

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE EAST DUBLIN MAYOR AND COUNCIL

April 13, 2026

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 Councilwoman Roberson and seconded by Councilman Sheppard to approve the previous meeting minutes as read. All voted in favor with none opposed.

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

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

The public hearing for the rezoning of 102 Circle Drive from R-2 to B-1 for the purpose of a self-service laundry mat was opened for discussion by Mayor Gornto. The person to speak for the rezoning was Cricket Ussery, the rezoning applicant and resident of 103 Sunset Drive. She made a presentation that expressed her desire that the Council would approve of the rezoning. After Miss Ussery, Michael Hylton of 210 Glen Drive, addressed the Council stating that he was at the Rezoning meeting in March and he was still opposed to the rezoning due to a possible increase in traffic in the area. Kelvin Cauley of 216 Glen Drive asked Miss Ussery if she had decided the hours of operation for the business. She stated that she had and the hours would be from 6:00am to 9:00pm.

After discussion, Mayor Gornto closed the public hearing and called for a motion to uphold the Zoning Boards decision to not approve the rezoning. A motion was made by Councilman Tanner and seconded by Councilman Brown to accept the East Dublin Zoning Boards recommendation to not rezone 102 Circle Drive from R-2 to B-1. Councilman Tanner and Councilman Brown voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Sheppard and Councilwoman Roberson voted against the motion. Mayor Gornto broke the tie by voting to uphold the East Dublin Zoning Boards decision of not rezoning 102 Circle Drive.

The East Laurens High School Girls Basketball team were present and those in attendance gave a round of applause to them for being the first high school girls basketball team from East Laurens to win a State Championship. Mayor Gornto advised them that a proclamation was being drawn up and he invited them back to receive the proclamation as soon as it is ready.

Soperton Avenue Sewer Project was presented to the Council. Mayor Gornto advised them that this project was to run city sewer lines to the new GasPro business being built at the corner of Soperton Avenue and Oakwood Drive. He also stated the if the Council approves the project that the city sewer would extend past the new business to two other business zoned lots. Mayor

Gornto advised that the project is estimated to cost up to \$100,000 and if approved the project will be funded through SPLOST funds.

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Brown and seconded by Councilwoman Roberson to approve the Soperton Avenue Sewer Project that will be funded through SPLOST. All voted in favor with none opposed.

Police Vehicle bids were presented as follows:

Hardy Chevrolet (2026 Chevy Silverado)	\$39,655.00
Hardy Family Ford (2026 F-150 Truck)	\$41,490.00
Daniels Chevrolet (2026 GMC Sierra)	\$48,060.00

Mayor Gornto also advised the Council that \$50,000.00 would need to be approved for the purchase of one of the vehicles listed and for the equipment that would be needed to outfit it to be used as a police patrol vehicle. He also stated that the estimated \$50,000.00 would come from SPLOST funds to purchase and equip the vehicle.

After discussion a motion was made by Councilwoman Roberson and seconded by Councilman Sheppard to approve the \$50,000.00 of SPLOST funds to purchase the 2026 Chevrolet Silverado from Hardy Chevrolet in the amount of \$39,655.00 and to purchase the equipment needed to outfit the vehicle. All voted in favor with none opposed

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

Deborah Moss, who owns property on Joyner Street, addressed the Mayor and Council asking for help in removing a large tree that fell on her property during Hurricane Helene. She stated that she had her property on Joyner Street surveyed to see whether the tree was on her property or the city's. The survey showed that the tree was on the City's right-of-way. Mayor Gornto advised Mrs. Moss that the city did not have equipment large enough to handle the removal of the tree, but the Laurens County Public Works did and the city will make contact with them to have them help remove the tree. Mayor Gornto advised Mrs. Moss that it could take a few weeks to get the removal of the tree taken care of.

Early Clover of 406 Attaway Street, East Dublin, addressed the Mayor and Council on a couple of items. The first item was the walking track at Buckeye Park. He asked if the city had plans on

removing the loose gravel that is on the walking track at Buckeye Park and replace it with something that more stable. He stated that the gravel is so loose that it makes walking on the track very difficult. Mayor Gornto stated that the City plans on moving the walking track to another spot at the Buckeye Park and replace the existing one with a softball field.

The other issue that Mr. Clover talked about was a drainage issue at the corner of Marion Street and Attaway Street. He stated that it looked like the drainage pipe there was stopped up which has caused a lot of water to back up into the road. Mayor Gornto stated that he would get the public works department to check on the issue.

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

Approved: 5/11/2026

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
Robert Sheppard