



# HISTORIC TOWN OF EATONVILLE, FLORIDA

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

### MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 26, 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 7:30 p.m. and a quorum was established by Mrs. King

**PRESENT:** (5) Councilwoman Wanda Randolph, Councilman M. Daniels, Vice Mayor Rodney Daniels, Mayor Angie Gardner, Councilman Theo Washington

**STAFF:** (7) Demetrius Pressley (By Zoom), **Chief Administrator Officer**, Veronica King, **Town Clerk**, Holli New, **Town Attorney**, Officer Lampkins, **EPD Chief**, 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 meeting agenda, Councilwoman Wanda Randolph; **Second** by Councilman Washington; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES.**

### CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - (3)

Julian Johnson – Yielded his speak time to John Beachum

Karen Castor Dentel – (Orange County School Board Representative – Informed the public about the upcoming ribbon cutting for the Orange Technical College Eatonville campus, May 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., there are welding, electrical, plumbing programs, along with apprenticeships, will be working with residents or students to find careers within OCPS, will have more information to post later.

John Beachum – Condolences to the Vice Mayor Daniels and Councilman Daniels on the passing of their mother; Civic Pride: loves Eatonville and Julian Johnson believes in you guys and fights like a man every day even when he disagrees, because of our ancestors, freedom was achieved as a township and by incorporation, referenced what happened to Hannabal Square and Paramore, and imagining if the wrong decision is made for the Hungerford property. Hungerford should be built around tourism, cultural heritage, and the arts, see a rich culture heritage, freedom, a town that has been self-governing for 137 years, like the African American Museum, but there are strings attached, what's going in it, if you don't have the key, you can't control it. The 300 acres of land taken was a subdivision, a grocery stores, and a gas station taken for us, Civic Pride is so hardcore,

**APPROVAL CONSENT AGENDA:** Mayor Gardner Motions to approve Consent Agenda approving Town Council Meeting Minutes – February 20, 2024, Resolution 2024-7 for the authorization to

make application for funding for water and sewer system improvements, Wholesale Sewer Service Agreement With City of Altamonte Springs, Confirmation of Orange County Community Redevelopment Agency Board Member, Resolution #2024-6 Re-appointment of Board Member To The Eatonville Police Officers Retirement Trust Board, **Moved** by Councilman Washington; **Second** by Councilwoman Wanda Randolph; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES.**

## **COUNCIL DECISIONS:**

**Mayor Gardner Motions to approve** the Public Record Request Management Tool by Civic Plus Next Request; **Moved** by Councilman Washington; **Second** by Vice Mayor R. Daniels; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES. Comments:** Approval is for the recommended Public Records Request Management Software (Next Request) bundled with the ArchiveSocial offered through Civic Plus.

## **REPORTS:**

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER: Demetrius Pressley – UPDATES** – Mr. Pressley’s report was read by Ms. Mundy due to audio issues within the zoom, copy was provided to the Town Clerk, tackling several important infrastructure projects and initiatives to improve the community: working on a comprehensive master plan with Baker Barrios, Eatonville Community Action Plan with Polis Institute; the Impact Fee Study is projected to be drafted by April 5<sup>th</sup>; Solid Waste improvements are continuing; Transportation (West Kennedy Boulevard road widening); proposals are being developed for nearly \$41.9 million worth of utilities projects; West Water Tower restoration work begins March 18<sup>th</sup>; an updated wholesale sewer agreement with the city of Altamonte Springs is being executed; collaborations with the CRA, the town is offering workshops to equip local minority and woman owned businesses to compete for town contracts that includes mom and pop businesses; \$1 million project is underway to revitalize the circuit; \$1 million grant will fund - a new community room, meet the chief events, safety initiatives like ring cameras for seniors and body cameras for police, and new programs with law enforcement; the community pool which has been closed for six years is set to reopen this spring 2024 and collaborating with CRA on a mural to enhance the pool wall, programming for the pool site will include seniors, after school, summer food, and quarterly events; a complete safety street study will be performed to address traffic measures, speed bumps to include recommendations from consultants and national efforts; Metro Plan and Orange County are working together on a Vision Zero (zero fatality) plan to improve road safety to include decorative crosswalks for increased awareness; FEMA is working with the town on a community assistance program to get funding for a number of the improvements to include hydrologic studies, pavement condition analysis, and a historic preservation project; the town is collaborating on affordable housing initiatives, federal grants are being secured for land acquisition (\$2 million) and housing development (\$1 million); April 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 p. m. located at the Denton Johnson Center, the Community Action Plan kickoff second session and is open to all residents, asking residents to complete surveys for the vision zero initiative, materials are available in the lobby; Questions: Dates for the pool opening, can it be rented to residents and organizations (will open of May before school ends and rental available through rental process like the Denton Johnson), concerned about CRA projects being mentioned in the council meeting (should discuss first in the CRA meeting to avoid ethic violations).

**ATTORNEY: Holli New (seating for Attorney Clifford Shepard)** – No Report

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

**Councilman Theo Washington** – Condolences to the Daniel, Cummings, Johnson, and Austin families;

**Councilwoman Wanda Randolph** – Express sympathy to the Daniels family, Ms. Louissteen Cummings has been a community advocate, sending prayers to family and friends; What was the cost for roof repairs and where did the funding come from (\$300,000 for roof and air conditioning); outside building looks nice, inquired about the grant for the club (to be discussed on Thursday during CRA meeting); request update on the

\$4.1 million from Congressman Maxwell Frost (the money is appropriations for twenty townhomes to be built for ownership, location to be determined); the \$2million from Val Demings will also be used with the \$4.1 million (total of \$6.1 million); the project connected to the \$5.9 million will begin approximately within the next four months to be used towards the water plant, additional funds can be used to enhance the water plan (grant coordinator will give an update); for the Orange County board appointment to the CRA, the council has to confirm and recognize the appointment.

**Councilman M. Daniels** – still having issues with the trash, need to continue looking into the trash improvements; it has been; positive thoughts bring positive results, negative thoughts bring negative results, what you put out is what you get back; to have a proper collaboration concept, it takes credibility, capacity, collateral, cash, and character; thank you for loving on my family.

**Vice Mayor Rodney Daniels** – Condolences to the Nash and Davis families; grateful to Gussie May Johnson and Louissteen Cummings for raising me up in the historic town of Eatonville, giving me the pride to want to bring my family back raising them in this little Black town. Thank my mom for being a part of this community, I love Eatonville and will always be grateful for what she did.

**TOWN CLERK: Veronica King – UPDATES** – The next Town Council meeting to include the ceremony (Oath of Office) will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at the Denton Johnson Center- the ceremony at 5:30 p.m., Council Workshop at 6:30 p.m., Town Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

#### **MAYOR’S REPORT**

**Mayor Angie Gardner** – Condolences to the Daniels and Davis’s families as well as Mr. Harris who has passes away; excited about the Orange County Technical College Orange County, the possibility for training and employment with Orange County.

**ADJOURNMENT** Mayor Gardner Motions for Adjournment of Meeting; **Moved** by Councilman M. Daniels; **Second** by Councilman Washington; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES. Meeting Adjourned at 7:59 P.M.**

**Respectfully Submitted by:**

**APPROVED**

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**Veronica L King, Town Clerk**

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**Angie Gardner, Mayor**