

CITY OF EDEN, N. C.

The regular meeting of the City Council, City of Eden, was held on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 6:00 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
		Jerry Epps
		Darryl Carter
		Neville Hall
		Jerry Ellis
City Manager:	(absent)	Brad Corcoran
City Clerk:		Sheralene Thompson
City Attorney:		Erin Gilley, via videoconference
Deputy City Clerk:		Deanna Hunt
Representatives from Departments:		
News Media:		Justyn Melrose, Rockingham Now

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 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. and works from a prepared agenda; however, time would be set aside for business not on the printed agenda.

INVOCATION:

Mr. Bernie Moore, Eden City Council, gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Fire Chief Tommy Underwood.

RECOGNITIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:

Mayor Hall called Mr. Raven Brown, a community volunteer, to the podium as he proclaimed February Black History Month in Eden.

- a. Black History Month

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, we celebrate the many achievements and contributions made by African Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development; and

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WHEREAS, this annual observance is an opportunity to remember the challenges of our past, but also to honor countless African American heroes who inspire us to shape our country’s future, and

WHEREAS, we remember and celebrate the lives of Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, George Washington Carver, Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, and countless other African Americans who triumphed over ignorance, oppression, and injustice to make indelible contributions to our American history. They are an integral part of our Nation’s story. We are indebted to the individual and collective perseverance and patriotism of these outstanding men and women;

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, we recommit to being a community of opportunity and hope for every citizen;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Neville Hall, Mayor of the City of Eden, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2018 to be BLACK HISTORY MONTH in the City of Eden and encourage all City of Eden residents to join me in celebrating the collective ingenuity, creativity, cultures and traditions of African Americans and commit ourselves to raise awareness and appreciation of Black History Month by participating in educational events honoring the contributions of Black Americans.

This the 20th day of February, 2018.

CITY OF EDEN
BY: Neville Hall, Mayor

ATTEST:
Sheralene S. Thompson,
City Clerk

b. Local Government Federal Credit Union

Ms. Jazmine Kilpatrick, senior membership development officer, explained that the Local Government Federal Credit Union was the sister credit union to the State Employees’ Credit Union and they were the only credit union whose membership was exclusive to local government officials, employees, volunteers and their family members. They also partnered with the North Carolina League of Municipalities, the UNC School of Government and the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners to support local government employees and local elected officials. She had handouts for the council members. She thanked the Council for their service.

SET MEETING AGENDA:

Mayor Hall said that Item 12f was pulled from the agenda. A motion to set the agenda was made by Council Member Ellis and seconded by Council Member Moore. All members voted in favor of the motion.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- a. (1) Consideration of a zoning map amendment request and adoption of an Ordinance to rezone 614 Irving Avenue and 2 adjoining parcels from Business – G and Business – C to Residential – 6. Request submitted by David W. Cook, Jr., Property Owner. The request

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was amended by the Planning Board to include adjoining properties: 302 Greenwood Street owned by Mildred B. Vernon and Parcel No. 107376 owned by the City of Eden. ZONING CASE Z-17-12.

(2) Consideration of a Resolution adopting a statement of consistency regarding the rezoning of 614 Irving and 2 adjoining parcels from Business – G and Business – C to Residential – 6.

Mayor Hall called for a public hearing and asked for Ms. Stultz, Director of Planning and Inspections, to come forward.

Ms. Stultz said this was submitted by one property owner and they decided to add two other parcels to the request. At the time of the original zoning in 1968, the Council zoned based on what was on the ground or based on what they thought the growth would be. There had been no growth that way for it to remain Business General. Business General was the most liberal business zoning district. It allowed a lot of uses that might not be allowed with a Residential-6 neighborhood. Based on that information and their research, the Planning Board and staff recommended approval.

Mayor Hall asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor or opposition of the request. As no one came forward to speak, he declared the public hearing closed.

A motion was made by Council Member Burnette to rezone 614 Irving Avenue and the 2 adjoining parcels to Residential – 6 and to approve a Resolution adopting a statement of consistency regarding the rezoning of 614 Irving and 2 adjoining parcels from Business – G and Business – C to Residential – 6. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carter. All members voted in favor of the motion.

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 Business-C and Business-G to Residential-6 the following parcels:

PARCEL 1:

BEGINNING at a stake on the south side of Irvin Avenue (formerly Byrd), 150 feet from the intersection of Irvin Avenue and Greenwood Street (formerly Railroad Street); thence with Irvin Avenue, North 43 degrees 15 minutes East 119 feet to a stake; thence South 40 degrees 40 minutes East 118 feet to a stake; thence South 23 degrees 15 minutes East 64.4 feet to a stake; thence South 57 degrees 15 minutes West 120.4 feet to a stake; thence North about 36 degrees 30 minutes West 153 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING and containing 20,723 square feet more or less, and being one-half of Lot 6, Section 10 as per map of W. B. Trogdon, made for Leaksville House and Power Company. See Deed recorded in Book 146, Page 115. The above described Parcel 1 being identified by the Rockingham County Tax Department as PIN 7070-18-42-3076 and Parcel Number 107320.

PARCEL 2:

BEGINNING at a stake at the intersection of Irving Avenue (formerly Byrd Avenue) and Greenwood Street (formerly Railroad Street), running with Irving Avenue, North 43° 15' 150 feet to a stake; thence South about 66° 30' East 153 feet to a stake; thence South 57° 15' West 140 feet to a stake on Greenwood Street; thence with Greenwood Street

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North 36° 30' West 120 feet to the beginning containing 19,200 square feet, more or less. The above described Parcel 2 being identified by the Rockingham County Tax Department as PIN 7070-18-41-2979 and Parcel Number 107312.

PARCEL 3:

TRACT #1:

BEGINNING at an iron pipe the southern corner of New Street or Patterson Street extended at its intersection with Byrd Avenue; thence South 43° 15' West 124 feet with Easterly line of Byrd Avenue to an iron pipe corner with Mrs. Claude Jones Property; thence with said Jones' line Southeasterly 118 feet to an iron pipe near drain ditch corner with Marshall Field and Co. property; thence North 46° 05' East 136.5 feet to an iron pipe in the angle of said New Street; thence North 46° 45' West 118.5 feet with the line of New Street to the POINT OF BEGINNING, all shown on map prepared by E. E. Easley, C.E., dated July 6, 1920, showing the Dunn property. For further reference see Deed dated May 11, 1943, recorded in Book 350, Page 245. SAVE AND EXCEPT a small triangular tract cut from the Northwest rear side and conveyed to Cecil Craddock and wife, Mary L. Craddock in December, 1956.

TRACT #2:

BEGINNING at an iron in West line of Cherry Street (formerly called Patterson Street) marking a common corner between Silver and Craddock and said beginning point being the Northeast corner of that property, acquired by Craddock via Deed Book 364, Page 470, Tract 2, and being located North 27° 38' West 95.8 feet with the West side of Cherry Street from an iron in old Company line marking the Northeast corner of Lot No. 1, Block 44, Glovenia Street Development; thence from said beginning point South 27° 38' East 12 feet to an iron in West line of Cherry Street; thence a new line South 51° 11-1/2' West 64.35 feet to a point in original line between Craddock and Silver; thence with said original line between Craddock and Silver North 41° 10-1/2' East 67.70 feet to THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Containing 378.78 square feet and being a small triangular tract cut from the Northeast side of Cecil Craddock property, and conveyed to Joe Silver, by Deed dated December 20, 1956, recorded in Book 496, Page 75. For further deed reference see Deed recorded in Book 535, Page 402. See also Deed Book 728, Page 221, Rockingham County Registry. SAVE AND EXCEPT ANY PORTION HERETOFORE CONVEYED.

The above described Parcel 3 being identified by the Rockingham County Tax Department as PIN 7070-18-42-4240 and Parcel Number 107376.

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

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND EFFECTIVE, this 20th day of February, 2018.

CITY OF EDEN
BY: Neville Hall, Mayor

ATTEST:
Sheralene S. Thompson,
City Clerk

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A
STATEMENT OF CONSISTENCY REGARDING
A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE
CITY OF EDEN ZONING ORDINANCE
CASE NUMBER Z-17-12
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;

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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 the property known as 614 Irving Avenue from Business-General to Residential-6;

WHEREAS, On January 23, 2018, the City of Eden Planning Board voted to recommend changes to the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To amend the zoning map request to rezone the property known as 614 Irving Avenue by adding adjoining properties identified as Parcel 107312 and Parcel 107376, currently zoned B-C and B-G, and recommend that all the parcels be rezoned to Residential-6.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

The subject parcel is located in an area characterized by retail uses to the north and typical single family parcels to the east, west and south sides. There has been no development pressure in the area. The subject parcel adjoins a single family residence that is split-zoned R-6 and BG to the west. To the south it borders single family residences that are zoned R-6. A vacant lot zoned BC and a single family residence zoned R-6 border to the east. Staff is of the opinion that this request would be appropriate for the subject property because of the character of the area, the lack of business development pressure in the area and there are other Residential-6 properties adjoining the subject property. Therefore, staff recommends that the request be amended to include the adjoining parcels zoned Business-General and Business-Central.

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: Strategically locate new land development in the most appropriate places. Maintain and enhance Eden's community character and heritage. Use infrastructure investments as effectively as possible. Attract new jobs and a more diverse tax base. 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, 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:

The Eden City Council finds that the proposed zoning map amendment, as amended to include two adjoining properties, 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. 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. Therefore, based upon the foregoing information, the amendments to the Zoning Ordinance are reasonable and in the public interest.

Approved and adopted and effective this 20th day of February, 2018.

CITY OF EDEN
BY: Neville Hall, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sheralene S. Thompson,
City Clerk

- b. (1) Consideration of a zoning map amendment to rezone 1130 Friendly Road from Industrial-2 to Industrial-3. Request submitted by John Bolton, Property Owner. ZONING CASE Z-17-06. Kelly Stultz, Director of Planning & Inspections

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- (2) Consideration of a Resolution adopting a statement of consistency regarding the rezoning of 1130 Friendly Road from Industrial-2 to Industrial-3.

Mayor Hall called for a public hearing and asked for Ms. Stultz to come forward.

Ms. Stultz said that a little more than two years earlier when they began to consider intense industrial uses and their impact on the community, the City Council made the decision to create an Industrial-3 zoning district - the heaviest, most noxious, most likely to cause issues with surrounding residential properties of any industrial uses that could be allowed in their jurisdiction. One of the things they did when that district was created was lift out uses they felt should come out of I-2 and go into I-3 and then they addressed the statutory uses for requirements they could allow but could create a special use process for the Council to approve. The I-3 rezoning was a two-step process. First, the Council had to decide if they wanted the property to be zoned I-3. Staff and the Planning Board recommended denial. There was rural residential property surrounding it. At one time the property held a junkyard and then it was converted. Then it went into bankruptcy. Mr. Bolton ended up with it again. During that time, ordinance changes were made. In order to achieve a business of that type there, he had to apply for the rezoning. If Council denied this case, there was no need to hear the special use case.

Mayor Hall said that was Item 7c, and Ms. Stultz replied it was.

Mayor Hall asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor of the rezoning.

Ms. Mary Land, 1116 Friendly Road, said she owned the house next to the property. She was against the rezoning. It was dangerous. They had painted their house twice because red dirt flew when they mashed cars. It was very noisy during the day. She hoped it did not get rezoned.

Mayor Hall asked if anyone else wanted to speak in favor or against the rezoning.

Mr. Joe Maddrey, attorney for Mr. Homer Wright, Jr., an adjoining property owner, read about I-3 that high impact industrial uses were those by their nature that produced high levels of noise, odor, vibrations, fumes, lights, smoke and other impacts upon the lands adjacent to them. Some of the allowable uses under it were chemical manufacturing, coal ash landfills, concrete plants, hazardous waste and recycling. Recycling was part of I-3. The Council had maps of the area and if they looked at the property that abutted it to the north, east, south and west, they were all some type of residential zoning. The only reason the property was zoned I-2, as Ms. Stultz pointed out, was because of the usage at the time in 1979. If not for the usage at the time, it would be zoned residential just like the rest of the area. Across the road and slightly to the north was the Northridge development. If any of them had gone out there, they would see what marvelous changes had been made out there. There were some hundred thousand dollar homes there now. Directly across from this property was part of the larger tract that went with Northridge. Mr. Wright owned all of that. If the item were rezoned to I-3, it was unlikely Mr. Wright would extend any development because of practicality and appraisals. If the property was I-3, it would likely impact the appraisals. Starting at the Summit Road and Friendly Road intersection north, it was the only non-residential property all the way to the Virginia state line. The staff report said that any high intensity industrial use for the property would not be appropriate because it was

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completely surrounded by residential and agricultural uses and its proximity to the watershed. In addition, Friendly Road was not designed for the amount of heavy traffic that would be a part of the business. I-3 was a high impact usage. It was already I-2 and nothing could be done about that. I-3 did not belong in the middle of a residential section.

Council Member Ellis asked Ms. Land how long she had lived on Friendly Road. She replied about 20 years.

Ms. Stultz said that just for clarification, the property that Mr. Wright owned had been Northridge but if they recalled, it was now called Summit Place.

Mayor Hall said it was changing from a lot of the modular to stick built properties.

Ms. Stultz said it was changing from manufactured home and rental lots to stick built homes and the lots being sold with the homes.

Council Member Ellis said 14 new houses had been built in the past few years and Mrs. Stultz replied they continued to build.

Mr. Jeff Burgess, 551 Roundhouse Road, said his family was opposed to the rezoning. They used a well for drinking water. They did not want to hear the noise from the recycling. It would depreciate the value of their property. He asked that the Council deny the request.

A motion was made by Council Member Epps to deny the zoning map amendment to rezone 1130 Friendly Road from Industrial-2 to Industrial-3 and to approve a Resolution adopting a statement of consistency regarding the rezoning of 1130 Friendly Road from Industrial-2 to Industrial-3. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hampton. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A
STATEMENT OF CONSISTENCY REGARDING
A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE
CITY OF EDEN ZONING ORDINANCE
CASE NUMBER Z-17-06
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 the property known as 1130 Friendly Road from Industrial-2 to Industrial-3;

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WHEREAS, On January 23, 2018, the City of Eden Planning Board voted to recommend to the City Council that they deny the rezoning request.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

Staff is recommending denial of the request due to the close proximity to the Smith River WS-IV Watershed and the high intensity industrial uses would not be appropriate for this property in a mainly residential and agricultural area. This property is in an area identified by the City of Eden Land Development Plan Future Land Use Map as Traditional Neighborhood.

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 not consistent with the City of Eden Land Development Plan, and why the City Council considers the proposed amendment is not reasonable and is not in the public's best interest;

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

- 1. The Eden City Council finds that the proposed zoning map amendment to the City of Eden Zoning Ordinance is not consistent with the goals and recommendations of the 2007 City of Eden Land Development Plan, as amended, since the Plan designated the area as a Traditional Neighborhood district.
- 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 amendments to the Zoning Ordinance are not reasonable and is not in the public's best interest.

Approved and adopted and effective this 20th day of February, 2018.

CITY OF EDEN
BY: Neville Hall, Mayor

ATTEST:
Sheralene S. Thompson,
City Clerk

- c. (1) Consideration of a special use permit application to allow Scrap Metal Recycling in the Industrial-3 district on the property at 1130 Friendly Road. Request submitted by John Bolton, Property Owner. SPECIAL USE CASE SU-17-03.
- (2) Consideration of a Resolution adopting a statement of consistency regarding the special use permit application to allow Scrap Metal Recycling at 1130 Friendly Road.

As a result of Item 7b being denied, Item 7c was not heard.

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- d. (1) Consideration of a zoning text amendment request to amend Section 11.29 to add the definition of a Recycling Center and to amend Section 11.26 Board of Adjustment to allow a Recycling Center with a special use permit in Industrial-2. Request submitted by the Planning Board. ZONING CASE Z-17-13.
- (2) Consideration of a Resolution adopting a statement of consistency regarding the zoning text amendment request to amend Section 11.29 to add the definition of a Recycling Center and to amend Section 11.26 Board of Adjustment to allow a Recycling Center with a special use permit in Industrial-2.

Mayor Hall called for a public hearing and asked for Ms. Stultz, Director of Planning and Inspections, to come forward.

Ms. Stultz said when this issue came up, there was a lot of discussion between staff and the Planning Board. At some point, the Planning Board determined that she had recommended in favor of it when in fact she would recommend to deny. She did not think that type of use was appropriate in I-2 nor was it appropriate on the property they had just talked about. In this case, there was no property to talk about, it was simply if Council thought that type of use should be in I-2. If they created a special use process for it and approved that, which she would recommend in denial of, the property owner would have to come in and make application for it and it would then go to the Board of Adjustment. The property owner was trying to sell the property and she did not know whether he was planning to open a business there or not. She recommended that the Council deny this. The Planning Board recommended in favor of it.

Mayor Hall asked if anyone would like to speak in favor or against the item.

Mr. Maddrey spoke on behalf of Mr. Wright. He again read about I-3 that high impact industrial were those by their nature that produced objectionable levels of noise, vibrations, odor, fumes, smoke and anything that impacted adjoining property. I-3 allowed coal ash landfills, flammables and recycling. Recycling was in I-3. The proposed text amendment would allow portions of recycling to slide over into an I-2 district but require a special use permit before a business could be opened up. Recycling constituted a high impact industrial use. It could be sugar coated but recycling was heavy duty. Allowing it applied to all I-2 property, not just the one that happened to be across from Mr. Wright's property. In his opinion, the property owner was trying to make his property as marketable as possible because he had five for sale signs in front of the building. He thought that was the reason it was initiated with the Planning Board. He read from the Dec. 5, 2017 minutes of the Planning Board ... Ms. Stultz gave a staff report that applied to all amendments zoned I-2, not just the property being talked about. There was discussion and questions about the owner and the house next door. The next steps necessary if the Board recommended approval of the amendment were to determine if Mr. Bolton's property met the requirements of the amendment, meant if the Council passed the amendment, Mr. Bolton would go before the Board of Adjustment to do that. The Council had said recycling belonged in I-3. They had given it a lot of thought and they had some serious items set in I-3 and that was one of them. Recycling did not belong in an I-2 district. Even with or without a special use. Even if they did it with a special use and put in safeguards, they still would have recycling in I-2. He would say to them there were other properties in Eden where I-2 abutted residential. He had done a lot of real

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estate work and he knew it impacted appraisals as far as being able to sell the property. He urged the Council to leave recycling in I-3.

As no one else came forward to speak, Mayor Hall declared the public hearing closed.

Council Member Burnette agreed with Mr. Maddrey. The Council went through quite an effort years earlier to set up the I-3 district. They put in there what they believed should be in there in terms of the environment. They made that decision then and he did not see that decision changing. Those conditions that existed in I-3 belonged in I-3. They did not need to come to I-2, special permit or not. That would be his vote.

Council Member Ellis thanked Ms. Stultz for what she did and said he agreed with Council Member Burnette.

A motion was made by Council Member Ellis to deny the zoning text amendment request to amend Section 11.29 to add the definition of a Recycling Center and to amend Section 11.26 Board of Adjustment to allow a Recycling Center with a special use permit in Industrial-2 and to approve a Resolution adopting a statement of consistency regarding the zoning text amendment request to amend Section 11.29 to add the definition of a Recycling Center and to amend Section 11.26 Board of Adjustment to allow a Recycling Center with a special use permit in Industrial-2. Council Member Grogan seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A
STATEMENT OF CONSISTENCY REGARDING
A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE
CITY OF EDEN ZONING ORDINANCE
CASE NUMBER Z-17-13
TEXT 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 initiated a request to create a Special Use Permit procedure for recycling centers in Industrial-2;

WHEREAS, On January 23, 2018, the City of Eden Planning Board voted to recommend changes to the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To amend Section 11.29 to add a definition for Recycling Centers and Section 11.26(c)(3)(c) to allow recycling centers with a special use permit in Industrial-2.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

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This amendment was initiated as a result of a request for a special use permit for a recycling center in the I-2 zoning district.

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 not consistent with the City of Eden Land Development Plan, as amended, and why the City Council considers the proposed amendment to be unreasonable and not in the public’s best 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 not 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 not reasonable and is not in the public’s best interest.

Approved and adopted and effective this 20th day of February, 2018.

CITY OF EDEN
BY: Neville Hall, Mayor

ATTEST:
Sheralene S. Thompson,
City Clerk

REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS:

Tracey Hayes, 642 Highland Park Drive, (had someone giving handouts) thanked the Council for allowing them to speak. There was a tremendous amount of information in the handouts that she could not begin to touch on in three minutes. She worked with a group of volunteers called Humane-ity along with Wanda Stophel, Sheralene Thompson, Brandy Glasgow Reavis and Donna Hopkins. They and their community followers were seeking more clear, less objective, and more aggressive enforcement of ordinances as they pertained to animal welfare. In particular, they were concerned with areas of sheltering, tethering, abuse, neglect, TNR, which was trap and release for feral cats, and spay and neuter. Several communities around Eden, including Winston, Martinsville, Danville, Greensboro, had already started to put those things into effect and it had impacted them tremendously financially. They were saving money going forward with those projects. The North Carolina Department of Agriculture had made funds available to cities,

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municipalities and counties, if they tapped into those. The last time she checked, Rockingham County had not tapped into those. There was about \$155,000 per their tier. She thought Mayodan was the only one that tapped in for \$26,000. They had done a tremendous amount of research into those programs. With the U.S. spending \$2 billion each year to catch, house, euthanize and dispose of 1,500,030 animals at an approximate cost of \$110 per animal, those programs offered a one-time cost and primarily subsidized procedure. Rockingham itself spent last year over half a million dollars euthanizing animals. One female dog could produce 67,000 dogs in six years. One cat could produce 94,000 cats in ten years. If they implemented and took advantage of the money available to them, in five to ten years there would probably be no need for shelters or the suffering of those animals. Her group gladly volunteered to work with Council or any city official to share their research, to educate the community or to assist to bring TNR and better quality of life to the companion animals and spay and neuter to the citizens. As of 2014, the percentage of poverty level in Eden was about 17-18 percent. That was before Miller left, so they did have a lot of needy people in the area who could not afford to spay and neuter their animals.

Brandy Glasgow Reavis, 410 Kuder Street, was part of the Humane-ity group and the go-to cat person of Eden. She had been in rescue most of her life. She tried to help cats in particular because so many people viewed them as vermin. She wanted to touch on TNR. Community cats were unowned, unsocialized and unadoptable. If they were impounded, they were most likely killed. Seventy percent of cats in shelters were killed. For a community cat, that statistic rose to a 100 percent. TNR stabilized cat colonies. Cats were territorial. If you trapped the first kittens in a colony and did TNR, you would likely not have more kittens. TNR improved the lives of the cats. It was cost saving for cities. She thought the City of Eden paid \$65 per cat or dog to go to the shelter. To TNR, the cost was between \$40-\$60 per cat. If a feral colony had a caretaker, they could use software to monitor the colony and they knew what was going on within the colony. TNR was about education. There were a lot of people who just did not understand, who thought they could just put a cat outside and it could survive. That was not the case. Supporting TNR was supporting happy, healthy animals and it helped the community as well controlling rodent populations. There were other counties in North Carolina where TNR was implemented or supported. She had a list she could get to them of those counties. Her group would like some consideration for TNR.

Mayor Hall said the issue had been visited in the past. There was a committee former Council Member Donna Turner served on and research was done. He had spoken with Capt. John Edwards of the police department that day and Capt. Edwards was making contact with other municipalities to find out what they were doing regarding tethering. They were aware of the situations regarding dogs and cats and were working to find a resolution in the best interest of the city and the pets. He thanked them for attending.

Sue Fulcher, 512 Godsey Farm Road, Stoneville, said she had lived in Eden more than 20 years. Whatever they could do for their pets was good for everyone, especially feral cats. It was not just three or four of them supporting the animals, there were probably hundreds in Rockingham County volunteering that no one knew about. They were in the background like she was. They needed to publicly make people aware of the needs of animals, not only dogs and cats but horses or whatever.

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Michael Hutchinson, 612 John Street, wanted to take a few minutes to explain about his previous actions, what he had learned during that process and what he was grateful for as someone who called Eden his hometown. In 2015, he and his wife made the decision to move back to Eden with his wife and two daughters. Shortly after going into debt for the purchase of their home, they were shocked to hear that MillerCoors was closing their Eden facility. He loved to ride his bike and as he rode through various places as he did when he was a child, he did not like what he saw in terms of littering and various properties that were eyesores. His first mistake was getting on social media and running with everything he read. His emotions took over and he was skeptical of his local government because of some things he heard and that he read. He allowed himself to trust without verifying and getting all the facts. Over time, he came to realize several different things. City government was only responsible for so much. Citizens had responsibilities as well and should take pride in their property and community. Social media was not the place for issues to be resolved. Every situation and story had two sides. Talk was cheap. Unless someone got positive and involved, nothing would get accomplished. He told Mayor Hall that he believed he was a good man and he believed Eden was high on his list of priorities. He was grateful for Council Members Carter, Moore, and Hampton who met with him and cared about his questions and concerns and talked with him in an effort to help him. City Manager Corcoran initially met with him and then continued to reach out to him even when he refused. He was very persistent in trying to address his concerns. He had followed up with him on several issues. He had taken corrective action when necessary and had always been responsive to him. Mr. Hutchinson believed Eden was high on Mr. Corcoran's list of priorities as well. He was very grateful to be a resident of Eden. For the past six months he had been working in Winston-Salem and he was so thankful that he could come back to Eden every day. His message to his fellow residents was they could not sit back and expect their local government to fix every issue, they all had jobs to do and they all were accountable. If they saw trash on the ground, they should pick it up. If their neighbor had a mess in their yard, they should ask them to clean it up. They should not be afraid to contact their council representative. They were their voice. They needed to remove the negativity and become positive. They were in this together and must work together and with that said, he did want to apologize for any toes he had stepped on in the last several months. He was sorry. He looked forward to working with each of the Council by doing his part to make a positive difference in his city.

Council Member Ellis said he was proud of Mr. Hutchinson. He had coached him in high school and watched him grow up in Draper. He knew his father. He was proud of what Mr. Hutchinson had said, it was an outstanding statement. He thanked Mr. Hutchinson for it.

Mr. Hutchinson replied that he loved Eden.

Shandolyn Martin, 214 Tanglebrook Trail, said she lived in the county; however, her mother was a resident of the city at 345 E. Harris Place, Harris Pointe Apartments. Her request was that the SKAT bus route be extended to the bottom of that street because there were several residents there that were no longer able to drive. Her mother had just had several surgeries on her eyes and she was still driving, but in the event that she was no longer able to drive and her family was unable to take her, the SKAT bus would allow her and others to ride for a dollar. She realized that the Council on Aging would provide transportation but the majority of the residents there were on fixed incomes. A dollar to two dollars may not mean anything to those in the room because they worked but it made a difference to those on a fixed income. If the extension was allowed, not only

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would it affect Harris Pointe Apartments, two other apartment complexes and one under construction would benefit. It would increase the ridership and give more people the opportunity to get where they needed to go.

Mayor Hall said Mike Dougherty, Director of Economic Development, kept up with the ridership and it was increasing. It was a great service provided at a bargain with their partnership. They were glad to have it and glad people used it. They would love to have it in more places. He was sure it would come down to a logistics issue of whether they could create another stop and whether the ridership was there to justify another stop. They would take that into consideration and get back in touch with Ms. Martin about what their findings were.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Approval of Audit Services Contract for the FY 17-18 audit.

An audit contract and a 3-year proposal was submitted by Rouse, Rouse, Penn & Rouse, LLP for year ending June 30, 2018. The contract amount was \$49,045. If City Personnel completed the items listed in the contract, the amount would be reduced to \$43,555. City Personnel would complete the items listed. This was a 5% increase when compared to what was paid last year - \$41,385. The Rouses and their staff had been doing the City's audit for 37 years. Their love and compassion for the City of Eden was shown in their willingness to assist in any way that they could to make sure the City's finance department operated in the most efficient and effective way to provide accurate financial information. They had always been very faithful and dedicated to the City. The City called on them for assistance with day-to-day questions that came up or for special projects. They never billed for anything extra. It was very nice to know the City had someone they could call anytime, and they always had time for them. If they did have the answer immediately, they never referred the City to someone else. They always took the time to make phone calls on the City's behalf. They looked after the City's best interest in making sure that the City got the answers that they needed. They kept the City updated on Governmental Accounting Standards Board and Internal Revenue updates. They also kept the City updated on any classes/seminars that they felt would be beneficial to the finance staff. Based on their experience and dedication along with the City's longtime desire to do business locally, Ms. McMichael recommended awarding the 17-18 audit contract to Rouse, Rouse, Penn & Rouse

Ms. Tammie McMichael, Director of Finance and Human Resources, explained she was seeking approval for the FY 17-18 Audit Contract.

Council Member Moore asked how long the Rouses had been doing that.

Ms. McMichael replied 37 years.

Council Member Ellis said they did an outstanding job.

Mayor Hall said they provided services beyond what a typical audit contract provided. The Finance Department staff could pick up the phone and call with questions and they helped a lot with that.

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Ms. McMichael replied they did.

Council Member Ellis said they were residents of Eden as well.

Ms. McMichael said they were. They loved Eden. They did not add any additional costs to their contract and the Finance Department called any time they had questions.

Mayor Hall said they did work for many of the municipalities around Eden and had for many years.

A motion was made by Council Member Epps to approve the Audit Services Contract for the FY 17-18 audit. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

- b. Strategic Plan – Request for improvements to the Bridge Street Municipal Parking Lot and funds to complete the Matrimony Creek Greenway.

The City was working on two projects that were identified in the Strategic Plan, the Washington Street Parking Lot and the Matrimony Creek Greenway. The City owned the gravel parking lot on Bridge Street adjacent to Holland & Associates and backed up to the buildings along Washington Street. The estimated cost for paving the parking lot was approximately \$125,000. The Matrimony Creek Greenway was expected to be completed by July 2018. The drawings were completed, the Erosion Control Plan was approved by NCDNR and the land was acquired through donations, easements and acquisition. The project was estimated to cost \$145,000 with \$100,000 being funded by a grant. This request was that City Council allocate \$170,000 from the Strategic Plan fund for the Washington Street parking lot project and to complete the Matrimony Creek Greenway.

Ms. Stultz said the past year had been a big step ahead in planning for Eden. The efforts for the Strategic Plan had been remarkable. At Saturday's Council Retreat, there would be lots of slides and information to show all the good things that had been done in the past year and the good things they wanted to continue to do. In the early '90s, she was involved when the city bought property, including the City Hall building, from Fieldcrest. They also bought the parking lot beside Holland Realtors. The better able they were to provide parking in their downtown areas for merchants, access and shoppers, the better the business areas would do. Business-Central, the district the downtowns were in, did not require on-site parking because the way businesses were constructed there was no means for on-site parking. They had been working on this project a long time. She had tried to get it paved in the '90s. Through some efforts of colleagues, Mr. Dougherty in particular, they had acquired property in and behind some of the structures and they would get easements so they could access the sidewalk on Washington Street from those areas. She thought it was extremely important. It was continued effort toward their Main Street Program. She respectfully asked that they approved the funding.

Johnny Farmer, Director of Parks & Recreation, said about a year prior, a grant had been received from the Duke Energy Foundation for \$100,000 for the Matrimony Creek Greenway. A preliminary budget had been put together then. Since that time, they knew that the project cost was going to be roughly \$145,000. He was asking for \$45,000 from the Strategic Plan funds for the greenway project. A budget amendment had been submitted to and approved by the state. They needed the

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additional funds to move forward. The plans were to have the project completed in the next two to six months.

Council Member Carter asked if \$100,000 was through a grant.

Mr. Farmer answered that it was. The city was putting up about one-third of the cost. They were getting about a quarter of a million dollar project. A lot of the labor would be completed by city staff.

Council Member Burnette said it would be a great addition to the greenway system. He asked if everything on the map they were given was part of Phase 1.

Mr. Farmer said it was not. There were parts of the map that showed Phase 2. Those items would be discussed at the Council Retreat. What they were doing currently was the 1.5 mile along the creek.

Council Member Carter said the money they were requesting was coming out of the money already allotted.

Mr. Farmer answered it was part of the \$300,000 already set aside as Strategic Plan funds.

Council Member Ellis said they had used some of it already.

Ms. Stultz said if they approved the two projects before them, there would be approximately \$22,000 in that fund. She imagined before they got done, some of those monies would be needed for other things.

Council Member Ellis asked how many spots could be put in the parking lot.

Ms. Stultz answered approximately 50.

Council Member Ellis said they had been wanting to do that for a while. He had talked to some other council members and the mayor. His goal was to maybe put a parking deck back there but they did not have that kind of money.

Ms. Stultz said they did not and they did not have kind of traffic yet.

Council Member Ellis said they were looking forward to include The Boulevard, Draper section and The Cook Block, they were stretching the money out so it would go over the whole city. He wanted the citizens to know that. They did not always do things for the same section of town. They were one – they were not three different sections. He was proud to be in Eden. He wanted the citizens to know that and that the Council was striving to do the right thing. It was money well spent. He told Mr. Farmer he thought getting the grant money from Duke Energy was outstanding. He thought it was great for Douglass Elementary.

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Council Member Grogan said it was good to have something new coming on that side of town as well.

Council Member Epps said that he noticed a lot of people using their existing trails, no matter the weather. He had a lot of people compliment the city for providing the trails.

Ms. Stultz said Matrimony Creek trail was like walking in the mountains, it was lovely and a great opportunity for that end of the community.

Mayor Hall said they had talked about connectivity of the greenway since the first greenway was ever thought of about 20 years ago. Greenways were planned a long way out. The two items were proposed as one expense through the strategic plan money.

A motion was made by Council Member Ellis to approve the request for \$170,000 for improvements to the Bridge Street Municipal Parking Lot and to complete the Matrimony Creek Greenway. Council Member Grogan seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

c. Consideration and Adoption of a Resolution of Intent to close an unopened portion of Jackson Street

The City received a request from Robert L. Crouch and wife, Deborah H. Crouch and Zoejo, LLC to close an unopened portion of Jackson Street. A petition, resolution of intent to close a portion of Gilley Road and a map showing the proposed closing was submitted. A motion to adopt a resolution and call a public hearing was in order.

Ms. Stultz said they have sent letters to the utilities. They received information from the engineering staff that should the street be closed, a 20-foot easement be reserved in the right-of-way for the water line.

Mayor Hall said the easement for the water line would just restrict what could be built on it and it was likely to be a driveway, which he thought it may already be.

Ms. Stultz said that and they wanted to put an accessory structure on the property and could not get around the building if the street was still open.

Ms. Debra Madison, Planning Coordinator and Legal Assistant, pointed out that they were voting to adopt a resolution to call a public hearing for the following month.

A motion was made by Council Member Burnette to adopt a Resolution of Intent to Close an Unopened Portion of Jackson Street and call for a public hearing at the next regular council meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hampton. All members voted in favor of the motion.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

a. City Manager's Report – February 2018

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Take Pride in Your Community and Don't Litter

We hate litter! There is absolutely no reason for a civilized place to have an issue with litter, but Eden, like most communities, does. Please help us combat unsightly trash around our beautiful city.

There are a couple of ways you can help:

The North Carolina Department of Transportation has a fantastic program - Swat-A-Litterbug. It's almost impossible for law enforcement to catch someone dumping litter from a vehicle because who in their right mind would roll down a window and throw out a bag with a police officer behind them? With this program, any citizen can report the offending vehicle and NCDOT will take it from there. If you see someone throw out trash from a vehicle, please visit https://www.ncdot.gov/doh/operations/dp_chief_eng/roadside/beautification/Litterbug/ or call 1-877-DOT-4YOU (1-877-368-4968). NCDOT notifies the vehicle owner of the littering offense; informs the vehicle owner of the penalties for littering; and urges the litterbug to stop littering. A formal notification is signed by the Colonel of the N.C. State Highway Patrol. This letter helps educate and remind citizens of their civic responsibility to protect the environment.

Please keep the area around your property clean by picking up trash that lands on or along it. It is frustrating when someone throws out something and it lands in or next to your yard or it blows off the back of a vehicle and gets caught in your ditch. It's not your fault at all, but picking up the litter and disposing of it if you are able is showing your pride in your property, your neighborhood, and best of all, your city.

Thank you in advance for your willingness to help us in our fight against littering.

Strategic Plan Update – Community Informational Meeting

As I have reported previously, Ms. Kelly Stultz, Director of Planning and Inspections has the responsibility of overseeing the implementation of the *Positively Eden* strategic plan. Please be advised that she has scheduled an informational “drop-in” type meeting for the public to receive an update on our efforts to date and future plans, as well as to receive any feedback our citizens may have concerning future initiatives. This “drop-in” type meeting will be held on Thursday, March 1, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the Eden Room of the Eden Municipal Building. One thing we currently plan to focus on during FY 2018-19 is to do something in each of the various areas within our city (Ex. – Draper, Boulevard, Spray, Leaksville, Central, and Highway 14/Kings Highway corridor). Ideally, we hope to get citizen input from interested residents and business owners in each of these areas in terms of specific ideas and suggestions. If you're unable

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to attend, but have some specific thoughts concerning the implementation of the strategic plan, we would ask that you email Ms. Stultz at kstultz@edennc.us.

Annual Retreat

The annual retreat for the Eden City Council and staff will be held on Saturday, February 24th beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the Eden Room of the Eden Municipal Building. The topics to be discussed will include an update on the implementation of the *Positively Eden* strategic plan and a discussion on priorities for FY 2018-19 based on feedback received from the Mayor and each member of City Council. It is anticipated that the agenda for this meeting will be finalized and posted by no later than Wednesday, February 21st.

Economic & Tourism Development Department

Berry Hill Regional Mega Park - Update

The Danville Pittsylvania County Regional Industrial Facilities Authority (RIFA) began acquiring land for the Berry Hill Regional Mega Park in 2001. Through the years, more than \$30 million has been invested in the park. The Virginia Tobacco Commission previously awarded a grant in the amount of \$20 million and an additional \$9.8 million is currently earmarked for the park. The remaining funding has come from RIFA. The total current and proposed park funding is \$39.8 million.

In 2008, the City of Eden explored the idea of providing water and sewer utilities to the Mega Park because of our excess capacity and the fact that we are closer in proximity to the park than Danville. In FY 2011-12, Eden ran a sewer line to the Virginia state line. A wetlands permit to extend the sewer line from the NC state line to the park, and to clear sites to develop and market the park, was sought from the federal agency that regulates such permits. For five years, the agency would not consider the wetlands permit, because they considered this project to be “speculative development”. When smaller sites were proposed, the responsibility for approving this development fell to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality which approved the permit. In the fall of 2016, site development on three pads began at the park.

The marketing for the Mega Park is now beginning since cleared pads are now available for potential prospects to consider. The Berry Hill Regional Mega Park was a finalist for the Toyota-Mazda auto plant project that ultimately went to Alabama due to supply chain benefits in that state. That said, the fact that Berry Hill was considered among more than 300 proposed sites illustrates that this is a site that will attract industrial clients.

Sewer Line Project

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The Mega Park sewer line project was completed in the summer of 2012. Eden's part of the project, working jointly with Virginia agencies, was to build a sewer force main from the Virginia State Line on NC 770 back to the Railroad Pump Station. The Virginia agencies were to build the rest of the sewer force main up to the Mega Park and the sewer pump station that will service the park. This project was financed mostly with a grant from the NC Golden Leaf Foundation. The City will treat the first million gallons per day (MGD) of wastewater from the park and possibly up to three MGD as development continues. This project will eventually provide a new revenue source for the City. Currently, there are still no tenants in the park, and the new sewer force main will remain inactive until prospects are landed. Project Lignum, as previously reported on, is completing its due diligence at the park and could be its first tenant.

Water Line Project

Danville and Henry County built a 750,000 GPD water line for the Mega Park in 2011-12. In August 2015 they accepted a \$2.2 million grant from the Virginia Tobacco Commission for additional water system improvements which included the installation of a 20-inch water line from the North Carolina/Virginia border to the Mega Park where it connected to the existing 16-inch line they previously installed in 2011-12. This is the water line with fire hydrants that runs along Berry Hill Road in Virginia. This line has limited capacity, which is why Eden is in the process of pursuing the infrastructure to supply additional water to the park.

Originally, the City was to build a 30" water line to accommodate the power plant that was being planned by The Southern Company within the Mega Park. That line would have had a capacity of 11 MGD and a projected cost of approximately \$18.489 million to build. Grant funding, low interest loans and the anticipated water sales revenue to The Southern Company would have enabled the City to pay for this water line.

PJM Interconnection is a regional transmission organization (RTO) that coordinates the movement of wholesale electricity in all or parts of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. The late 2017 market conditions in PJM limited Southern Power's ability to execute long-term customer opportunities that aligned with their business model. The decision by The Southern Company was only a reflection of the changing marketplace and not the condition of the Mega Park location. The Southern Company continues to believe this is one of the best places to locate a facility, should market conditions make such a project economically feasible.

Eden is now pursuing a 20" water line that will provide a capacity of 6-7 MGD for the Mega Park customers. This is considered adequate for future needs. It appears that at least 54% of the grant funding that was originally obtained for the 30" line will be transferable to the smaller line. The

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City intends to pursue another grant to help pay the debt service on the remaining 46% of loans that will have to be made to complete the project. The goal is to cover as much of the water line cost as possible with grant and low interest loans, thereby minimizing the burden placed on Eden taxpayers.

Contribution to Capital Project Fund

Finally, the \$1,000,000 contribution to the Capital Project Fund for the Mega Park Water Line Project that is currently included in the FY 2017-18 budget will not be needed and will not be made due to the downsizing of this project. These funds will remain within the Water and Sewer Fund.

Karastan Rug Mill, Division of Mohawk Industries

The Eden mill is the leading aircraft carpet supplier in the U.S. They supply Delta, Southwest Airlines, United, Continental, Jet Blue and Qantas. They also supply Airbus and Boeing directly. A significant percentage of their orders involve plane refurbishment projects.

Gildan Activewear

Gildan has spent \$80 million through its six Eden expansions. Since 2000, they have grown from 200,000 SF to almost 2 million. Currently, they are Eden's largest industrial employer with more than 500 employees at their two facilities.

SKAT Bus

Lack of transportation is often an obstacle to finding employment. Eden has requested the Rockingham County Aging, Transportation and Transit Service (ADTS), which manages the SKAT Bus system, to add a 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. SKAT bus run. This run will make stops in the Eden Industrial areas close to the 7:00 a.m. time when many companies begin their morning shifts. This route change will begin in March of 2018. The 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. route only averaged four people, so it will be eliminated from the daily bus route.

Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust/Get Fit Rockingham

Due to the success of the Get Fit Eden program, it was expanded to the remaining municipalities this year. A \$38,887, two-year grant application was submitted to the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust on Friday, February 9th. The grant would fund the Get Fit Rockingham program for two years in Eden, Reidsville, Wentworth, Madison, Mayodan and Stoneville. A decision on the grant should be made in April of this year.

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Recreational Trails Program Grant

A grant is being pursued to extend the Smith River Greenway to a 1,600 linear foot trail behind Karastan Rug Mill which connects to the Leaksville Landing. Currently, the Smith River Greenway has a path to King's Highway and a sidewalk extends close to the Karastan Rug Mill. A portion of sidewalk and nature trail will be added adjacent to the Karastan property.

Branding Study

The Branding Study funded through the *Positively Eden* Strategic Plan being conducted by Arnett Muldrow & Associates is currently underway. A two-day orientation has taken place with initial stakeholder interviews and site visits. Plans are being made for their second visit to include an Eden community meeting.

Building Rehabilitation Grant

The first Building Rehabilitation Grant for 2018 has been awarded to Brenna Yates of Sweet Revenge Bakery. Her extensive remodel/ expansion is a valuable investment in our Main Street community. Several other business owners are in various stages of completing the BRG application.

Meeting with Congressman Mark Walker

Congressman Mark Walker and some of his staff toured Karastan Rug Mill in late January and then met with Mayor Hall and other city officials to discuss a variety of different issues.

Former Full Moon Salon

The former Full Moon Salon on Monroe Street has been purchased and will soon be rehabilitated. Plans include a new roof before the interior construction begins.

622 Washington Street

Progress on the rehabilitation of 622 Washington Street is moving forward. We received the engineers report and are proceeding with upstairs non-load bearing wall removal. We are pursuing plans for retail/ office space downstairs and residential use upstairs. Roof improvements is a priority as well as the replacement of the back wall. Barring unforeseen issues, it is anticipated that work will be complete in four months.

Fieldcrest Road Pocket Park

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The wet winter weather has slowed progress on the Fieldcrest Road pocket park. Consistent dry days above 40 degrees are needed to complete the painted signage and dry weather is needed to complete the backfill in the park.

Microbrewery on Washington Street

Progress on the development of a microbrewery on Washington Street has resumed. Currently, the plans are for construction to start in the fall of 2018.

“Did You Know” Ads

Our first five “Did You Know” ads are running on WGSR/STAR NEWS. When the project is completed we will have 25 produced. Also, coming soon, will be 3-minute segments featuring our economic development efforts, code enforcement, and other important subjects. This is an effort that is part of *Positively Eden*. You can see the first five “Did You Know” ads now by watching Star News 5 or by following the links below:

<http://bit.ly/2BWLGuK>

<http://bit.ly/2sqYApI>

<http://bit.ly/2F1XGme>

<http://bit.ly/2ClegKM>

<http://bit.ly/2GdTP4N>

Text Message Marketing

We will soon be launching our text message marketing effort to better inform our citizens about upcoming meetings, involvement opportunities, event information and so much more. Anyone interested in receiving the information should email your text number to Cindy Adams at cadams@edennc.us or call 336-612-8049. As an alternative, you can text us with your name and the fact that you would like to **opt in** at 336-552-6132 and we can get your number via the text. **Citizens have to opt in. No one will just be added to the list.** This will be a great way to stay informed, but we promise not to overload you with text messages.

Tune in to watch “A Few Minutes with the Mayor”

Spend 15 minutes with Mayor Neville Hall on Star News 5 as this show airs live at 6:15 p.m. the last Thursday of each month.

We have an e-newsletter!

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You can get information about upcoming local events by email through our monthly Explore Downtown newsletter. If you want to subscribe, please send your email address to godowntown@edennc.us.

2018 Major Event Dates

Mark your calendars now! We have a fun line-up of 6 major events slated to take place in 2018. They are the following:

- May 12 Oink & Ale
- June 2 Piedmont Pottery Festival
- July 21 Shaggin’ on Fieldcrest
- August 9 Grown & Gathered
- August 25 Touch-A-Truck
- Sept. 14 & 15 RiverFest

Watch www.ExploreEdenNC.com and our Explore Eden Facebook page for other small events such as “Movies Under the Stars”, Downtown Events and so much more!

Eden Downtown Development Corporation

The Eden Downtown Development Corporation met to discuss future meeting agenda formats to streamline discussion. NC Main Street conference attendees were confirmed for March 13-15 in Clayton, NC.

Boulevard Merchant’s Association

The Boulevard Merchant’s Association is planning a food truck rodeo Saturday, April 21st and a multi-cultural festival to be held Saturday, August 11th.

Engineering Department

Street Resurfacing Projects - Update

The street list for the FY 2018-19 Street Resurfacing Contract has been finalized based on funding of approximately \$500,000. If additional funding is approved during the budget process, the street list will be revised accordingly. This contract is scheduled to go out for bid in March.

NCDOT has informed us that the state roads on their 2018-19 resurfacing schedule will not be resurfaced until the spring of 2019 based on information provided by their contractor. They originally thought this work would be completed sometime this summer.

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Waterline Replacement Projects Update

Crews from Sam W. Smith, Inc. installed an additional 160 feet of 6” ductile iron water main along W. Arbor Lane, and were able to install about 423 feet of 2” schedule 80 PVC water main along the east side of Wildflower Lane. All the newly installed water mains were pressure tested on the last day of January, before being chlorinated and flushed. Due to the rainy weather, the crews have not been able to complete the process of making new water taps and switching customers over to the new water mains.

Sam W. Smith, Inc. has been awarded the Sunset Drive 2” Waterline Replacement project. About 800 feet of 6” ductile iron pipe is to be installed here in the Grand Oaks subdivision between Conover Drive and Knollwood Drive.

Fire Department

Community Outreach Effort

The Eden Fire Department conducted a station tour with fifty-five students from Douglas Elementary School on February 9th. The students watched fire safety videos explaining the importance of EDITH, which stands for (exit drill in the home) and how it should be practiced with each member of the home. Each student was reminded of the Eden Fire Department smoke detector program – if their home is not equipped with one, call or come by one of the stations and the City will provide them one free of charge. In addition, the students received an in-depth tour of the station, including the sleeping quarters, kitchen and living area. Each one of the fire apparatus including the command vehicles was shown along with the capabilities of each. A turn out gear demonstration was also done to show what each piece is designed for and how it protects firefighters from being burned or injured.

Expansion of Training Grounds

The City of Eden has secured a tract of land from the Rockingham County School Board. The land is located behind Station 4 on East Stadium Drive. The City acquired the land in exchange for a 1987 model fire truck that was decommissioned and taken out of service. The fire truck will be used in the high school firefighter program that is being taught at Rockingham High School. The land is in the process of being cleared and will be used to further expand the training grounds behind the fire station. The fire department kicked off its fund raising efforts in the month of December for the burn building to be built behind station 4 on E. Stadium Drive. Pine State Group located on New Street donated \$4,570.00 to go toward the construction. This will be a state of the art building, which will give firefighters live fire training in a controlled environment. The building will not only give live fire training, search and rescue, ventilation, and a large variety of

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other training opportunities can be utilized in the building. The Eden Fire Department is very excited about the fund raising efforts to try and achieve this excellent training facility.

Information Technology Department

Helpdesk Ticket System

The IT Department is in the process of rolling out a helpdesk ticket system. We have chosen Spiceworks as the vendor. In addition to the ticket system, Spiceworks also performs network based inventories of connected devices, servers, computers and installed software. This will allow us to closely track software, hardware, and network problems over time. Spiceworks trend analysis will then be able to highlight problem points allowing us to identify failing systems before they start impacting productivity. And best of all, Spiceworks is free! The only cost is the time invested in setup and configuration of the Spiceworks server.

Parks & Recreation Department

Community Accents Program

Staff participated in the Community Accents Program with WLOE radio on February 9th and will be participating in additional broadcasts on February 17th, and March 9th. We use these opportunities to update our residents and others about the Parks and Recreation programs that are happening during the months of February and March.

Dixie Youth Baseball State Meeting

Staff attended the NC Dixie Youth Baseball State meetings on January 19th and 20th and provided attendees with information about the NC Dixie Youth Baseball Ozone State Tournament that will be held in Eden at Freedom Park on July 13-20, 2018.

Be Healthy Rockingham County

Staff continues to be involved with Be Healthy Rockingham. They attended the Be Healthy Rockingham meeting on January 16th and will attend the next meeting that is scheduled for February 20th.

Dog Park - Update

The Mayor and City Council approved the construction of the Freedom Park Dog Park at its October 17, 2017 city Council meeting as part of the Eden Strategic Plan. The cost for this facility will be approximately \$35,000. The fencing has been installed at the Freedom Park Dog Park and

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the water fountains have been delivered. As soon as the area dries, City staff is planning to install the water lines. The trash cans and benches should be delivered to the in the next several weeks. This project is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2018.

Freedom Park Nature Trail and Improvements - Update

Members of staff met at the Freedom Park Nature Trail and discussed the improvements that will be made that include additional stone and granite dust, additional picnic tables, and the installation of 10 RV pads. City Staff began applying new stone and granite dust on the nature trail at the end of January and laid out the RV pads. This project is scheduled to be completed by the spring of 2018.

Matrimony Creek Greenway - Update

The Matrimony Creek project is moving forward. The City Attorney continues to work on completing all the easement property transfers to the city and should have the easements completed soon. Work on the parking lot and trail areas will begin as soon as the weather permits. Bids are being sought for the restroom construction. When these quotes come in, we will choose a qualified bidder and then proceed to construction.

Planning & Inspections Department

Code Enforcement

We have collected \$ 8,857.49 since our last report. Staff will continue to monitor the Register of Deeds' on-line website for property transfers and search for property owners that have relocated using the Lexis-Nexus program that was purchased. Attorney letters for collection were sent to two property owners informing them that we intend to foreclosure on their property unless their accounts were paid in full.

Positively Eden Strategic Plan Steering Committee Meeting

The steering committee for the *Positively Eden* Strategic Plan met on Friday February 9th. During this meeting, the committee members received a progress report and update concerning our efforts at implementing the plan and proposed projects and goals for the rest of this fiscal year and the next one beginning July 1, 2018. This same information will be shared with the City Council during their retreat on February 24th and then with the public at the informational meeting scheduled for March 1st.

Ashton Way Apartments

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Wynnefield Development has officially purchased the property on E. Harris Place from Osborne Investments and anticipates beginning construction on the Ashton Way Apartments in the near future.

Police Department

Internal Interviews & Promotions

The newly created Downtown Officer position closed. Interviews were conducted and School Resource Officer Jim Robertson, a twenty-year member of the Eden Police Department was selected to assume the role of Downtown Officer. As a result of his selection, Robertson's current position as Elementary SRO was advertised within the department. On Monday, February 12th, interviews were held with the individuals expressing an interest in filling this vacant SRO position. An announcement concerning the selection of the new SRO will be made in the near future. In the meantime, Congratulations to Jim Robertson on his new position!

On February 14th, interviews were held with the individuals expressing an interest in filling the vacant Sergeant positions within the department. These interviews will involve selecting two new patrol sergeants, one new criminal sergeant and one new special operations sergeant. The criminal investigative sergeant is currently vacant due to David Lamberth's promotion to Lieutenant of Criminal Investigations. The sergeant of special operations will be effective upon the retirement of Lieutenant Richie Jeffries, which is tentatively set as May 1, 2018. Sergeant Paul Moore will assume the responsibilities as Lieutenant of A Squad on March 1, 2018 replacing Lieutenant Tim Harbour whose retirement is effective March 1, 2018. Anthony Welch will assume his duties as Lieutenant of B Squad on April 1, 2018 replacing Lieutenant David Martin whose retirement is effective April 1, 2018. An announcement concerning the selection of the new Sergeants will be made in the near future.

At the conclusion of the interviews and promotions for the current vacant Sergeant positions we will advertise internally for the four detective vacancies as a result of the promotions.

Currently, there are three applicants in the final stages of the hiring process for full time police officer positions and one applicant is in the final stage for a reserve officer position with the Eden Police Department. The hiring process for each of these individuals should be finalized by the second week in March, at the latest.

Public Utilities Department

Meadow Greens and Covenant Branch Pump Stations Force Main Relief Project – Update

The Meadow Greens and Covenant Branch Pump Stations Force Main Relief project is designed to enhance capacity and increase redundancy of the Covenant Branch and Meadow Greens Pump Stations by building additional connections for each pump station to the Railroad Force Main at an

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estimated cost of \$566,600. This project allows for backup reliability should the Covenant Branch Pump Station Force Main fail. It will also allow the Meadow Greens Pump Station flow to be diverted in the event of a Meadow Greens force main failure or a problem at the Junction Pump Station. It builds in flexibility to avoid situations that can lead to Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs). This project has reached substantial completion with only punch list items left to finish. This project was funded by a North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) Water Infrastructure Section HUC grant for \$534,800 and a matching City contribution of \$31,800. In the future, this project will provide operational flexibility, redundancy, and lessen the potential for SSOs in our wastewater collection system.

The New Street Sewer Improvements Project - Update

The owners of the MGM Warehouse property have formally asked that the city provide sewer to their warehouse facilities on New Street. This is due to the inoperable condition of the old Fieldcrest Mills wastewater treatment plant on the MGM property. Because this property is in the City, we are obligated to provide sewer service to this property. The city staff developed a scope of work where we plan to develop a pumping station on the property of adequate size to handle the MGM workforce operations, Gildan's workforce operations, prepare for limited growth on the adjacent potential industries development sites, and consolidate the Weil McLain pump station into the new larger pumping station.

The city staff began working to securing a funding source for this project late last summer. A funding application was submitted to the North Carolina Department of Commerce in October of 2017 and the city was formally notified in December of 2017 that the project had been funded with a \$997,000 grant. Design work on the project is being initiated and construction should begin in early summer.

EPA AOC and Mandatory Projects to Stop Sanitary Sewer Overflows – Update

Our design work on each project in our remediation plan has been started by our consulting engineers, W. K. Dickson, and is currently on schedule for submittal by May 1, 2018. Our design and plan specifications will be submitted to the Water Infrastructure Section of NC DENR where it will be reviewed for approval. Approval of the design and specifications is expected by November 1, 2018, and the bidding process will follow shortly thereafter.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approval and Adoption of Minutes: January 16, 2018.

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- b. Consideration and adoption of Language Access Plan for compliance with Title VI for the Community Development Block Grants.

A copy of this Plan is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

- c. Traffic study to reduce the speed on Morgan Road through the Cook Block.

The Police Department received a traffic study request from Council Member Jerry Ellis in reference to changing the speed limit on Morgan Road from Lee Street to Fraker Place.

In 1980, the Eden City Council enacted an ordinance designating the speed limit on Morgan Road from Lee Street to Fraker Place as 20 MPH. In recent months, the NCDOT indicated that the 20 MPH speed limit was not authorized through that department. This created a discrepancy in that the actual speed limit in this location is the state mandated speed limit of 35 MPH. However, through speaking with a NCDOT representative, a 25 MPH speed limit for Morgan Road from Lee Street to Fraker Place was a speed likely to be authorized by the NCDOT for a state maintained road in this location.

The Police Department's recommendation is that the speed limit for Morgan Road from Lee Street to Fraker Place be reduced from 35 MPH to 25 MPH.

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE SPEED LIMIT ON MORGAN ROAD
FROM THE INTERSECTION OF LEE STREET TO THE INTERSECTION OF FRAKER PLACE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL of the City of Eden, North Carolina, pursuant to authority granted by N.C.G.S. § 20-141(f) that:

Section 1 – The City Council of the City of Eden has determined that operation of a motor vehicle 35 miles per hour on SR 3004 (Morgan Road) from Lee Street northward to Fraker Place is greater than is reasonable and safe under the conditions existing upon SR 3004 (Morgan Road) from Lee Street northward to Fraker Place.

Section 2 – It shall be an infraction to operate a motor vehicle on SR 3004 (Morgan Road) from Lee Street northward to Fraker Place in excess of twenty –five (25) miles per hour.

Section 3 – Signs shall be placed, erected or installed on each side of SR 3004 (Morgan Road) from Lee Street northward to Fraker Place giving notice of the speed limit to traffic traveling in each direction on said SR 3004 (Morgan Road) from Lee Street northward to Fraker Place.

Section 4 – The OFFICIAL TRAFFIC MAP of the City of Eden is hereby amended to conform with this Ordinance.

Section 5 – All ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND EFECTIVE, this 20th day of February, 2018.

CITY OF EDEN
By Neville Hall, Mayor

ATTEST:
Sheralene Thompson, City Clerk

(Pending an Ordinance from NCDOT to change the speed limit)

- d. Resolution in support of ¼ cent local option sales tax.

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RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A ¼ CENT SALES TAX FOR ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly has authorized County Boards of Commissioners across the State of North Carolina to levy a one-quarter of one cent (25% of one penny) county sales and use tax, contingent on an advisory referendum in which the majority of those casting ballots in the County vote for the levy of the tax; and

WHEREAS, the City of Eden supports a new economic development vision for its citizens and businesses by enabling Rockingham Community College to invest in a modern workforce development training facility and other future capital needs, new programs, state of the art training and equipment, and initiatives in recruitment and retention of a trained and skilled workforce; and

WHEREAS, an optional ¼ cent sales tax, if passed would be paid by residents and nonresidents, lessening the burden on all county property tax owners: and

WHEREAS, in order to adequately address both immediate and future needs of Rockingham Community College, existing financial resources are inadequate and it is necessary that a new revenue stream be created; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of a ¼ cent local option sales tax (excluding gasoline, prescription medication and non-prepared foods (groceries) is anticipated to generate \$1.8 million in revenue per year in Rockingham County, which would be the equivalent of approximately 2.41 cents in county tax revenue; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eden City Council hereby supports the ¼ cent sales tax that will be placed on the May 8, 2018 primary election ballot for its potential to help transform the current Rockingham Community College workforce training program to better serve Eden’s citizens and provide its students a better future in the local workplace.

Adopted this 20th day of February, 2018

CITY OF EDEN
BY: Neville Hall, Mayor

ATTEST:
Sheralene S. Thompson,
City Clerk

- e. Resolution regarding the designation of an official to make recommendations to the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission on ABC permit applications.

Retired Police Chief Reece Pyrtle is currently listed as the official to make recommendations to the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission on ABC Permit Applications. In order to list current Police Chief Greg Light as the official to make recommendations to the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission on ABC Permit Applications, the resolution must be approved by City Council. This line has been left blank on the attached resolution to ensure that this matter will not have to come before council whenever a new chief is appointed in the future.

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**NORTH CAROLINA
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL COMMISSION**

(919) 779-0700

Location: 400 E. Tryon Road
Raleigh, NC 27610

Mail: 4307 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4307

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF EDEN, COUNTY OF ROCKINGHAM, REGARDING THE DESIGNATION OF AN OFFICIAL TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NORTH CAROLINA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL COMMISSION ON ABC PERMIT APPLICATIONS.

WHEREAS G.S.18B-904(f) authorizes a governing body to designate an official, by name or by position, to make recommendations concerning the suitability of persons or locations for ABC permits; and

WHEREAS the City of EDEN, County of ROCKINGHAM, wishes to notify the NC ABC Commission of its designation as required by G.S.18B-904(f);

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that _____, POLICE CHIEF,
(Name of Official) (Title or Position)

is hereby designated to notify the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission of the recommendations of the City of EDEN, County of ROCKINGHAM, regarding the suitability of persons and locations for ABC permits within its jurisdiction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT notices to the City of EDEN, County of ROCKINGHAM, should be mailed or delivered to the official designated above at the following address:

Mailing address: 308-B East Stadium Drive
Office location: 308-B East Stadium Drive

City: EDEN, NC
Zip Code: 27288 Phone #: 336-623-9687

This the _____ day of _____, 20____.

(Mayor/Chairman)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the _____ day of _____, 20____.

(Clerk)

g. Acceptance and agreement of land donation.

The City of Eden has been awarded a \$997,000 grant from North Carolina Commerce Rural Infrastructure Authority for the New Street Sewer Improvements. In pursuit of the New Street Sewer Improvements, City Staff has had discussions with Eden Real Estate Associates, LLC regarding the donation of approximately 25 acres of the Eden Real Estate Property consisting of a wastewater treatment plant and additional acreage adjacent thereto. This property would be the site of a new larger pump station that will be the focal point of the sewer improvements at the end of New Street serving the property formerly known as the “MGM property” and adjacent properties in the area. The former MGM Property is now being leased and occupied by Gildan and also used for warehousing. Eden Real Estate Associates, LLC has requested the City’s acceptance of the donation and agreement prior to making the donation. The agreement includes the City’s agreement to pay for the cost of an appraisal, attorneys’ fees associated with this transaction and survey fees. Staff recommends that Council approve the acceptance and agreement of the land donation and to authorize Staff to proceed with any action, legal or otherwise, to facilitate this donation.

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A motion was made by Council Member Burnette to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Moore. All members voted in favor of the motion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Hall said the city had recently lost a 95-year-old resident. He was contacted by one of her grandchildren and asked to share if he could that Mother Christine Broadnax Wilson was born in Rockingham County on April 18, 1922. She passed away Jan. 23, 2018. She was employed at Hatley’s Laundry, Quality Cleaners and Stoneville Furniture Factory from which she retired. Mother Wilson was a member of the Only Way Church of Christ. As the oldest Mother, she was very loving, outspoken, charitable, never met a stranger, and all that became acquainted with her loved her. She left to cherish her memories 11 children, 21 grandchildren, 38 great-grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, family and numerous friends. The city lost a great resident.

Mayor Hall reminded everyone that the annual Council Budget Retreat would be held Saturday in the Eden Room. Department heads would present information about budget priorities for the following year. They were all thinking of the city manager and his wife as she recovered and wished the city attorney a speedy recovery as well.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by unanimous consent to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheralene Thompson, MMC, NCMC
City Clerk

ATTEST:

Neville Hall
Mayor