

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
ECLECTIC TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN OF ECLECTIC, ALABAMA  
ECLECTIC MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM  
JUNE 19, 2017 7:00 P.M.**

At the regular meeting of the Eclectic Town Council held on June 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Eclectic Municipal Court Room, the following were present; McKinley Price, Jim Black, Verdie Nummy, Minnie Johnson, Betty Coker, Cory Arwood -The Observer, Venessa Bowe, Nathan Collins, Dean Williams, Mary Macheak, James Taylor, Brenda Thomas, Elizabeth Geer, Sonia Taylor, Josh Dorminey - Fire Chief, Officer Griffin, Chief Head and other town employees and citizens.

Mayor Gary Davenport called the meeting to order: 7:00 p.m.

Invocation was given by Council member Reed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Mayor Davenport.

Roll call was conducted by Town Clerk Deborah Rowe:

|                   |                |         |
|-------------------|----------------|---------|
| Mayor:            | Gary Davenport | present |
| Mayor Pro-tem:    | Linda Reed     | present |
| Council members   | Jackie Stearns | present |
|                   | Charles Powell | present |
|                   | Inez Gates     | present |
| All were present. | David Goodwin  | present |

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Council member Goodwin and seconded by Council member Reed. The motion carries (6-0).

The consent agenda consist of the following;

Financial reports for May, 2017  
Minutes of the May 15, 2017 Regular Council Meeting

Resolution 2017-06-001 to Surplus Town Property was read by Mayor Davenport. A motion to approve Resolution 2017-06-001 as read was made by Council member Reed and seconded by Council member Goodwin. The motion carries (6-0).

A motion to accept the recommendation of the Eclectic Planning Commission for Wade Jones as new member to the seat vacated by the resignation of Kay Wallace was made by Council member Goodwin and seconded by Council member Gates. The motion carries (6-0).

Resolution 2017-06-002 governing Mobile Food Vehicles Surplus in the Town of Eclectic was read by Mayor Davenport. A motion to approve Resolution 2017-06-002 based on the recommendation of the Planning Commission as presented and read was made by Council member Goodwin and seconded by Council member Reed. The motion carries (6-0).

A motion to accept the recommendation of the Industrial Development Board Chairman and Mayor of Roger Ingram as new member to the seat vacated by the resignation of David Goodwin was made by Council member Powell and seconded by Council member Goodwin. The motion carries (6-0).

A motion to approve the purchase and installation of an additional HVAC unit for Fire Station 1 at an estimated cost of \$3500 to be split 3 (three) ways equally between the Fire Department, Ambulance and the Town General Fund was made by Council member Gates and seconded by Council member Goodwin. The motion carries (6-0).

**Departmental Reports:**

**Police Department- Chief Head** - totaled Crown Vic in accident - to be surplus by Insurance Co.

**Fire Department- Chief Dorminey** - pest control quotes - Hunter treats station twice a year free

**EMS- Director Taylor** -

**Senior Center- Minnie Johnson** - in need of new chairs - already received donations and will be doing fund raisers to pay for chairs. A motion to approve the immediate purchase of 40 chairs at the cost of \$6521 by the Town with the Senior Center to reimburse this cost as funds are raised was made by Council member Gates and seconded by Council member Reed. The motion carries (6-0.)

**Library- Liberian Coker** -

**Water Works- Mayor Davenport**

**Municipal Court - Court Clerk Thomas**

**Public Works - McKinley Price** - quotes are coming in for hand rails to be installed along sidewalk on Kowaliga Road.

**Events -Mayor** - Alabama Cotton Festival plans are under way

**PARKS & REC. - Mayor Davenport** - The newly formed Parks & Recs. Committee has meet and selected Jim Black as chairman. Mr. Black stated that the committee was just getting started but on his initial review the Town has a great opportunity to have great parks and they are looking forward to working with the Town to see it come to fruition.

**Committee Reports:**

**Planning Commission-** meeting tomorrow June 19 at 6:00 p.m.

**Industrial Development Board -**

**Old Business:**

**Aaron Park** - still in the second phase Aaron Park Light Grant.

The Town has repaired Woodpecker holes in 5 of the damaged light poles at Aaron Park. There are still at least 5 poles in need of repair. A motion to spend up to \$2000 to patch and repair the light poles at Aaron Park including patch and the lift was made by Council member Stearns and seconded by Council member Goodwin. The motion carries (6-0).

**Sewer Update** - construction is well underway and should be complete in September.

**Mayor Comments:**

- Eclectic the Beautiful has asked to move their 8'x16' storage building onto Town property. A motion to approve the request to allow the Eclectic the Beautiful storage building be placed on Town property (at the rear and side of the new parking lot) was made by Council member Reed and seconded by Council member Goodwin. The motion carries (6-0).
- Information and estimates are being gathered on security cameras to be presented at a later time.
- The Mayor and Town Clerk will be attending a meeting on the 2020 Census Wednesday, June 21 in Montgomery.
- The Mayor had been asked to revisit the matter of fire ant control at Panther Palace and the Senior Center. At present over \$200 has been spent with little or no results. A motion to hire P&R to treat the stated area at an annual cost of \$428 was made by Council member Reed and seconded by Council member Gates. The motion carries (6-0).

**Public Comments:**

- Vanessa Bowe raised question as to the pay raise of a new employee, stating that such action was unfair to long time employees.

- Given the nature and subject of this discussion, a motion to adjourn to Executive Session was made by Council member Reed and seconded by Council member Stearns. Mayor Davenport called for vote by show of hands. Vote was unanimous.
- Motion to return to the regular session of the Town Council was made by Council member Reed and seconded by Council member Gates.
- Mayor Davenport addressed those present stating that Council had reviewed the actions of a pay increase after probationary period and all matters are to stand as is. All future raises or pay increases are to be approved by Council.
- Officer Fred Griffin expressed concern as to fairness to current employees expounding on Mrs. Bowe's remarks. Reading from a lengthy list his concerns included but were not limited to;
  - no evaluation procedure or system
  - being told to write more tickets
  - feeling his job was threatened
  - using and/or paying for his own equipment
  - Council should give raises
  - Council does not have their priorities straight

Fire Chief Dorminey expressed a need for equipment such as air packs which is still in the running for a grant. He also asked the Town to consider paying the Fire Department's utilities.

Lahoma Leonard expressed concern as to the moral of employees and focus of the Council as a new comer to the Town meetings.

Chief Head stated that police work was about more than tickets and warrants it is about safety. The police department has received a grant and donations and issues are being worked out .

A motion to adjourn was made by council member Gates and seconded by Council member Reed. The motion passed (6-0).

There being no further business the Mayor adjourned the meeting.

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Gary W. Davenport, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Deborah Rowe, Town Clerk

### Council Members

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