

CITY OF EDEN, N.C.

A special meeting of the City Council, City of Eden, was held on Tuesday, June 6, 2000 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 338 West Stadium Drive. Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Mayor:	Philip K. Price
Mayor Pro Tem:	John E. Grogan
Council Members:	Ronald H. Reynolds
	Ronald L. Janney
	Christine H. Myott
	William W. Rorrer
	C. H. Gover, Sr.
	Garry Tudor
City Manager:	Radford L. Thomas
City Attorney:	Charles J. Nooe
City Clerk:	Kim J. Scott

Representatives from City Departments:  
Representatives from New Media

Reid Baer, The Daily News, and  
Leslie Brown, Greensboro News and  
Record

MEETING CONVENED:

Mayor Price welcomed those in attendance.

RESIGNATION OF CITY MANAGER THOMAS:

Mayor Price noted that the first item was to accept the resignation of the City Manager (Radford Thomas).

A motion was made by Council Member Rorrer seconded by Council Member Reynolds to accept the resignation of the City Manager, Radford Thomas.

Action on the motion was as follows: Those voting in favor of the motion were as follows: Rorrer, Reynolds, Grogan, Gover, Myott and Janney. Voting in opposition to the motion was Council Member Tudor.

Statement from City Attorney, Charles Nooe:

Mr. Nooe stated that he had received a fax to come to his meeting as he would not regularly come to a budget meeting. The fax came to him this morning that the Council wanted him to be prepared to comment on the contract for payment in lieu of annexation at this afternoon's meeting.

Mayor Price and Mr. Thomas were unaware of the fax.

Mr. Nooe stated if they did not want it then he would be glad to be excused, but he could tell the Council that it was greatly premature, so it will hold until after the Council gets through with the budget and if they could have a meeting to just deal with this.

He stated he would quickly tell the Council why they need to slow down.

Council Member Grogan asked if that could wait and be discussed at another session since he had said that it was premature, he (Grogan) thought it would be good if they held off on it.

Mr. Nooe replied he did not see why it was not in order to consider it right now.

Council Member Janney stated he was on the committee yesterday to which Mayor Price added he would be interested in knowing. . .

Mr. Nooe read from the fax he received from the Planning and Inspections Department: " Agreed to seek an amelioration of the annexation dates versus the tax dates issue with the above

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mentioned agreements, I was asked to share this information with you so that you would be prepared to comment to the City Council at this afternoon's meeting."

Mr. Nooe then read from the contract: "Pursuant to the act, Eden hereby agrees that during the period beginning on the date hereof (19<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1993) and ending on December 30, 2003 (the "Term"), the City shall not annex or permit the annexation of the Fieldcrest Cannon property into the city boundaries of the City of Eden and that the city will not undertake any steps or measures preliminary to the Fieldcrest Cannon property. Notwithstanding the forgoing, following the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) anniversary of the date hereof, Eden may, if the Fieldcrest Cannon property then complies with the statutory requirements for non-consensual annexations, initiate annexation proceedings under then applicable statutes, provided however, that in no event shall any annexation undertaken by Eden have an effective date prior to December 31, 2003."

Mr. Nooe explained these effective, October 19, 1993, add eight years so the eighth year, the way he figured it, would begin October 19, 2001. So, if anything is started now, they are in breach of the contract and they risk having to pay back all of the money that has already been paid. They need to have time to meet and discuss the contracts so all of the Council Members will know what they are dealing with other than faxes from the Planning and Inspections Department.

At this time, Mr. Nooe was excused from the meeting.

Report on Sirens from Chief Overby:

Chief Overby stated that Mr. Apple had not returned the phone call yesterday when he left the office. He did speak to a gentleman from Colorado and he had a few questions

and had already laid out the map of Eden doing it by Internet. There were some questions about some of the areas, but Mr. Apple said it should be done by Friday. That will coincide with how many will be needed.

Mayor Price replied that if he received a call from them tomorrow then maybe the city could coincide with what they are buying, and their price with the numbers the city needs.

Chief Overby stated if the city needs five sirens, for example, then the city can get on the package deal with them and can get them a lot cheaper. He added that the Reidsville Fire Chief was in hopes of getting the sirens in the complete package with the County's purchase since they were looking at 20 to 21 sirens for all of their communities. Mr. Hale was unavailable and Mr. Cardwell did want to say something that Mr. Hale already had worked up and he did not know for sure. He (Cardwell) did tell Chief Overby that some of the other Fire Chief's were looking at getting in on the total package.

Mayor Price asked Chief Overby to get with Mr. Apple tomorrow.

Paving – Fire Department:

Mr. Stanley explained that the information was actually dropped off to him on his way out of the door to this meeting. Basically she revised her bid to match the same thickness or asphalt surfaces that APAC had bid so they would be bidding apples to apples. He stated his understanding was that Option 2 was the one that the Fire Department was interested in and would be the one that would be the heavier section that would withstand the weight of the traffic on the parking lot. He stated that APAC's bid would still remain at \$8,855.00 and Clark's revised bid, which was based upon the same thing now, was at \$10,500.00 or \$500 less than what she had bid earlier. He stated that essentially, he recommended the bid be awarded to APAC to complete the parking lot.

Council Member Janney stated that it looked that anything that had to do with streets and paving would go through the Engineering office and they would be involved in it before it ever got to Council. He stated that maybe this should be a lesson, kind of a learning process for them.

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Council Member Grogan commented that he thought they rode that horse yesterday and hopefully they got the message.

Council Member Janney agreed and stated that he did not care who got the bid, he was not supporting either one.

Mr. Stanley stated that he would be more than glad to oversee any bidding for paving.

A motion was made by Council Member Myott seconded by Council Member Gover to award the contract to APAC for \$8,855.00. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

Outstanding Leases:

Mayor Price stated that there had been some question regarding the outstanding leases. He stated that Mr. Sharp had provided a handout to the Council showing the total and individual amounts, and some of them, of course have been paid off. He asked Mr. Sharp if he was correct in that.

Mr. Sharp explained that the ones he had a "dash" out beside of, were paid off in the current year.

Mayor Price asked if the current balances were for the truck and containers, the refuse truck, the fire truck and computer.

Council Member Rorrer asked if it was current, of everything that they were obligated to.

Mr. Sharp replied that it was everything other than their water and sewer bonds.

Council Member Janney stated that he thought they just voted on something for the Fire Department and asked where that was.

Mr. Sharp replied that he had not received any paperwork on that at this point in time.

Council Member Rorrer pointed out that they have obligated the money to which Mr. Sharp replied that it would be an additional \$60,000. He stated that they were going to pay \$20,000 down and that would leave \$60,000 to be paid.

Council Member Janney questioned if they did not buy a backhoe on time to which Mr. Sharp replied that they bought a sewer vac and a knuckleboom.

Council Member Rorrer stated that they put the backhoe in with the sewer vac.

Mr. Thomas explained that it was the knuckleboom loader and the sewer vac which were together, the backhoe they bought outright.

Mr. Sharp stated that that was what he had coupon books for, information coming in for them to pay at this point in time.

Council Member Gover asked when the pay out on the truck and containers and the fire truck would be.

Mr. Sharp replied that the fire truck was a seven year lease purchase that would be paid out, about 2 to 2 ½ more years. The computer, about a year and a half, and the truck and container should be paid out the next budget year.

Council Member Grogan asked Mr. Sharp if he would add all of that on the information he had provided, what the monthly payment was, what the interest rate was, and the balance telling them when it was going to be paid off to which Mr. Sharp replied that he would have it to them tomorrow.

Discussion on the motor grader:

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Mayor Price commented that there was some conversation regarding the motor grader, which they had not resolved.

Council Member Gover stated that if they did not need the motor grader, then they could just forget about it, but if there was a request for one, and the two they have were so old, it was no use trying to buy parts for them as it would be more efficient to purchase a new one.

Mayor Price stated that he thought from the conversation they had yesterday, they used the motor graders on a regular basis to which Mr. Sexton replied that they were using them.

Mr. Thomas commented that the question that arose out of his suggestion, as far as an option that they could take, was that instead of budgeting a full \$100,000, they would go ahead and budget \$25,000 to be used as a down payment on a lease purchase arrangement. He stated that was where the question arose about how much money they had outstanding in those types of agreements. He stated that way they would free up \$75,000 to be used for some other purchase in the budget and would still allow opportunity to pick up a good motor grader.

Council Member Rorrer asked that if they went that way they would pay on it three years.

Mr. Thomas replied that his suggestion was to go ahead and pay the balance out over three years and he could go further than that and say that at the time that was paid for, they could go ahead and replace the other one if they could make it last that long, and go ahead and get two good quality used motor graders and go from there.

Council Member Gover asked if they could adopt the budget and put the capitals on hold and only use what was detrimental to the city, instead of guessing what they were trying to do...Mayor Price explained that once they adopt this budget, they were setting the budget for their spending.

Council Member Gover stated that in light of that, they really did not know about the monies. He asked why they would keep guessing and why could they not just go into a

holding pattern on capitals, unless it was detrimental to the city, and they could adopt a budget without doing that could they not.

Mr. Thomas replied that the Council had the option, once the budget was adopted and put in place, to amend that budget during the course of the year. They could take that item out of the budget, if they were to have a need arise where they did not have anything that would operate and they chose during half way the next fiscal year that they needed to go find a motor grader, the Council had the ability to adopt a budget amendment.

Council Member Gover stated that he was not just talking about a motor grader, he was talking about the whole capital outlay.

Mayor Price stated that he thought they needed to put the capital outlay in place so that the people who run the departments have some idea of what they were going to have to work with. He stated that he understood what he was saying...

Council Member Gover pointed out that they were looking at a million and a half dollars and then they do something forever with the employees on their money...to which Mayor Price agreed, and they were going to get close to that today, but at the same token prepare for the operation of this government.

Council Member Gover replied that he understood, but to him, common sense would play an important role there.

Council Member Janney commented that he had no problem with what he was saying. He stated that if they were going to talk about equipment, he still did not understand how they scheduled their work. He stated that he failed to understand why each person had to have their own equipment. He stated that he did not see why that equipment could not be pooled and issued out

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and the work scheduled out. He had said that last year during budget time and nobody was interested.

Mr. Thomas replied that he thought the interest was there, but he was still going to be required to have a certain number of pieces of equipment. There was any number of opportunities where all five of the backhoes could all be out on a job some where.

Council Member Janney stated that he did not doubt opportunities.

Mr. Thomas continued in that there may be other opportunities where maybe one was sitting on the yard, but he did not want to have a situation where they had a crew that needed to do a job and the equipment was not available to them.

Mr. Sexton commented that it was pooled now. There were days that Water & Sewer used Street backhoes and vice versa. He stated that there were days that the Recreation Department used the backhoes and some days the Streets used some of the Recreation

equipment. He explained that they called it "Street" because it was budgeted that way. They call it a "Street" backhoe or "Collection & Distribution" backhoe but it was pooled everyday. He stated that every piece of equipment he had could be used anywhere in the organization. He stated that the sewer vac, it went to the Water and Wastewater Plants to haul water for them and vacuum for them. He stated that if somebody needed one and there was one sitting there they could use it. It was scheduled out that way and all his Division Heads could vouch that they use all that equipment over there.

Council Member Gover stated that he was not talking about use of equipment.

Council Member Rorrer asked if everything was like that, air compressors, etc., to which Mr. Sexton replied that it was.

Council Member Gover explained that his question meant would it be detrimental to the city if he did not get it (equipment).

Mr. Sexton explained that he was more or less addressing the question that Council Member Janney had about pooling equipment.

Council Member Janney commented that was a change because it had not been happening to which Mr. Sexton replied that it had been happening for a while.

Mayor Price asked that they get back to the motor grader issue. He stated that they talked about it yesterday. He stated that the Department Head had indicated that it was certainly used.

A motion was made by Council Member Gover seconded by Council Member Myott to leave \$25,000 in the budget for a motor grader. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion. This motion carried.

Council Member Grogan suggested that at the same time they ask the people to go see if they could find a motor grader and find out what it was going to cost and come back with a cost. He stated that the way it was now, they have to wait a month or whatever to come back and ask if they could do it. He stated that he was just saying, yes go look and find something and find out what it was going to cost and tell the Council, as well as if they do a lease purchase what the interest rate would be. He suggested that they get all of that together and they would have the information where they could make a decision.

Council Member Janney pointed out that they were not going to have it for the new budget year anyway to which Council Member Grogan replied that he understood that.

Mr. Sexton commented that was where the \$100,000 came from. He explained that they have already done that. He stated that North Carolina Equipment Company had a used motor grader that was roughly \$100,000. That was just a beginning point and there may

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be somebody else that had one cheaper and if there was one, they would definitely be looking for it and when they find that definite price they would bring it back for their approval.

Mr. Thomas added that the dollar amount involved would have to be advertised for bids so it would come back to Council at that point.

Pay & Classification Study:

Mayor Price explained that Ms. Linda Santell was going to be making some comments about the proposal. He stated that Mr. Matt Reece, the consultant for the Pay & Classification Study, was supposed to be getting them some information. He stated that they would be asking Mr. Reece back as several Council Members had requested it.

Council Member Janney stated that he had said that they needed to get some answers from Mr. Reece. He stated that he did not vote to do the study and he did not agree to do the study. He stated that he thought there was another way to get the city employees money without it. He stated that to put Ms. Santell up there, to try to explain something that Mr. Reece had not completed was wrong. He stated that she should not be up there trying to explain something that someone else had put together.

A motion was made by Council Member Janney seconded by Council Member Rorrer to hold on the discussion and not ask Ms. Santell to make a presentation.

Council Member Myott asked Ms. Santell if she felt comfortable doing it.

Ms. Santell, Human Resources Director, replied that she thought that she could address all of the percentages that were given to them by the consultant, in terms of the shift in the pay plan, the distance between where they were and their current competitors and the percentages that were established for employee pay increases. She stated that beyond that, she did not have much more information than what Mr. Reece had provided to them on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. She stated that she would be happy to try to explain what those percentages indicate.

Council Member Rorrer stated that they asked for some information that they had not received and Mr. Reece should be involved in it. He stated that they were making a habit of paying people to do things and they were not getting what they were paying for.

Council Member Gover stated that if Ms. Santell wanted to address the Council on her behalf and not Mr. Reece's, then he saw nothing wrong with that, but if there was a hang up on some vital material that they need from him then he saw no reason for her to do that.

Action on the motion was as follows: Council Members Rorrer, Reynolds, Gover and Janney voted in favor of this motion. Council Members Myott, Tudor and Grogan voted in opposition. This motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION:

A motion was made by Council Member Grogan seconded by Council Member Myott to go into Closed Session for discussion of personnel.

Council Member Janney commented that he had given some careful thought to something this week and the time that had spent there on the Board and he wanted them not to misinterpret him, during the past two years, being a City Councilman had taken an excessive amount of his time, more than normal. He stated that he had never been through anything like he had been through the last few years. He stated that he was serving on four (4) committees, which takes additional time, some more than others, but since the Mayor wanted to appoint his own group to various activities and disregard to the vote of the Council for appointments he was going to resign from those four (4) committees. He asked that they understand he was not resigning from the Board (Council). He stated that the committees were the Cable TV Advisory Committee, the Street & Sidewalk Committee (which was the best committee he had worked on), the Personnel Committee (which was a joke), the Pay in Lieu of Annexation (which looked as if it was going to be that way), and the Finance Committee (which was only formed because some people did not

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want the whole Board to be involved in finances). He stated that the Mayor could appoint someone else if the Board agreed. He stated that the way that the Boards were being appointed and the way there being done, someone had better check "Roberts Rules of Order" and the Charter that they have, because they were doing it wrong.

Action on the motion was as follows: All Council Members voted in favor of this motion. This motion carried.

OPEN SESSION:

A motion was made by Council Member Gover seconded by Council Member Rorrer to return to Open Session. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion. This motion carried.

Schedule of Next Budget Work Session:

Mayor Price explained that one thing that the Council had indicated that they would like to bring back to the next budget meeting was the draft of the minutes for approval. He then opened the floor for discussion among Council as to what they would like to address.

Council Member Janney stated that he wanted to talk about cell phones, radios and beepers. He stated that he was not interested in any information from the Police Department, as that was a different situation. He stated that he would like to know who had all three and why, because he thought they could eliminate some of them.

He stated that he would also like to talk about stamps. He stated that he got a tremendous amount of mail from the city. He stated that he did not need to know when every committee was meeting. He stated that he had a schedule that he could go by and he knew when everybody met. He stated that he thought they could cut some of that out as they had a mailbox at City Hall and he usually checked it about once or twice a week.

He stated that they also needed to talk about vehicles a little more.

Council Member Gover commented that he would like to discuss the vehicle policy.

Mayor Price asked Council Member Gover what he was referring to.

Council Member Gover replied that it came up yesterday that they were not getting the report, once they discard a vehicle. He stated that when he had asked for the sheet, he stated that he was not trying to pinpoint the Department Head down, he stated that he was not aware, like the sewer vac, he was not aware that they were going to park the old one, just because they bought a new one. He asked what was wrong with the old one, and they did not get a report as to what was wrong with it, but they have a policy for them to park it. He asked if he had missed something and did he misunderstood that he had said they were going to park the sewer vac just because they bought a new one. He stated that if they had not bought a new one, they would have used it. They had to go out and borrow money to buy it, just to park the old one.

Council Member Rorrer commented that he thought it had been presented to the Council that they were going to use both of them.

Council Member Grogan stated that he thought they could use both of them but as he understood yesterday, they only had one operator, and that was the reason the second one was not being used.

Council Member Gover commented that the Manager was supposed to pull guys from another department or something.

Council Member Grogan continued in that it was not safe using one person on a sewer vac.

Council Member Gover replied that he would like to understand that policy.

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Council Member Janney stated that the policy went further than that, the one that he understood. He stated that before they vote on buying a vehicle, they get all the information on the vehicle that it was replacing. He stated that when that vehicle was taken out of service, it was dead and only the Council could put it back in service. He stated that was the policy as he understood it and if that had changed then they need to look at the new policy.

Council Member Gover stated that he had asked for this group of vehicles and the shop could not give him the police officers vehicles. He stated that whatever he had asked for, they gave him everything from a toothbrush to an automobile, so if he was looking over an obsolete list, then he did not need it. He stated that he wanted an updated list of what they had. He stated that the city's Department Heads should be accountable for what was in their department. He stated that he did not expect a Department Head to stand there and tell him that he did not know about 14 vehicles that he had. He stated that they were paying him good money and he thought he should know whether or not he had 14 vehicles there and if he (Gover) had been given the wrong information, then they needed to straighten it out.

Council Member Janney stated that it went one step further. He stated that he did not understand how they set up their repairs for the year if they did not know what they had. In the budget there was so much for repairs and so much for tires and gas, and if they did not know what they had, how did they do it.

Council Member Gover stated that his reasons for that was to try to find out what he had...to which Council Member Janney stated that there was a lot of unanswered questions and he agreed.

Mayor Price asked if there were any other items that they needed to add for budget discussion.

Council Member Janney stated that they needed to talk about computers. He stated that they never settled the computer issue. He asked if they finalized the computer problems.

Mr. Thomas replied in the affirmative. He stated that it had been completed for a while.

Council Member Janney stated that if it was something in a form, or maybe he would want to talk about it tomorrow. He stated that they had a tracking system put in.

Mr. Thomas replied that all of it was operating and had been for a long time.

Council Member Janney asked what it cost.

Mr. Thomas replied that he would have to get that number from Mr. Sharp.

Council Member Janney asked if they had all of the license and everything to which Mr. Thomas replied that the license and everything was set up right and they have the net census program in place that monitors everything and it all had been up and running for quite some time.

Council Member Rorrer questioned the monitoring and asked it that was to ensure that they were being used right.

Mr. Thomas replied that when they turn on the computer, it was set up to do a scan of everything that was being loaded in that computer and it collects that data. They can generate a print out that will show all the software that was installed and all of those functions and they could use that as a means to audit.

Council Member Rorrer asked if it was being done once in a while to which Mr. Thomas replied that it was set up on a frequency. He stated that he believed that it was set up so that every third time they reboot or turn their computer off and then turn it back on, it scanned it, or took a read on what those systems were.

Council Member Janney asked who handled the read.



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Mr. Thomas replied that it was loaded and run through the mainframe system that operates all the financial packages.

Council Member Janney stated that they were going to have to do something about that.

Mr. Thomas replied that they would have to have a whole new system to run it separately.

Mayor Price commented that this would fall under major department changes and asked if there was anything else that they wanted to add to the agenda.

Council Member Rorrer stated that as he understood it, they just did not issue citations for violations with dogs. He stated that he knew that they did with the Morgan Road issue. He stated that they needed to look at what they were doing. If they had an officer going out there time after time about the same dog, and there were no tickets being written, then something was not right.

Mayor Price asked if they were going to spend any money on that project or was that something that needed to be brought to Council as a policy change.

Council Member Rorrer replied, however they wanted to do it, as a policy change. He stated that he was not talking about spending money.

Council Member Grogan pointed out that the policy was already there to which Council Member Janney agreed and added that they should enforce it.

Mayor Price stated that for the next budget session they would be talking about equipment, specifically phones, radios, and beepers. He stated that they would discuss the cost of postage and some discussion about vehicles. He stated that there would also be some short discussion about how they arrive at the cost of repairs that were budgeted.

He then asked Council Member Janney what information he wanted in reference to computers.

Council Member Janney replied that he wanted to know the amount of money that they spent straightening out the mess they had.

Mayor Price stated that regarding the dogs, he thought that was a good point, but he stated that he was not sure they needed to add it to the agenda for budget discussion.

Council Member Rorrer stated that it was a policy change that they need to work on. He stated that they needed to force the issue. He stated that another thing was the man under Mr. Adams, that they authorized to write citations for violations (Solid Waste), he did not think he could do it or was authorized to do it.

Council Member Janney suggested that they ask him to bring the number of citations he had issued. He stated that he had wanted to ask that question and never had. He stated that if he was not doing it, they could do something else with it.

Council Member Rorrer stated that they had two dog wardens riding around that could not do a thing but tell somebody that they had to tie their dog.

Council Member Gover questioned the \$400,000 or \$500,000 for Water & Sewer that they have in the budget, how much was in the capitalization toward doing those jobs. He stated that they were going to have a \$400,000 program...what plans have they made and what equivalent did they need to make those programs efficient. He asked if that equipment was in the capitalization to handle those two programs.

Mr. Thomas replied that most of the equipment that they would need for the 2" waterline replacement project was already in place. Some of those projects, especially the sewer projects, and possibly some larger water improvements, they had to contract. He stated that they did not have track loaders and proper trench boxes and other equipment.

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Council Member Gover asked how much of that money was earmarked for contractors.

Mr. Thomas replied that it was determined by the Council on a project by project basis. They basically have an amount of money available in that fund. They did not get to every project that was identified.

Council Member Gover asked if the City Engineer just threw that \$400,000 in there to which Mr. Thomas replied that was not what he was saying.

Council Member Grogan commented that a lot of that came from past history on what happened when sewer lines or waterlines bust, and things like that.

Mr. Thomas added that if they could take that \$400,000 and do five of the identified projects out of it, then that was what they tried to do. If they could only do two, then that was what they would do.

Council Member Janney commented that since Mr. Thomas was leaving, they needed to put somebody as head of the City Hall renovation project.

Mr. Thomas replied that was already taken care of it.

Council Member Janney asked who was doing it to which Mr. Thomas replied, Mr. Stanley (City Engineer). He stated that Mr. Stanley had already been a backup on the project also and he would finish out that project.

Council Member Tudor asked what the finalization timeline on that project was.

Mr. Thomas replied that it gave a November timeframe. Full completion would be before the new year, November or December.

Council Member Rorrer commented that he wanted to also discuss the switchboard operator.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Council Member Janney seconded by Council Member Gover to adjourn. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion. This motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kim J. Scott  
City Clerk

ATTEST:

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Philip K. Price  
Mayor