intended as a public record discussion of stated meeting according to the Florida's Government-in-the-Sunshine law. Meetings are opened to the public, noticed within reasonable advance notice, and transcribed into minutes for public record. ***Audio Recording are available through the Town's website on the Council Agenda Page.*

CALL TO ORDER AND VERIFICATION OF QUORUM:

Mayor Gardner called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and a quorum was established by Mrs. King, Town Clerk.

PRESENT: (4) Councilwoman Wanda Randolph, Councilman M. Daniels, Councilman Marlin Daniels, Vice Mayor Rodney Daniels, Mayor Angie Gardner (**Absent:** Councilman Theo Washington)

STAFF: (7) Demetrius Pressley, **Chief Administrator Officer**, Veronica King, **Town Clerk**, Clifford Shepard, **Town Attorney**, Stanley Murray, **EPD Chief**, Katrina Gibson, **Finance Director**, Valerie Mundy, **Public Works**, Cobbin McGee, **Planner**,

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Rev. Critton led the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Mayor Gardner Motions to remove item #1 (Town Council Meeting Minutes for 12-19-23) from agenda for corrections, **Moved** by Vice Mayor R. Daniels; **Second** by Councilman M. Daniels with discussion; **Discussion:** (M. Daniels) Request to move item #3 (Eatonville Black History Month Motorcycle Event) from consent to Council decision; **Moved** by Councilwoman Randolph; **Second** by Councilman M. Daniels; **Mayor Gardner Calls for the Question** to approve meeting agenda with amended changes **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES.**

PRESENTATION - Eatonville Police Chief 100 days updates – (Stanley Murray presented referencing the report provided in council package) – Chief and Officers picture taken with Council; talked about department reconstruction, manpower, crime stats, and projected goals; looked at the patrol, investigative, and community relations sections within the department (paramount for long-term relations with community), want to connect with events, youth, young adults, and seniors; updated department vehicles and equipment (two new black vehicles with logo and ne design), goal is to follow the standards of professionalism, integrity, and honesty; have new officers: Corporal Kennedy has returned, Reserve Officer Eric DeBose from Sheriff's Officer (experienced), Officer Wu (in training and speaks five languages), Officer Lawrence Taylor DeBrute and Sergeant Lamar Payne has returned from retirement, Detective Arthur Wilson (reserve status), have five vacancies with nine applicants; revamping the field training program, reporting writing, every officer should be patrol, investigative and community relations ready; connecting with the Chambers and the Boy and Girls Club, visited the seniors, implementing an off-duty program (companies would pay for officers to help with road widening to prevent from using on-duty officers where it costs the town); orange county will be conducting a record's evidence audit (next month), the building at 20 Peoples street will be the new records and evidence location offering more space, creating a clean and comfortable environment to work in; reviewing policies and procedures; have a total of twelve officer including self (Police Chief); have men and women in

reserve and others interviewing wanting to be a part of the town; one officer retired; in the report (crime status section) there is a decrease during the October, November December time period; more manpower will address the issue with vacation; increasing training (Critical Incident and Stress Management), Officer Diggs will be able to help officers in related trauma, creating a victim advocate (Ms. Tarver) to help victims of crisis and provide resources; continuing community relations with senior and Chambers; Meet the Chief will be February 19th with resource vendors that deal with mental health, education, and literacy opportunities, raffling a television, a mini home makeover at no charge; able to acquire three vehicles under a cost that did not require Council involvement (need two or three additional vehicles); as part of the impact study it takes about \$22,000 to outfit one officer for full-time work (hire, job equipment), get paid to keep order, keep relations with the community, and help keep down crime; the policing grant with help with new laptops, working with Ms. Mundy concerning the renovation of the park, had fish and game to inspect for endangered species; have a great staff and assistant, (Report, section 23) report provides a basic general overview, crime types can be broken down, addressing speeding will be ongoing and appears to be non-residents, looking to have radar guns recalibrated, desire to have 24 full-time officers, need about \$200,000 to bring all officers, equipment, and operations up to standard to include \$20,000 for training, need four more officers to meet the budget threshold, (20 total), can have a full assessment of needs by middle of March; there is no timeline available for the open investigation (being conducted by an outside agency), will get information to Mr. Pressley to forward to Council.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - (1)

Charlie Wilkerson – (Dumpster enclosures) the town should set the example for the business owners, when will the town's dumpster be enclosed, the company that will be used for the town's enclosure can be used for the businesses, consider providing a package deal, asked that the project be stopped. (Response) Code enforcement is looking at adjusting the ordinance to provide flexibility with options for the different case scenarios.

Thelma Wilkerson – During meeting presentations, request that the presenter is disclosed in the meeting information provided on the website; pertaining to the dumpster enclosure, everyone does not have the same type of lot and the space, to be individually fair, should consider on an individual basis; the road widening will cause an impact; asked that the town consider possible issues that may affect the parking, the dumpster size, and space. (Response) Will schedule a meeting with resident along with Valerie to talk through what are the next steps and the impacts.

Charles Bargaineer – Thanked Mr. Pressley and Chief Murray along with officers for addressing the homelessness on his street, inquired about if the town will be addressing the issue of homelessness in the town (Response) Working on creating an ordinance; inquired on the status on the impact fees (Mr. Pressley will update during the report time).

Ryan Novak – (Trash) consider a waste management program, to purchase a truck is about \$200,000, trash collection would pay for the truck, the program could create jobs; do not have to rely on an outside contractor, can also lease or offload to municipalities creating revenue opportunities for the town, can help to prevent trash not being picked up.

APPROVAL CONSENT AGENDA: (Removing Items #1 and moving item #3 to Council decision)

Mayor Gardner Motions to approve Consent Agenda Approving of Resolution #2024- 1 - Reappointing One (1) Regular Board Member To The Code Enforcement Board **Moved** by Councilman M. Daniels; **Second** by Vice Mayor R. Daniels; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES**

COUNCIL DECISIONS: (Moved item #3 from Consent Agenda to Council Decision)

Mayor Gardner Motions for Approval of Eatonville Black History Month Motorcycle Event (Moved from Consent agenda) Moved by Vice Mayor R. Daniels; **Second** by Councilman M. Daniels with discussion; **Discussion:** Inquired about available resources and other organization being involved as well as the residents being informed about the event. (Response) information was sent in the water bill (January 22nd) and sent using the town's media outlets, flyers have been distributed and through word of mouth, also through the biker community's communication system; there is no head count, the event targets bikers and not the general public, the focus is to inform the bikers about the Town of Eatonville and what the town is doing, the Universal Kings are a part of the biker's network and are aware, information has been distributed to bike clubs, motorcycle clubs, social clubs, riding clubs, and support clubs, Vice Mayor Daniels is the secretary for the Universal King bike club and would have like to have been a part since the beginning of the planning and discussions; the program will not have vendors, no food, or craft vendors, it is an informational awareness campaign, bikers will rally in Sanford and ride to the Town of Eatonville to the Denton Johnson Center, the Mayor and Councilmembers will be acknowledged and invited to speak if desired, there are speakers lined up to talk to the bikers, the event targets bikers but no one will be turned away, the bikers can invite others (is a public event); **Mayor Gardner Calls for the Question; AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES**

Mayor Gardner Motions for Approval of Resolution #2024-3 Standing in Solidarity and Allyship in its Desire to House the State of Florida's First African American History Museum – (Gardner) Item is brought for consideration regarding to the First State African American Museum and hoping that the location chosen would be the Town of Eatonville Florida, this resolution will show a sincere desire by the council to have the museum come to the Town of Eatonville; (Pressley) regarding the recovery and resiliency information from the community indicated a desire for a heritage museum, have letters of support from the county to include funding for capital, received letter of support from the school board, also have support from several outside representatives. (Randolph) expressed concerns of not receiving information that the town was doing a presentation, in proper respect to the council, correspondence should have been sent. **(Preamble Read) Mayor Gardner moves motion forward; Moved** by Councilman M. Daniels; **Second** by Vice Mayor R. Daniels; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES**

Mayor Gardner Motions for Approval of Resolution 2023-26 Appointing Chair of the Town of Eatonville Community Redevelopment Agency (TOCRA) (Administration) (Preamble Read) Mayor Gardner moves motion forward; Moved by Councilwoman Randolph; **Second** by Vice Mayor R. Daniels with discussion; **Discussions/Nominations:**
First nomination is Mayor Angie Gardner to continue as CRA Chair; **Moved** by Councilwoman Randolph; **Second** by Mayor Gardner; **AYE:** Mayor Gardner; **NAYE:** Councilwoman Randolph, Councilman M. Daniels, Vice Mayor R. Daniels, **MOTION FAILS;**

Second Nomination is Councilman Marlin Daniels as CRA Chair; **Moved** by Vice Mayor R. Daniels; **Second** by Councilwoman Randolph; **Question/Discussion:** (Gardner) The CRA has a certification process, I am certified BCRA, in 2022 everyone was fired, and I still did it when the county had the CRA funds; have concerns that this not used as an election advantage, the things on the books had to happen without having staff, what is reason for rush having had a vote in December 2023 by bylaws fulfilling the obligation of having a vote. **Mayor Gardner moves motion forward; AYE:** Councilwoman Randolph, Councilman M. Daniels, Vice Mayor R. Daniels; **NAYE:** Mayor Gardner, **MOTION PASSES.**

Mayor Gardner Motions for Approval of Resolution 2023-27 Appointing Vice Chair of the Town of Eatonville Community Redevelopment Agency (TOCRA) (Administration); Discussions/Nominations;
First nomination is Councilwoman Wanda Randolph as CRA Vice Chair. **(Preamble Read); Mayor Gardner moves motion forward naming Councilwoman Wanda Randolph as the Vice Chair of the Town**

of Eatonville Community Redevelopment Agency; Moved by Vice Mayor R. Daniels; **Second** by Councilman M. Daniels; **AYE:** Councilwoman Randolph, Councilman M. Daniels, Vice Mayor R. Daniels; **NAYE:** Mayor Gardner, **MOTION PASSES.**

Mayor Gardner Motions for Approval of Resolution 2024-2 Approving the 10-Year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (Preamble Read); **Mayor Gardner moves motion forward; Moved** by Vice Mayor R. Daniels; **Second** by Councilwoman Randolph; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES**

REPORTS:

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER: Demetrius Pressley – UPDATES – Solid Waste - started the process of a discussion with waste connections, the contract, which is up in October of this year, will go out to bid and currently putting the proposal together, they are strictly enforcing what is in the contract, items in the one ninety six-gallon toter is what is lotted for picked up anything else is considered additional waste, will be scheduling meeting within two weeks to talk about how to move forward. If you are not being picked up, call the associated number for it to be addressed, yard waste and bulk pick up is once a week; DEP Consent Order is about done; Library - the library agreement is up in June, will start the negotiation process, want to collaborate more to ensure full use and access to that library; MetroPlan will continue to discuss the safety issues and traffic concerns; Community Pool - recreation department along with contractor is keeping up to date on the renovations; Fire Services – getting monthly reports, and discussing community programs with the fire station; Francis Jerry Park – under construction, started with the docks and addressing sidewalks that are out of ADA compliance, working to repair a pole that was hit, there are additional fishing opportunities. Impact Fees – working with departments to finalize details and numbers (planning, finance, and already from the police department), the two parts consists of impact service rate for water and sewer and for the general government and general services, to include planning, policing, recreations, and transportation, looking at late April to have information back to go before council, this will affect the moratorium which is up in May, will get with the vendor to get a better timeline, it is in best interest to follow this process through and understanding for the community at large that impact fees do not impact residents that are already established, will impact new buildings and structures to maximize the town's portion in receiving the proper fees associated with any new growth in our town, will have the timeline in the first or third meeting in March.

ATTORNEY: Clifford Shepard – Moratorium – the preview of the timeline is to get the study for the various areas to justify and adopt an impact fee, accept the results of the studies, legal prepares an impact fee ordinance adopting the various fees, takes to readings, and 90 days from adoption (2nd reading) before it can go into effect, if moratorium is lifted, impact fees would immediately start to apply, it is critical to move fast to not invite lawsuits, need to show progress with an end date; Code Enforcement – conducting training will be tomorrow (February 7) at 6:30pm; Hungerford – school board is willing to deed the town the Hungerford property, if the lawsuit is dismissed, will meet with PEC on Friday at 3:30pm, spoke with the lawyer from Southern Poverty Law, it is believed that their requests are for protection of the property so that it will not be jeopardized again, there is someone who would like to give \$200,000; (Pressley) there is new owner at the 427 East Kennedy property (the motel), will be meeting with the owner.

TOWN CLERK: Veronica King – File Bank is moving along and getting ready to launch the Public Access portal allows records at your fingertips hoping to implement within two weeks, Code Enforcement unfortunately Baruti will not be present at the meeting due to the passing his mother, the former Councilwoman, Marilyn Davis Sconions, Mr. Cobbin will be present at the meeting in Baruti's absence, the staff training on Friday and Saturday was good allowed for healthy interactive conversation, it is important for that the staff build a camaraderie when working together.

TOWN COUNCIL REPORT/DISCUSSION ITEMS-

Councilman M. Daniels – Need to be transparent and factual, tell the whole truth, should be people over politics, when the attacks come, God shows up, you reap what you sow; condolences to the Jenkins and Davis family; trash issue is major, and I would like to see it corrected along with recycling the roll-off containers, the town dumpsters need to be corrected, need to send out emergency contact information to residents in case of emergencies on different matters related water breaks, trash, and other issues and create a way to inform the residents; request an update on electronic signing of checks and documents to include debit transactions; would like to get surface tablets and train council (wasting lots of paper); request all employees hire date and termination date in the last two or three year and request a status on the salary analysis; inquired about residents generating their own passwords and placing a kiosk in the lobby for credit card payments; request all insurance policies for all vehicles and properties (declaration page); is there an ordinance or protocols for evictions or movers who leave piles of trash outside of trash day (Response) Chief Murray will reach out to the sheriffs office who fulfills the eviction processes.

Councilwoman Wanda Randolph – acknowledged with sympathy the families of Marilyn Sconions and the Jenkin's family; House bill 1530 is being discussed addressing public sleeping in the community and in government facilities and properties, this does not take away from creating an ordinance; Black History – the late James Randolph had an interview in the seventies (50 years ago), it is historic because I am on council and he was on council several times (ran three times) and later two thousands, the things that he addressed back then are the same issues 50 years later we are still dealing with (talked water, roads, government, putting people over politics, leaders, interest of the community not being involved); suggest a special meeting to go over the budget, not receiving budget reports (monthly), need to know all income and revenue spendings with plus and minuses, need monthly reports and a meeting each quarter to discuss the budget; Trash - still waiting on recyclable blue bins on Bethune Drive for over six months; inquired about the recognition event for elected women (it is being worked on).

Vice Mayor Rodney Daniels – Condolences to the family of Marilyn Davis and the family Jenkins; Mr. Jenkins was concerned about the code enforcement, trash cans, the contract (solid waste), the apartments, he wanted the town to do more in helping people to have a decent place to live; expressed of letting residents know about the trash pickup delays, want to address the speed bumps (Bel Air and Gabriel). (W. Randolph) inquired about the due date for the dumpsters (There will be an extension at the meeting); Communication open to additional ways to communicate and ask that residents help one another; send gratitude to Chief Murray, Mr. Pressley, staff, the professional training is important to service each other on the inside

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Angie Gardner – (Mentioned previously) Remember Marilyn Davis and the Jenkin's family and any other family who have lost loved ones; thanks Ms. Mundy for diligence with the grants, needs millions to catch up from decades of decline, thanks to all seasons pool for the process of the community pool; Policing Grant looking forward to the upgrades to Catalina Park and Francis Jerry Park; it was discussed to have a CRA program to address the bins; having a waste management program is doable (have had conversation),

ADJOURNMENT Mayor Gardner Motions for Adjournment of Meeting; **Moved** by Councilman M. Daniels; **Second** by Councilwoman Randolph; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES. Meeting Adjourned at 9:11 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

APPROVED

Veronica L King, Town Clerk

Angie Gardner, Mayor