



HISTORIC TOWN OF EATONVILLE, FLORIDA

REGULAR COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 1, 2023 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 quorum was established through roll call by Mrs. Veronica King

PRESENT: (5) Councilwoman Wanda Randolph, Councilman Marlin Daniels, Councilman Theo Washington, Vice Mayor Rodney Daniels, Mayor Angie Gardner;

STAFF: (6) Demetrius Pressley, **Interim Chief Administrator Officer**, Veronica King, **Town Clerk**, Clifford Shepard, **Town Attorney**, Joseph Jenkins, **Deputy Chief**, Katrina Gibson, **Finance Director**, Valerie Mundy, **Interim Public Works 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 Council Meeting Agenda removing item #5 (To Hire External I.T. Company to Conduct Am Analysis on Town Equipment and Improvements); Moved by Councilman Washington; Second by Councilwoman Randolph; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES.**

PRESENTATION AND RECOGNITIONS – None.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - (The Three-minute rule was strictly enforced)

Michelle Fort – The hotel is more than an eye soar and represents injustice (to not do anything is not progress); thank you for the Moratorium, the residents should not have to pay for the money builders are making off the town. The council should make decisions in the best interests of the citizens; need grants and revenue. Water and sewer rates need to increase.

Ryan Novak – Expressed concerns about door-to-door solicitation; recommended establishing a Solicitation Ordinance whereby companies must register with Eatonville for approval to solicit to Eatonville; having on file their standard contracts available to review and hold companies accountable. They can pay a fee per solicitor per day in the town. This will protect the residents from predatory practices. Everyone who walks through the metal detector should be treated the same.

Marty Sullivan – (Winter Park Commissioner) – Has a community interest; as a neighbor who lives in Winter Park, would like to see coordination between Eatonville and Winter Park. Cultural and heritage are common interests for Eatonville and Winter Park. Would like to assist with Hungerford land; use for a community land trust would be a premier use.

APPROVAL CONSENT AGENDA: Mayor Gardner Motions to approve the consent agenda approving CONSENT AGENDA with approval to Award to 1st Class Roofing, Inc., for Eatonville Town Hall Roof & HVAC Replacement, Approval of Resolution 2023-14 to Adopt the Orange County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS), Approval of the Surplus of Two EPD Vehicles, approval of FILEBANK Record Management/Digitizing Services; Moved by Councilman Washington; Second by Councilman M. Daniels; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES.**

COUNCIL DECISIONS: (Item #5 was removed - To Hire External I.T. Company to Conduct An Analysis on Town Equipment and Improvements)

Approval of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Grant for the Economic Development Initiative; **Discussion: (Gardner)** Presented this project (Town Shoppe, Hotel property) as one of the grants previously in CRA meeting (2 million dollars). The 4-million-dollar grant is from Congressman Cross office. (Denton Johnson and Elizabeth Park). There were master plans for the Town Shoppe, Denton Johnson, and Elizabeth Park; reason why these projects were chosen. This should have been brought to a workshop before Council. (R. Daniels) Would have wanted the land across the street (Hungerford) to be considered for a land purchasing grant. Code Enforcement is in place to address the eye soar property; must hold Code Enforcement and the landowner accountable. The Attorney has not been asked to review this grant. The town has not gone after appropriation; there are opportunities to get money. To after this grant, who is this grant benefiting. The housing authority and inspections can be done to address the eye-soar issue. The CRA addresses blighted area; have to show drawings on what is being proposed on the properties to apply for the funding (Need a plan). There was further discussion about the project (purchase of hotel property for affordable housing) that was submitted as part of the grant application. There is a drawing for the Hungerford property. Today's decision is to approve receiving funds; the project can be altered. Council would like to workshop the Project options for the grant. **Mayor Gardner motions for approval** of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Grant for the Economic Development Initiative; Moved by Councilman Washington; Second by Councilman M. Daniels with discussion. **Discussion:** Legal stated that you can do anything that the grant permits under the grant terms, it depends on the specifics of the grant, there are different types of grants with different perimeters; project changes can be submitted by letter for consideration; explain reasons for the changes. Option: To stay within the deadline (funds are currently available), Council can vote to accept the funding and later workshop the option for the desired specific project. **Councilwoman Randolph motions to amend the motion to** pursue the grant funds and to workshop for the desired grant project for further discussion and decision; Moved by Councilman Washington; Second by Vice Mayor R. Daniels; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES.**

REPORTS:

INTERIM CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER: Demetrius Pressley

Provided updates: Had budget workshops follow up to Council will be forthcoming, Procurement Revisions (will look at other counties as to their level of services), Electronic Signatures (current software provide this feature), vetting the process for I.T. improvements (\$30,000), external lines for the town phones are down (in the process of redoing the phone system); Duke Energy is trying to complete the work in the town (Franchise Agreement); next Stakeholder's meeting is August 21, 2023 @ 5:30 p.m.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Clifford Shepard – Provide updates on the Charter Review Advisory Committee training (Sunshine and Public Records Law), next meeting is Thursday to review Articles 1 and 2 (Chair and Vice Chair will be established); and on the Live Local Bill that will limit decision power on a local level.

TOWN COUNCIL REPORT/DISCUSSION ITEMS-

Councilman Theo Washington – No Report

Councilwoman Wanda Randolph – School is starting back soon (August 10); request updates on the Resolution for Sidewalk initiative supported by the Winter Park Health Foundation (Councilwoman Randolph will forward information to Mr. Pressley); there is a clean up day scheduled for August 12th, 8-10am (Chambers and Lake Lovely is coordinating); Inquired about housing development in the Elizabeth Park area; request updates.

Councilman Marlin Daniels – Big on transparency; people want to be informed (as soon as information comes in, let Council know); with new water bill, appears some are being double billed; free screening event will be forthcoming; requesting information on the \$5,000 scholarship allocated in the budget; inquired about funding for the pool (next appropriations are coming in January); prayer for our community and the safety of first responders.

Vice Mayor Rodney Daniels – Great idea from Mr. Novak about addressing solicitation in the community; Code Enforcement is needed to address the hotel issues, the Family Dollars, and a church putting out trash too early; kudos to the budgetary process; recommend establishing aide for senior citizens (to assist with their water bill (set aside money in the budget for this purpose); acknowledge Mr. Sullivan for coming expressing an interest to assist; needs to get with Chief Jenkins.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Angie Gardner – Acknowledged Mr. Pressley and Vice Mayor R. Daniels; love the budget process (professional); the hotel is the ideal land to purchase, it is an eye soar (there is a 40% owner who is opposing the purchase); the safe roads project from Winter Park to Hungerford was brought for the board and already approved; thanks for the public participation.

ADJOURNMENT Mayor Gardner Motions for Adjournment of Meeting; Moved by Councilman M. Daniels; Second by Mayor Gardner; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES. Meeting Adjourned at 8:31 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

APPROVED

Veronica L King, Town Clerk

Angie Gardner, Mayor