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TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL MINUTES
DENTON JOHNSON CENTER
MARCH 15, 2022

PRESENT: Mayor Cole, Vice Mayor Theo Washington, Councilwoman Angie Gardner, Councilman Marlin Daniels, and Councilman Rodney Daniels. **STAFF:** Attorney **Dean Mosley**, Cathlene Williams, **Town Clerk**, Albert English, **Public Works Director**, and Joseph Jenkins, **Deputy Chief**.

Mayor Cole called the Town Council meeting to order at 7:32 PM, Pastor Critton led the Prayer, followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Cole thanked everyone for attending the meeting tonight, those watching from Eustis, Florida, Lake County, thank you, my Son lives out there in Lake County on about 40 acres of land; once again, Welcome to the Historic Town of Eatonville. I know Councilwoman elect Gardner will; we had an awesome meeting today, looking at everything to continue to do in Eatonville. I started a Program called living Golden Nuggets; we were honoring some of our Seniors before they pass; didn't have time to complete this tonight, had a family member that passed. I know that Councilwoman elect will make sure to have this done for Ms. Louissteeen Cummings; Ms. Frances Sealey; Ms. Nina Frazier, & Ms. Thompkins; we really want to recognize them; I will personally get all the information for Mayor Elect Gardner and this group so to be able to give them their true honor.

I. CALL TO ORDER & VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

II. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS

IV. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (THREE (3) MINUTES STRICTLY ENFORCED).
TARUS MACK- 323 Eaton Street; Congratulations to the winners of the March 5th Election that will be sworn in tonight. As one of the candidates, I lost a very close race, thanks everyone that supported me. Although I'm not in office, I will be around, continue to help the Town any way that I can. Want to say this for the record, not to undermine, I think what happen to me, in my last Council race, which I essentially lost by my opponent, was unjust; Councilmember Marlin Daniels; I think it is a frivolous lawsuit; allegations of committing voter fraud; the people voted for me, and it was essentially taken away from me for whatever reason by a circuit judge; and for the record I did appeal this decision; it is in the appellate court right now.

V. PUBLIC HEARING- N/A

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approval of the March 1, 2022, Regular Council Meeting Minutes. (Clerk's Office).**
- 2. Approval of the February 24, 2022, Special Session Council Minutes. (Clerk's Office).**
- 3. Approval of Resolution #2022-12 the Certification of the Election Results from the March 5, 2022, General Election for Seats: 1,2,3&5. (Clerks' Office).** Motion by Councilman Rodney Daniels, the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Theo Washington;

don't know that Zaxby's is in the Town of Eatonville. I pushed for Ms. Kim to open her soul food restaurant here in the Town. When I look at this, and when we think about it; someone must be a winner, and someone has to lose, but at the same time; God allow Kings to reign, whomever it is; at the end of the day, did I get the goals and objectives that I wanted to see happen? It is my job to make sure that this Board does not see me here on Council meetings saying what you are not doing right, I know how that feels sitting here to hear that. One thing I want to make very clear, there are flyers out that I don't care about our kids, white, black, we don't tolerate that, that is who we are as a Town, however it was done, they know who did it, we must work together. It will be an honor for me to introduce Mayor elect Gardner to the Mayor of Winter Park and Maitland; they are my friends, I make no bones about it, that's what relationships are. I want to say thank you Town, all the residents for allowing me to serve you these 6 years, I will still be in the community. We have another Grant coming to start a drumline for our young men and ladies; movies, taking pictures we look forward to some great things, again, thank you; God bless you for the opportunity to serve you, everyone has a blessed night. **OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK- OATH OF OFFICE- Swearing in of Newly elected Town Council MEMBERS FOR SEATS: 1,2,3, & 5.**

SEAT# 2- THEO WASHINGTON- COUNCILMAN

SEAT#3 RODNEY DANIELS- COUNCILMAN

SEAT#5 WANDA RANDOLPH- COUNCILWOMAN

SEAT#1- ANGIE GARDNER- MAYOR

VII. COUNCIL DECISIONS

Mayor Gardner recommended to table these three (3) items; **4,5, & 6** until the next Council meeting. She asked Council if anyone would object to this? Councilman Rodney Daniels stated if you want to table number four (4), but five (5) and six, we need to go ahead and vote. Mayor Gardner stated we can go ahead and vote on 4,5, &6.

4. Approval of Resolution #2022-11, appointment of Vice Mayor (Legislative). Mayor Gardner moved that Vice Mayor Theo Washington continue the position of Vice Mayor; moved by Councilman Washington; Councilman Marlin Daniels asked if this is a move or an appointment? Mayor Gardner moved that Councilman Theo Washington be appointed as Vice Mayor; fails for lack of a second. Mayor Gardner stated we will bring this back at the next Council meeting. Councilman Marlin Daniels: I will make an appointment that Rodney Daniels become the Vice Mayor for the Historic Town of Eatonville. Mayor Gardner stated, now we have a question, the motion from the floor comes from which seat? He's making the appointment now you have to put it on the floor for your Council and then see if anyone seconds it; as stated by Attorney Mosley. Mayor Gardner moved that Councilman Rodney Daniels be appointed as Vice Mayor. Wanda Randolph, I second. Mayor Gardner says all in favor say I; Councilman Marlin Daniels, Councilman Rodney Daniels; Councilwoman Randolph: **NAYE**: Councilman Theo Washington, Mayor Gardner. Councilman Washington asked should two (2) brothers vote on this, is it nepotism? Attorney Mosley stated, the issue is not that they are brothers, because they have

that is buried in my heart and the slogan that I campaigned on, I have a heart for Eatonville proud of where I am from. If we can get the new generation to come back to Eatonville and start purchasing homes, then we can the economic problems that we have in our community, the love that we have for Eatonville, we can take this place to new heights. The Zora Festival put us on the map, it is up to us to continue to elevate, up here, these are my brothers and my sisters, we are here for the betterment of the Town of Eatonville, we can put those differences aside to put Eatonville in a better place, I am not that immature that I can't do that. Thank citizens for allowing me this opportunity, thank Mayor Cole's leadership taking us where we are; hold me accountable; have a great night.

Councilman Theo Washington- thank everyone for attending the Council meeting tonight, thank my family, my son and mother-in-law is here. Keep moving forward to make sure Eatonville is right, transparent with the citizens; keep us accountable on what we do up here, everyone get involved, look out for each other, I do this with my neighbors, cut their yard when I see it needs to be cut. Thank you, guys, I will be seeing you in the future, with events for the Town, everyone stay safe.

Councilwoman Wanda Randolph- thank the voters for your support and voting for me as your newly elected Councilwoman. Also, I want to thank my friends, my church, St. Lawrence A.M.E; my Pastor, the members; thank all the citizens here, they played a very important role. I thank my Town, Eustis, and my lovely mother sitting on the second row. My brother, husband, and son are here tonight. I would like to say this is history in the making, I believe this is the first elected female Mayor. Also, more history made my husband, and I are both on the Council; former Councilman, now I am on Council, so that says a lot; I work for the citizens of the Town, I am here to represent you, and believe me I am going to do my job. I look forward to working with this wonderful Mayor and Council, we are going to move Eatonville.

Mayor Gardner: thank everyone, I want to thank Reverend Robinson and the Gardner family, thank Mayor Cole for the countless hours that he put into this work; it's not easy; I also want to thank all the candidates and everyone that voted, the democratic process is important and more of us should vote in all the elections. It is an honor to stand here in this spot, but its going to be work; my goal is to connect the Town to the people; they are not two (2) separate entities; it is us doing our job for you, this is what I expect; I do expect transparency. I am not going to fight about little stuff, but I will fight about some stuff, it will be a robust discussion; but if everyone has passion for this job, then you should have a robust discussion. Again, I thank the voters for their support, the Town of Eatonville is ready for change; if you keep doing the same thing the same way, you keep getting the same results; I do look forward to working with everyone on the Council and working with the citizens; thank everyone for attending the Council meeting tonight.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Mayor Gardner to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Councilman Washington; **MEETING ADJOURNED** at: 8:34 PM.



Respectfully Submitted by:
Cathlene Williams, Town Clerk