



# HISTORIC TOWN OF EATONVILLE, FLORIDA SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

## MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at 6:30 PM

Town Hall – 307 E. Kennedy Blvd.

**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 Critton called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and no quorum was established confirmed by Mrs. King.

**PRESENT:** (2) Mayor Ruthi Critton, Councilman Tarus Mack (**Absent**) Councilwoman LaDwyana Jordan, Councilwoman Angela Thomas (**NO QUORUM**)

**STAFF:** (4) Marlin Daniels, **Chief Administrator Officer**; Veronica King, **Town Clerk**; Ryan Knight, **Town Attorney**; Chief Stanley Murray, **EPD**

### NOTES:

- Councilwoman LaDwyana Jordan called and emailed the Mr. Daniels about an emergency and unavailability to attend meeting
- Mayor Critton received an invitation for town council to attend the Unity Bank Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, 10am at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, would like for the council to be informed of the invitation.
- Request for a Special Council Meeting on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. to appoint Seat five council seat and TOECRA Chair (Town Clerk will reach out to Council to establish a quorum)
- For the next Regular Meeting on April 7, 2026, the appointment of Vice Mayor, and Town Council appointment to the TOECRA board, and appointment of TOECRA Vice Chair will take place.
- The charter prevents a situation where you would have a majority vote of two to one, requiring at least the three affirmative votes for the action to move forward.

### CITIZEN PARTICIPATION – (2)

**\*\* Citizen participation was held since meeting was called to order with discussion.**

Ryan Novak – Expressed that this meeting should not happen because the charter gives until April 15th to fill seat five's vacancy, the next council meeting on April 7th gives ample time, the packet provided no names , application, nor information on the person to be appointed for the residents to evaluate, unlike the CRA appointed seat information was provided in the packet, the seat five appointment will shape this council for two years and the CRA community seat is a four-year appointment with direct influence over redevelopment decisions affecting this entire town, these are not minor matters to push through without all members being present to weigh in and to vote, a special election is the actual real democratic outcome that should happen, voters choosing who the representative is going to be, asking to table the seat five appointment and the CRA appointment to the next council meeting and encourage that all information is available to the public.

Angela Johnson – expressed difficulty following along the agenda when referencing agenda items as 4a and 4b; if moving forward with the special meeting on the (March) 31st at 5:30, recommend moving forward with the appointment filling the CRA vacancy, the appointee will need to be acclimated because of the business that

needs to happen within the CRA, also whomever is being considered, that information be provided; praying for Councilwoman Jordan in consideration to her expressed emergency.

**BOARD DECISION: (No actions taken on the below items due to no established quorum)**

1. Appointment for Town Council Seat #5 By Resolution 2026-16
2. Appointment of Vice Mayor By Resolution 2026-17
3. Council Appointments for the TOECRA Board By Resolution 2026-18
4. Appointments of the TOECRA Chair and TOECRA Vice Chair By Resolution 2026-19

**STAFF COMMENTS: \*\*Added to agenda**

Veronica King, Town Clerk – For clarity to the agenda picked up today is the final agenda, the reference to the A and B was for clarity when determining what items would go on the next meeting, for the clerk to arbitrarily make a change to the agendas during meetings (without council approval) is inappropriate; the appointment of seat five is not done by application but by appointment of the council, recommendations are brought to the meeting and voted up or down, if council deem it necessary to put the information out ahead of time (if it is available) the information can be made available but not required. The other boards are appointed by applications received in advance. That's why you see them provided in the board packages. So that's just a point of clarity for both concerns.

Ryan Knight, Town Attorney – No Report

Marlin Daniels, CAO – We are in uncharted waters and want to ensure we are careful and cautious in following what the charter says. and follow what the charter says, if the council decide put information out we (staff) will make information available public for you all.

**MAYOR/COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Ruthi Critton Mayor – Provided clarity and apology to the ad lib to a desired two-part agenda item, the items are not listed as 4A or 4B and apologized for any confusion; it would be fair to the entire council to give them space and time to consider who will receive that appointment either for vice mayor or vice chair, the charter does give thirty days as a deadline, the appointment is not something that we should tarry with. We can reference the charter and its instructions on what the typical appointment looks like and when that is done, this election was characteristically different than other elections of the past; referenced the charter revision moving a vacancy from election to appointment, should definitely be mindful around charter review time that we're taking notice of those things that could potentially provide discrepancy; there were three candidates that were considered or nominated for seat three and names were not made public, if the public is interested, the council may be amenable to discussing and creating procedures to follow moving forward on what the appointment looks like; hearts are towards those who could not be present tonight.

Councilman Mack, Councilman – expressed a need to change the charter; request for attorney to give information on statute on how that language looks, choice appointment does not have to be provided, the reason for special meetings is to conduct business that cannot always wait until the next regular meeting, will make the best decision when making appointments to these seats, do get feedback from the residents who are the CEOs;

**ADJOURNMENT** Mayor Critton Motions for Adjournment of Meeting. **Meeting Adjourned at 7:00pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted**

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**ATTEST**  
Signed by:  
*Veronica King*  
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**Veronica L King, Town Clerk**

**APPROVED**  
Signed by:  
*Ruthi Critton*  
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**Ruthi Critton, Mayor**