

CITY OF EDEN, N. C.

The regular meeting of the City Council, City of Eden, was held on Tuesday, December 20, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 308 E. Stadium Drive. Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Mayor:	Philip K. Price
Mayor Pro Tem:	Christine H. Myott
Council Members:	Donna Turner
	(absent) Billy Vestal
	Jerry Epps
	C.H. Gover, Sr.
	Bruce Nooe
	Wayne Tuggle, Sr.
Mayor Elect:	John E. Grogan
Council Elect:	Darryl Carter
City Manager:	Brad Corcoran
City Clerk:	Kim J. Scott
Deputy City Clerk:	Sheralene Thompson
City Attorney:	Tom Medlin
Representatives from Departments:	
Representatives from News Media:	Brian Ewing, <u>Eden Daily New</u> , Lisa Doss, <u>Eden's Own Journal</u>

MEETING CONVENED:

Mayor Price called the regular meeting of the Eden City Council to order and welcomed those in attendance. He explained that the Council meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. and works from a prepared agenda; however, time would be set aside for business not on the printed agenda.

INVOCATION:

Mr. Craig Langston, Pastor of the Leaksville United Methodist Church was present to give the invocation.

Mayor Price noted that Council Member Vestal was not present; however, he thought everyone would agree with him when he said that probably not any time soon would they see a person who put more effort into studying issues of the city. And, as a hometown boy, he had more belief in what he wanted to see for the city. He noted they were proud to be associated with Mr. Vestal and appreciate his efforts. He noted that there was a plague for Mr. Vestal which would be presented to him at a later time.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HONORABLE EDWIN G. WILSON, JR.:

- a. Swearing in of newly elected Council Members

Mayor Price introduced the Honorable Edwin G. Wilson, Jr., Senior Resident Superior Court Judge, who was present to administer the oath of office to the newly elected Council Members and Mayor.

Mayor Price declared the seat from Ward Three vacant. He then asked Council Member-Elect Christine H. Myott to come forward to be sworn in by Judge Wilson.

Mayor Price then declared the seat from Ward Four vacant. He asked Council Member-Elect Jerry C. Epps to come forward to be sworn in by Judge Wilson.

Mayor Price then declared the seat from Ward Five vacant. He then noted that Council Member Vestal was not present at the meeting.

Mayor Price then asked Council Member-Elect Darryl Carter to come forward to be sworn in by Judge Wilson.

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Mayor Price then declared the Mayor's seat to be vacant and asked Mayor-Elect John Grogan to come forward to be sworn in by Judge Wilson.

RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING MAYOR, PHILIP K. PRICE:

Mayor Grogan stated that his first official act was to congratulate (former) Mayor Price. He then presented him with a plaque. He added he could not think of anyone who had given "24-7" at Mr. Price had. Any and everything he has done has been from his heart and what he thought was best for Eden. He thanked Mr. Price for what he had done.

Mayor Price stated he was grateful for the support and the kindness shown over the years. He stated he would never forget what his predecessor Former Mayor Cox said the night he left and echoed the sentiment of how nice this community was. He stated they could all look at things and say there are problems here or there in a area here or there, but he had a opportunity to go and talk as Mayor and talk to all different types of people. He stated you may hear a lot of grumbling, but people are proud of this community. The other things people want is for this community to go forward. He stated he could tell them that he was really looking forward to what is going to happen here. These people are all dedicated to pushing this community forward and there is ample opportunity right now to really set them in motion. He stated he wanted to tell everyone and he hoped they would agree with him, they (Council) have a responsibility to run the government which is about a 200 employee operation and another responsibility is to keep the city going forward. He stated it was going to be tough and hard and he hoped they would give them (Council) support as he intended to fully. They have different things they want to see happen, but they all do it for the good of this town. So on behalf of his family, which were present, he said "thank you."

Council Member Turner then presented Mayor Price with a cheerleading megaphone which stated "No. 1 Cheerleader" City of Eden with his name and city seal on it.

RECESS:

Mayor Grogan explained that they would be having a brief recess for Mr. Tom Barbour to make pictures of the new Council.

MEETING CONVENED:

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS OF AGENDA:

Mayor Grogan noted the addition of a proclamation honoring Dr. Martin Luther King.

A motion was made by Council Member Tuggle seconded by Council Member Nooe to add this proclamation to the agenda. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

Mayor Grogan called on Mr. Roger Brown and Mr. Nelson Hairston to come forward as he read the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 15, 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia and was tragically killed on April 4, 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee while leading sanitation workers in a protest against low wages and intolerable working conditions; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., through his life and work taught that freedom of choice and respect for fellow human beings are to be sought; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. believed that nothing could replace a kindness rendered by one human being to another and that a good society is a result of millions of such good small acts; and

WHEREAS, the King Holiday is a unique American holiday in that it challenges Americans to remember and celebrate but most importantly act to address those issues for which Dr. King and others gave their lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that, I John E. Grogan, Mayor of the City of Eden, hereby designate **JANUARY 16, 2006** be set aside as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in the City of Eden and on this day urge all citizens to join me in focusing on community, unity and public service in honor of Dr. King.

This the 20th day of December, 2005.

By: s/John E. Grogan
John E. Grogan, Mayor
City of Eden

ATTEST:

s/Kim J. Scott
Kim J. Scott
City Clerk

Mr. Brown announced that on January 14th at Morehead High School, there will be a banquet honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He noted that the tickets for this banquet were \$15.00 and could be purchased at the door, and the Eden branch of the NAACP will be sponsoring this event and everyone was invited. Mr. Brown also noted that on January 16th, the ministers in Eden will have a service on that Monday night honoring Dr. King as well.

SELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM:

Mayor Grogan explained that the next order of business was the election of a Mayor Pro Tem. He opened the floor and stated that the nominations were in order.

A motion was made by Council Member Turner seconded by Council Member Myott to nominate Council Member Wayne Tuggle. As there were no other nominations, a motion was made by Council Member Epps seconded by Council Member Gover to close the nominations.

Mayor John Grogan asked if Mayor Pro Tem Tuggle was elected by acclamation to which all Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

There were no public hearings for the month of December.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT:

A motion was made by Council Member Tuggle seconded by Council Member Gover to accept the financial statement. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS:

No one signed up to speak during this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business for the month of December.

NEW BUSINESS:

(a) Consideration of request to accept gift of real property from Homer E. Wright and Martha Hopkins Wright.

The memorandum explained that the Homer E. Wright, Jr., family, through a limited liability corporation, Morningside, LLC, owns a tract of land adjacent to Freedom Park. This tract contains 13.391 acres on the east side of Edgewood Road directly across from the park entrance.

They have offered to donate this tract to the City for Freedom Park. Plans are to ask that limited restrictions be placed on the property attaching the property to the Park. It is the City's understanding that other City uses would not be prohibited so long as they did not negatively impact the Park.

City Staff has been of the opinion since the creation of Freedom Park that this tract could provide additional parking. This would mean that more of the original Park property could be dedicated to recreation facilities. It was recommended that the Council accept this gift subject to review by the City Attorney.

Mrs. Kelly Stultz, Planning Director, explained that this is a tract of land adjacent to Freedom Park. A number of years ago when the park of originally being planned, there was discussion and some recommendations from staff that it be purchased at that time.

Mrs. Stultz noted that Mr. Johnny Farmer, Recreation Director, and she recommend that the city accept this gift.

Mr. Tom Medlin stated when he talked with Mr. Wright and his daughter, they indicated that they were wanting to put a restriction on the use of the land so that they could tie it into the park, but they did not want to prevent the city from being able to use it for other purposes if the city found a better use for it. But, at the same time, if the city did not put it to some public use within a reasonable period of time, that it might come back. He stated they were going to think about that and he thought one of the recommendations was that the restrictions be subject to review by the city attorney. He added he wanted to bring that out because it had not been finalized.

Council Member Epps expressed appreciation to Mr. Wright and Mrs. Hopkins for their visions for the new park.

A motion was made by Council Member Gover seconded by Council Member Epps for acceptance (Mayor Grogan added: and this be done with the approval of /or giving it to the city Attorney for finalization). All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

(b) Consideration of Resolution of Support for NCDOT Transportation Enhancement Fund Grant Application for Comprehensive Greenway Plan.

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN APPLICATION
FOR TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT FUNDS
FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FOR A COMPREHENSIVE GREENWAY PLAN**

WHEREAS, recreational opportunities and quality of life are vital to the economic health of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Eden seeks to capitalize on its rivers and parks as a way to promote the economic health of the community; and

WHEREAS the City of Eden has identified the development of a greenway and trail system as a goal of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Eden has begun development of a pilot trail along the Smith River and budgeted funds for a comprehensive plan for the city; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation has established a Transportation Enhancement Grant Program which provides funding to projects that promote diverse modes of

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General Fund
Expenditures

Fire – C/O Vehicles	10-4340-55000	\$54,000.00	\$204,000.00	<u>\$150,000.00</u>
				<u>\$150,000.00</u>

Funds to finance 102 Foot Grumman Aerial Ladder Fire Truck.

Adopted and effective this 20th day of December, 2005.

Attest:

Kim J. Scott, City Clerk

John E. Grogan, Mayor

A motion was made by Council Member Epps seconded by Council Member Tuggle for approval of the Consent Agenda Items a, b and c. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

VOUCHERS:

There was no discussion about vouchers. A motion was made by Council Member Gover seconded by Council Member Tuggle to accept the vouchers. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kim J. Scott
City Clerk

ATTEST:

John E. Grogan, Mayor