

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE EAST DUBLIN MAYOR AND COUNCIL

June 9, 2025

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

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

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

A motion to approve the bills, which included an invoice for Carol's Consulting, was made by Councilwoman Roberson and seconded by Councilman Sheppard. All voted in favor with none opposed.

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

The item "Annexation" was presented to the Council as follows:

- The Laurens County Board of Education is requesting the following two parcels be annexed into the city limits of East Dublin and once annexed they will be zoned B2:

Parcel 200D-044 (36.03 acres)

Parcel 200D-045 (80.40 acres)

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Roberson and seconded by Councilman Brown to approve the annexation of Parcel 200D-044 and Parcel 200D-045 into the city limits of East Dublin and once annexed both parcels will be zoned as B-2 General Commercial District. All voted in favor with none opposed. (See Attached Letter of Request)

A motion was made by Councilman Tanner and seconded by Councilman Sheppard to approve the FY 2025 Amended Budget. All voted in favor with none opposed. (See Attached Copy)

The public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget was opened. There was no one present who spoke in favor or against the proposed budget; therefore, the hearing was closed. A motion to adopt the Fiscal Year 2026 budget that will begin 7/01/2025 was made by Councilman Tanner and seconded by Councilman Sheppard. All voted in favor with none opposed. (See Attached Copy)

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

Aiden Shifflett a 5th grader at East Laurens Elementary School addressed the Council as a concerned citizen asking the Mayor and Council about the vacant lot located on Jackson Street. He said that there has been a lot of people gathering there and causing a lot of noise and disturbing the peace. He also wanted to know if it could be a playground area for the neighborhood.

Joann Baldwin of 204 Jackson Street, East Dublin addressed the Mayor and Council concerning the city installing speed bumps along Jackson, Marion and Daley Streets due to speeders. She also asked for an update on the installation of sidewalks along Buckeye Road. Mayor Gornto advised Mrs. Baldwin that the city is working with the Georgia Department of Transportation through grants that they offer in order to get the sidewalks done.

Reuben Baldwin of 204 Jackson Street, East Dublin addressed the Mayor and Council concerning having more police presence in the area. Police Chief Bill Luecke advised that would be taken care of.

Mildred Jackson of 330 Branham Street, East Dublin, addressed the Mayor and Council with several items. First, she thanked them for having her driveway fixed, but it has started to sink in again along with her septic tank. Mayor Gornto advised her that he would send someone by to check on them.

The next item she asked about was who was cutting down all the trees on the other side of Railroad Avenue at the railroad tracks. Mayor wasn't sure, but would check into it.

The next item she asked about what to do about foot traffic coming through her neighborhood with dogs. She stated that one person had a dog that seemed dangerous. She was advised to contact 911, who would then dispatch the police.

The last item she asked about was police presence at the BP Jet Store on Central Drive. She advised them that her granddaughter was working there alone from 10:00 pm until 6:00 am and there was a lot of homeless people coming in and out of the store during those hours. She asked if the police could go by during that time. Police Chief Bill Luecke stated that he would ask his officers to stop in.

Dawn Wood then ask that the Mayor and Council consider placing motion-sensor lights in the dug-outs at Warnock Park to deter people from going into them at night. Mayor Gornto said that the city would check into getting them installed.

Jim Wilkes, a property owner in East Dublin, asked about there being no ditches at Keen Street and Virginia Avenue. He stated that when it rained the water floods into the yards of the people who rent from him in this area. Mayor Gornto stated that Mr. Wilkes could purchase driveway

pipes from the city, but he would have to have them installed himself. Mayor asked City Clerk Melissa Bassett to give Mr. Wilkes the telephone number of the public works department supervisor HT Scarborough.

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

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: 7/14/2025

Mayor

City Clerk

Attending:

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

Council Members:

Braxton Brown, Jr.
Brenda Roberson
Len Tanner, Jr.
John Sheppard
Al Williams