



HISTORIC TOWN OF EATONVILLE, FLORIDA

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 21, 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 7:38 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, Councilman Tarus Mack

STAFF: (6) Demetrius Pressley, **Chief Administrator Officer**, Veronica King, **Town Clerk**, Clifford Shepard, **Town Attorney**, Lt. Broderick Lampkins, **EPD**, Valerie Mundy, **Public Works Director**, Cobbin McGee, **Planning**

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** amended meeting agenda removing item #2 (Resolution #2024-19 Floodplain Management Performance Measures); **Moved** by Councilwoman Randolph; **Second** by Vice Mayor Washington; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES. Notes:** Handouts provided Toy Drive Flyer, Letter from 1887 Eatonville First, and Collaboration Vision Towards the Master Plan. **Comments:** (Vice Mayor Washington) Attended the ethics and inquired about a silent vote meaning yes; under the Florida statute, 1 23143, a vote shall be recorded, not silence, must say yay, nay, or abstain; referenced F.S. 112.311; 112.313; 112.3143.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - (4)

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

John Beachum – Acknowledged Eatonville's impact on Edgewater High School, its civic pride; addressed concerns with the Black History Museum as it pertains to partnering agencies that have a conflict of interest, a situation in which a person or organization is involved in multiple interests, serving one interest could involve working against another, blocking participation by not providing the necessary paperwork to make informed decisions, not informing the town about the trip to Tallahassee, not allowed to participate in the negotiations with the school board, not informed about the meetings for the Hungerford demolition; acknowledged Julian Johnson efforts, he is intelligent and grew up in the Town of Eatonville, let him express himself because he wants to get it right and giving everything he has, embrace, listen, and love him.

Julian Johnson – **Yielding minutes to John Beachum**

Nia Williams-Brown – **Yielding minutes to John Beachum**

PUBLIC HEARING

Approval of 2nd Reading of Ordinance 2024-1 Extending and/or Readopting The Temporary Moratorium on the Issuance of Building Permits (Preamble Read); (**Legal**) To the question reflected in the minutes on how you

extend something that has already expired, the ordinance itself covers it by saying it's an extension or readoption which covers either way. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No Public Comments. **Mayor Gardner Motions to APPROVE** 2nd Reading of Ordinance 2024-1 Extending and/or Readopting The Temporary Moratorium on the Issuance of Building Permits: **Moved** by Councilwoman Randolph; **Second** by Councilman Daniels; **COUNCIL COMMENTS:** Expressed concerns on the length of time this is taking; the firm will provide draft of the impact fee recommendation for the next meeting, (over a year), the delay was the results of not having the information needed, the initial staffing levels, to include the budget and auditing season. Once the impact fee is adopted through two hearings, it will require 90 days before implementation, expressed concerns of not being able to charge fees and that council has not been given enough information. If the moratorium ends within 90 days, people could come in and apply for development and never have to pay. The moratorium is important to avoid a flood of applicants who do not have to pay fees when the town needs the money. There is opportunity for growth, if the town gets the Hungerford property that in itself is a transformative possibility for this town, without impact fees, it will be a burden on the town. (Councilwoman Randolph) Request a chronological time frame from the beginning of the contract to now (by May 28th); there was no cause in the contract that indicates cost, fees, charges, or penalties required for not meeting the deadline; this project is a ninety-five percent completion and contingent on the projections and if the council decides to move forward with the adoption phase of the ordinance. The study covers general government, leasing, recreation, transportation, but not water (this would be enterprise). There is another rate study with the Florida Real Water Association, which is about 30 days from the draft, about the same time reviewing those rates along with the impact fees. **Mayor Gardner calls for the question; AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES.**

Approval of 1st Reading of Ordinance 2024-2 Camping on Public Property and Right of Way in the Town of Eatonville (Preamble Read); **(Legal)** This is not about penalizing homelessness; it is to help the community deal with the effects of homelessness on the community. **Mayor Gardner Motions APPROVE** the 1st Reading of Ordinance 2024-2 Camping on Public Property and Right of Way in the Town of Eatonville **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** (John Beachum) The sale of the motel, Aspire (formerly Lakeside) are the results of homelessness in Eatonville; the new developments may cause a deeper problem with the increase in rates, taxes, fire, police, water and sewer; (Julian Johnson) Consider potential partnerships with the churches; the town has CRA dollars to address the problem; (Joyce Irby) With the developments it will get worse, must start to address this matter. (LaVonda Wilder) Eatonville has lots of housing restrictions, consider different housing options (i.e., Accessory Dwelling Unit-ADU, Boarding housing). (Nia William-Brown) Consider identifying resources to assist people in need before implementing this ordinance. (i.e., Aspire, surrounding shelters), there are opportunities to provide infrastructure for those able bodies to be put to work; (Broderick Lampkins, EPD) It is a growing problem, we provide resources that can help. Officers do not try to throw them in jail. There are times when crimes are being committed such as breaking into abandoned houses, stealing, and other things that must be addressed. **COUNCIL COMMENTS:** This ordinance is to protect the general population here in the town. The Police Chief is working with staff to ensure the right de-escalation process for dealing with this matter. This ordinance is for the health, safety, and peace of the community. **Moved** by Councilman Daniels; **Second** by Councilman Mack; **Comments:** Recommend tabling to give time and further research ways to address the social and economic issues, get more community involvement along with ministers, police, and code enforcement; need to find (hire) somebody in house to head this problem to identify resources. This ordinance is not a solution, but it is a tool to address the effects of homelessness and infractions by anyone. The county ordinance will control if we do not have an ordinance. **(PREVIOUS ACTIONS RESCINDED)** **Mayor Gardner Motions TABLE** the 1st Reading of Ordinance 2024-2 Camping on Public Property and Right of Way in the Town of Eatonville; **Moved** by Councilwoman Randolph; **Second** by Councilman Mack; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES. (Tabled)**

APPROVAL CONSENT AGENDA: Mayor Gardner Motions to APPROVE Consent Agenda:

COMMENTS: Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes for May 7, 2024 (Item #2) Resolution #2024-19 Floodplain Management Performance Measures was removed from consent agenda; **Moved** by Vice Mayor Washington; **Second** by Councilman Daniels; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES.**

COUNCIL DECISIONS:

Approval of Resolution #2024-18 Appointment of TOECRA Chair: Nominee: Councilwoman Randolph. **Mayor Gardner Motions to APPROVE** Approval of Resolution #2024-18 Appointment of Councilwoman Wanda Randolph as TOECRA Chair; **Moved** by Councilman Daniels; **Second** by Councilman Mack; **Comments/Question:** There is nothing in the charter that requires the mayor to be chair of the TOECRA, not having a chair would be a problem with the current bylaws (Legal read and explained the bylaws). **Mayor Gardner Calls for the Question:** **AYE:** Councilman Mack, Councilman Daniels, Councilwoman Randolph **NAYE;** Vice Mayor Washington, Mayor Gardner, **MOTION PASSES.**

Approval of Appointment of TOECRA Vice Chair: Nominee: Director Donovan Williams. **Mayor Gardner Motions to APPROVE** of Appointment of Donovan Williams as TOECRA Vice Chair; **Moved** by Councilman Mack; **Second** by Councilman Daniels; **Comments/Question:** There is nothing in the charter that requires the mayor to be chair of the TOECRA, not having a chair would be a problem with the current bylaws (Legal read and explained the bylaws). **Mayor Gardner Calls for the Question:** **AYE:** Vice Mayor Washington, Mayor Gardner, Councilman Mack, Councilman Daniels **NAYE:** Councilwoman Randolph; **MOTION PASSES.**

REPORTS:

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER: Demetrius Pressley – UPDATES – Acknowledged staff for their work in finding solutions; spoke on the night market (council received email), need direction from council due to separations between the special event and what it can do, it is proposed for the night market to take place once a month (council will send feedback in response to the email), must follow procedures with EPD and special events; discussed the collaboration and continuity with the masterplan, confirmed what those areas of focus are and to make sure the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Polis Institute, and Baker Barrios are working together; With the solid waste RFP Process, interest may come in through meeting requests and council is welcome to talk, once the RFP process starts council will not be allowed to communicate with the vendors, the current providers are up to September 30th, submitted updates and requests to amend items within the parameters of the road widening project with Orange County (i.e., sidewalks, lights, shade); We did not win the broadband grant, but we submitted back with appropriation dollars from Congressman Frost for the improvements to West Kennedy; having meetings with community members concerning the water cutoffs; staff have created additional schedule to keep up with the cleaning of the parks; tennis courts are being pressurized and painted, and working to address other area of concerns with the parks; there are some upcoming vacancies (public works assistant, recreation director, accounting clerk); Touch points of communication includes door to door, Instagram, Facebook, email blasts, flyers and TextMyGov that is coming.

TOWN CLERK: TextMyGov is to launch in June currently doing some troubleshooting to make sure we know how to use the software app; The Florida Association of City Clerks, Central East District which includes ten municipalities including Eatonville is collaborating to host Christmas in July, which is a toy drive. There is no cost to the town, but a way to show our civic responsibility and collaboration to assist Children in local hospitals by donating unwrapped toys, games and clothing and much more. The collection dates are June 1st through June 30th. Video footage will be created and presented at the FACC Fall Academy, A flyer is available, would love for the council to be a part of the video op along with community residents and staff.

ATTORNEY: Clifford Shepard – Gave an update on the Black History Museum, the application was professional and grade A all the way around, did a lot of right things, but did not get the right results, when a door closes, another door opens, and that door is that Hungerford property.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Angie Gardner – Black History Museum - believe that we are still the best location, it is still not over, does not mean that there is not another path, special thanks to the task force that put everything together, a lot of work and commitment went into that presentation; would like to thank all seasons pools and looking forward to the pool reopening this Saturday; thanks to everyone who came out to the state of the town address, a lot of great things are happening in the town and we are going in the right direction; thanks to Lt. Lampkins for the invitation to the service.

TOWN COUNCIL REPORT/DISCUSSION ITEMS-

Vice Mayor Theo Washington – Black History Museum - It is not over yet because they have to vote on it; this is big weekend with the State of the Town, reopening of the pool, and Stogies at Sunset; all the criteria for the Stogies at Sunset has been met, officers will be on duty, come out and enjoy yourself, there will be nice entertainment, jazz with David Stewart (saxophonist), Naomi Joy (female saxophonist), and the Florida steppers.

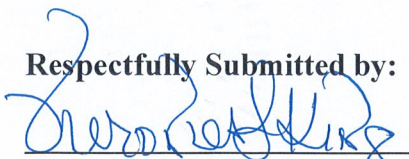
Councilman Rodney Daniels – Did not receive the call that the boil water alert was rescinded; talked about speed bumps, need to be addressed (back of Life Center Church); keep the Blue family in prayer and congratulation to Councilwoman Randolph on your nomination; referenced Florida Statue 112.3141 stating that that a vote should be made and recorded to the clerk or to the person keeping minutes when there's a conflict, it has been the practice to use deductive reasoning, where you don't say yes on one and you say no on the other, this has been known and accepted by this board; spoke on the previous actions made on appointing the chair of the CRA, providing history on a former Mayor not being appointed Chair;

Councilwoman Randolph – There are concerns about the safety of the pool fencing (the fence is standard and currently meets the code), staff is checking into the cost for a larger fence (six feet); to raise it higher may be preventative; need signage to lessen the liability; inquire about the results from the Black History Museum (vote was five to four); request that a full budget be provided during budget time (Mr. Pressley will follow up with Councilwoman Randolph); Reference pictures highlighting areas of concerns i.e., oil spill, car incident-hydroplane into property,

Councilman Tarus Mack – Acknowledged the efforts that went into the Black History Museum; recognized the staff; Recognized Shan Rose with well wishes during the run-off election; Recognized and congratulated all graduates; excited about the reopening of the pool; acknowledged the efforts of sharing information on the website; to keep the community informed; Inquired about any litigations or law suits (legal is not defending any cases), the Insurance Defense Council is defending a case from an rear end accident with a police, a trip and fall on one of the town's sidewalk, and UP Development submitted paperwork pertaining to funding and processes that took place some years ago (pending details); Chelsea Nelson is no longer with Ekos at Lake Shadows apartments, if anybody is interested in the apartments, can contact me (Councilman Tarus Mack), will assist and point in the right direction; Acknowledged Julian Johnson, gave assurance of support for his efforts and everything that he brings to the town.

ADJOURNMENT Mayor Gardner Motions for Adjournment of Meeting; **Moved** by Councilman Mack; **Second** by Vice Mayor Washington; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES. Meeting Adjourned at 9:25 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted by:


Veronica L King, Town Clerk

APPROVED

Angie Gardner, Mayor