



# HISTORIC TOWN OF EATONVILLE, FLORIDA

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

### MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 4, 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.*

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### CALL TO ORDER AND VERIFICATION OF QUORUM:

Mayor Gardner called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and a quorum was established by Mrs. King

**PRESENT:** (5) Councilwoman Wanda Randolph, Councilman Rodney Daniels, Mayor Angie Gardner, Vice Mayor Theo Washington (Arrived at Roll Call), Councilman Tarus Mack

**STAFF:** (6) Demetrius Pressley, **Chief Administrator Officer**, Veronica King, **Town Clerk**, Ryan Knight, **Town Attorney**, Officer Boone, **EPD**, Valerie Mundy, **Public Works Director**, Katrina Gibson, **Finance Director**

### INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

**Mayor Gardner Motions** to **APPROVE** the meeting agenda; **Moved** by Councilman Daniels; **Second** by Councilwoman Randolph; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES.** **Notes:** Vice Mayor Washington was not present this vote. **Handouts Given:** May 21 Meeting Minutes, 1887 Juneteenth Celebration Week Schedule, and Lifeguard Manual for the Eatonville Community Pool,

### CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - (4)

Sherronda Thomas – (Orange County Public Library) Provide d the June 2024 Orange County Library System Book & Beyond Magazine, will get with Mr. Pressley to get on the workshop calendar to programs offered, the program calendar for technology programs for all people,

John Beachum – Recommend the town creating a task force team to look at some of the undeveloped properties on East Kennedy while waiting on the Hungerford property to be developed, there is a lot of opportunity for some commercial buildings; presented a rendering of a proposed development idea that can prevent homelessness, offer jobs, provide a hotel with event center that can hold \$1500 people, and a school offering culinary and hospitality skills, offering catering bringing revenue to the town per plate. Find corporations, partnership, economic partnership for the land, and find corporation headquarters that want to move to Central Florida; create an economic hub. Create a main street and call it Joe Clark Avenue, to include the Zora Neale Hurston Museum, and an amphitheater that can do concerts u to 3,000 people; develop around culture, heritage, tourism, and the arts, have a restaurant with music of all genres, like jazz with cuisine. Hungerford property. has been prayed over in 1887 by the former slaves; the land was not just given by Mr. Hungerford but given by town citizens.

Joyce Irby – **Yielding minutes to John Beachum**

Jeni Grieger – Running for school board for District 6. I taught high school for 10 years in public school and have two boys that attend Lake Silver Elementary. Sixty percent of OCPS graduates are not proficient readers, this is the foundation of our education system with symptoms caused by reading failure. Our children matter and we can fix it. Available for questions and provided invitation to visit her website at [www.voteforjeni.com](http://www.voteforjeni.com).

## **APPROVAL CONSENT AGENDA: Mayor Gardner Motions to APPROVE Consent Agenda;**

**COMMENTS:** Approving the Town Council Meeting Minutes for May 21, 2024, and Resolution #2024-21 Confirming the Appointment of Donovan Williams as Vice Chair to the Town of Eatonville Community Redevelopment Agency (TOECRA); **Moved** by Vice Mayor Washington; **Second** by Councilman Mack; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES.**

## **COUNCIL DECISIONS: No Council Decisions**

## **REPORTS:**

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER: Demetrius Pressley – UPDATES –** Edmonds System the financial portion coming along very well, the planning portion of Edmonds will go into effect in the fall at the time when the 90-day impact fee adoption period will take place; Pool the pool is officially open, the pool hours are from 2:30. to 6:30 open to the community free of charge for residential usage, a proposed fee schedule for reservations and services will be brought to council (thanks to Mr. Washington); West Water Tower has been painted with town's logo, a formal opening will be forthcoming; HostDime met with Mr. Manny and they are pending the landscape and paver scopes, will make an announcement to landscaping/paving companies who may be interested in the bid process to offer services for that project, will identify dates for a walkthrough; Vision Zero, Ms. Mundy and her team is working with Winter Park and Maitland on safe routes to schools, sidewalks are being installed along Kennedy down College and Hungerford Elementary, Landscaping started the pilot landscaping project along Kennedy; Post Office is under renovations; Events had 4-5 special events within a 10-day period, staff is handling their current workload and making sure all provisions from the police and public works departments as well as administrative services to ensure events are successful; Mr. Pressley receives a fire report every month, this last month there 71 calls, 64 EMS responses, and 52 transports, will provide to council; Speed bumps done assessments, spoke with residents and looking into location, maintenance hazards, and efficiencies; looking to bring to council for review both the town and CRA audits; budget workshop are projected for the end of July (request for vacation times to avoid scheduling conflicts); Solid Waste the RFP will go out this month (June), inquired about a representative from council to serve on the reviewing committee; Master Plan received the draft, notes on the Polis progress are located at the library, community engagement has increased; Questions Request for times of operation for the pool (Tuesday – Saturday, 2:30 – 6:30 p.m. - flyer is available)

**ATTORNEY: Ryan Knight – No Report**

**MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Angie Gardner** – Pool opening was phenomenal (inquired about any open rentals-none until fee schedule is done), expressed thanks; looking forward to the leadership breakfast at Macedonia; the impact fees is a milestone , collection over time would have made a difference with some capital improvements for the town; thanks to staff; Administrative house cleaning addressed with council impromptu visits and consultation sessions to keep order and protocol as the charter allows, to meet with staff first go through Mr. Pressley, door codes will be changed not to stop access but to ensure protocol is followed, accessibility to mail will be available, if personnel information is request it is right to inform the staff member for accountability on both sides, asked that reports are kept to three minutes as possible, 7-10 minutes on agenda items, stay conscious of people's time

## **TOWN COUNCIL REPORT/DISCUSSION ITEMS-**

**Vice Mayor Theo Washington** – do not agree with censoring peoples speaking time, not in agreement with the three-minute time limit; let us bring people to our community through events (especially on Mainstreet) and not make it hard for others to do so, ensure protocol is followed

**Councilman Rodney Daniels** – disagree with the censoring and going through Mr. Pressley to meet with staff, legislatives have a right to meet with staff, put this matter on the agenda and let the board vote for how to conduct meeting with staff; hurricane season is coming, take advantage of The 2024 Florida Disaster

Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday (June 1 through June 14), acknowledged with thanks the need to address the speed bumps; thanks to Mr. Novak and agree with his opinion and perspective on the CBS

**Councilman Tarus Mack** – do not agree on how to meet with staff nor the 3 minute limit on speaking; the cleanup day was phenomenal and expressed thanks to council, volunteers, staff, and sponsors: classic development J & J Consultants, 3D Tires, Mark and Crystal Bertrand, next one after hurricane season; looking forward to the walkthrough with HostDime; inquired to legal on any new lawsuits (no new lawsuits); expressed concerns about changing door codes; brought to the attention the CRA contracts dates that is soon to expire, spoke on job opportunities within the town; mentioned the final meeting for the museum and putting together a bus assignment for people to go and fight for the museum (June 18<sup>th</sup>), need people who will represent us well; expressed concerns about the lack of plans for Juneteenth, (response) there was a workshop in May with Ms. Candace, Ms. Tiffany Simmons, and Councilwoman Randolph, there is a full week planned for Juneteenth to include a proclamation day during one of the vents, it has been planned out, reviewed with a memorandum for the services that the town will provide in support, will get copy of the details to Councilman Mack, will look into getting a table for the gala.

**Councilwoman Randolph** – Addressed concerns about time limits on council members for and having a SS code for council members' access into their governmental building, request this change in writing; Made public aware of requested public record requests; employees have not had evaluations, this is an administrative deficiency in our government (pulled records on nine individuals), How can you evaluate someone or give someone a raise or rating if they not had an evaluation from their supervisor, have rights as an official to look at disciplinary actions, attendance, work hours, reports from law enforcement, and background checks (will not be returning records), provided explanation on the incident with the Mayor that resulted in the council being barred from coming to the administration; there are basketball equipment and goals on the streets that need to be addressed; expressed concerns with Code Enforcements, nothing has been done about the oil on Bethune Drive, tires on the front street, tires throughout the community and junk cars in the road and in front of houses, want to have clean and decent looking community and neighborhoods; acknowledged the success of the community clean-up day, some areas was missed

**Other Comments:** To legal, can the Mayor lock out the legislative body (depends on the administrative policy and procedures), (Councilman Mack) request to see the written documents/policy; Vice Mayor Washington spoke to dual office holding and the protocol of going through the CAO to schedule meetings with departments/staff, liability of sharing information (violation of sunshine), administration running the day-to-day operations; council is asked to be cognizant of time and keep the meeting moving, interfering with the day to day administration is a problem.

**Town Clerk** – Have flyers for the Juneteenth activities available (June 14-19, something each day); copies of the presentation on the impact fees are also available; TexMyGov. have officially launched as of June 3<sup>rd</sup>, there is an information page on the town's website, text Eatonville to 91896 to be added to the distribution, it offers two-way interaction with your government where you can report issues, find answers, get in touch with staff, get assistance through our text, text to 407-995-TEXT to connect with administration, can also call the information line at 407- 623-8916 to stay informed about happenings in the Town of Eatonville, or call the clerk's office.

**ADJOURNMENT** Mayor Gardner Motions for Adjournment of Meeting; **Moved** by Vice Mayor Washington; **Second** by Councilman Mack; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES. Meeting Adjourned at 8:29 P.M.**

**Respectfully Submitted by:**

**APPROVED**

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**Veronica L King, Town Clerk**

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**Angie Gardner, Mayor**