

Town of Edmonston
Town Council Work Session Minutes
Tuesday, February 25, 2025, Via Teleconference

1. Mayor Gant called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. and teleconference attendees were Council Members Sarah Turberville, Kony Serrano Portillo, and John Johnson. Town Administrator Rod Barnes, Town Clerk Averil Gray, and Police Chief Eric Beale. Council Member Betsy McCauley was absent.
2. Town Administrator Barnes gave an initial overview of the FY25-26 Annual Budget at this work session meeting noting the following about Town revenues:
 - He expressed uncertainty about revenue dollars available from state and federal grants given the direction of the new administration.
 - The property valuation has increased For FY26-26 while the tax rate using the constant yield rate decreased. Property tax increases may need to be considered.
 - The Town has begun the process for annexation to the west of Edmonston Road to Emerson on the east of Decatur St., areas that include homes on 53rd Avenue and a church. The process takes about a year.
 - The Public Works department budget has decreased.
 - There is a deficit of approximately \$200K from speed camera ticketing this fiscal year.

Chief Beale added the following to the discussion about Town revenue.

- The installation of a new speed camera will occur in April, with warnings to be issued in the month of May. Revenues will be reflected in June and July.
- The Police Department is having a conversation with the Town's attorney on the installation of a stop sign with a camera at Decatur St. and 52nd Avenue, which is a school bus pick-up site.
- State aid can decrease if the department is not fully staffed, but those hired but attending the Academy can qualify as staff.

There was a brief discussion on the expected utility increase, which may include providing power to streetlights in areas once paid for by the State.

3. The calendar for future budget workshops was approved for
 - a. Tuesday, March 4 Council Works Session and Budget Workshop
 - b. March 25, Budget Work Session

5. Adjournment – At 8:08 Mayor Gant adjourned the meeting.

Mayor, Tracy R. Gant

Averi Gray, Town Clerk