

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE EAST DUBLIN MAYOR AND COUNCIL

November 18, 2024

The regular meeting of the East Dublin Mayor and Council was called to order by Mayor George Gornto.

Invocation was led by Councilman Brown followed by pledge to the flag.

A motion was made by Councilman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Roberson to approve the minutes as read of the previous meeting. All voted in favor with none opposed.

A motion was made by Councilman Williams and seconded by Councilman Sheppard to approve the bills for payment. All voted in favor with none opposed.

A motion was made by Councilman Brown and seconded by Councilwoman Roberson to approve the financial statements. All voted in favor with none opposed.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Roberson and seconded by Councilman Sheppard to accept the bid from Toter in the amount of \$6,572.00 for the purchase of 100 new garbage carts. All voted in favor with none opposed. (See Attached Copy)

The resolution for the PTSD Program was presented to the Council. Mayor Gornto advised them that the State of Georgia passed HB 451 that mandates public entities to provide lump-sum and long-term disability coverage for first responders for PTSD. This bill is to become effective 1/01/2025. The Georgia Interlocal Risk Management Agency through Georgia Municipal Association will provide the coverage for the City of East Dublin in the amount of \$1,036.00 for the year 2025.

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Williams and seconded by Councilman Brown to adopt the resolution to provide PTSD coverage for East Dublin's Fire and Police through GMA. All voted in favor of the resolution with none opposed. (See Attached Copy)

The resolution to reroute a portion of Highway 199 onto Nathaniel Drive was presented to the Council. Mayor Gornto advised the Council that Nathaniel Drive is a five-lane road that goes through the industrial area of the city and will be well suited for the heavy-duty traffic that currently uses Hwy 199. He told the Council that the State of Georgia and Laurens County have already agreed to the change and that once all changes have been made Nathaniel Drive will become Highway 199 and will be maintained by the State of Georgia.

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Roberson and seconded by Councilman Sheppard to approve the Resolution to reroute a portion of Highway 199 onto Nathaniel Drive. All voted in favor with none opposed. (See Attached Copy)

A motion to give the employees of the city a Christmas Bonus was made by Councilman Williams and seconded by Councilman Brown. All voted in favor of the bonuses with none opposed. (See Attached Copy)

At this time Mayor Gornto opened the floor for Recognition of Citizens.

Aiden Shifflett a 4th grader at East Laurens Elementary School addressed the Council. He asked what types of educational programs did the city currently offer and if there will be any future programs offered to kids his age. Mayor Gornto advised him that the City Fire Department does a fire safety program with the 5th graders at East Laurens and that the Laurens County Sheriff's Department along with East Dublin Police do a program call CHAMPS with the 5th grade as well. But these were the only programs that the city was involved in at this time and has no plans for any other types of programs in the future.

Sebastian Williams of 120 Marion Street addressed the Mayor and Council concerning sidewalks along Buckeye Road. He stated that the city was in violation of the American Disabilities Act and the Civil Rights Act for not providing sidewalks on Buckeye Road. He also said that he and others who are disabled in the neighborhood of Buckeye Road will be marching in the area to show how much the sidewalks are needed. Mayor Gornto advised Mr. Williams that when the TSPLOST was renewed in 2023, the City included sidewalks for Buckeye Road in the list of projects that are to be done with these funds.

Bryant Waters, owner of the Snack Boxx, located at 511 A Central Drive, East Dublin addressed the Mayor and Council concerning a water main that is located in front of his restaurant. He asked if the city could put something around it to protect it and also his customer who are running over it or parking on it. Mr. Bryant also asked what could be done with the garbage that was blowing onto his parking lot from the dumpster for the motel beside him. Mayor Gornto advised him that he would talk with the water superintendent about the water main and also check on the situation with the motel's garbage.

Mr. Bryant then went on to ask what the protocol was for the motel's when they change owners frequently. Mayor Gornto stated there wasn't any particular state law or rule that dictated them from changing owners, but the Fire Department did a fire and building inspection a while back to make sure that all the hotels and motels in East Dublin were in compliance with fire and building codes.

Jamie Jackson, of East Dublin, asked if he could get a copy of East Dublin's budget. City Clerk Melissa Bassett asked Mr. Jackson to stop by the City Hall at his convenience to get a copy.

At this time Mayor Gornto opened the floor for Council Comments.

Mayor Gornto informed all that there would be Recreation Board Meeting Tuesday, 11/19/2024 at 5:00 pm at the City Hall. All who would like to attend were welcome to come.

Being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Williams and seconded by Councilman Sheppard. All voted in favor with none opposed.

Approved: 12/09/2024

Mayor

City Clerk

Attending:

Mayor George H. Gornto
City Clerk Melissa Bassett
City Attorney Charles Butler
Police Chief Bill Luecke

Council Members:

Braxton Brown, Jr.
Brenda Roberson
John Sheppard
Al Williams