December 8, 2025

The Eastman City Council met in a regularly scheduled meeting on the above date at 6:00 p.m. The following members were present: Sebrina Williams, Graham Snyder, Debra Sheffield, Dwayne Burney, and Mark Peacock. Others present were City Manager Spencer Barron, Attorney Rita Llop, Police Chief Billy Cooper, City Clerk April Sheffield, Assistant City Manager Dayna Winslette, Financial Officer Sherri Tindall, Fire Chief Derl Maxwell, Water Distribution Director Evan Harrell, Water Operator Rodney Harrell, Wastewater Operator Matt McDaniel, Street Supervisor Brandon Brisco, Code Enforcement Officer Gerald Fordham, and Public Works Director Wynnon Pittman. Others present were Phil Bearden, Gary Yawn, Susan & Mitchell Coffee, and EM Harrington III.

The meeting was called to order by Councilor Snyder.

The invocation was given by Councilor Burney.

Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

On a motion from Councilor Burney and seconded by Councilor Sheffield, it was unanimously voted to amend the agenda to add Bidding out exterior lighting at the park for the pickleball courts. The amended agenda was then unanimously approved on a motion from Councilor Peacock and seconded by Councilor Sheffield.

APPROVE MINUTES:

The minutes of the November 24, 2025, regular meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Councilor Williams and seconded by Councilor Peacock.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED 2026 BUDGET:

Councilor Snyder opened the floor for any comments on the Proposed 2026 Budget. No one stepped forth with any concerns or questions.

NEW BUSINESS:

MONTHLY FIRE AND POLICE REPORTS:

Chief Cooper came forward to give the monthly report for the police department. For the month of November, they used 956 gallons of gas, answered 538 calls, worked 22 traffic accidents, and patrolled 10,231 miles. They collected $22,236.90 in fines and they wrote a total of 60 tickets and 62 warnings. Chief Cooper pointed out that it is the holiday season and traffic has increased as well as theft in the area. He asks the community to please be careful.

Chief Maxwell presented the November fire report. The department answered 189 calls last month. They had 2 nonworking structure fires and 2 working structure fires in the city. There were 8 other fire calls, with 1 in the city and 7 in the county. There were 141 medical related calls with 112 in the city and 29 in the county and 15 motor vehicle accidents with 5 in the city and 10 in the county. The department had 18 public service calls (alarms, smoke, trees) with 16 in the city and 2 in the county. There were 3 calls cancelled in route. The entire department spent a total of 231 hours on training for the month of November. As far as the Toys for Tots, the department will be set up in the parking lot of Walmart for anyone that wants to do any monetary donations or toy drop-offs. They raised a little over $1800 profit on the Boston butt sale and that money will go towards fire education. There was an excellent turnout for the fire extinguisher class for the public.

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Public Works Director, Wynnon Pittman, came forward with his updates. Several months ago, a quote was approved for new windows for the City Hall. They are finally here and ready to be put in. Popco is still working in Jessup Heights. The rain did end up messing up some of the electrical receptacles at the Park. Those will need to be taken care of. He says that Brandon and his crew are doing an excellent job on the curb and gutters to get ready for the Christmas parade. Evan's crew has been doing an excellent job also. He is normally able to get a leak fixed on the same day that it is found.

Evan Harrell came forward for the water department report for the month of November. They had 95 water cut-ons, 154 water cut-offs, 4 checks for water leaks, fixed 14 water leaks, performed 106 locates, set 3 water meters, repaired 3 meters, did maintenance on one hydrant, and performed maintenance on 2 vehicles. As far as sewer is concerned, they inspected 2 manholes, investigated 19 areas and cleaned out 18 lines. There was a total of 421 work orders, and they used 351 gallons of gas.

Rodney Harrell gave the monthly report for the wells. The water pumped from wells was 30,087,000 gallons, which averaged 1.003 MGD. The highest day of usage for the month of November was 1.182 MGD on November 18, 2025. When asked, Mr. Harrell stated that everything is working right now.

Matt McDaniel came to give the November report for the WWTP. Treated water released from the treatment plant was 9,060,000 which is 0.302 MGD. Water usage at the plant was 553,584 gallons. A total of 494 hours used were as follows: 36 cleaning clarifiers and filters, 123 on lab and sampling, 49 on the belt press and sludge, 67 on lift station and well repair, 94 on some plant maintenance, 32 on routine rounds, 12 on management duties, 113 hours on plant operations, and 4 hours on education and training. When asked about any other issues, Matt stated that the rain actually helped them out this time.

Brandon Brisco came forward to report for the street department. His department spent a total of 923 hours working on different things this past month. The breakdown is as follows: 6 hours on animal calls, 83 on curbs and gutters, 4 on tree limb cutting, 12 on mowing grass, 24 on potholes, 43.5 on trash pickup, and 145 on limb truck pick-ups. 606 hours were spent Christmas at the Club/Park. They have a big weekend planned. Movie night at the Club was moved to this Friday and the Christmas parade is this Saturday night. The department used 509 gallons of gas. Councilor Snyder asked what the department was working on currently and if they needed any help from the public. Brisco said they are still working on cleaning the curbs and gutters along the parade route and asked if the public would stop blowing debris into the road. Councilor Peacock thanked Brisco and his crew for taking care of the big tree that had fallen in his neighborhood. They came out immediately and cleaned up the area. Councilor Peacock also points out that blowing debris in the roadway is a citable offense and tickets can be written.

Gerald Fordham came forward to give the report on Code Enforcement and Inspections. His 77 work orders broke down to be 45 grease trap inspections, 3 limb & leaf violations, 5 planning & zoning issues, a work order for other duties, 9 code violations, 2 building demolitions, 6 building inspections, 4 building permits, and 2 electrical permits. He has 7 blighted and nuisance projects that are in progress. He also spent about a week helping with the Christmas lights. He spent a week doing some of his inspection training completed. Councilor Snyder asked how the grease trap situation was going. Gerald said that he is in the process of rechecking some of the restaurants right now and Wynnon is working on getting a rough draft of the new grease trap ordinance.

DODGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

Phil Bearden came forward to thank the council for their many years of support. The Historical Society has managed to keep the lights on, etc. They have tried to set aside a little nest egg so that when it comes time

to paint the Eastman House, they will have the money for it. The city's donation each year basically helps to pay the insurance. Councilor Snyder asks if there are any other buildings that they are also taking care of. Bearden says no, not at this time. There are several people out there writing books or have written about Eastman. Phil asks if there are any young people out there that would be interested in investing their time and effort into the Historical Society. They are looking to grow every day. Councilor Peacock suggests reaching out to the schools. Councilor Snyder states that there is already money earmarked for them on the upcoming budget. **Councilor Peacock made a motion, and Councilor Williams gave a second to give the Historical Society $3500. This motion was unanimously approved.**

DDA ROAD CLOSURE:

Wynnon Pittman came forward representing the Downtown Development Authority. He presented a request to close down Main Street between 4th and 5th Avenue from 12 PM to 10PM on Saturday, December 13, 2025. They are planning a small, free event with the ice-skating rink and some food vendors. He will be around to help move the barrels and such. They will open the road up for the Christmas parade to come through and then close it back up. They also plan to leave a few parking spaces open on both ends to accommodate the businesses that will still be operating Saturday. Manager Barron states that it is the same plan as last year and it worked really well. **The closure was unanimously approved on a motion from Councilor Peacock and seconded by Councilor Burney.**

BUILDING PERMIT ADJUSTMENTS:

Gerald Fordham explained that the city's current building permit is not completely up to date with surrounding areas. There are some areas of construction and repairs that the city has previously not charged for but has recently been asked to inspect. HVAC, roof replacement, certificates of occupancy, working without a permit, and some other items are some examples. He feels like there should be a slight increase in some of the fees also, such as demolition and sign permits. All changes are in line with other cities. Attorney Llop agrees that these fees can be changed and maintained within the clerk's office and there will be no need to amend the ordinance. **These changes were unanimously approved on a motion from Councilor Peacock and seconded by Councilor Sheffield.**

BIDDING OUT OUTDOOR LIGHTING AT THE PARK:

Wynnon asks permission to advertise **RFQ's for pickleball lights at the Club**. Several people are requesting to be able to play pickleball at night. Wynnon would like to get some quotes to be aware of the cost before they commit or obligate the city to install any lights. **This request is unanimously approved on a motion from Councilor Williams and seconded by Councilor Sheffield.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On a motion from Councilor Peacock and seconded by Councilor Sheffield, the council moved into executive session to discuss personnel, property, and legal matters.
On a motion from Councilor Peacock and seconded by Councilor Burney, the council exited executive session and entered back into regular session. No other motions were made.

CITY MANAGERS REPORT:

Manager Barron reminded everyone of water cut-off day tomorrow. He also announced the Christmas movie showing at the Club this coming Friday night starting at 4 PM. And last, he reminded the public not to put any leaves in any kind of bags on the side of the road. We are not allowed to pick them up and dispose of them in any type of bag.

NO OTHER BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL

On a motion from Councilor Peacock, a second from Councilor Sheffield, and a unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned.

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CHAIRMAN **CITY CLERK**