



HISTORIC TOWN OF EATONVILLE, FLORIDA

2ND BUDGET HEARING

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 15, 2025, at 5:15 PM

Town Hall – 307 E. Kennedy Blvd., Eatonville, FL 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 5:17 p.m. and a quorum was established by Veronica King, Town Clerk

PRESENT: (5), Councilwoman Wanda Randolph, Councilman Tarus Mack, Councilman Rodney Daniels, Vice Mayor Theo Washington (Arrived after roll call), Mayor Angie Gardner

STAFF: (6) Demetrius Pressley, **Chief Administrator Officer**, Marlin Daniels, **Interim Chief Administrator Officer** Veronica King, **Town Clerk**, Katrina Gibson, **Finance Director**, Valerie Mundy, **Public Works Director**, Lieutenant Jones, **EPD**

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Invocation through a moment of silence led by Mayor Gardner followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Gardner read the Budget Message emphasizing the ongoing planning for better in the future, better infrastructure, better park facilities, better housing opportunities, and better communication, highlighted updates and projects with over \$40,000,000 of grants dollars, water, sewer, stormwater, the Mayor's Business Development Academy, parks, recreation upgrades (P.A.L. Clubhouse), transportation, youth and senior programs, purchase of vehicles through \$1,000,000, funding (\$8,400,000+) to mitigate flooding Catalina Park, purchase and redesigning of the Sterling property, improvement of water flow during major storms, a \$400,000 makeover to the CRA building, the Master plan for the Hungerford property with \$200,000 in in-kind services to include commercially taxed property and tax relief for residents.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Gardner Motions to **APPROVE** Resolution #2025-23 (**Preamble Read**), Adopting The Final Levying Of Ad Valorem Taxes For Orange County For The Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2025, And Ending September 30, 2026; **moved by** Councilwoman Randolph, **second by** Councilman Daniels. **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES (4/0).** **Note:** Vice Mayor Washington arrived after the vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

Approval of Second Reading of Ordinance 2025-5 Approving Fiscal Year 2025 – 2026 Town Budget – (**Preamble Read**) (**NO PUBLIC COMMENTS**) **Mayor Gardner MOTIONS** to **APPROVE** Second Reading of Ordinance 2025-5 Approving Fiscal Year 2025–2026 Town Budget; **moved by** Councilman Mack, **second by** Councilman Daniels. **DISCUSSIONS:** (Councilwoman Randolph) **Concerns:** the water and sewer rates for the utility rates has not been resolved, request for update, at this point there is no direction to do anything else regarding what has already been done with water rates, that has been

established, an official statement came from the attorney; there has been evaluations on the employees; post office issues has not been resolved, postal service has been fair with the town. Um, and not providing enough revenue; inquired about an update on the the storm water survey (still in process); inquired about the contingency, the amount did not change, money was taken from each department to make up for the extra money, had questions about the contingency, amounts are set aside to cover unforeseen expenses and cost overruns in departments or programs, is determined by the budget revenue over expenditures, remaining fund that goes into the contingency and any restrictions must be approved by the town council, have not seen any documents where the town council have indicated restrictions, inquired as to if there is a resolution that stipulates exactly what that fund can be used for, there is no restrictions, monies left from revenue goes into the contingency; need to get a more updated budget layout, this budget is antiquated, need more information to better know what we are doing and spending, compared to other cities and towns we need more information, do not have the percentages of plus a minuses on our budget, (response) the Edmunds software can print out the percentage; is money borrowed from the CRA to keep town afloat (No, not allowed); inquired about the use of the reserves, (response) reserve is used for operation backup and emergency service, used to pay bills if something was to happen, keep at least three months of funds, currently ahead than what we have been before in the previous years, there is no limit to the reserves, there is only one reserve account. (Councilman Daniels) emphasized making the post office a self-serve type of business, do not want to get rid of it as a board, but need to be strategic and figure out a way to make the \$17,000 work for us if we want to have the post office; it was stated pertaining to the water and sewer that we were not at fault and was not liable.

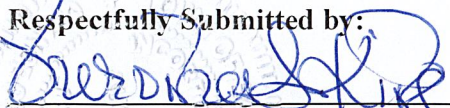
Mayor Gardner CALLS FOR QUESTION: AYE: Councilman Tarus Mack, Councilman Rodney Daniels, Vice Mayor Theo Washington, Mayor Angie Gardner **NAYE:** Councilwoman Wanda Randolph; **MOTION PASSES (4/1)**

COMMENTS: None

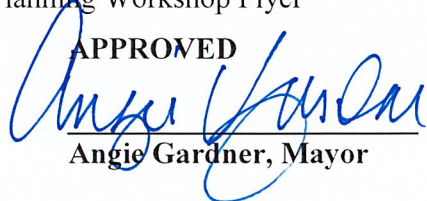
Mayor Gardner MOTIONS for ADJOURNMENT (at 5:40 PM); moved by Councilman Mack, second by Vice Mayor Washington; AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES (5/0).

HANDOUTS PROVIDED: Agenda, Mayor's Budget Message, Master Planning Workshop Flyer

Respectfully Submitted by:


Veronica L King, Town Clerk

APPROVED


Angie Gardner, Mayor