

CITY OF EDEN, N.C.

The regular meeting of the City Council, City of Eden, was held on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 308 E. Stadium Drive. Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Mayor:	Neville Hall
Council Members:	Bernie Moore
	Jim Burnette
	Angela Hampton, absent
	Darryl Carter
	Jerry Ellis
	Jerry Epps
	Sylvia Grogan
Interim City Manager:	Terry Shelton, absent
City Clerk:	Deanna Hunt
City Attorney:	Erin Gilley
News Media:	Roy Sawyers, Rockingham Update
	Mike Moore, Mike Moore Media

MEETING CONVENED:

Mayor Hall called the regular meeting of the Eden City Council to order and welcomed those in attendance. He explained that the Council met the third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. and worked from a prepared agenda; however, time would be set aside for business not on the printed agenda.

INVOCATION:

Pastor Chris Burns of Draper Pentecostal Holiness Church gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Fire Chief Tommy Underwood.

PROCLAMATIONS & PRESENTATIONS:

a. Proclamation: Constitution Week

Mayor Hall asked Judy Smith, a member of the George Reynolds Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, to come forward before he read the Proclamation.

Ms. Smith thanked the Mayor and Council for recognizing the week. She noted that several churches in Eden followed the custom of ringing their bells on Constitution Day at 4 p.m., which was what history said happened just before the Constitution was ratified. The Constitution was a document written by James Madison, who later became president. His document became the cornerstone of our government. The Constitution protected and ensured the freedom of Americans and was the envy of people all around the world. She asked everyone to reflect on how blessed they were to have the Constitution.

PROCLAMATION: Constitution Week 2019

WHEREAS: September 17, 2019, marks the two hundred and thirty-second anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS: It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and its memorable anniversary; and to the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate the occasion; and

WHEREAS: Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week,

NOW, THEREFORE I, Neville Hall, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Eden do hereby proclaim the week of September 17 through 23 as

CONSTITUTION WEEK

AND ask our citizens to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties, remembering that lost rights may never be regained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Eden to be affixed this 17th day of September of the year of our Lord two thousand nineteen.

City of Eden  
Neville Hall, Mayor  
Attest: Deanna Hunt, City Clerk

MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Hall said he wanted to take a few minutes to make some comments about the situation the City was going through with the manager change. The City was moving forward. In its 52-year history the City had never dealt with the issue of embezzlement. They regretted that it had occurred and were determined that it would never happen again. While the City had enjoyed a clean audit for 38 years from a reputable accounting firm that specialized in municipal finances, what was involved in the matter to which the former city manager pled guilty concerned personnel and payroll, areas the annual audit did not thoroughly address. To correct the situation, the City was working with the State Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the League of Municipalities to incorporate best practices into the compensation system and its auditing methods. They immediately instituted electronic direct deposits for all payroll checks. A monthly voucher list for all accounts payable would be submitted to Council for review. They were reviewing the City's nepotism policy with an eye toward expanding and defining it. They were looking at a way to better define a system of checks and balances for city managers. The end of November was the projected target date for the new policies to be implemented. With the City's policy, they reiterated that no employee was to be under the direct supervision of a relative. Finally, the Eden citizens should be assured that the financial condition of the City was as strong as it had been in history. The City had increased its Fund Balance 126 percent from \$4,157,000 in the year 2000 to \$9,408,000 in June of 2018. The increase illustrated that the hard-earned taxpayer money was spent conservatively and saving money was the highest priority. City staff led by City Council had secured \$28,309,000 in grants for projects during just the past six years and the grants did not have to be repaid, saving additional taxpayer dollars.

Eden had the lowest tax rate in the County and taxes were only raised once in 19 years. They were in a situation that no one wanted to be in but were striving to make the best of it.

SET MEETING AGENDA:

Mayor Hall noted one agenda change, item 10c was pulled. The situation had been abated.

A motion was made by Council Member Epps to set the meeting agenda. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- a. Consideration and adoption of an Ordinance annexing the property located at 1049 Pine Lane pursuant to a request submitted by the owner, Brandy M. Tilley. File No. A-19-01.

Mayor Hall declared the public hearing open and called on Planning and Inspections Director Kelly Stultz.

Ms. Stultz said over the last several years, the City had a number of voluntary annexation requests when parts of property touched the city limits or a resident had a water meter that was inside the city limits but they were paying outside rates. This address touched the city limits. Staff had followed all of the legal requirements and recommended that Council adopt the ordinance.

Mayor Hall asked if anyone would like to speak in favor or opposition. With no comments, he closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Council Member Carter to adopt an Ordinance annexing property located at 1049 Pine Lane. Council Member Ellis seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

AN ORDINANCE TO EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS  
OF THE CITY OF EDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Eden, North Carolina, has been petitioned under G. S. 160A-31 to annex the area described below; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Eden has by resolution directed the City Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the petition; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk has certified the sufficiency of the petition and a public hearing on the question of this annexation was held at the City Council Chamber, 308 East Stadium Drive at 6:00 o'clock p.m. on the 17th day of September, 2019, after due notice by publication on September 4, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Eden finds that the petition meets the requirements of G.S. 160A-31;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Eden, North Carolina, that:

Section 1. By virtue of the authority granted by G.S. 160A-31, the following described territory is hereby annexed and made a part of the City of Eden as of December 31, 2019:

Being Lot 1 containing 1.692 acres, more or less, as per Minor Subdivision Plat for Danny R. Pulliam and Dawn D. Pulliam dated August 31, 2000, by Samuel J. Coleman, Jr., RLS, and recorded in Map Book 45, page 91, Rockingham County Registry, to which reference is made for a more complete description. Deed Reference: Book 1365, page 2541. The above described property being identified by the Rockingham County Tax Dept. as PIN 7081-14-33-3878.

Section 2. Upon and after December 31, 2019, the above described territory and its citizens and property shall be subject to all debts, laws, ordinances and regulations in force in the City of Eden, and shall be entitled to the same privileges and benefits as other parts of the City of Eden. Said territory shall be subject to municipal taxes according to G. S. 160A-58.10.

Section 3. The Mayor of the City of Eden shall cause to be recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Rockingham, and in the Office of the Secretary of State in Raleigh, North Carolina, an accurate map of the annexed territories described in Section 1 above, together with a duly certified copy of this Ordinance. Such a map shall be delivered to the Rockingham Board of Elections, as required by G.S. 163-288.1.

Section 4. Notice of adoption of this Ordinance shall be published once, following the effective date of annexation, in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Eden.

Adopted this 17th day of September, 2019.

CITY OF EDEN

Neville Hall, Mayor

Attest: Deanna Hunt, City Clerk

- b. (1) Consideration of a zoning map amendment request to rezone property on the east side of Friendly Road (PIN 7081-00-56-4381) from Residential-12S to Residential Suburban. Submitted by Ronald W. Walker, Property Owner.
- (2) Consideration of a Resolution adopting a statement of consistency regarding the proposed map amendment request to rezone property on the east side of Friendly Road (PIN 7081-00-56-4381) from Residential-12S to Residential Suburban.

Mayor Hall declared the public hearing open and called on Ms. Stultz.

Ms. Stultz said the property was across from Summit Place and was adjacent from property used for agricultural purposes. The applicant had applied for rezoning to Residential Suburban. The property in question was zoned I-2 then rezoned as R-12S. In an area such as this with no public sewer, it was completely inappropriate to expect lots to be that small. There was sewer across the road they could perhaps tie into but currently there was no sewer on the property. It was a large parcel that the applicants intended to use for a qualifying agricultural use. The Planning Board and staff recommended the amendment be approved.

Mayor Hall asked if anyone would like to speak in favor or opposition.

Council Member Burnette verified that the difference between R-12S and Residential Suburban was basically lot size and being able to use it for agricultural use.

Ms. Stultz replied agricultural uses and the district could allow mobile homes. She said there were currently mobile homes across the street.

Mayor Hall asked Ms. Stultz if any neighbors had contacted her.

Ms. Stultz replied no. The neighbors were upset when the same property was considered for a special use permit at the Board of Adjustment a few months prior but they had heard nothing about this change.

With no further comments, Mayor Hall declared the public hearing closed.

A motion was made by Council Member Burnette to approve a zoning map amendment request to rezone property on the east side of Friendly Road from Residential-12S to Residential Suburban and to adopt a statement of consistency regarding the proposed map amendment. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EDEN

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL of the City of Eden, North Carolina, that, after having fully complied with all legal requirements, including publication of notice of a public hearing and the holding of a public hearing relative thereto, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Eden is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1 - Change from Residential-12S to Residential-Suburban the following tract:

BEGINNING at a reinforced concrete post in the North Carolina-Virginia state line, said post being the Northwest corner of the Gauze tract and being 16 feet West of the center line of the present road grade; thence with the state line South 85 deg. 33' East 703.93 feet to an iron in a concrete monument in said state line, corner with Joseph Scales; thence with Scales' West line South 23 deg. 45-1/2' East 1158.45 feet to an iron in said line marking the Northeast corner of a 30-foot road reserve; thence with the North line of said 30-foot road South 82 deg. 53' West 977.71 feet to an iron set 25 feet East of center line of the present road grade of the Aiken Summit Road; thence with the East side of the present Aiken Summit Road the following courses and distances: North 11 deg. 26' West 801.5 feet to a point 25 feet East of the center line of present road grade; thence North 8 deg. 02' West 181.81 feet to a point 20 feet East of the center line of present grade; thence North 3 deg. 00' West 270.84 feet crossing said road to THE POINT OF BEGINNING and containing 1,001,880 square feet, more or less. Same being a part of the original Gauze Tract as per map by W.T. Combs, 10/12/1945, and revised 8/12/1946. Saving and excepting from the operation of this deed the road grade of Aiken Summit Road as now in use. See Deed Book 449, Page 432 and Book 463, Page 71. Save and except that portion containing 2 acres as described in Book 962, Page 2589 sold therefrom.

The following described property identified by the Rockingham County Tax Dept. as PIN 7081-00-56-4381 and Parcel Number 178983:

Section 2 - The Official Zoning Map of the City of Eden is hereby amended to conform with this Ordinance.

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND EFFECTIVE, this 17th day of September, 2019.

CITY OF EDEN

Neville Hall, Mayor

Attest: Deanna Hunt, City Clerk

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A STATEMENT OF CONSISTENCY REGARDING A PROPOSED  
AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF EDEN ZONING ORDINANCE  
CASE NUMBER Z-19-12 MAP AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 160A-383, prior to adoption or rejection of any zoning amendment, the Eden City Council is required to adopt a statement as to whether the amendment is consistent with the Land Development Plan and why the City Council considers the action taken to be reasonable and in the public interest;

WHEREAS, on August 21, 2007, the Eden City Council adopted the Land Development Plan. Plans such as the City of Eden Land Development Plan are not designed to be static but are meant to reflect the City of Eden's needs, plans for future development and to remain in compliance with North Carolina State Law and the City of Eden's ordinances;

WHEREAS, the City of Eden Planning Board received a request to rezone property located on Friendly Road PIN 7081-0056-4381 from Residential-12S to Residential-Suburban;

WHEREAS, On August 27, 2019, the City of Eden Planning Board voted to recommend to the Eden City Council that the rezoning request be approved.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

The subject property was zoned R-12S on August 20, 1985. Prior to that date the subject property had been zoned Industrial-2 when the ETJ was originally zoned in 1979. The parcel has remained undeveloped since that time. The current zoning pattern and the lack of access to public sewer make the parcel more viable as an agricultural or large lot residential use. R-12S permits high density development. The Land Development Plan indicates that the highest and best use of this property is Rural Residential. That is why the zoning change to Residential-Suburban, our large lot/agricultural district is in keeping with the plan.

STATEMENT OF CONSISTENCY:

The goals of the 2007 City of Eden Land Development Plan, as amended, are to make smart growth decisions by carefully managing growth to:

- A. Strategically locate new land development in the most appropriate places.
- B. Maintain and enhance Eden's community character and heritage.
- C. Use infrastructure investments as effectively as possible.
- D. Attract new jobs and a more diverse tax base.
- E. Protect natural, cultural and historic resources and open space as we grow.

WHEREAS, The Eden City Council has considered the written recommendation of the City of Eden Planning Board and has held a public hearing on the proposed amendment, and the Council desires to adopt a statement describing why the adoption of the proposed amendment is consistent with the City of Eden Land Development Plan, as amended, and why the City Council considers the proposed amendment to be reasonable and in the public interest;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EDEN CITY COUNCIL THAT:

- 1. The Eden City Council finds that the proposed amendment to the City of Eden Zoning Ordinance is consistent with the goals and recommendations of the 2007 City of Eden Land Development Plan, as amended.
- 2. At no time are land use regulations or plans of the City of Eden or any jurisdiction in the State of North Carolina permitted to be in violation of the North Carolina General Statutes.
- 3. Therefore, based upon the foregoing information, the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance is reasonable and in the public's best interest.

Approved and adopted and effective this 17th day of September, 2019.

CITY OF EDEN

Neville Hall, Mayor

Attest: Deanna Hunt, City Clerk

REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS:

Mayor Hall asked City Attorney Erin Gilley to read the City's policy for the speakers.

Jim Smith, owner of a business at 810 Washington Street, said his business was broken into September 1. The drink box in front was opened. A friend called him on September 2 to let him know the building had been broken into. The suspects busted a \$1,300 window on the side to get in and then opened the front door. His friend called the police for him since he was at Smith Mountain Lake and it would be possibly 1.5 hours before he could get there. The police were there when he arrived and they questioned him about any missing items. A toolbox, cash register and credit card machine were missing. He told them he needed to go through more stuff since the file cabinets were emptied onto the floor. The police told him to make a list of any items missing and bring it to the police department. He waited until the next day, September 3, to bring the list in and spoke with a detective. His biggest concern was he told the detective he had a partial list of missing items. The detective told him when he had a complete list to bring that in and did not take the partial one. Mr. Smith said that he got angry and told the detective that he did not know if he could ever get a complete list. He said some ugly things to the detective and about the Eden Police Department. Mr. Smith humbly said he wanted to apologize to Police Chief Light and Deputy Chief Simpson for what he said because he really did not mean it.

Mayor Hall thanked Mr. Smith for his apology and said that he had spoken with the chief and deputy chief and they would get him taken care of.

Jerry Kellam, 902 Georgia Avenue, yielded his time to Malcolm Allen.

Mr. Allen, Highway 770, said he had the deepest respect for the Mayor and City Council and for the job that they did. He said it appeared they had only partially addressed the issues and there were some things he would like to say. It was with deep regret that he had to speak. He wished to address the recent tragedy that had hit the City with the fraudulent hijacking of funds which happened under the watch of our Mayor and City Council. Government worked best when there was a check and balance system in place and no one should be allowed access to City funds without the knowledge of others. People elected the City Council to oversee the City and that included the funds. Rumors had the figure taken from taxpayers from \$200,000 to \$900,000. Since this was money taken from taxpayers he requested the figure given to Council from the investigation be published. To restore trust in the government and not be the good ole' boys group they were being accused of, publish the investigation figures to the citizens who fell victims of this person's greed. Citizens did not elect officials to allow funds to be used for weddings and beach houses. While they were still reeling from the County scandal at the district attorney's office, the City took the headlines away with its own. He asked how businesses could be attracted to Rockingham County if it became labeled as the home of crooks who could not be trusted. Come forward and give the details they were entitled to know. If the bank took their money and told them that they could not tell how much was taken or what happened, they would be outraged. He said not to let someone's greed overshadow the good that Council had done for Eden. If someone robbed one of Eden's stores, they would get five to 10 years, but someone robbed the entire City and only got community service. He asked what was there to stop them and what message was being sent to the community.

Mayor Hall replied the rules stated the Council was not there to debate but he encouraged Mr. Allen to ask the SBI, FBI and the DA. Those agencies did the investigation and pressed the charges. The Mayor and Council had nothing to do with the investigation or charges that were filed.

Jim Fink, 405 Wedgewood Court, yielded his time to Diana Biggs.

Ms. Biggs, 110 Vaughn Street, said the Mayor covered many of her remarks in his opening statement and she appreciated his comments. Her comments also followed those of Mr. Allen. She came to voice her dissatisfaction and concern with the Council with the fiasco with the former city manager. This never should have happened in the first place and it was not done alone. He should have been suspended at the beginning of the investigation and fired when found guilty. Instead they allowed him to resign before going to court that morning. Also he got his severance pay on top of the more than \$20,000 that they were supposed to believe was the total taken. There were honest people among the employees but there were also those that knew more and told more than what Council wanted. There were those who were no longer employed but knew more truth than Council was willing to admit. Each member was elected by the people to serve and represent those who put them in office. If they were there to just receive a monthly check and be a rubber stamp they needed to step down. If they did not step down, they needed to represent the people who elected them. The citizens of Eden were not as naïve as Council would believe them to be at times. Everything they thought that had been swept under the carpet had not been left there. It was past time to get all of the rules and regulations fixed and followed by all. All of the others involved in the situation should also be dismissed. The citizens were expecting accountability. Council had allowed Mr. Corcoran to collect his vacation and sick pay since 2014 that he was not entitled to until his contract was terminated. She asked why he was entitled to that considering he resigned under criminal charges. The payroll falsifications for his children began more than 10 years ago and some of the members past and present were aware of it but did nothing. That alone was well more than the \$20,000 he had to pay. She asked why Mr. Corcoran still had a key and was able to go in and out of City Hall after he was relieved of his duties. Citizens observed him going in and out during that time. Under the circumstances, he should not have been allowed to be on the property until it was over with. The incident was not all Council's fault but things that happened would not have had there been a system in place. There was so much going on behind the scenes that many citizens knew about and it was up to Council to handle it. It was not all surrounding the city manager events, there were other things that the Council was aware of and as a Council they had the rules to abide by. It was up to Council to follow them. Citizens were not all in the dark, the light was on. It was time to straighten up our little city and not have to face these problems again. Let it be a new beginning for our wonderful City of Eden. She thanked the Council for listening. She asked Council not to take it as a blame on them but just as an awareness that citizens knew what was going on.

Mayor Hall thanked Ms. Biggs for her time and said he would answer a little bit. They could not fire Mr. Corcoran because no charges had been made. He resigned prior to the charges being made. He was not paid a severance package, he was paid for his vacation and sick time because his contract called for it and they had no option with that. They tried to go through the State and not pay for that time but they did not have a choice. If anyone knew of a crime that someone had



committed, it should be reported to the DA. If someone had just heard about a crime and did not know for sure, they should get more information because it could be defamation to accuse someone. He said it should be reported if anyone thought they knew something on any other employee involved with the crime. Mr. Corcoran had the key to get his stuff since he had worked here almost 20 years.

Michael Hutchinson, 612 John Street, said he was nominated to serve on the Countywide Litter Prevention Committee a few of months prior. It was a bad time but Eden needed to move forward and stay positive. The committee was a new organization and they were still trying to get a good plan together to clean up the area. Everyone agreed it was good to have community cleanups but the root cause of littering was attitude. They needed to figure out a way to change the attitudes of people who liked to throw trash on the ground. He wanted input on ideas to change attitudes to take back to the committee. He noticed that Foothills was offering curbside recycling to Eden and he urged citizens to sign up for the service because that was the most convenient way to keep items out of landfills and oceans. If that did not work out, he thought they should try to find a more convenient way for residents to recycle their items.

Mayor Hall thanked Mr. Hutchinson for serving on the committee and said he would be in touch with him.

Bret Hart, 428 Patrick Street, said he came to speak on being a veteran in a small town. He was an eight-year veteran of the United States Navy. The physical scars did not bother him much because he thought of his body as a crust but not the whole sandwich. There was an eternal soul inside and life would end up being as long of a road as given by Providence. When it came to how they related with their neighbors in America he believed the principle that people would reap exactly what they sowed. On the radio the previous week, he heard the opposite of good was not evil, it was indifference. He agreed. On two national holidays, it was the tradition of American churches to play a patriotic song or video and ask veterans to please stand and be recognized followed by polite applause. There was the Veteran's Day Parade where everyone clapped and waved the flag. Those devices were how people measured their own patriotism by whether they had a flag, clapped for the vets at church twice a year or shook a vet's hand once in a while at the grocery store. Veterans did not serve to be applauded. Veterans that he knew did appreciate those safe and lonely little traditions but only in the same way that a starving person appreciated the crust offered from a big meaty sandwich. His father served in the Korean War, his father-in-law was career Air Force, and his son served four combat tours in the Middle East. The sons of veterans were statistically more likely to serve in the Armed Forces. During the 12 years his son was in harm's way, his family was utterly and completely alone in Eden, an All America City. Veterans were unimpressed by the red, white and blue bunting showing up a couple of days a year. He had his flags flying all year and replaced them when they lost their luster. He asked how many had reached out to make lasting relationships with men and women who answered the call to service and came back changed from it. He asked if veterans were invited to their barbecues and if there were ongoing resources and opportunities to connect with their town on a regular basis. He asked if the town was going beyond the easy hands off traditions to create new traditions to honor veterans in ways that would be meaningful to them. Many vets required more than anything else that sense of purpose and involvement that they had

while actively serving. He saw vets put together a lovely playground in Spray and it was a lot of hard work on a couple of hot days. He saw them tutoring in schools and give food and shelter to homeless people. Vets were accustomed to doing the hard things but people so often failed to meaningfully include them, forgive them and love them where they were. Sometimes military service left lasting emotional scars and the veterans, their wives and families could be shunned because of it. He asked the people of Eden, especially those elected, if they had answered the call to become one of the troops that they say they stood for, and if any of their sons or daughters volunteered to make that ultimate sacrifice for America. If not, he suggested they reevaluate their civic and religious virtues signaling which failed to include real veterans, and repent. He would like to create an Eden Veteran's Committee comprised of veterans and their family members to help Eden better tap into, connect, communicate with, and learn from those who have given that unselfish service to God and country that people claim to value so much. He was a very easy person to reach and had always said yes when asked to help the City of Eden.

Mayor Hall thank Mr. Hart for his service. He recognized Norma Jean Corum, who worked with the veterans, in the audience and her for all she did.

Homer Price, Martha Wright and Arlene Roberts were signed up and allotted their time to Louise Price to speak under New Business.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

*There was no Unfinished Business at this time.*

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Consideration of a request to authorize the abatement of the Nuisance Violations at the American Warehouse property located at 206 Warehouse Street.

Mayor Hall called on Ms. Stultz.

Ms. Stultz said the American Warehouse had been vacant for some period of time and it had deteriorated which attracted vagrants and trespassers. The property owner had received multiple notices. Council had increased focus on the code enforcement program. As they could see by the long list that Local Codes Administrator/GIS Analyst Debra Madison laid out across the floor, they had sent notices to close to 900 property owners, to properties large and small enforcing those violations. On July 17, 2019, they sought requests for bids to clear property at the American Warehouse, also known as the Fieldcrest Blanket Mill, and to the Nantucket Mill. The owners of the Nantucket Mill had begun to clear their property on their own without City funds. The City received a price of \$28,400 for the abatement of the overgrowth that had occurred at American Warehouse. Both properties were involved in the same brownfield, which was an industrial or commercial site with the potential to have contaminated soils and waters. There had been monitoring wells on the site for a long time. When the agreement was adopted in 2008, the properties were under single ownership but have since been separated. Ms. Stultz showed a picture provided by Louise Price of the property when she acquired it. She then showed a picture from January 2019 that her department took after receiving many complaints. Many of the

people on that list who received notices complained about big properties that were out in the public and not taken care of. She then showed pictures taken that day and there were trees and overgrowth that had continued to grow on the site. It was not with any relish that she stood before Council asking for funding to abate the violation. Like other preservationists in the community, her sincere hope was the building was adaptively reused, but as it was now, it was in violation of the nuisance ordinance.

Council Member Burnette said in their packet, there was a letter requesting bids for both the American Warehouse and Nantucket Mill, but Ms. Stultz had said the Nantucket had begun clean up on their own.

Ms. Stultz replied the Nantucket Mill owners were making great strides with their clean up so that was why they were not on the agenda. As long as the property owners were working, she did not see the need to spend public money for such an enterprise.

Council Member Burnette asked if Ms. Stultz saw an end time for that.

Ms. Stultz replied yes, the Nantucket was preparing for their redevelopment as she had received an application from them that day for rezoning to a PUD mixed use. She had been working with them on creating apartments. The woman who handled the brownfield for both properties was in consideration of approval for some things that would allow them to put residences there. Planning was working on the rezoning which would go to the Planning Board in October and the Council in November. The Nantucket owners were aware that they had to clean up their site.

Council Member Burnette asked if Nantucket was brownfield also.

Ms. Stultz replied yes, it was all one brownfield but the properties were split. The property was under brownfield when the buildings in the middle were cleared.

Mayor Hall asked if the property owner would like to come forward and speak.

Ms. Price, 414 Church Street, was there as president of Piedmont Folk Legacies, the owner and manager of the property in question. She applauded Council's efforts to clean up our community and she shared that passion. She did however object to the American Warehouse property being subjected to the action at that time because it was not necessary. Piedmont Folk Legacies had been working since it acquired the property for a solution that would enhance the City. The staff report that Ms. Stultz shared with Council did not reflect the actions that Piedmont Folk Legacies had taken through the years and the many things that they had done to bring the property back to life. There were reasons they had not altered the property, chiefly the brownfield. The bid that the City sent out asked for bidding on activity that could not be done on the property without brownfield permission from the State. They could not disturb the soil because that could open up a can of worms. Trees could not be removed without disturbing the soil. Mowing and pruning were the only things that could possibly be done. The trees had softened the property since they had acquired it and there were thousands of butterfly bushes that had sprouted up providing a habitat for butterflies. The property looked better with the vegetation. There was no grass on the property and a bush hog could not be used on the property due to the lay of the land and the rubble that was left behind from the demolition of the old American Warehouse. She questioned

what could be done to satisfy the request that would not be wasted effort. If the City went forward, they would be spending funds that would be taken care of eventually by a developer. Since they were actively marketing the property and did have interested parties, she had been advised the lien attached to the property would run off prospective buyers. They could mess up and miss the opportunity to try to develop it in a responsible manner and they do not want to do that. Then all of the efforts that Piedmont Folk Legacies had put in place for the last 10 years would go down the drain. Anything that Piedmont Folk Legacies gained with the sale of the property would be put right back into the community. They would like to announce the creation of an afterschool traditional music program or would love to bring the Charlie Pool Festival back to life. They would not have that ability going forward if they were not able to market the property. As much as she hated to say it, they would have to walk away from the property. The buildings were not deteriorating since they were made of concrete and masonry and would be extremely difficult to remove. The only positive option would be to allow them to continue to market the property. She assured Council they intended to bring a positive solution to the buildings because that was their passion. They needed relief from the proposal in order to continue.

Council Member Moore asked how long they had owned the buildings.

Ms. Price replied they had owned the buildings for 10 years and their initial intention was to create a performing arts center in the Nantucket Mill. They accepted the American Warehouse as a donation to accent that effort to develop the Nantucket Mill and use the property acquired as an amphitheater. They had a \$600,000 grant for a while to purchase the Nantucket, which came through the City, that they eventually lost because they could not get the Nantucket owners to the table. They lost the grant and the property was sold to the current owners. She had spent the last three years negotiating with the current owners. All of last year, the American Warehouse was under contract to them. She could make no changes to the American Warehouse while it was under contract.

Council Member Moore asked if they had the property that long, why had they not trimmed up or cleaned up to make it look presentable rather than just overgrown.

Ms. Price replied the board consisted of herself; Marianne Aiken, who was 93; Dr. Shelly Balbier, who lived in Durham; and Jennifer Griffin, who had a small child and ran her own business. They did not have assets but they had tried with mental capacities and efforts to find grant funds, market the property, and negotiate with the Nantucket folks. She had a list of the activities they had done that she wished she had brought and a timeline that showed she had devoted 10 years of her life to make something positive happen here.

Council Member Moore replied there were little things to improve the grounds which could have been done all along time.

Ms. Price replied the first time they got a nuisance violation she had two volunteers who went out and sweated in the July heat to pull vines off of the building. Her point was the vegetation in her estimation was not causing a problem and there were other wooded lots around. She wanted to know why it was so awful that the lot was wooded.

Council Member Moore replied the vegetation was growing in the buildings.

Ms. Price said those were vines.

Council Member Grogan asked Ms. Stultz if she had spoken with the brownfield representative.

Ms. Stultz replied both of them had spoken with the woman who was responsible for the brownfield. There were some requirements about ground disturbance. They all had gotten an email saying they could do mowing, vine removal and those types of things. Ms. Stultz spoke with her about the potential for tree removal. They could not take any heavy equipment, like a bulldozer, on the property but trees would have to be cut down and taken out if they got that far.

Ms. Price asked if they cut down the trees, would they not leave stumps.

Ms. Stultz replied yes, there would be stumps left.

Ms. Price said then there would be 10 acres of stumps. She questioned why stumps would be an improvement over butterfly bushes and trees covering the rubble until a developer could be brought in. The developers they had brought in to look at the property were not concerned with the vegetation and overgrowth. They would wait until they had their landscaping plan and architectural plans in place and then move soil while working with the brownfield folks.

Council Member Moore said the citizens were seeing the overgrowth every day when they went up and down the road.

Ms. Price replied she understood but at the same time she would assure them that she was working towards a positive solution. They did not want to walk away from the project but they may have to if the City went forward.

Council Member Grogan said most complaints and comments the Council got had to do with the community's appearance. It did not matter if it was downtown Washington Street or Meadow Road, it was the perceptions about the city. People actually want a cleaner city. She was driving the past week with a person in the car and she mentioned a particular area that needed cleaning up. The other person said they drove past the place every day and did not notice it any longer. Just because they did not pay attention to the problem, it was still there. Due to the complaints, the Council had approved a very strong code enforcement policy and that was what the American Warehouse was stumbling into. There were heavy fines being levied for the massive littering and codes to clean up junk and trash in people's yards. In fact, some citizens had been taken to court by the City for code violations. She commended the staff for working diligently to have people adhere to the codes. Once the codes were adopted, Council needed to back up what staff said needed to be done to be in compliance. She was aware that all of Council knew Mr. and Mrs. Price for the service they had given to Eden. Mr. Price's picture was on the wall in the Council Chambers as a previous mayor. She said he had once sat where they were sitting and he knew the importance of the codes and following through to adhere to those codes. She would guarantee that he would agree it was not a bit of fun and was very difficult to get people to abide by the codes, but the codes were there. The issue was that the overgrowth of the property had been going on for years. People would ride by it and possibly not see it anymore, but that did not

mean that it was not still there. It did look bad and she was not sure it could look any worse if the City cleaned it up. A big issue was the City had cleaned up the property twice in the last two years and spent about \$4,000, primarily for safety.

Ms. Price replied the last time perhaps so because people had been dumping on the property. The City had established concrete barriers at the back of the property. She said Ms. Stultz had informed her that dumping was still occurring and now she had no way to get into their property to remove the dumping because of the concrete barriers. She said she was charged \$2,000 for the barricades.

Ms. Stultz replied if Ms. Price wanted to get into the property to clean up she could have the barriers removed.

Ms. Price said the first cleanup episode had nothing to do with trash but barrels containing waste oil that were inside of the buildings. When they had eventually involved the EPA, it was discovered the barrels were from two owners previous to them. The City did not take action against them but chose to wait and take action against Piedmont Folk Legacies. They were sent an invoice of \$1,000 for boarding up their buildings.

Council Member Grogan asked Ms. Stultz if she had anything to say to that.

Ms. Stultz replied she was informed by a staff member about the barrels. She asked Ms. Price to correct her if she was wrong, but federal funding paid for the \$1,000 invoice.

Ms. Price said federal funding paid for it but in that process, the barrels were documented to have been on that site before Piedmont Folk Legacies took possession of the property.

Council Member Grogan asked why the barriers were put up.

Ms. Price replied the barriers were put up to keep people from dumping, but it was not stopping them. She said they had sought help from the County in the past in regards to tracking down who was dumping. It was a secluded site at the back of the property. They were being portrayed as neglecting their property but they had been besieged by vandals, thieves and litterers. They were active participants looking for a positive solution to the situation. If the City took action against them to this degree, it would so damage their abilities to go forward that they would not be able to continue.

Council Member Burnette asked Ms. Price why that would damage their abilities. He did not understand since a developer would pay for it one way or another.

Ms. Price said certain professionals that she knew had informed her the charges would scare off potential developers. Not just to the point of \$28,000 because that was not a big chunk of potential development of the property, but if they saw the City was coming back time and again, and they would ask what was next.

Council Member Burnette replied it had not affected the Nantucket.

Ms. Price said they owned the property and were developing it themselves.

Council Burnette replied that place was being developed now and they wanted to make sure the area around it was clean as well. He asked Ms. Stultz if there were any problems with the Nantucket clean up being in the same brownfield.

Ms. Stultz replied apparently no problems.

Ms. Price said the Nantucket was only mowing and their site was basically level. She was not sure what the City required them to do but there were trees at the back of their property that could not be removed. The American Warehouse site was unique because it went straight down and was covered in rubble, brick, broken things and old foundations. The only thing that could be done would be to bring in bulldozers. She could not afford that at this point, but a developer could.

Council Member Ellis asked how long the Miller Hatcher Commercial Real Estate had been involved.

Ms. Price replied three months.

Council Member Ellis said end of July or first of August. He asked why they decided to list the property suddenly.

Ms. Price replied Mr. Price was a broker with Miller Hatcher.

Council Member Ellis asked if they had any soil samples taken from the property.

Ms. Price replied no.

Council Member Ellis asked if she thought the soil could be contaminated.

Ms. Price replied they had it stated in the brownfield reports what the contaminants were.

Ms. Madison said she had a copy of the report if anyone would like to see it.

Council Member Ellis said Ms. Price had asked for a year but had already had 10 years. He would make a motion to table the action for 60 days. She would need to come back to Council in November. Council had tightened down on code enforcement throughout the city. They saw what was happening with the Nantucket. He took a young man home who lived near the property in question and the man asked him why the City did not clean the place up.

Council Member Burnette said he would like to amend that motion stating they would clean up the property in 60 days or the City would. He did not think tabling it would do any good.

Council Member Ellis asked Ms. Price if the issue was funding.

Ms. Price said that was correct.

Council Member Ellis asked Ms. Stultz for her opinion of his motion.

Ms. Stultz said the bid they had on the property cleanup was \$28,000. They had bid this property and several others so many times that local vendors would not bid on them any longer because they would spend a lot of time getting the bid together and no work came from it. She believed the property was listed by former Mayor Price for many more thousands of dollars than the 28. It was unfortunate. Preservation was something she would do if she did not work for the City. It was difficult for her and uncomfortable for all of them when there were people in their lives that were in this circumstance. Early in her career, she had to stand before Council and ask them to tear down a house that belonged to her grandfather and this was not any easier. She and Ms. Price were high school classmates and sang in the choir together. It was not about any of that, but simply the ordinance said they had to do these things and abide by any State law. She did not know if the price from the bid would be honored in 60 days.

Council Member Carter asked Ms. Stultz if the cleanup she planned to do would have any issues with the brownfield.

Ms. Stultz replied she had conversations with the brownfield people that week and she planned to send them a copy of the bid documents just to be sure. They did not intend to take any heavy equipment in there. Alternative methods would be fine with her if they could find them. There was no good solution. When the Prices acquired the property, there were bricks and debris visible. A lot of that was still there which also could be considered a nuisance. For the community's health they would need to clean it up at some point.

Council Member Epps asked Ms. Stultz if she would take it into consideration if the motion by Council Member Ellis was approved and the property owners had made some progress on the cleanup in the 60 days.

Ms. Stultz replied yes. The City had cleaned the property twice in the past and there were lists pending filed for those for about \$4,000 with the Rockingham County Register of Deeds Office.

Council Member Ellis asked Ms. Price if they would be able to show some progress on the property within 60 days.

Ms. Price replied there were more ways to accomplish what they wanted to accomplish than going out in the hot sun and chopping weeds. They were actively working to bring that to fruition.

Council Member Ellis said that he did not want her to do that herself.

Ms. Price replied that would be the only way that she could tell Council that she cleaned up the property was if she actively went out and chopped weeds. Piedmont Folk Legacies had no assets. They were a nonprofit who raised funds to put on a festival and afterschool music program. They took on the American Warehouse property to try to open a performing arts center.

Council Member Ellis asked Ms. Price if there was a possibility of the property being sold in the next 60 days.



Ms. Price replied the probability of having the property sold in two months was like waiting for a falling star to come down. It would take that long just to do the paperwork when you did have a buyer.

Ms. Stultz asked if they could possibly have a contract on the property.

Ms. Price replied that was possible.

Council Member Grogan said if when Ms. Price came back to Council in two months and the property had sold or there were purchase negotiations going on, Ms. Stultz had said Council could give an extension if it was needed. She asked Ms. Price if she would agree to that.

Ms. Price replied yes, she could certainly agree to that.

Mayor Hall asked broker Phil Hunnicutt to come up and speak in that capacity.

Mr. Hunnicutt said he was not on the list to speak but he could add some color to the topic. From his experience in corporate real estate, first with Fieldcrest, he had knowledge of the property. He also had 30 years of environmental experience. He did not have a dog in the fight regarding the vegetation issue but his recommendation to the City was to be very careful in trying to avoid pushing the property into receivership. The thing they did not want to happen was for the property to become abandoned and no one clean it up. He had actually been involved with a situation like this one while he was with VF. They had a property in Statesville that was a former dry cleaning process business, which was heavily contaminated. They found a buyer who went to the State and they worked out a remediation agreement. It took some time to do it but what they were able to do was get an agreement they were able to live with to get the site cleaned up and got the property back on the market. His concern was not the vegetation part of the issue. The building was a manufacturing plant for well over a hundred years and no one knew what chemicals could have been spilled out back or underground storage tanks. He would strongly encourage Council to indulge the process a little and see if the current owners could find someone to work on the property and get an agreement with DENR to get it cleaned up. This was a property the City would never want to own. DENR would work with an owner to redevelop it and there were requirements they would have to do. He had seen that done and even participated in one himself. He was setting the vegetation part aside because it was up to Council but he encouraged them to be careful. Don't push something that would trigger them to have to abandon it for financial purposes and then it would sit there forever because there was no one to clean it up then.

Mayor Hall said he saw Mr. Hunnicutt's point but he said the worst thing that could happen was for the property to become abandoned and overgrown. That was how it was now.

Mr. Hunnicutt replied but there was potential for someone to clean it up.

Mayor Hall replied Ms. Price said she was not going to clean it up.

Council Member Grogan clarified that Ms. Price said they could not afford to clean it up.

Council Member Burnette said Mr. Hunnicutt mentioned the owner could work with DEQ (formerly DENR). He asked if Piedmont Folk Legacies was working with DEQ.

Ms. Price said they were required to file a brownfield report once a year and they did that. They were in compliance because they were not touching the property. They could not go in and disturb the property. They asked brownfield folks about doing some grading for an amphitheater when they first acquired the property but they could not touch it until they had the overall plan and were prepared to take care of the remediation portion of the development. That was something beyond their scope of ability.

Council Member Burnette said so they could not work with DEQ.

Ms. Price replied they could not work with them to remediate the issues on the property. Their purpose was as someone to look for a developer and push for the developer to come in. They pledged that they would do that and were a good partner.

Mayor Hall asked if they increased the activity or efforts to do that. Obviously they listed the property three months ago. He asked if it was listed over the first nine years and nine months.

Ms. Price replied no, because their desire had been to bring a performing arts center to this community. She would love to sit down with them all and to tell them all of the highs and lows that Piedmont Folk Legacies had been through and how close they had come. They were still dedicated to bring a positive solution to the property even though it would not be what they had wanted it to be. They were looking for a positive developer who would bring the property back to life and make it a productive facility again. No, they could not go chop weeds or have the money to bring in bulldozers but they were in search of a large developer who understood a project of that scope. If they were forced to step away then they would have to just step away. That would leave the City and the taxpayers a property that not only needed to have trees removed but unless the City found a buyer for the building, also 200,000 square feet of concrete and masonry to removed.

Ms. Stultz asked Ms. Price if there had been any offers on the property in the last 10 years.

Ms. Price said they had it under contract to the Nantucket owners last year.

Mayor Hall asked Ms. Price to verify there had not been 10 years without any activity.

Ms. Price said it had been tremendous activity to the point that she was tired.

Mayor Hall said he was not making the suggestion to Ms. Price, but would they consider dropping the price so low that a developer would be very interested in it. Instead of the City having to take it over, they could give it to a developer.

Ms. Price replied they would be interested in anything if it came to that point, but the buildings did have value. As a nonprofit, they had projects that they would like to endow which would enhance the community. They would like to have funds for the afterschool music program and

the festival. They would like to have funds going forward. The price of the property had not scared off people.

Mayor Hall said if the price were zero someone would be willing to do it. Then the City would not have any opportunity to own it.

Ms. Price replied obviously but if he wanted to take his vehicle and put a free sign on it then it would go quickly.

Mayor Hall replied if it did not run then it might not.

Ms. Price replied that she did not think he would want to do that if it was not necessary.

Mayor Hall said right, but if he could not afford to own the car, he would have to give it away. The property had become a necessity because of all of the complaints and there had to be some progress made on cleaning it up.

Council Member Grogan said if Council did not make people follow code then they would have all kinds of issues like broken down cars parked in yards. It was an issue of codes and adhering to them.

Ms. Price asked if in those cases they had willing participants who were actively working to make those things better, because they did in her case.

Ms. Stultz said the code enforcement program had been iffy at best for many years. They could not pick and choose who they enforced. The list of people who got letters that Ms. Madison sent out this year was no fun and they spent much of their time getting yelled at about it. The bottom line was her department promised Council they would take on the code enforcement they wanted done. It was difficult for our program to allow something like this property to be indefinite. The people at the Nantucket were making some moves to clean up. She realized the situations were different but what was on the ground was what was on the ground.

Mayor Hall said they had a motion from Council Member Ellis to give them 60 days to begin to become into compliance. He asked if was there a second. The motion failed for lack of a second.

A motion was made by Council Member Grogan that Council give a period of two months for the owner of 206 Warehouse Street to work with the prospective buyer. They would inform the City after that period of time if the property had been sold or if purchase negotiations had begun with the buyer. If negotiations had begun, an extension could be granted and if not, the City would be authorized to begin cleanup of the property.

Council Member Burnette said when he first began to consider running for office, a former very wise mayor told him one of the hardest jobs he would have on the Council would be to stand against a friend who wanted to do certain things the Council did not agree with. Tonight he would make a second to Council Member Grogan's motion. Council Members Epps, Moore, Grogan, Ellis and Burnette voted in favor of the motion. Council Member Carter voted against the motion. The motion carried.

- b. Consideration of a request to consider legal action against the property owner at 415 W. Aiken Road for violation of the City of Eden Zoning Ordinance.

Mayor Hall called on Ms. Stultz.

Ms. Stultz said that during the past year, Council amended the zoning ordinance to create something called a disabled vehicle because the junk car statutes where they had a junk car ordinance said if something had a valid tag it did not matter what type of shape it was in, it could stay on the property. Many jurisdictions across the state had made the change that they did to go to disabled vehicle. The property in question had disabled vehicles and it was not the first time they had dealt with the person over it. Ms. Stultz showed a slide of the property with a disabled car, van and truck in the yard.

Council Member Epps asked if the picture was of a house behind the rock church and agreed it was an eyesore.

Ms. Stultz said it was an eyesore and she received many complaints about it. At this time, she would like Council to authorize her to take legal action so they take a court action. Zoning ordinance abatements were not as simple as some others because they would have to go to court and get a judge's order. She wanted to get the vehicles moved out, hopefully without much expense to the City.

Council Member Epps asked if were they dealing with the owner of the property or the renter.

Ms. Stultz replied they sent letters to both but Larry Victor Evans was the owner. The owner was who they had to notify by State statute. If they knew of a renter, they sent it to them as well. They also posted the property.

Council Member Burnette asked how long the issue had been going on.

Ms. Stultz replied the first notice was sent about three or four years ago. The parishioners at the rock church were uncomfortable with them being back there and it certainly did not do anything for that historic area.

A motion was made by Council Member Burnette to pursue legal action against the property owners at 415 W. Aiken Road for violation of the City of Eden Zoning Ordinance. Council Member Ellis seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

- c. Consideration of a request to consider legal action against the property owners at 1222 Church Street for violation of the City of Eden Zoning Ordinance.

*This item was removed from the agenda.*

#### REPORTS FROM STAFF:

a. City Manager's Report.

Mayor Hall said each Council Member had received a copy of the report. It was available online and in the Eden's Own Journal. It was full of information that pertained to the City and he encouraged everyone to pick up a copy.

***Economic & Tourism Development***

**Southern Virginia Mega Site at Berry Hill**

An August 23, 2019 Danville Register & Bee article stated that Danville would run water and sewer utilities to the Mega Park. This referred to infrastructure running to the park from the VA state line—where Eden will send the water supply-- and within the park only. They are not taking this over from Eden. The article clearly confirmed that Eden will provide most of the water and all of the sewer for the park. Danville will be able to more effectively operate the internal water system than would Pittsylvania County. Eden was never involved in what our Virginia neighbors did with the water once it arrived at the VA state line.

Work has begun on the water line which will be completed within a year.

**Fieldcrest Road Building**

This building used to house Liberty Textiles. 48,000 SF of clean space has been vacated and will now be marketed for a user. This is a very attractive space that should be enticing to manufacturers. Besides MillerCoors, this is the only available space for industrial users in Eden at this time. The rest of the buildings are in use.

**NCDOT**

The NC Board of Transportation voted last week to include the extension of I-785 from Hicone Road in Guilford County to exit #153 (Eden, Reidsville, Yanceyville) in the 2020-2029 State Transportation Improvement Plan. The project is to be completed by 2027. This will benefit Eden because instead of being 36 miles from an interstate highway, the city will now be 11. Transportation costs are very important to many industrial projects. City and County Representatives have lobbied to expedite the completion of this project, but it remains in the current timetable for now.

**Self-Help Credit Union**

Self-Help Credit Union specializes in Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 loans. The local representative is working with Eden businesses on how to access these SBA loans. This is part of Eden's entrepreneurship initiative run through the Economic Development Department and Rockingham Community College Small Business Center.

**Kotis Properties**

This company owns Kingsway Plaza. They will be making considerable investment in the shopping center over the next several weeks as part of the Planet Fitness facility accommodation. The new Planet Fitness façade is under construction.

**Planet Fitness**

This company is advertising its \$1 down and \$10 a month on-line sale that expired September 30, 2019. You can join on-line at [www.planetfitness.com](http://www.planetfitness.com)

### **Lidl**

The City is working with the company on finding a user for this building. One established business has shown interest in the facility, but much remains to determine if this will work to their mutual benefit.

On September 6<sup>th</sup> WDBJ TV of Roanoke, VA broadcast that Lidl will not build on two sites in Roanoke County, and one each in Salem and Christiansburg, VA. Salem and Christiansburg have populations of 25,000 and 22,000 respectively. This further reinforces the theory that Lidl hasn't been able to thrive in smaller towns and is pursuing larger metropolitan areas in the northeast and southeastern U.S. That is why they decided not to pursue the Eden site and they closed stores in Kinston and Rockingham, NC earlier this year.

### **Duke Energy Foundation Grant**

The City submitted a grant application for an otter habitat along the Smith River with the generous assistance of the Dan River Basin Association Executive Director Tiffany Haworth. This would be the only one of its kind in the U.S. The City will learn in a few weeks if the \$9,999 proposed grant was awarded.

### **Triad Business Journal**

A special feature was completed on Rockingham County by the Business Journal for its August 22<sup>nd</sup> edition. It focused on road, trail and downtown improvements in the County leading to expectations of future growth. Eden's trail development and downtown revitalization were covered extensively.

### **Washington Street**

Plans are moving forward with construction of 618 and 624 Washington Street to become apartments, a coffee shop and restaurant. The developer will rename the Central Hotel for John B. Ray, a former owner and prominent citizen.

Progress continues for construction of restaurant and retail spaces at 727 Washington Street. Interior concrete has been poured to cover newly installed plumbing. Fire walls are being installed and exhaust outlets hung.

A new business is coming to 616 Washington Street. The current owners of The Shiloh Shop plan to open The Workshop Eden space for instruction from makers and finders from the local area. The business should be open by December.

### **Eden Downtown Development Inc.**

The Design sub-committee project of custom painting downtown fire hydrants will continue review applications past the August 19th deadline. Thirteen hydrants have been completed, one in process and more designs to be approved. If you would like to participate contact Randy Hunt at [rhunt@edennc.us](mailto:rhunt@edennc.us).

### **Monroe Street**

Sophisticated Rubbish, 633 Monroe Street, a retail establishment reminiscent of an old country store with furniture will be open September 20th, just in time for Riverfest. Extensive cosmetic work has taken place and façade work has been completed. It will also include a salon space.

The former Duke Power building at 627 Monroe Street is now for sale. The property has stood empty for many years, but was never available for purchase.

A building owner has met with a muralist to determine the scope of work for a project for 600 Monroe Street. There are materials readily available. When mock ups are complete the Eden Downtown Development Inc. Design Subcommittee will be contacted.

A new reclaimed furniture store will occupy the former Roadside Gypsy location at 600B Monroe Street. The lease has been signed and furniture is being delivered. The Owner will open the business, Revisited Vintage, in the next several weeks.

### **Draper**

The property owner at 115 N. Fieldcrest Road has requested a bench and trash can be placed at this location. The property holds storage units and was a former car wash. A SCAT Bus stop has been designated there for some time. A trash can will be moved to the location and added to the route.

The Draper Municipal Service District members met Thursday, September 5th. They voted to purchase two metal benches to be placed on Fieldcrest Road. They are also researching the possibility a bus stop shelter.

A group of Draper residents organized a community yard sale Saturday, September 7th. Proceeds are to be used for a Draper building beautification effort. It was located on Ridge Street and coordinated through local property owners and the Methodist church.

### **Main Street Champion**

EDDI Members voted Rhonda and David Price as our 2020 Eden Main Street Champions for their extensive work in making downtown a better place to work live and shop. They both have been advocates, volunteers and donors to downtown initiatives.

### **Boulevard Merchants**

The merchant's next big event will be Rocktoberfest, Saturday, October 5th featuring live bands, food trucks and vendors. Monies raised are used for façade grants for buildings on the Boulevard.

### **Cars and Coffee**

Our summer series of Cars and Coffee continues to be held at the Family Video parking lot the last Saturday morning each month from 8:00-10:00. Stop by and enjoy the comradery and see some beautiful and unique vehicles.

### **RiverFest**

We hope everyone plans to join us for RiverFest on September 20 & 21!! We have an outstanding festival planned for the entire family thanks to our many community sponsors.

The entertainment lineup is incredible with everything from jazz to rock and everything in between on two stages. Please check out the schedule on our Explore Eden Facebook page or our website [www.ExploreEdenNC.com](http://www.ExploreEdenNC.com). New this year is the Virtual Kayak, Butterfly Encounter, Adult Trike Races and the Bungee Trampoline.

In addition we have lots of delicious food, over 100 vendors, exhibitions, amusements, a bird release by the Carolina Raptor Center, dancers, river excursions, a Beer Garden sponsored by the Eden Rotary Club and so much more!

There is no entry fee or shuttle fee. Bring your lawn chair for the concerts and make sure you come early and plan to stay late!!

### ***Engineering***

#### **NCDOT Resurfacing Schedule**

The paving contractor for NCDOT is scheduled to be back in Eden next week to finish the resurfacing contract they started in July.

#### **2019-20 Street Resurfacing Contract**

The bid opening for the 2019-20 Street Resurfacing Contract was held on August 22, 2019. A total of four responsive bids were received for the project. The successful low bidder was APAC-Atlantic, Inc. Thompson Arthur Division in the amount of \$459,830.50. Approval to award the contract will go before Council for consideration on September 17, 2019.

Sectors of the following streets are included in the contract: Price Street, Cedar Street, Anderson Street, Church Street, Armfield Street, Madison Street, Grant Street, Pervie Bolick Street, Roosevelt Street, Haywood Street, Front Street, Hale Street and Maryland Avenue.

The substantial completion date for this project is May 29, 2020.

#### **Water Construction Projects Update**

Stoltzfus Engineering, Inc. has been hired to prepare construction plans and other documents required for permitting a pressure boosting system that is to be connected to the existing water main near Jackson Street and the off ramp from southbound NC 14. C.E. Robertson & Associates will be providing the surveying services needed for SEI to design the layout of the proposed improvements.

### ***Information Technology***

The U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) warns users to remain vigilant for malicious cyber activity targeting Hurricane Dorian disaster victims and potential donors. Phishing emails commonly appear after major natural disasters and often contain links or attachments that direct users to malicious websites.

Users should exercise caution in handling any email with a hurricane-related subject line, attachment, or hyperlink. In addition, users should be wary of social media pleas, texts, or door-to-door solicitations relating to severe weather events.



To avoid becoming victims of malicious activity, users and administrators should review the following resources and take preventative measures. CISA has hints and tips on their website for the following:

- Staying Alert to Disaster-related Scams
- Before Giving to a Charity
- Staying Safe on Social Networking Sites
- Avoiding Social Engineering and Phishing Attacks

If you believe you have been a victim of cybercrime, file a complaint with the Federal Bureau of Investigation Internet Crime Complaint Center at [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov).

For links to more information on how to avoid becoming a victim of malicious activity, type the following link into your favorite browser:

<https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/current-activity/2019/09/04/potential-hurricane-dorian-cyber-scams>

### ***Municipal Services***

#### **Update on Curbside Recycling Service**

Eden City Residents, you now have the opportunity to subscribe to curbside recycling service. The City has negotiated with Foothill Waste Solutions to offer a voluntary curbside recycling service to our citizens. However, a minimum of 400 Eden City residents must sign up prior to October 31, 2019 directly with Foothill Waste Solutions before the curbside recycling option can be offered. This will be a contract between the citizen receiving the service and Foothill Waste Solutions. Curbside recycling cannot be offered by Foothill if less than 400 Eden citizens subscribe to the curbside recycling service. Subscribers will be charged \$9.50 per month and you will be billed quarterly. This fee has been established by Foothill and the City of Eden will not be receiving any payments from Foothill for the services they are providing. Glass will not be collected by Foothill. To subscribe to this service or to learn more about it, call Foothill Waste Solutions at (336) 871-4055. Again, if you want to subscribe to recycling curbside service at your location, please call (336) 871-4055 to sign-up.

### ***Parks & Recreation***

#### **Eden Prowlers**

The City of Eden Prowlers will play the Junior Phoenix on September 21.

The City of Eden Prowlers will play at Morehead High School on September 28.

The City of Eden Prowlers will play at Rockingham County High School on October 5.

The City of Eden Prowlers will play at Northeast Guildford on October 12.

#### **Mill Avenue Pool**

The Mill Avenue Pool closed on Labor Day.

#### **Freedom Park**

The Freedom Park Splash Pad is open through September 15, 2019. There have been over 14,000 visits to this facility since it opened on June 26, 2019.

The Putt Putt Golf is open to the public Monday-Sunday from 4:00pm – 8:00p.m. The cost is \$2.00 per round.

Holmes Middle School began its Girls Softball Program at Freedom Park on September 9, 2019.

There is a Got Game Tournament scheduled for September 14 – 15, 2019 at Freedom Park.

There is a Concert in the Park/ Cruise In at Freedom Park September 28, 2019.

There is a Top Gun Tournament scheduled at Freedom Park on September 21 – 22, 2019, a Top Gun Tournament on September 28 - 29, 2019, Top Gun Tournament October 5 - 6, 2019 and a Top Gun Tournament on October 12 - 13, 2019.

### **Bridge Street Rec**

The Western Rockingham County Middle School is using the Bridge Street Tennis Courts for their home matches this Fall. They will play their first match their September 9, 2019.

There will be a Tennis Clinic at the Bridge Street Tennis Courts on September 21, 2019.

### **Citizen's Academy**

Staff will conduct the Citizen's Academy for Parks and Recreation on September 19, 2019.

### **Matrimony Creek**

Construction of Phase II of the Matrimony Creek Greenway has begun and this phase should be completed by the end of September 2019.

### **Mike Moore Media**

Staff will conduct the Monthly Pod Cast with Mike Moore Media on Parks and Recreation on October 4, 2019.

## ***Planning & Inspections***

### **Code Enforcement**

96 notices were mailed by certified mail and first class mail that affect the following number of properties: 9 for violation of the Human Habitation Standards, 1 for violation of the Non-Residential Building Maintenance Standards, 4 for disabled vehicles, 43 for high grass and weeds, 1 for high weeds and a disabled vehicle, 4 for high grass, junk storage and disabled vehicle, 5 for junk storage, 1 for burned house debris, 1 for sewage leak and 2 for a zoning violation.

The permits for Planet Fitness and Zip's Carwash have been issued and are ready for pick-up. The Planet Fitness project has already begun staging and prep work. They plan to be open in October.

### **Historic Preservation Commission**

The Historic Preservation Commission met on September 9th. They discussed a number of issues including the mural on Washington Street and its replacement. At the end of the meeting, Jean Harrington who has been on the commission since 1980 submitted her resignation.

**Planning Board**

Planning Board approved the rezoning request for property on Friendly Rd. from R-12S to RS. Will go to Council in September. This is the same property that was recently denied a special use permit for a shooting range. The current applicant is planning to live on the property and run a horse farm.

**Landscape Plans for Bathroom Building at Matrimony Creek Trail**

Josh Woodall is working on a landscape plan for the Matrimony Creek Trail bathrooms. The plans have been drawn and are being put into AutoCad. The plantings will begin in mid-September.

**Fire Exit Plan**

Josh Woodall developed a fire exit plan for the Senior Center on Morgan Road.

**Stadium Drive Sidewalk**

We have received letters of interest and the staff committee will meet in September to get the project rolling. We have had no indication from NCDOT that we can't move forward.

**Grants:**

We were notified that we were not funded for the Historic Preservation Sub-Grant. There is another round in January and we plan to reapply. We were given guidance from the federal agency regarding how to improve our chances.

***Police***

The Eden Police Department continues to post a Public Service Announcement on the Eden Police Department's Facebook page asking citizens to Stand Against Litter as part of the county wide campaign to aggressively enforce littering and illegal dumping violations. We will continue to replay the announcement each month and aggressively enforce littering and illegal dumping statutes.

The Rockingham County School System's first day of class for student's was August 26, 2019. As we do throughout the school year, officers will be working in our school zones to ensure the safety of our students.

We have scheduled our mandated fall in-service training for the fall. The training dates will be November 4, 18 and 25. The training will be from 10am-10pm and include fall firearms qualification.

Officers with the Eden Police Department in conjunction with Cindy Adams and other department are preparing for Riverfest.

The Eden Police Department would like to continue to encourage the citizens of our community to utilize the Eden Police Department’s Facebook page for updates and information concerning our community, as well as Crimestoppers, to provide anonymous information concerning illegal activity to keep our community safe. We all have to work together to keep our community safe.

***Public Utilities***

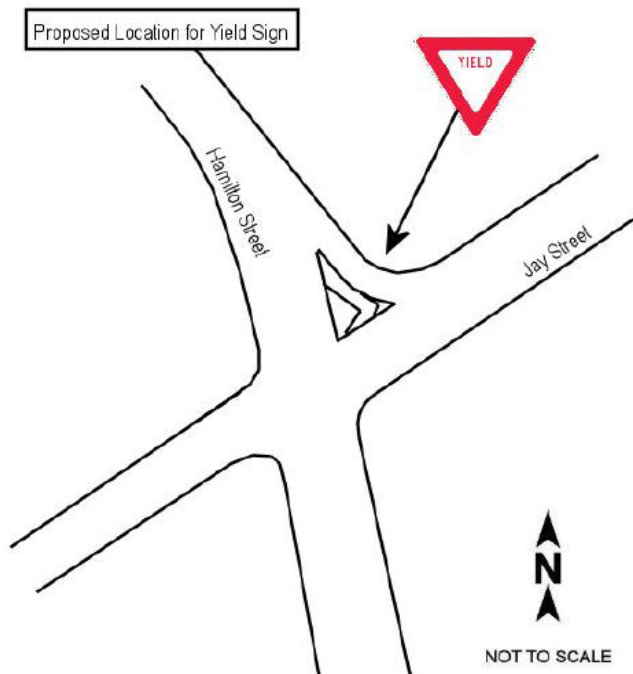
**Citizen’s Academy**

On September 5, 2019 the Public Utilities Department hosted the Citizen’s Academy. A meal was served and introductions of staff were made before the tours began. The tour of the water plant facility was guided by Melanie Clark, Water Plant Chief Operator, after which a tour of the wastewater facility was conducted guided by Chris Powell, Wastewater Plant Chief Operator.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. Approval and adoption of the August 20, 2019 and August 29, 2019 Minutes.
- b. Consideration of a traffic study recommendation and adoption of an Ordinance establishing a yield sign on Jay Street.

Sgt. Jim Robertson wrote in a memo that on August 14, 2019, the Police Department received a request for a traffic study at the intersection of Jay Street and Hamilton Street from Councilman Jim Burnette. The intersection of Jay Street and Hamilton Street was currently regulated with automated traffic signal lights. The topography of the area included a curved stretch of road as vehicles approached the intersection from the south on Hamilton Street. Additionally, on Jay Street at the intersection of Hamilton Street there were road markings outlining a “traffic island” of sorts to separate traffic turning right (North) from traffic heading straight ahead (West) or turning left (South). This “island” can give the impression that the road is a bend or curve rather than a turn governed by the traffic signal lights. It was the recommendation of the Police Department that a Yield Sign be erected at the intersection of Jay Street and Hamilton Street for traffic turning right (North) onto Hamilton Street.



**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A YIELD SIGN AT THE INTERSECTION  
OF JAY STREET AND S. HAMILTON STREET**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL of the City of Eden, North Carolina, pursuant to authority granted by N.C.G.S. § 20-158.1 and N.C.G.S. § 20-156(a) that:

Section 1 – It shall be unlawful for the driver of a vehicle proceeding westward on Jay Street and then turning northward onto S. Hamilton Street from Jay Street to fail to yield the right of way in obedience to a yield the right of way sign located at the intersection of Jay Street and S. Hamilton Street.

Section 2 – A yield right of way sign shall be placed, erected or installed on the north side of Jay Street directing traffic turning in a northerly direction from Jay Street onto S. Hamilton Street to yield the right of way at said intersection.

Section 3 – The OFFICIAL TRAFFIC MAP of the City of Eden is hereby amended to conform with this Ordinance.

Section 4 – All ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND EFECTIVE, this 17th day of September, 2019.


CITY OF EDEN

Neville Hall, Mayor

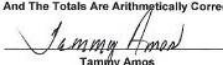
Attest: Deanna Hunt, City Clerk

- c. Consideration of approval to award the FY 2019-20 Street Resurfacing Contract to APAC-Atlantic, Inc., Thompson-Arthur Division.

Director of Transportation Engineering Tammy Amos said in a memo the FY 2019-20 Street Resurfacing Contract bids were received on August 22, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. A total of 4 responsive bids were received for the project. The successful low bidder was APAC-Atlantic, Inc. Thompson-Arthur Division in the amount of \$459,830.50. The date of availability for the contract was October 1, 2019. The substantial completion date is May 29, 2020. The Engineering Department was requesting Council’s approval to award the contract to APAC-Atlantic, Inc. based on their bid amount shown above.

 <b>FY 2019-20 STREET RESURFACING CONTRACT, NO. 1 (SRC 2019-20-01)</b> CITY OF EDEN, NORTH CAROLINA BID TABULATION SCHEDULE AUGUST 22, 2019 11:00 A.M.											
Bid Item No.	Description	Unit	Est. Qty.	APAC-Atlantic NC License # 12459		Waugh Asphalt, Inc. NC License # 59882		J.C. Joyce NC License # 27870		Adams Construction NC License # 20877	
				Unit Price	Extended Total	Unit Price	Extended Total	Unit Price	Extended Total	Unit Price	Extended Total
1	Adjustment of Manholes	EA	69	\$ 400.00	\$ 27,600.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 22,425.00	\$ 545.00	\$ 37,605.00	\$ 490.00	\$ 31,740.00
2	Adjustment of Valve Boxes	EA	30	\$ 400.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 9,750.00	\$ 415.00	\$ 12,450.00	\$ 490.00	\$ 13,800.00
3	Edge Milling Asphalt Pavement, 0 to 1½" depth	SY	1,689	\$ 4.50	\$ 7,600.50	\$ 5.09	\$ 8,597.01	\$ 4.00	\$ 6,756.00	\$ 4.65	\$ 7,853.85
4	Edge Milling Asphalt Pavement, 0 to 2½" depth	SY	2,416	\$ 4.50	\$ 10,872.00	\$ 5.05	\$ 12,200.80	\$ 3.25	\$ 7,852.00	\$ 3.75	\$ 9,060.00
5	Milling Asphalt Pavement, 1½" depth	SY	4,394	\$ 3.00	\$ 13,182.00	\$ 2.73	\$ 11,995.62	\$ 2.25	\$ 9,886.50	\$ 1.85	\$ 8,128.90
6	Milling Asphalt Pavement, 2½" depth	SY	3,769	\$ 4.00	\$ 15,156.00	\$ 3.38	\$ 12,806.82	\$ 2.75	\$ 10,419.75	\$ 2.60	\$ 9,851.40
7	Asphalt Concrete Leveling Course, Type S9.5B Virgin Mix, ½" depth	TON	220	\$ 117.00	\$ 25,740.00	\$ 127.27	\$ 27,999.40	\$ 150.00	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 129.50	\$ 28,490.00
8	Asphalt Concrete Surface Course, Type S9.5B Virgin Mix, 1½" depth	TON	3,070	\$ 107.00	\$ 328,490.00	\$ 113.45	\$ 348,291.50	\$ 115.75	\$ 355,352.50	\$ 121.65	\$ 373,465.50
9	Shoulder Reconstruction - Soil, (Including Seed and Mulch)	TON	60	\$ 89.00	\$ 5,340.00	\$ 178.00	\$ 10,680.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 181.00	\$ 10,860.00
10	Shoulder Reconstruction - Incidental Stone (ASB)	TON	250	\$ 65.00	\$ 13,750.00	\$ 82.50	\$ 20,625.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 13,750.00	\$ 107.00	\$ 26,750.00
11	Asphalt Concrete Surface Course, Type RS9.5B Non-Virgin (Alternate 1)	TON	1	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 109.10	\$ 109.10	\$ 112.75	\$ 112.75	\$ 116.00	\$ 116.00
<b>Total Bid Price (Items 1-11)</b>					<b>\$ 459,830.50</b>		<b>\$ 485,480.25</b>		<b>\$ 489,284.50</b>		<b>\$ 520,115.65</b>

The Lump Sum and Unit Prices in This Tabulation received on August 22, 2019  
 Are As Given In The Bidder's Respective Bid Proposals  
 And The Totals Are Arithmetically Correct

  
 Tammy Amos  
 Director of Transportation Engineering, City of Eden

- d. Approval and adoption of a Resolution to proceed with the acquisition of financing proposals for the Emergency Services Fire Training Facility Project.

Director of Finance and Personnel Tammie McMichael said in a memo that Council approved a new loan in its FY 2019-2020 budget of \$466,400 within the General Fund. The City needed to proceed with private placement financing for the Emergency Services Fire Training Facility Project.

RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH PRIVATE PLACEMENT FINANCING FOR THE  
GENERAL FUND EMERGENCY SERVICES FIRE TRAINING FACILITY PROJECT.

WHEREAS, the Eden City Council (the “Council”) has determined that it is in the best interests of the City to finance the Emergency Services Fire Training Facility Project (the “Project”) with proceeds of tax-exempt obligations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Eden is hereby applying for an Installment Purchase Contract Loan for a General Fund Project to proceed and seeking approval pursuant to North Carolina G.S. 120-157.1 through 157.9; and

WHEREAS, the Council has approved a new loan in its FY 2019-2020 budget of \$466,400 within the General Fund for the Project and now wishes to appoint an authorized representative and direct staff to proceed with the acquisition of financing proposals from interested banks based on rate, terms, and fees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Eden City Council that the Director of Finance for the City is hereby authorized and designated to act on behalf of the City for the execution of any and all documents necessary to effectuate the financing of the Projects with proceeds of tax-exempt obligations to be approved by the Council after public hearing, and the staff of the financing department is directed to proceed with the solicitation of financing proposals from at least (3) interested banks.

Adopted and approved this 17th day of September, 2019.

CITY OF EDEN

Neville Hall, Mayor

Attest: Deanna Hunt, City Clerk

- e. Consideration and approval of financing for a tractor for the Street Department.

Assistant Finance Director Amy Winn said in a memo that on March 2, 2019, the Street Department’s 2006 John Deere tractor was totaled while being transported for repairs. We received insurance proceeds for the accident in the amount of \$46,840.74 in April of 2019 and a replacement tractor was ordered. The tractor was now ready for delivery and on August 26, 2019, she requested bids from our local banks for the financing and received the following quotes: BB&T 2.58%; Governmental Capital 3.28%; and United Financial (Home Trust) 2.19%.

The total cost of the equipment was \$114,265.96 with annual payments of approximately \$24,376.33 which would not commence until FY 2020-2021. She respectfully asked that Council approve United Financial (Home Trust) as the successful bid for financing.

- f. Consideration and approval of Budget Amendment #1.

Ms. Winn said in a memo that the budget amendment allocated grant proceeds from K B Reynolds Charity Trust for the Get Fit Rockingham Program and increases the Get Fit expenditure line item in General Fund Special Appropriations. Since this was a countywide grant and the City was overseeing it, a portion of the funds would be directed to the Towns of Stoneville, Madison, and Mayodan and the City of Reidsville’s recreation departments.

Minutes of the regular September 17, 2019 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

	Account #	From	To	Amount
<b>General Fund Revenues</b>				
Get Fit Rockingham - Grant	10-3612-86600	\$ -	\$ 23,400.00	\$ 23,400.00
<b>General Fund Expenditures</b>				
Get Fit Rockingham	10-9920-89983	\$ -	\$ 23,400.00	\$ 23,400.00

Appropriates grant funds received for the Get Fit Rockingham program for FY 2019-2020.

Adopted and effective this 17th day of September, 2019.

Attest:

Deanna Hunt, City Clerk

Neville Hall, Mayor

g. Approval and adoption of a Resolution to designate applicant's agent for the NC Division of Emergency Management

Municipal Services Director Paul Dishmon stated in a memo that the disaster assistance application agreement and a resolution, required by the NC Division of Emergency Management, designated an agent for the application they were submitting in order for the City to receive reimbursement funds from Tropical Storm Michael. The primary agent would be Mr. Dishmon and the secondary agent was Solid Waste Superintendent Dusty Curry. Reimbursement funds should be in the amount of approximately \$107,348. They also have a claim for \$400,000 to relocate a portion of the sewer line at the Railroad Pump Station that received major damage during the storm. The process of mitigation could take several months before they knew the outcome.

<b>RESOLUTION DESIGNATION OF APPLICANT'S AGENT</b> North Carolina Division of Emergency Management	
Organization Name (hereafter named Organization) City of Eden	Disaster Number: FEMA-4412-NC
Applicant's State Cognizant Agency for Single Audit purposes (If Cognizant Agency is not assigned, please indicate):	
Applicant's Fiscal Year (FY) Start Month: July Day: 01	
Applicant's Federal Employer's Identification Number 56-0860097	
Applicant's Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Number 37-20080	
<b>PRIMARY AGENT</b>	<b>SECONDARY AGENT</b>
Agent's Name Paul Dishmon	Agent's Name Dusty Curry
Organization City of Eden	Organization City of Eden
Official Position Director of Municipal Services	Official Position Superintendent of Solid Waste
Mailing Address 1050 Klyce Street	Mailing Address 1050 Klyce Street
City, State, Zip Eden, NC 27289	City, State, Zip Eden, NC 27288
Daytime Telephone 336-627-4688	Daytime Telephone 336-627-4688
Facsimile Number 336-627-9189	Facsimile Number 336-627-9189
Pager or Cellular Number 336-613-8934	Pager or Cellular Number 336-552-3755
BE IT RESOLVED BY the governing body of the Organization (a public entity duly organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina) that the above-named Primary and Secondary Agents are hereby authorized to execute and file applications for federal and/or state assistance on behalf of the Organization for the purpose of obtaining certain state and federal financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief & Emergency Assistance Act, (Public Law 93-288 as amended) or as otherwise available. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above-named agents are authorized to represent and act for the Organization in all dealings with the State of North Carolina and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for all matters pertaining to such disaster assistance required by the grant agreements and the assurances printed on the reverse side hereof. BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT the above-named agents are authorized to act severally. PASSED AND APPROVED this 17th day of September, 2019.	
<b>GOVERNING BODY</b>	<b>CERTIFYING OFFICIAL</b>
Name and Title Mayor Neville Hall	Name Deanna Hunt
Name and Title Council Members Jerry Epps, Bernie Moore, Sylvia Grogan	Official Position City Clerk
Name and Title Jerry Ellis, Jim Burnette, Angela Hampton, & Darryl Carter	Daytime Telephone 336-623-2110, ext. 3025
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>	
I, Deanna Hunt, (Name) duly appointed and City Clerk (Title) of the Governing Body, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed and approved by the Governing Body of City of Eden (Organization) on the 17 day of September, 2019.	
Date: _____	Signature: _____

A motion was made by Council Member Epps to approve the consent agenda. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Hall said anyone interested in getting back into curbside recycling could sign up with Foothills Recycling. There were informational flyers about signing up available. He asked Director of Economic Development Mike Dougherty to tell about RiverFest, the City's biggest festival, that was coming up.

Mr. Dougherty said the 16th annual RiverFest was coming up Friday from 5 p.m. until 10 p.m. and then on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. There would be two stages of music with 10 bands, 130 artisans and food vendors, and new events this year like virtual kayak experience, butterfly encounter, an adult trike race, bungee trampoline, amusements, river excursions, dancers and the Carolina Raptor Center. There was no fee to come. Friday night's band was the Hot Sauce Band and Saturday was the Pizazz Band

Mayor Hall thanked Mr. Dougherty and Coordinator of Tourism & Special Events/Projects Cindy Adams for all of the work they put into RiverFest.

Council Member Ellis thanked everyone for coming to the meeting with the concerns they had regarding the City. He was concerned too. Every day he put on the full armor of God. They were looking for a positive way to keep on keeping on. The Council worked for each part of Eden - Leaksville, Spray and Draper. The Council were not aware of the things going on with the city manager or they would have done the right thing. It happened and was in the past, but they were moving forward. That was the most important thing for the City. They were looking for another city manager. He had no reason to lie, he did not know anything about it. He had an election coming up and he wanted it to be known. He was a Council Member for the City and he wanted to continue looking after the citizens as he had been doing for about 12 years. He appreciated the Mayor and the mayors before Mayor Hall. He appreciated the police department. He wanted everyone in the audience to be taken care of.

Council Member Carter said he also wanted to say the Council Members were not aware of the issues with the city manager until after the fact, when it went to court. He wanted to assure the people they were looking after finances and tried to be conservative as much as possible. They tried to give citizens a good quality of life. They were disappointed in what happened but had to move on with procedures in place to keep it from happening again.

Mayor Hall said they were working on policies and procedures. He had said to people that things were good until they were not and then you find out something was not good.

Council Member Carter wanted to thank the audience for coming and voicing their opinions.

Mayor Hall said the FBI and SBI both completed an investigation and there was no way he would have the ability to investigate as well as they did. It was negotiated with the district attorney. If anyone had any further information, he recommended sharing it with the DA.



Council Member Epps said he would like to add that he did not know anything about the situation. It was like a stake to his heart.

Mayor Hall called on Shane Hensley in the audience.

Mr. Hensley asked if going forward, anyone knew something that a council member should know, what the chain of command was.

Mayor Hall said anyone could go to him, the city manager or the district attorney. If someone came to him or the Council and they took it to the Eden Police to investigate, they would have a conflict of interest and it would have to go to the DA and SBI. That was how the situation got to the level it did with the previous city manager.

Mr. Hensley said if there was something, he would like to be able to come to Council and have them take it further and have them take it to the DA.

Mayor Hall said if there was something that needed to be reported, he would like to hear about it and he could take it to the DA.

Mayor Hall called on Sherry Hall in the audience.

Ms. Hall wanted to say that it was Mayor Hall's birthday.

Mr. Malcom Allen said in the case of law enforcement if there was a suspicion of a crime, a person could be suspended until further investigation. They would not have the opportunity to resign and walk away with a clean slate when the news started getting tight.

Mayor Hall replied neither did this situation.

Mr. Allen asked if when evidence started coming forward the Mayor or Council could suspend someone.

Mayor Hall replied yes, they could and they did. He found out about it on Thursday and suspended him on Friday. He resigned on Tuesday after being out on administrative leave Friday and Monday. He resigned prior to being charged with any crime and they could not fire him until he was charged with something.

Mayor Hall called on Scottie Eanes in the audience.

Mr. Eanes said he understood that Council did not know what the FBI and SBI were investigating, whether it be an employee or something else.

Mayor Hall replied the FBI and SBI did not tell him or Council and actually told the employees interviewed not to tell anybody what they were interviewed about. He was never interviewed. When the SBI called him on Thursday and told him they were going to have charges he went to their office and found out what it was. That was Thursday evening and Mr. Corcoran was suspended on Friday morning. He did not know what else he could have done. He did not mean

to have an open debate but was just trying to explain. It was a tough situation for all of them. They were dealing with it and would move forward. They would have procedures in place so it did not happen again.

Reverend JeSie Morris said that was the information they needed to maintain trust. When they got that information, everyone had a better view of what happened and could maintain trust.

Mayor Hall said he had been open and honest any time he had an opportunity to talk to anyone about it. He did not mind doing it all the way through.

CLOSED SESSION:

- a. NCGS 143-318.11.(4) To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body, including agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations, or to discuss matters relating to military installation closure or realignment.
- b. NCGS 143-318.11(3) To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.

A motion was made by Council Member Ellis to go into closed session at 7:38 p.m. Council Member Carter seconded. All members voted in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Council Member Burnette to return to open session at 8:26 p.m. Council Member Moore seconded. All members voted in favor of the motion.

ADJOURNMENT:

As there was no further business to discuss, a motion was made by unanimous consent to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

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Deanna Hunt  
City Clerk

ATTEST:

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Neville Hall  
Mayor