

CITY OF EDEN, N. C.

The regular meeting of the City Council, City of Eden, was held on Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 308 E. Stadium Drive. Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Mayor:	John E. Grogan
Mayor Pro Tem:	Wayne Tuggle, Sr.
Council Members:	Donna Turner
	Darryl Carter
	Jerry Epps
	Christine Myott
	Jim Burnette
	Jerry Ellis
City Manager:	Brad Corcoran
City Clerk:	Sheralene Thompson
City Attorney:	Erin Gilley

Representatives from Departments:

Representatives from News Media: Lisa Doss, Eden's Own Journal

MEETING CONVENED:

Mayor Grogan 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:

Council Member Jerry Epps gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Fire Chief Bernie Moore.

PRESENTATIONS & RECOGNITIONS:

Officer Kevin Murphy

Mayor Grogan asked Officer Kevin Murphy to come forward.

Police Chief, Gary Benthin, explained that they were actually honoring six officers tonight and Officer Murphy was the first. He explained that everyone who has ever been a police officer dreams of catching a bank robber. Most of them never get a chance to do that but on January 2, Officer Murphy got his chance. He knew what to do, he had the courage, he did it and within two minutes of getting the 911 call that a bank had been robbed, he had that suspect in custody. He single-handedly arrested a suspect and an accomplice (the accomplice later turned out to be innocent). Due to his quick thinking, his quick reaction and good training and his courage, they got a bank robber in jail who probably would never have been caught. He then presented Officer Murphy with a commendation.

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Narcotics Unit

Mayor Grogan then asked the following officers from the narcotics department to come forward: Lt. Tim Harbor, Sgt. Ritchie Jeffries, Detective Scott Carter, Detective Anthony Welch, and Detective Chuck Gallagher.

Chief Benthin explained that the group included three of their current narcotics investigators and two of their former investigators. This group was involved in one of the largest most successful undercover narcotics investigations in the State of North Carolina. He explained that they will never know everything that came out of this investigation because it is still secret to a certain extent and the investigation continues with other agencies. The investigation began in March of 2007 and ran through July of 2008. This group brought in \$1.7 million dollars worth of drug assets, in other words, money and property that drug dealers had gained as a result of illegal drug activity. He noted that \$1,353,000 of that was in cash and the Federal government was nice enough to let them (Eden Police Department) keep almost a half a million of that which they have been spending for equipment.

He explained that the investigation has been over since July 2008 but they were unable to talk about it until now because the Federal government would not let them. It was continuing but the part they were discussing tonight was now public knowledge. He explained that this investigation spread from Eden, North Carolina where it began, into five states and involved five different EEA districts. He explained that they were actually doing business with people in Mexico and sent their investigators to south Texas twice to investigate this. As a result of this investigation, hundreds of kilos of cocaine were seized from trucks and warehouses and a thousand pounds of marijuana. He explained that this was just what they know about, it was spread to other states and they have never told them what they were doing. He then presented the commendation to Sgt. Ritchie Jeffries, as he was the current head of the narcotics unit.

Mayor Grogan also thanked them for what they have done and what they will do on down the road.

SET MEETING AGENDA:

Mayor Grogan noted that the following items would be removed from the agenda: Items 10(b), 10(c), and 11(d). He explained that those requests were made by different members of Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Tuggle seconded by Council Member Ellis to approve this request. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

There were no public hearings scheduled to be heard.

AUDIT PRESENTATION:

Presentation of the 2007-2008 Audit by Rouse, Rouse, Penn & Rouse

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Mayor Grogan then asked Mrs. Judy Rouse of Rouse, Rouse, Penn & Rouse to come forward to present the audit report. *A full copy of this report is located in the office of the City Clerk.*

Mrs. Rouse referred to the audit report that each of them had. She explained that in their opinion, based on the audit, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Eden, North Carolina as of June 30, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows. So they have a clean opinion on the audit. She noted that included in the financial statement was the financial statement of the Eden ABC Store. The Council has received a very detailed analysis of the audit report and management letter. They have reviewed the report and found it to be very complete and accurate. They were pleased to note that the City Manager has addressed each issue that they have presented in the management letter. As the finance department employees have received additional continuing education in governmental accounting and another year of experience, the financial reporting has greatly improved. Therefore, the number of adjusting entries has decreased and there were no expenditures over budget or deficits in individual fund balances.

Mrs. Rouse then asked them to turn to page 68 and noted that at the bottom of the page the fund balance of the General Fund increased from \$5,459,481 to \$7,022,830. That was an increase of \$1,563,349. On that same page she noted the fund balance available for appropriation, the undesignated, was \$4,757,093. She then referred to page 85 where she pointed out that in the middle of the page under the Actual column, she noted that the General Fund Expenditures amounted to \$13,105,860. She explained that if you take one twelfth of that amount, you get \$1,092,155. So, months operating expenses would amount to \$3,276,465. The amount undesignated at June 30, 2008 was \$1,480,628 above the three month operating expenses. The main reason for this increase was the receipt of loan proceeds to replenish the funds previously spent on transferring money to the greenway and the downtown revitalization project. The average State-wide level of available fund balance maintained by a comparable sized municipality is 40.29% of general fund expenditures, or that number would be \$5,280,351. According to the local government calculation of fund balance available, the City of Eden calculation is 35.3%. This was 3.99% below the State average.

On page 70, Mrs. Rouse explained that the budgeted revenues, at the bottom of the page, were \$12,403,006. The actual revenues were \$12,454,202 for a favorable variance of \$51,196. The revenues were up from the previous year, which was \$11,893,917, most of that increase was due to the increase in the federal drug forfeiture funds and also the city received a building restoration grant of \$275,000. She also noted that Sales and Services, there was an increase in that category as well.

Mrs. Rouse returned to page 85 and noted that in the middle of the page, they will see the total budgeted operating expenditures amounted to \$14,324,525. The actual expenditures were \$13,105,860 for a favorable variance of \$1,218,665. This compared to the total actual expenditures for the year ending June 30, 2007 of \$12,070,962. The total expenditures were up 8.6% over the prior year. In looking back through the report to see what the main things that they noticed in the report that was up from the prior year, and one of the things that was up was in the Police Department. The drug forfeiture fund had to be spent for enhancement of the police equipment and that kind of thing. That was why a lot of the expenditures that were up were in the Police Department. Also they noticed in the special appropriation, there it was up from the prior year because the city received that \$275,000 grant. The money came in to the General Fund and it was also spent out. Also, this year the Water and Sewer

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Department reimbursed the General Fund for utility user fee. The amount of this was \$965,333 and that compared favorably with the prior year of \$945,215. She then concluded her statements regarding the General Fund.

Mrs. Rouse then referred to page 86, the Special Revenue Funds. On the Combining Balance Sheet at the bottom of the page she noted that the Fund Balances of the funds were as follows: the total for the Special Revenue Funds at June 30 were \$518,861 and the total for the Capital Projects Funds were \$219,806. On the next page she noted the Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance. She stated that as a review of the whole revenue expenditure, what they noticed here, the city spent \$497,355 for Emergency Communication. She asked them to follow that down to where they saw the Proceeds of Installment Loans of \$712,243. She explained that they borrowed money to buy equipment in Emergency Communications this last year. She also noted the Greenways Project column where they spent \$558,881. She noted that the fund balance was \$3.00 and it should be closed out by now.

The details of the Special Revenue Funds were found on pages 88 through 103. She explained that she would not be going over those but if they had questions, to please call her about them. She then continued over to the Water & Sewer Fund on page 104. Down at the bottom of the page it shows the equities of the Net Assets in Water and Sewer. On the Comparative Balance Sheet, she noted that the equity increased from \$39,949,650 to \$42,485,836. She then asked them to turn to the next page (105); this was the Income Statement of the Water and Sewer Fund. The Water & Sewer Operating Revenues amounted to \$9,498,940 this year compared to \$9,629,407. That was a decrease of \$130,467. On that same page she noted the Non-Operating income. It increased from \$266,026 to \$455,064 which was due to an increase in interest income and insurance proceeds. On the Total Operating Expenses she noted that the Operating Expenses were \$7,116,035 in the prior year which decreased to \$7,114,808. Near the bottom of the page, the Non-Operating Deductions, they increased from \$199,843 to \$410,538. The basic increase there was that they borrowed additional money and they had to pay more interest. At the very bottom of the page, they would see that the Water & Sewer Funds realized a net income of \$2,536,186 compared to a net income of \$2,579,555 for the prior year. Once again the city had another very good year in the Water & Sewer Fund. She added that the net income reflects a full year of revenue from an industry which will cease operations during this year (2008-2009) and that revenue amounted to \$2.9 million.

Mrs. Rouse asked them to then turn to page 125. They have had the Self Insured Interest Fund for many years and they will note that under the Fund Equity that at June 1, 2007 they had \$512,037 and this year they had \$63,032. What has happened, she explained, as they pay the premium for the employees out of the Water & Sewer Fund and General Fund the money has been transferred into the Self Insured Insurance Fund and they had built up some surplus there because they had some good years where they have not had a lot of claims, so the fund had built up money. This year they were able to transfer some money back into the General Fund and the Water & Sewer Fund. The amount transferred into the General Fund was \$404,509 and to the Water & Sewer Fund it was \$107,528.

On page 128 Mrs. Rouse referred to the Trust and Agency Funds under the Special Separation Allowance Fund. She noted at the bottom they had a fund balance of \$333,337 and the Runabout Travel Club was \$16,279.

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Mrs. Rouse stated that they would now look at the debt of the city and asked them to turn to page 61.

They have one year left on the General Obligation Bonds, so this year it will be paid out. She noted the Governmental Activities over to the third column, the Principal on the Governmental Funds Balance at June 30th was \$2,859,070. In their Water and Sewer Fund the total owed was \$14,996,671. So, the total debt of the city was \$17,855,741 at June 30. The legal debt margin of a city was 8% of assessed valuation. Their assessed valuation was \$843,208,217. That amount was \$67,456,657 so the city was far beneath the legal debt margin.

On page 133, this was the Analysis of Current Tax Levy. She noted that the \$843,208,217 was the amount they take 8% of. Their current levy collection percentage was 95.4%. Compared with the prior year it was 97.23% and in the prior year it was 95.97%. Compared with the State average, they were 1.86% below the state average.

She then stated that she had passed out a sheet on Interest Income. The interest income for the past year was very comparable to the prior year. It was \$744,987 from the prior year of \$746,132. So this generated additional revenue of about 9 cents of additional property tax.

Mrs. Rouse then referred to the Management Letter and the Audit Adjustment. She explained that the year-end adjustment should be kept to a minimum. Comparison of the number of adjustments this year compared to the last four years was as follows: They talked about the General Fund and the Water & Sewer Fund. This year they had eleven (11) adjustments. Of those five (5) of those were proposed by the city personnel. She explained that it compared very favorable with the prior years.

They were very pleased with the reduction in numbers and with the implementation of better inventory control. They were also pleased that the accounting personnel continue to attend Local Government Commission and Institute of Government classes to keep up to date on new accounting and issues. It was a full time job keeping up with the standards that are changing. She also commended the city for continuing to get the actual study on the Police Separation Allowance. Also, on their next year's audit, they will have to get the study on post performance benefits to comply with the GASB statement 43 and 45. The last item was a reminder that after the financial statements was released they need to adjust their Water & Sewer rates for the industrial consumers. She suggested that the engineering firm who completed the Water & Sewer Study do this adjustment.

Council Member Burnette commented that certainly the trend downward for the audit adjustments was tremendously encouraging. He stated that he noticed several times her report talks about reducing the number of journal entries to a desired level; he knew zero was ideal but he asked what was realistic.

Mrs. Rouse replied that she and Mr. Rouse had discussed this. Mr. Rouse explained that in his opinion, he thought ten was a reasonable number that he would shoot for. This was the first year that they reached that. Probably just as an effective way, to measure this in the future, also was to measure the effect of the adjustments on the changes in the fund balance. That would maybe be a more meaningful number. He has seen tremendous improvements throughout and all the towns have dramatically improved. The new standards that they have in addressing these problems have had a very positive effect.

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Mrs. Rouse stated that again, there has been a tremendous improvement in the recording and accumulation of financial information necessary to the auditing process. The entire Finance Department has put forth a team effort. Anytime she asked for something they were there getting it for her and most of the time they already had it ready. It was certainly a pleasure to work with employees who put forth an effort and they have come a long way.

Mayor Grogan thanked Mrs. Rouse and he also wanted to recognize Mrs. Tammie McMichael and all of her staff. These were the people who look after the dollar.

REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS:

No one came forward to speak.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

(a) Planning Organization Boards and Commissions Appointments.

The following appointments still need to be made for the 2009 calendar year. We respectfully request that you consider these at the January Council meeting so we can begin the year with a full slate of members for each board or commission.

Ward 1 (Turner):

Gail Flynt	Community Appearance Commission	3 absences* (37%)
Bill Mike	Tree Board	Term expired 2008

Ward 2 (Burnette):

Mickey Overby	Tree Board	Term expired 2008
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Ward 3 (Myott):

Beth Pulliam	Historic Preservation Commission	Term expired 2008
Mary Ruth Martin	Tree Board	4 absences* (40%)

Ward 4 (Epps):

All appointments filled

Ward 5 (Carter):

Marianne Aiken	Historic Preservation Commission	Term expired 2008
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Ward 6 (Tuggle):

Pat Whitten	Community Appearance Commission	3 absences* (37%)
Giles Hunnings	Planning Board	Term expired 2008

Ward 7 (Ellis):

Paul Robertson	Historic Preservation Commission	3 absences* (37%)
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Mayor:

Jennifer Griffin	Community Appearance Commission	3 absences* (37%) Term expired 2008
Roger Brown	Board of Adjustment	Term expired 2008

ETJ Appointments:

Matt Smith	Planning Board	2 absences* (40%)
Becky Shomali	Planning Board	Term expired 2008
Terry Shelton	Board of Adjustment	Term expired 2008

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Please note that ETJ appointments must be made by the City Council and submitted to the Rockingham County Commissioners for approval.

* Note: Members with 3 consecutive absences or more than 33% of all meetings must either be reappointed or replaced.

Appointments were made to the following boards:

- Tree Board – Mickey Overby – Ward 2
- Tree Board – Mary Ruth Martin – Ward 3
- Historic Preservation Commission – Beth Pulliam – Ward 3
- Historic Preservation Commission – Marianne Aiken – Ward 5
- Community Appearance Commission – Pat Whitten – Ward 6
- Community Appearance Commission – Nelson Hairston – Mayor
- Planning Board – Giles Hunnings – Ward 6

A motion was made by Council Member Ellis seconded by Council Member Carter to approve the appointments to the Boards and Commissions. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

(b) Consideration of Highway 700 River Access Point.

Pulled from the agenda.

(c) Consideration of Solid Waste Committee Recommendations.

Pulled from the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Consideration of recommendation to accept bid on 808 and 812 Friendly Road vacant lots.

The City has received a bid on the vacant lots at 808 and 812 Friendly Road in the amount of \$2,935.93 for each lot from Jacqueline B. Valentine. The tax value of the property is \$9,150 for 808 and \$12,321 for 812.

The original advertisement for bids was run in the Eden Daily News on September 19 and September 26. There were 4 upset bids received and the final advertisement for upset bids was run in the Eden Daily News on November 23 and November 30, 2008. No further upset bids were received.

The two houses and lots were purchased by the League of Municipalities as a result of a sewer backup. The houses were demolished and the lots conveyed to the City of Eden on March 12, 2003. Since that time, the City has mowed the lots and made sure the pool located on one lot is secure.

Based upon the foregoing information and the fact that we will have to continue to mow and maintain the property, I recommend that the City Council accept Ms. Valentine's bid.

A motion was made by Council Member Tuggle seconded by Council Member Burnette to approve the recommendation.

Council Member Burnette asked if Mrs. Stultz did confirm that the new owner would be responsible for whatever conditions and what needs to be done with that swimming pool to which she replied that they would.

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

b. Consideration of recommendation to surplus city owned real property.

The City owns the properties listed below:

1. 951 Harris Street
2. 422 Morgan Road
3. 107 Park Road

These properties previously had structures located on them which were demolished under the minimum housing standards and were recently acquired at public auction through our collection process

It is my recommendation that the above properties be declared surplus and advertised for bids:

Please give consideration to these recommendations.

A motion was made by Council Member Epps seconded by Council Member Ellis to approve the recommendation.

Council Member Burnette asked if there was any way they could incentivize the purchaser of this property to build within a short term on the property.

Mrs. Stultz replied that she did not really know how to answer the question. Her understanding was that they were repairing it for a church; of course they could not hold them to that.

Council Member Burnette stated no, he was talking about these three properties they were considering.

Mrs. Stultz explained that because they already have water and sewer taps there and they do have some encouragement in their zoning and land use regulations to make it easier to develop on in field lots that are likely too small for current zoning and those kinds of things, they have some allowances for that and to promote them being built with similar setback in the neighborhoods. They have never had money to offer the people to get them started and she really did not know at this point what else they could do.

Council Member Burnette questioned what about making the land a lower price.

Mrs. Stultz replied that generally what they were getting, the couple that they have sold already, they have not gotten them to tax value. She hoped that they would get their money back and get it to somebody inexpensively and that was the best they could offer, unless the Council decided they wanted to offer free building permits.

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

c. Consideration of recommendation to auction 241 The Boulevard.

On March 18, 2008, the City Council declared that the property located at 241 The Boulevard was surplus and ordered that the property be advertised for bids.

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The property was advertised as ordered and no bids were received. The City has invested approximately \$156,000 in the repair of the building. The tax value of the property is \$20,825.

Based upon the foregoing information and the fact that the building will begin to deteriorate if it is not occupied and used, I recommend that the City Council auction the property.

Council Member Burnette stated that he had checked with their attorney and one thing that they should be aware of, the city has spent a tremendous amount of money on this building. There was nothing to stop the previous owner from repurchasing this building and getting back into the same situation.

Mrs. Stultz replied that unless they all decide to put serious restrictions on the deeds, there was no way that if they sold it to (for instance) Mrs. Myott, that they could force her to make changes other than their ordinances and how they work.

Council Member Burnette agreed, but from the likelihood of the previous owner they already have that experience. That was his concern and he did not have an answer for that.

A motion was made by Council Member Epps to explore the possibilities of a future auction.

Mrs. Stultz commented that it would be wonderful if they get the total amount that they have in it.

The City Attorney, Mrs. Erin Gilley, pointed out that any bid that has been made at a public auction was subject to final approval or rejection by the Council. So she just wanted to make them aware of that.

Council Member Tuggle seconded the motion. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

- d. Consideration of amendment to the water and sewer extension request on 660 Pierce Street requested by Peter Osborne.

Pulled from the agenda.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

- A. Monthly Financial Report
Financial Report – Tammie McMichael

A motion was made by Council Member Epps seconded by Council Member Burnette to approve the Financial Report. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

- B. Finance & Human Resources - *No Report*
- C. Environmental Services - *No Report*
- D. Engineering - *No Report*
- E. Economic & Tourism Development
Economic Development – Mike Dougherty

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Project 2015

- The Whitt site on which the proposed correctional facility is to be located has been considered “viable” by the NCDOC Engineering Department. We are in the process of getting the necessary geotechnical work completed on the site as soon as possible.
- An Eden contingent met with Governor Beverly Perdue’s office on December 18th to lobby for Eden to be selected for a medium custody facility in the Governor’s 2009/2010 budget. The meeting went extremely well.
- New projections show that there will be 1,000 additional beds required to meet expected demands, meaning there may be four new facilities needed to meet the needs of the system by 2016.
- State Representative Nelson Cole is following up to be certain the correctional facilities—and a recommendation to place the medium custody facility in Eden—will be part of Governor Perdue’s budget.
- When the members are selected for the Justice and Public Safety Sub-Committee, I will be contacting them to lobby for an Eden facility.
- We have a good opportunity for lobbying help with the correctional facility.
- Over 150 endorsement letters from local citizens, organizations and business leaders will be sent to Governor Perdue’s office in January.
- We are seeking the opportunity to address the NC General Assembly concerning the necessity of the correctional facility in Rockingham County in January.

Water User

- I have recommended to the Partnership that we schedule a meeting with Frank Spano, consultant with Austin Consulting, about how Eden can make itself more attractive to a large water user. This will allow us to have direct access to one of the premier consulting firms in the country.

Business Recruitment/Small Business

- The international shopping center conference estimates that over 5,700 retail stores in the U.S. closed by the end of 2008 due to the economic conditions. Despite this, we will continue to pursue several projects that have been on-going for several months, including:
 - **Sheetz**
 - Demolition should take place by the end of March at the site.
 - Goal—to have as many local contractors as possible participate in this project. The Project Manager has already been contacted.
 - **Cook-Out**
 - Brisk sales were reported in the first weeks of this restaurant opening with daily customer estimates of 2,500.
 - **Other projects**
 - There are many other commercial projects in the works, but due to confidentiality, the details cannot be released at this time.
 - **King’s Chandelier Company**
 - In early January, this long-time Eden business was featured in a news report on North Carolina business conducted by Fox-8.

Main Street Downtown Revitalization

Twin Rivers Downtown Development Corporation

- Ten members of the Twin Rivers Downtown Development Corporation will be attending the Annual Main Street Conference in Statesville, NC from January 28th-30th.
- Eden City Council has won the award as 2008 Eden Main Street Champions for its authorization of funds for support of the streetscape program and the Twin Rivers Downtown Development Corporation. They will be honored at the Annual Main Street Awards Banquet that will take place on Thursday, January 29th.

MSD Board Meetings

- Have been planned in mid-January to discuss how tax funds will be allocated for 2009 in Draper Village and Olde Leaksville Shopping Districts
- Cindy Adams has obtained insurance rate information to be certain that downtown special events are covered in accordance with the city’s alcohol policy. She will be meeting with the downtown promotions committee to determine what events they want to hold in the downtown areas in 2009.

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Former Naple’s Italian Restaurant

- o Owner Angelo Tiano has leased the site to the previous operators of the Mitchell Drug snack shop.

Council Member Tuggle asked when they would find out something.

Mr. Dougherty explained that he would guess by July at the latest they should know.

- F. Parks, Recreation & Facility Maintenance - *No Report*
- G. Police - *No Report*
- H. Fire – *No Report*
- I. Planning & Inspections - *No Report*
- J. City Attorney - *No Report*
- K. City Manager- *No Report*

CONSENT AGENDA:

- (a) Approval and adoption of minutes: December 16, 2008.
- (b) Approval and adoption of appointment or reappointment of ABC Board Chairman. Re-appointment of Mr. Neville Hall.
- (c) Approval and adoption of appointment or reappointment to the ABC Board. Re- appointment of Mr. Tommy Webster.
- (d) Approval and adoption of amendment to the Finance Reconnect Policy FIN-11.

The revision was made to the following: PART FIVE-BILLING ADJUSTMENTS; III. WATER AND SEWER ADJUSTMENTS; and 1.LEAKS AND WATER LINE BREAKS

The City’s current policy only allows one leak(s) adjustment to be given within twelve (12) months. There have been circumstances when the city manager has needed to approve additional adjustments for customers. The revised policy gives the city manager the authority to make additional adjustments if he deems it to be necessary.

- (e) Approval and adoption of Internal Control Policy GA-26.

The new internal control policy was recommended by the Auditors. Once the policy is adopted it will be added to the City of Eden’s Policy and Procedures Manual.

A motion was made by Council Member Tuggle seconded by Council Member Burnette to approve the Consent Agenda items. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

CLOSED SESSION:

Closed Session according to GS 143-318.11(a)(6) for discussion of Personnel.

A motion was made by Council Member Burnette seconded by Council Member Carter to go into Closed Session according to GS 143-318.11(a)(6) for discussion of Personnel. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

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OPEN SESSION:

A motion was made by Council Member Ellis seconded by Council Member Epps to return to Open Session. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Council Member Burnette seconded by Council Member Tuggle to amend the December 18, 2007 employment agreement with the City Manager by deleting the word "six" and replacing it with the insertion of the word "nine" in both locations within Subsection "A" of Section 3. Termination & Severance Pay. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Council Member Epps seconded by Council Member Carter to adjourn. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion.

Respectfully submitted

Sheralene S. Thompson, CMC
City Clerk

ATTEST:

John E. Grogan
Mayor