

CITY OF EDEN, N. C.

The regular meeting of the City Council, City of Eden, was held on Tuesday, March 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
	Jerry Ellis
	Sylvia Grogan
City Manager:	Brad Corcoran
City Clerk:	Sheralene Thompson
City Attorney:	Erin Gilley
Deputy City Clerk: (absent)	Deanna Hunt

Representatives from Departments:
News 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 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:

Rev. Linda Nye, of The Church of the Epiphany, gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Fire Chief Tommy Underwood.

RECOGNITIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:

a. Mitchell's Drug 50th Anniversary

Economic Development Director Mike Dougherty said that Russ Mitchell purchased his first Eden store from Chandler Drug in 1968. Currently, 19 people were employed by Mitchell's Drug. Mr. Mitchell was a big supporter of the community. He had been a long-time member of the Eden Chamber of Commerce. Each year he sponsored the Leaksville Night-Time Christmas Parade Santa float. He was a member of the National Federation of Independent Businesses. Mr. Dougherty said Eden was fortunate to have Mitchell's in Eden. Mr. Dougherty congratulated Mr. Mitchell on 50 years of business and wished him 50 more.

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Mayor Hall presented Mr. Mitchell with a plaque.

Mr. Mitchell wanted to thank the community. First, he thanked the Lord for sending him to the community. He thanked the city and the people for being so good to them. He did not expect to live that long so he thanked God. He introduced his daughter Kim and son-in-law Tommy, the store's managers.

Mayor Hall congratulated Mr. Mitchell on 50 years in business. It was a tremendous accomplishment.

SET MEETING AGENDA:

Mayor Hall said that staff requested two items be removed from the agenda: 10a and 14 – the closed session. A motion was made by Council Member Hampton to set the agenda. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- a. Consideration of a request and adoption of an ordinance to close an unopened portion of Jackson Street. CASE SC-17-02.

Mayor Hall declared the public hearing open and asked Director of Planning and Inspections Kelly Stultz to come forward.

Ms. Stultz said a request had been received to close a portion of Jackson Street between Eden Drug and what used to be the Atkinson building, now owned by Eden Drug. A petition signed by all the property owners was submitted. The only objection raised was by the City to ask that a 20-foot utility easement be reserved in the right-of-way. Based on all the information they received, staff recommended closing that portion of Jackson Street.

Council Member Burnette said he understood they had approval from Duke Energy but some of the other utilities did not respond. He asked if that was normal.

Ms. Stultz said if the utilities did not have anything on the property, they did not tell the City that. They just did not respond.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Ellis to adopt an ordinance to close an unopened portion of Jackson Street. Council Member Carter seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

AN ORDINANCE AND ORDER
TO CLOSE AN UNOPENED PORTION OF JACKSON STREET

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WHEREAS, on the 30th day of November, 2017, Zoejo, LLC and Robert L. Crouch and wife, Deborah H. Crouch filed a petition, by the terms of which they requested that an unopened portion of Jackson Street be closed pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 13, Division 3 of the Eden City Code and North Carolina General Statutes §160A-299; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Eden, did on the 20th day of February, 2018, at its regular monthly meeting adopt a Resolution of Intent to Close An Unopened Portion of Jackson Street calling for a public hearing to be held; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Eden, did on the 20th day of February, 2018, at its regular monthly meeting, schedule a public hearing to be held on the 20th day of March, 2018, and requested a recommendation of the Planning Board on said closing; and

WHEREAS, the required legal notice was published in the Eden News on the 21st and 28th day of February, 2018, and on the 7th and 14th day of March, 2018, and copies were sent to the property owners as required by law on the 5th day of March, 2018, and a copies were posted on the 6th day of March, 2018, as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board in its regular meeting on February 20, 2018, recommended to the City Council that said unopened portion of Jackson Street be closed; and

WHEREAS, the public hearing was held at the regular monthly meeting of the City Council on the 20th day of March, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the evidence offered at the public hearing did not establish that the closing would be detrimental to the public interest or would deprive an individual or entity owning property in the vicinity thereof of reasonable means of ingress and regress to and from his property; and

WHEREAS, it appears to the satisfaction of and it is determined by the City Council of the City of Eden from the Petition and other evidence submitted at said hearing that:

Zoejo, LLC and Robert L. Crouch and wife, Deborah H. Crouch, are the owners of the property on each side of the portion of Jackson Street which is to be closed.

That said Jackson Street is not under the control or supervision of the Department of Transportation.

That the closing of a portion of Jackson Street is not contrary to the public interest and that no individual or entity owning property in the vicinity thereof will thereby be deprived of reasonable means of ingress and regress to or from his property.

That upon the closing of an unopened portion of Jackson Street, all right, title and interest therein shall be conclusively presumed to be vested in Zoejo, LLC and Robert L. Crouch and wife, Deborah H. Crouch, the owners of the lots or parcels of land adjacent thereto.

That it appears that the provisions of the Eden City Code and the North Carolina General Statutes have been complied with fully in this matter.

That said unopened portion of Jackson Street should be closed as requested.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Eden, that the following described portion of Jackson Street in the City of Eden be and the same is hereby closed, said portion of Jackson Street being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point marking the northeast intersection of West Stadium Drive and Jackson Street, said point being the southwest corner of Lot 1, Section E of Irvin River Heights as shown on map entitled "Irvin River Heights, Sections A thru E" recorded in Map Book 11, page 27; thence with the west line of Lot 1, North 14 deg. 23 min.

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West 239.24 feet to the corner for Lots 1 and 2, Section E, Irvin River Heights; thence South 75 deg. 37 min. West to the west right of way line of Jackson Street, a corner for Lots 27 and 28, Section D, Irvin River Heights; thence with the west right of way line of Jackson Street, South 14 deg. 23 min. East to the north right of way line of West Stadium Drive; thence with the north right of way line of West Stadium Drive South 76 deg. 17 min. West to the POINT OF BEGINNING, the same being an unopened portion of Jackson Street. The above described portion of Jackson Street being the identical portion of Jackson Street described in the Resolution of Intent adopted the 20th day of February, 2018.

The above described portion of Jackson Street is closed **SUBJECT TO** a waterline easement hereby reserved to the City of Eden twenty (20) feet in width, ten (10) feet on either side of the centerline of the street being closed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in the event there is no appeal from the adoption of this Ordinance and Order within thirty (30) days of the date hereof as provided by law, a certified copy of this Ordinance and Order shall be recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Rockingham County, North Carolina.

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

CITY OF EDEN
BY: Neville Hall, Mayor

ATTEST: SHERALENE THOMPSON, City Clerk

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

I, SHERALENE THOMPSON, Clerk of the City of Eden, North Carolina, do hereby certify that the foregoing instrument is a true, correct and complete copy of an Ordinance and Order To Close An Unopened Portion of Jackson Street that was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Eden, at a regular meeting of said City Council duly convened and held on the 20th day of March, 2018, as appears upon the minutes of said meeting.

I do further certify that due notice of said meeting was given pursuant to the provisions of Section 160A-299 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, and further that due notice was given that any person aggrieved by such Resolution and Order had the right to appeal therefrom within thirty (30) days to the Superior Court of Rockingham County, and that no such appeal was filed within the time specified.

WITNESS my hand and the corporate seal of the said City of Eden, North Carolina, this the _____ day of _____, 2018.

SHERALENE THOMPSON
Clerk of the City of Eden, North Carolina

[SEAL]

- b. (1) Consideration of a zoning text amendment request and adoption of an Ordinance to amend Section 11.26(c)(3)(c)(5) to make changes to the home occupations requirements to permit some uses to be undertaken in a building other than the residence and to allow major home occupations in all residential districts. Request submitted by Victor Cestari. ZONING CASE Z-18-01.
- (2) Consideration of a Resolution adopting a statement of consistency regarding the amendment of Section 11.26(c)(3)(c)(5) to make changes to the home occupations requirements to permit some uses to be undertaken in a building

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other than the residence and to allow major home occupations in all residential districts.

Mayor Hall declared the public hearing open and asked Ms. Stultz to come forward.

Ms. Stultz said across the country, the nature of home occupations had begun to change in the last 20 years. When they thought about the City's history, Dr. Matthews had always had his doctor's office in his house. They had lawyers with offices in their houses. There were times people had woodworking shops in their garages and the City discovered them and told the people they had to stop using them. It was her recommendation that they extend those abilities so that people could use their properties more creatively. Additionally, in the 1990s, a decision was made to not allow major home occupations in R-20, R-12S, R-6S and R-4. That was not supported by staff then and was not now. It made no sense that someone could not run an office out of their house when someone in another residential zone could when they had the same impact. Based on all that information, staff recommended that the ordinance be amended to allow home occupations in all residential districts and to allow major ones in all residential districts upon receipt of the special use permit.

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

Mr. Victor Cestari, 980 Westerly Park Road, said he was planning to have an antique shop at the back of his property on 17 acres of land. He had plenty of parking, including a big field for additional parking if needed. He did not expect a crowd but there was plenty of room. They were far away from their neighbors. They had moved from Massachusetts to Eden five years before. Their dreams were to move South and get away from the snow and to open a small antique shop.

Ms. Stultz said to remember that should the Council approve the text amendment, Mr. Cestari would still have to go before the Board of Adjustment and make his case to get a special use permit to operate the business.

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

Council Member Burnette asked Ms. Stultz what major home occupations were.

Ms. Stultz replied they were home occupations other than minor home occupations that had the potential to adversely affect residential areas. They should be reviewed and permitted by special use permit. Home occupations were permitted in all residential districts including O&I. This was the draft proposed to the Council. The reason those kinds of home occupations would need to be brought before the Board of Adjustment was they would not necessarily allow them in a residential district. There would have to be special circumstances and that was indeed what a special use permit was – special permission to do something they otherwise could not do.

Council Member Burnette said with that permit they would take into consideration traffic and parking and such.

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Ms. Stultz said all of those things would be taken into account in the staff recommendation and in the permit that might or might not be issued by the Board of Adjustment. Equally if the Board was of the opinion that the property was not large enough, etc., they would deny the request.

Council Member Moore asked if anyone from the City had been to the site.

Ms. Stultz said she had but they were not talking about that site – it would go before the Board of Adjustment later.

As there was no further discussion, Mayor Hall declared the public hearing closed.

A motion was made by Council Member Burnette to adopt an Ordinance to amend Section 11.26(c)(3)(c)(5) to make changes to the home occupations requirements to permit some uses to be undertaken in a building other than the residence and to allow major home occupations in all residential districts and Consideration of a Resolution adopting a statement of consistency regarding the amendment of Section 11.26(c)(3)(c)(5) to make changes to the home occupations requirements to permit some uses to be undertaken in a building other than the residence and to allow major home occupations in all residential districts. Council Member Grogan seconded the motion. 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, Section 11.26 (c)(3)(c)(5) is amended to read as follows:

(5) HOME OCCUPATIONS - Home occupations, other than minor home occupations, have the potential to adversely affect residential areas and shall be reviewed and permitted by special use permit. Home occupations are permitted in all residential districts including O & I. In addition to any other requirements with respect to the Petition authorized in this Section, the Petition shall set forth the following:

(1) The special use shall not be a prohibited home occupation. The following uses by the nature of the investment or operation have a tendency once started to rapidly increase beyond the limits permitted for home occupations and are more suited for office or commercial districts, where permitted. Therefore, the uses specified below shall not be permitted as home occupations:

Appliance repair (i.e., major appliances).

Dry cleaning and laundry plants/pick-up stations.

Extermination services.

Funeral homes.

Massage parlors.

Medical or dental clinics and laboratories.

Motor vehicle related operations (e.g., car washes, repair service, body work).

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Private clubs.

Rental service establishments.

Restaurants, bars, nightclubs.

Retail sales establishments not including antique sales or the sale of arts or crafts made onsite.

Tattoo parlors.

Taxi stands.

Tow truck services.

Veterinary uses shall only be allowed in Residential Suburban. Pet grooming or boarding shall be allowed in all other residential districts upon receipt of a special use permit.

Welding or machine shops.

- (2) The home occupation shall be clearly incidental and secondary to the use of the dwelling for residential purposes.
- (3) The home occupation must be conducted by a resident of the dwelling unit.
- (4) The gross floor area attributed to the home occupation shall not be greater than 40 percent of the total gross floor area of the dwelling if conducted inside the primary residence or it shall be conducted in an accessory structure that meets all other applicable land use requirements for accessory structures and building code requirements for the use requested.
- (5) There shall be no change in the exterior appearance of the dwelling or premises or any visible evidence of the conduct of a home occupation, provided that one non-illuminated sign may be permitted provided it does not exceed 4 square feet in area. The sign message shall only indicate the name of the occupant or home occupation and the occupation performed. The sign must comply with the provisions of Section 11.31, Signs, of this ordinance.
- (6) No display or merchandise, goods or other commodities shall be visible from outside the dwelling unit or the accessory structure.
- (7) A home occupation shall not create a substantial increase in vehicle or pedestrian traffic.
- (8) No more than one (1) vehicle shall be utilized in the home occupation. Furthermore, the home occupation shall not involve the use or storage of tractor trailers, semi-trucks, or heavy equipment such as construction equipment used in the occupation. One (1) commercial vehicle may be permitted on the lot provided it does not exceed 2 tons rated capacity.
- (9) There shall be no outside operations, open display, or open storage of materials or products used in the home occupation.
- (10) No home occupation shall create objectionable noise, fumes, dust, or electrical interference.
- (11) No process or materials shall be used or stored on site that is hazardous to the public, health, safety, morals, or general welfare.

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- (12) The home occupation shall provide additional off-street parking reasonably adequate to accommodate needs created by the home occupation. To this extent, the application for a home occupation shall provide a plan for any additional parking required, which shall be approved if:
 - (i) The residential character of the lot is not changed, and
 - (ii) The parking area does not detract from the visual appearance of the dwelling.
- (13) The home occupation shall not involve the retail sale of merchandise manufactured off the premises, except as otherwise permitted, provided that products related directly to the service performed may be sold, (e.g., beauty products in a beauty salon), further provided that sales orders for items made by telephone or at sales parties may be picked up by customers.
- (14) In order to guarantee that a home occupation, once permitted, will not become a nuisance to the neighbors or otherwise violate these standards, the Board of Adjustment may impose reasonable conditions necessary to protect the public health, safety, morals and general welfare.

The Board of Adjustment shall, prior to the issuance of a Special Use Permit for a home occupation, find that such special use meets the following standards:

- (a) That the special use is not a prohibited home occupation.
- (b) The home occupation shall be clearly incidental and secondary to the use of the dwelling for residential purposes.
- (c) The home occupation must be conducted by a resident of the dwelling unit.
- (d) The gross floor area attributed to the home occupation shall not be greater than 40 percent of the total gross floor area of the dwelling if conducted inside the primary residence or it shall be conducted in an accessory structure that meets all other applicable land use requirements for accessory structures and building code requirements for the use requested.
- (e) There shall be no change in the exterior appearance of the dwelling or premises or any visible evidence of the conduct of a home occupation, provided that one non-illuminated sign may be permitted provided it does not exceed 4 square feet in area. The sign message shall only indicate the name of the occupant or home occupation and the occupation performed. The sign must comply with the provisions of Section 11.31, Signs, of this ordinance.
- (f) No display of merchandise, goods or other commodities shall be visible from outside the dwelling unit.
- (g) A home occupation shall not create a substantial increase in vehicle or pedestrian traffic.
- (h) No more than one (1) vehicle shall be utilized in the home occupation. Furthermore, the home occupation shall not involve the use or storage of tractor trailers, semi-trucks, or heavy equipment such as construction equipment used in the occupation. One (1) commercial vehicle may be permitted on the lot provided it does not exceed 2 tons rated capacity.
- (i) There shall be no outside operations, open display, or open storage of materials or products used in the home occupation.
- (j) No home occupation shall create objectionable noise, fumes, dust, or electrical interference.
- (k) No process or materials shall be used or stored on site that is hazardous to the public, health, safety, morals, or general welfare.

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- (l) The home occupation shall provide additional off-street parking reasonably adequate to accommodate needs created by the home occupation. To this extent, the application for a home occupation shall provide a plan for any additional parking required, which shall be approved if:
 - (i) The residential character of the lot is not changed, and
 - (ii) The parking area does not detract from the visual appearance of the dwelling.
- (m) The home occupation shall not involve the retail sale of merchandise manufactured off the premises, except as otherwise permitted, provided that products related directly to the service performed may be sold, (e.g., beauty products in a beauty salon), further provided that sales orders for items made by telephone or at sales parties may be picked up by customers.
- (n) In order to guarantee that a home occupation, once permitted, will not become a nuisance to the neighbors or otherwise violate these standards, the Board of Adjustment may impose reasonable conditions necessary to protect the public health, safety, morals and general welfare.

Upon finding that the Petitioner meets the foregoing standards, the Board of Adjustment shall issue to the Petitioner a Special Use Permit for the home occupation.

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

CITY OF EDEN
BY: Neville Hall, Mayor

ATTEST: Sheralene Thompson, City Clerk

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A
STATEMENT OF CONSISTENCY REGARDING
A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE
CITY OF EDEN ZONING ORDINANCE
CASE NUMBER Z-18-01
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 received a request to amend Section 11.26(c)(3)(c)(5) to make changes to the home occupations requirements to permit some uses to be undertaken in a building other than the residence and to allow major home occupations in all residential districts.
- WHEREAS, On February 20, 2018, the City of Eden Planning Board voted to recommend approval of the requested changes to the Zoning Ordinance.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

Staff is of the opinion that making the regulation of home based businesses more flexible will permit our citizens more opportunity to become entrepreneurs and make our local economy more secure.

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:

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- 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 interest.

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

CITY OF EDEN
BY: Neville Hall, Mayor

ATTEST: Sheralene S. Thompson, City Clerk

- c. Approval and adoption of a resolution in support of a grant application to the 2018 Recreational Trails Program, part of the N.C. Division of Parks & Recreation.

Mayor Hall declared the public hearing open and asked Mr. Dougherty to come forward.

Mr. Dougherty said the trail would run from Leaksville Landing, continue behind the Karastan Rug Mill, and end at Bridge Street. Karastan was in favor of it as their employees would use it.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Burnette to adopt a resolution in support of a grant application to the 2018 Recreational Trails Program. Council Member Ellis seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION TO THE 2018 RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM

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WHEREAS, The North Carolina State Trails program administered by the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation is tasked with distributing funds from the 2018 Recreational Trails Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Eden has applied for funds for the Dan River Nature Trail; and

WHEREAS, in order to receive funds the City of Eden is required to provide a 25% match, or \$6,000 to the requested \$24,000; and

WHEREAS, the 1,600 linear feet of 6- foot wide natural surface at \$15.00 per linear foot will cost \$24,000 paid for by the grant, with 700 feet of sidewalk added by the City of Eden as its match; and

WHEREAS, this matching funding will be provided from the City of Eden 2018-19 general fund;

THEREFORE, I, Neville Hall, Mayor of Eden and City Council resolve to support the application to the 2018 Recreational Trails Program and provide the 25% match from its 2018-19 general fund.

Adopted this the 20th day of March, 2018

BY: Neville Hall, Mayor

ATTEST: Sheralene Thompson, City Clerk

REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS:

There were none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Consideration of Adopting an Ordinance to establish a Cross Connection Control Program.

This item was pulled from the agenda.

- b. Request for the City Council to ask the City Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of an annexation petition for property located at 343 Wilshire Drive.

Ms. Stultz said they were all familiar with Summit Place, which used to be Northridge. The developers of Northridge had recently purchased the property in question. It was not annexed at the time the rest of the subdivision was and the owners would like it to be annexed and included in the PUD zone.

A motion was made by Council Member Ellis to ask the City Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of an annexation petition for property located at 343 Wilshire Drive. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CLERK TO INVESTIGATE

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A PETITION RECEIVED UNDER N.C.G.S. 160A-58.1

WHEREAS, a Petition requesting annexation of a lot described in said Petition were received on February 14, 2018, by the City Council of the City of Eden; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 160A-58.2 provides that the sufficiency of the Petition shall be investigated by the City Clerk before further annexation proceedings may take place; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Eden deems it advisable to proceed in response to these requests for annexation:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Eden that:

The City Clerk is hereby directed to investigate the sufficiency of the above described Petitions and to certify as soon as possible to the City Council the result of her investigation.

This the 20th day of March, 2018.

CITY OF EDEN
BY: Neville Hall, Mayor

ATTEST: Sheralene Thompson, City Clerk

- c. Consideration of an Ordinance Amending the City of Eden Code of Ordinances pertaining to the sale of alcoholic beverages before noon on Sundays at licensed premises.

Mr. Dougherty said at the last session of the General Assembly they approved the bill which allowed sales of alcoholic beverages to begin at 10 a.m. on Sundays. Since that time, 127 cities had approved it including Reidsville and Yanceyville. When he checked with Reidsville, there were no negative issues pertaining to the ordinance change.

A motion was by Council Member Grogan to amend the City of Eden Code of Ordinances pertaining to the sale of alcoholic beverages before noon on Sundays at licensed premises. Council Member Burnette seconded the motion. Council Members Grogan, Burnette, Ellis, Moore, Carter and Hampton voted in favor of the motion. Council Member Epps voted against the motion. The motion carried.

- d. Consideration of a Contract to redesign the waterline to serve the Berry Hill Industrial Park.

Mr. Dougherty said everyone was aware the design changed the previous year. Currently, they were working with Dewberry doing the design for the project. There were several grants pending. The Pittsylvania County Service Authority was working on a resolution confirming they would use Eden for their water supply. One part of the agreement said two-thirds of the water would come from Eden and the third part would come from their existing water line. He expected to have a signed contract and agreement in 60 days. Because of the timing of the grants, they needed to move forward with the design of the line.

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Mayor Hall said it had become a time sensitive issue with the grants and the potential for those to time out if they did not move forward.

City Attorney Erin Gilley said that she had put before the Council a legal wording revision to the agreement, stating that the choice of law would be North Carolina and not Virginia. The jurisdiction would be Rockingham County and North Carolina. If a motion was made to approve, it needed to be for the revised agreement.

Council Member Burnette said that one-third of the water would come from Danville and two-thirds from Eden but they did have a maximum come from Danville. Looking to the future, that would be capped.

Mayor Hall said he was talking about the first 750,000 gallons. He said it was originally negotiated that they would have everything about 750 but they have come back and said they would like the City to help with the first 750, so there was even more of an urgency to be in place when a user was there. It would begin to be used earlier in the development than they had originally thought.

A motion was made by Council Member Epps to approve the revised contract to redesign the waterline to serve the Berry Hill Industrial Park. Council Member Carter seconded the motion. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

- a. City Manager's Report – March 2018

Recap – Annual Retreat

The annual retreat for the Eden City Council was held on Saturday, Feb. 24. Based on information submitted by the Mayor and each member of City Council some priority themes emerged for the upcoming FY 2018-19 budget. The themes include:

- Economic Development Initiatives
- Parks & Recreation Initiatives
- Infrastructure Improvement Initiatives
- Continued Implementation of the *Positively Eden* Strategic Plan
- Code Enforcement & Nuisance Abatement Initiatives
- Attempting to Maintain Tax & Water/Sewer Rates

A copy of the agenda for that meeting as well as the various presentations made throughout the day can be found on the City's website at <https://www.edennc.us/> as follows: Click on Documents & Forms at the bottom of the screen. Then click on City Government, followed by Eden City Council Meetings, followed by Eden City Council Meeting Agendas, followed by 2018 Eden City

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Council Agendas, followed by February 24, 2018 Budget Retreat. Copies of the presentations (271 slides in all) can be accessed under the Budget Retreat Combined tab.

Recap – Strategic Plan Update – Community Informational Meeting

On March 1, the City hosted an informational “drop-in” type meeting concerning implementation efforts related to the *Positively Eden* strategic plan. This was an opportunity 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 related to the plan. This meeting was well attended and the feedback the City received from those in attendance was very positive. If you were unable to attend, but have some specific thoughts concerning the implementation of the strategic plan, we would ask that you email Ms. Kelly Stultz, Director of Planning and Inspections, at kstultz@edennc.us.

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.

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Economic & Tourism Development Department

MillerCoors – Update

Two new companies have either toured or made inquiries about the Eden facility. This is in addition to the project that has been considering the facility since July of 2017.

Economic Development Partnership of NC (EDPNC)

On March 1, the Rockingham County Economic Development Department hosted an event in which the Piedmont Triad counties exhibited their county buildings and sites in a “speed dating” scenario in which the EDPNC project managers spent ten minutes at each county table learning about their assets. This enabled local economic developers (including Eden) to inform them of what is available and happening in Eden, Reidsville and Western Rockingham. It is clear that considerable interest remains in the Eden MillerCoors brewery.

North Carolina Opportunity Zones

The recent federal tax bill resulted in opportunity zones based on census tracts in each state. The zones will allow investors to get a significant break on capital gains taxes. Eden submitted census tract #402 that includes New Street and two green field sites. If selected as an opportunity zone, it will help attract investment to these locations.

CTT Productions

An Eden economic development video was completed by CTT Productions in early March. The video features UNC Rockingham Healthcare President Dana Weston; Gildan VP of Wholesale Distribution Nick Freitag; Karastan Plant Manager Darin Quesinberry; and Millis Transport Eden Terminal Manager Mark Wyatt. They speak of the benefits of operating a business/industry in Eden. This video will be placed on the City website to help promote the community. Most companies or site consultants learn about a community online before they ever make a contact with local economic development officials.

¼ Cent Sales Tax Initiative

As you may be aware, the Eden City Council adopted a resolution in support of the proposed ¼ cent sales tax that will be a referendum on the May 8, 2018 Primary election ballot. The funding generated from this tax will be used to build a state of the art workforce training center at RCC. Local companies continue to tell economic development and city officials that they need skilled workers whether it is in manufacturing, distribution or healthcare. As of March 3, there were 909 available jobs in Rockingham County, but many of those jobs require skills that our local

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workforce does not have. More than 10,000 jobs remain open in the Piedmont Triad because workers do not have the skills to fill them.

It is important to note that this tax **will not** be on groceries, gasoline or prescription drugs. It is a small tax of only a ¼ cent on a \$1.00 purchase, or a penny on a \$4.00 purchase. It is also important to note that everyone pays this - renters, visitors and county citizens. No one wants higher taxes, but unless we invest in training facilities, our children will be not qualified for good paying jobs and a brighter future.

Project B – Commercial Prospect

A local retailer is seeking a larger space in which to operate. The City is working with the company facilitating the expansion for potential sites.

Lidl – Update

Interior construction on the Lidl Supermarket was supposed to resume in early February of this year. That process has been postponed. The City is in constant contact with the Lidl Real Estate Department. The latest news is that the City will be informed of the construction date within a few weeks. More information will be provided in this report or on Facebook when it is acquired.

Lidl embarked on a very difficult task of entering the U.S. market, building a distribution center and opening 37 stores within a year. Although all of us are disappointed that the store has not opened yet, it is understandable that they have faced several obstacles along the way. Most existing grocery retailers would not embark on such an ambitious task, let alone one that had just entered a new market.

Cirrus Construction

Their new Highway 14 facility, located north of Cox Street, will be open in some capacity in April of this year.

Herman’s Gift Shop

Herman’s announced it was going out of business several months ago. They now have a sign that the business is under new management. Herman’s is located at 804 N. Van Buren Road just past the Highway 14/Aiken Road intersection.

Recreational Trails Program Grant

The City of Eden has applied for a \$24,000 Recreational Trails Program Grant to help fund the Dan River Nature Trail. This trail will consist of a 1,600 linear foot trail running from the

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Leaksville Landing River Access Point to Bridge Street. This will connect with the King's Highway sidewalk and extend the existing Smith River Greenway.

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

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.

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Water Line Project

Danville and Henry County built a 750,000 GPD water line for the Mega Park and surrounding areas 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 would connect 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 at a projected cost of approximately \$7.067 million to build. 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 City intends to pursue other grant opportunities to help reduce the amount of loans that will be needed to fund this project. The goal is to cover as much of the water line cost as possible with grants, thereby minimizing the burden placed on Eden taxpayers. The design and engineering work for this water line project will be getting underway within the next few weeks.

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

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made due to the downsizing of this project. These funds will remain within the Water and Sewer Fund.

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 and study focus meetings are being held on March 20, 21 and 22. In addition, a survey was created and made available to the public for their input. This survey can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/edenbrand>.

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 are a priority as well as the replacement of the back wall. Barring unforeseen issues, it is anticipated that work will be complete by the end of June.

Fieldcrest Road Pocket Park

The wet winter weather has slowed progress on the Fieldcrest Road pocket park. The painting of the signage has been completed and dry weather is needed to complete the backfill in the park. A U.S. Forestry Urban grant is being pursued to assist with the funding of this initiative.

EDDI

The Rockingham County Community Foundation approved a request to spend remaining bike rack grand fund to promote the project. A television commercial will be produced as well as advertisements on the Skat bus and print ads in Eden's Own Journal.

NC Main Street Conference

Eight Eden staff and business owners attended the 2018 NC Main Street conference in Clayton in March. Ashley and Seth Latham of Ashley Latham Photography were honored as 2017 Main Street Champions for their work in renovating three vacant buildings into a photography studio and beauty salon.

"Did You Know" Ads

The second set of five "Did You Know" ads – can be viewed at https://youtu.be/Q5_fhAMbDZs - and are now running on WGSR/STAR NEWS. When the project is completed we will have 25

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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 ten “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>

https://youtu.be/Q5_fhAMbDZs

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

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

We have an e-newsletter!

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!

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Fine Arts Festival

The Fine Arts Festival will be held at Eden City Hall again this year. The first take in for literature, music and poetry is set for March 22 from 2 to 6:30. The second take in for all other entries will be April 3 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eden Tourism will host the reception after the Awards Ceremony on Sunday, April 15.

Rivers & Trails

A lot of exciting things are happening with Rivers & Trails. The following are some dates to remember:

- March 19 – Belews Park Plan will be presented to the County Commissioners at their 6:30 p.m. meeting
- April 13 – Piedmont Trails Summit at RCC
- May 20 – NC NICA Championship Race at Farris Park

The Eden Rivers & Trails Group meets the last Wednesday of every month at Eden City Hall at 3:30 p.m. in the front conference room.

Piedmont Pottery Festival

Our 16th Annual Pottery Festival is set for Saturday, June 2. Applications for potters are available at City Hall or at www.ExploreEdenNC.com.

Fiesta In The Park

Eden Tourism has once again received a Grassroots Grant from the Rockingham County Arts Council to conduct our second Annual Fiesta in the Park with all the fifth-graders in our four elementary schools. The date is set for Tuesday, May 8 from noon to 2 p.m. at City Hall in the John E. Grogan Park.

Facebook

Please join our Explore Eden Facebook page to stay up to date on all the exciting things happening in Eden!

Engineering Department

Street Resurfacing Projects - Update

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The FY 2018-19 Street Resurfacing Contract No. 1 was released for bid on March 8. The scope of work consists of the repair and resurfacing of 19 street sections with a total of 15,801 linear feet or 2.99 miles. The resurfacing is to include the adjustment of 92 water and sewer structures; 40 tons of Patching at a depth of 4 inches; 3,696 square yards of Asphalt Pavement Milling at a depth of 0 to 1½ inches; 1,736 square yards of Asphalt Pavement Milling at a depth of 0 to 2½ inches; 2,843 square yards of Asphalt Pavement Milling at a depth of 2 inches; 33,919 square yards of Asphalt Surface Treatment, Mat Coat, #78 Stone; 5 tons of Asphalt Concrete Leveling Course; 3,381 tons of Asphalt Concrete Surface Course (Type NC S9.5B Virgin Mix) for resurfacing at a depth of 1¼ inches and 203 tons of Incidental Stone Base. The bid opening is scheduled for Tuesday, April 3 at 11 a.m. in the front conference room at Eden City Hall and the work will be initiated at some point after July 1 – the effective date of the FY 2018-19 budget and fiscal year.

Also, we are pleased to report that NCDOT has awarded a contract to APAC Atlantic, Inc. to resurface NC 14/NC 87 from Cox Street to the Virginia state line. The availability for this contract is April 2. The completion date is Nov. 2.

Waterline Replacement Projects Update

Crews from Sam W. Smith, Inc. were able to complete making water service reconnections along W. Arbor Lane and Wildflower Lane on Feb. 15, which allowed them to abandon the original thin-walled PVC water mains within the project area the next day. The patching crew was able to place about 15 tons of intermediate mix asphalt on Feb. 27, but poor weather conditions have not allowed any additional patching to be completed since that point in time.

A notice to proceed was issued to Sam W. Smith, Inc., with a commencement date of March 5, for the Sunset Drive 2” Waterline Replacement project. The date of completion for the project is set for May 15. The base bid price for the project is \$104,662.

Plans prepared by Alley, Williams, Carmen, & King, Inc. for the Jackson Street and Farrell Street Waterline Replacement project were sent to the NC Public Water Supply Section for review on Feb. 27. Notifications with links to the plans and bid documents were sent to area utility contractors on March 6 for a bid opening set for 2 p.m., Thursday, March 29 in the main conference room in City Hall.

Information Technology Department

Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)

If you're worried about your financial accounts or social media sites getting hacked, the best thing you can do protect yourself is turn on two-factor authentication.

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Two-factor authentication (2FA), sometimes referred to as two-factor identification, is an additional layer of protection beyond your password. It significantly decreases the risk of a hacker accessing your online accounts by combining your password (something you know) with a second factor, like your mobile phone (something you have). Even if a hacker has your username and password, they still would not be able to access your accounts. Many of the world's largest websites have made 2FA readily available from the security settings of your online accounts, but it's up to you to turn on this free feature.

How you access and turn on 2FA is different for every site or service you use. Telesign has put together a website with tutorials on how to turn on 2FA for specific applications, online services, and social media. <https://www.turnon2fa.com/>

You can find tutorials on some of the more popular sites and services here:

<https://www.turnon2fa.com/tutorials/>

The IT Department recommends using Authy as the second factor app. It's available free for both iOS and Android.

Authy for iOS (iPhone, iPad, and Mac)

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/authy/id494168017>

Authy for Android

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.authy.authy>

Google Authenticator is also a popular choice for 2FA. It's also available for both iOS and Android.

Google Authenticator for iOS (iPhone, iPad, and Mac)

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/google-authenticator/id388497605?mt=8>

Google Authenticator for Android

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.authenticator2>

Municipal Services Department

Dash Cameras On Refuse Collection Trucks

The City of Eden has recently installed dash cameras on the refuse collection trucks to improve efficiency and safety for the citizens as well as to document situations where refuse collection cans may or may not be out for collection when the truck arrives for collection.

Parks & Recreation Department

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Community Accents Program & Parks & Recreation Radio Program

Staff participated in the Community Accents Program with WLOE (Wonderful Land of Eden) radio on March 9, the Parks & Recreation Radio Program with WLOE on March 28, and the Community Accents Program with WLOE on April 13 to update residents about the programs being offered by the Department during March and April.

Community Outreach Efforts

Staff will make a presentation to the Eden Garden Club about the Matrimony Creek Greenway Project on April 3.

Staff attended and presented information at the City of Eden Strategic Plan public informational meeting that was held on March 1 as it related to issues involving recreation and health.

Opening Ceremonies of Senior Games

The Opening Ceremonies of Senior Games will take place on April 17. For more information on the Senior Games please contact Johnny Farmer, Director of Parks & Recreation, at jfarmer@edennc.us.

Softball Tournaments - Upcoming

There are softball tournaments scheduled at Freedom Park on April 7 - 8, and April 14 -15.

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest

There was a Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest at the Mill Avenue Gym on Feb. 27.

Be Healthy Rockingham County

Staff continues to be involved with Be Healthy Rockingham. They attended the Be Healthy Rockingham meeting on Feb. 20 and March 20.

Dog Park - Update

The fencing has been installed at the Freedom Park Dog Park and the water fountains, trashcans and benches have all been delivered. As soon as the area dries, City staff is planning to install the water lines. Once the water lines are installed and the water fountains, trashcans and benches are in place, the Freedom Park Dog Park can open. This project is scheduled for completion in April.

Matrimony Creek Greenway - Update

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The Matrimony Creek project is moving forward. Staff has started clearing the Greenway area and installing stone and continues as the weather permits. The parking area and restroom location have been staked out and work will begin in this area as the weather improves. A purchase order is being issued for the restroom construction, and work should begin on this within the next few weeks. Staff has requested a budget amendment and extension to July 20 for the completion for this project, and both have been approved. The City Council approved an allocation of \$45,000 at their Feb. 20 City Council meeting from the *Positively Eden* strategic plan fund account to fully fund this project.

Freedom Park Nature Trail and Improvements - Update

City staff has finished applying news stone and granite dust on the natural trail at Freedom Park and have laid out the RV pads and are in the process of applying rock and stone to the pad areas. Purchase orders have been issued for the water and sewer connections and for the electrical connections. This project will be completed by the spring.

Planning & Inspections Department

Collections – Previous & Proposed

Monthly statements were mailed to all property owners having an outstanding balance due to the City. In addition, we will follow-up on any title transfers or foreclosures.

Code Enforcement – Previous & Proposed

Fourteen notices have been mailed by certified mail and first class mail; one for a miscellaneous violation, one for a zoning violation, 10 for junk violations and two complaints and Notice of Hearing were mailed for violation of the Minimum Housing Code. In addition, we will follow up on all violations that have expired deadlines.

GIS – Previous & Proposed

Staff provided maps to staff members that were requested. In addition, we continue to work on updating our data with the Census Bureau. This is a lengthy process requiring us to compare our information with their GIS data shapefiles.

Historic Preservation Commission

The Historic Preservation Commission met on Feb. 26. The main item of discussion was about the First Baptist Church proposed steeple replacement. The steeple ordered (and received) to replace the current steeple is a “generic” steeple that does not conform to the historical integrity of

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the church building. Commission members (and church members) are upset about this. The commission has sent a letter to the church asking the church to reconsider their decision. Letters have also been sent from the Eden Preservation Society and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has also been consulted. It should be noted that the Historic Preservation Commission does not have any jurisdiction over this matter, however they still felt it was their duty to try to preserve the historic integrity of this building, which is on the National Register.

Strategic Planning Commission

Staff is drafting an ordinance to create the Strategic Planning Commission and the rules of procedure for the same. This material will be presented to the Planning Board in March. In addition, staff has been working on coordinating and sponsoring a developer's stakeholders meeting as outlined in the Strategic Plan.

Community Appearance Commission

The Community Appearance Commission met on March 6. During this meeting they discussed plans for improvements to the small park in Draper (corner of Stadium and Fieldcrest). Merchants and the property owner have been consulted and are in favor of the project. Mr. Paul Dishmon, Director of Municipal Services, has been asked to develop a cost estimate and to see if city crews can do the work. The Community Appearance Award for March was awarded to 5 Star Realty on Washington Street. Unfortunately, only three members were present for this meeting, and this was the case last month as well. If members continue to be absent it is difficult for the Commission to accomplish anything substantial.

Planning Board

Fasil Khan has applied for a mixed-use planned development rezoning for the Spray Cotton Mill complex, not including the Mercantile Building which will be considered by the Planning Board in March.

Sign Ordinance Revisions

Staff is working on revisions to the sign ordinance. The Community Appearance Commission has reviewed and made recommendations and the proposed ordinance will be presented to the Planning Board in April.

Urban Forestry Grant – Draper Pocket Park

Staff is working on a grant application for the Draper Pocket Park on the former Stratton property in Draper.

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Ashton Way Apartments

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

Eden Makes The 2018 Safest Cities in North Carolina List

The National Council for Home Safety and Security has released its 2018 Safest Cities in North Carolina List, which can be viewed in its entirety at <https://www.alarms.org/safest-cities-in-north-carolina-2018/>. You will note that Eden is ranked 31 on the list with 5.28 violent crimes and 36.95 property crimes per 1,000 inhabitants. To identify the safest cities in North Carolina the most recent FBI Uniform Crime Report statistics were reviewed. The violent crimes would include: aggravated assault, murder, rape, and robbery) and the property crimes would include: burglary, arson, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft). Congratulations to the members of our Police Department who work diligently in their service to our community.

Internal Interviews, Promotions & New Hires

On Feb. 14, interviews were held with the individuals expressing an interest in filling the vacant Sergeant positions within the department. Officer David Stepps and Detective Daniel Abbruscato were selected to fill the two patrol sergeant positions. Sergeant Stepps was assigned to "A" Squad effective Feb. 28. Detective Abbruscato will be assigned to "B" Squad effective April 6. Detective Brian Disher was selected to assume the role of sergeant in criminal investigations. Sergeant Disher was reassigned to sergeant of criminal investigations on Feb. 14 - this position was effective immediately due to the position being vacant. Detective Sam Reid was selected for the Special Operations/Narcotics Sergeant. The effective date of the promotion for Sam Reid will be finalized in the near future pending the retirement date of Lieutenant Richie Jeffries.

As a result of the promotions and the addition of the new COPS grant position assigned to the detective unit, four detective vacancies were created. Chief Light posted the vacancies internally on Feb. 15. The internal posting closed on Feb. 26 at 4 p.m. Chief Light scheduled interviews for March 8. The interview panel interviewed eight applicants for the vacant detective positions. At the conclusion of the interviews, Brandon Buckner, Josh Roberts, Tyson Scales and Eric Worley were selected to fill the vacancies in the detective unit. The effective dates of lateral transfer will be finalized in the upcoming weeks.

There will be some realignment of the Administrative Division. The Deputy Chief will oversee operations of the Patrol and Investigations Divisions. Duties will include management of these

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divisions and will include assigning and managing department training and certifications as well as fleet vehicle assignment. The Administrative Captain will oversee the Administrative Sergeant and other Support Personnel. This position will directly supervise all School Resource Officers, the Downtown District Officer and Records personnel. Duties of the Administrative Captain will also include extra duty/special duty assignments, grant writing, records, DCI administrator, purchasing, and policy review/writing. The Administrative Sergeant will directly supervise Animal Control Officers. Responsibilities of the Administrative Sergeant will include being the primary property and evidence custodian (to include in-car and body cam video evidence), patrol and detective equipment selection and maintenance (to include camera systems, radios, etc.), uniform and safety equipment needs, and fingerprint card review and Live Scan device administrator. The Downtown District Officer will become the secondary evidence custodian. Please understand, this is not a job description for these positions. It is a realignment of assigned duties to each position to make our department operate more efficiently for our day-to-day operations.

Currently, there are three applicants in the final stages of the hiring process for full-time police officer positions and one applicant in the final stage for a reserve officer position with the Eden Police Department.

Public Utilities Department

2017 Water Quality Report

The 2017 Water Quality Report was recently distributed to the customers of the City of Eden Water Filtration Plant. The Water Quality Report contains information from the EPA, information on the source water and ways to protect it. Also included is some of the testing that has been done by the water plant staff during the past year to insure a safe and pleasant quality to the water that leaves the plant and is pumped into the distribution system. Customers may see members of the Water Plant staff throughout the distribution system testing to insure the standards are maintained within the entire system. A copy of the 2017 Water Quality Report can be found at:

<https://www.edennc.us/DocumentCenter/View/10316>

The New Street Sewer Improvements Project - Update

The owners of the MGM Warehouse property 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

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potential industrial development sites, and consolidate the Weil McLain pump station into the new larger pumping station. This new pump station will improve efficiency while expanding sewer services in this area.

The city staff began working to secure 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 from the North Carolina Commerce Rural Infrastructure Authority. Design work on the project is currently underway and construction should begin in early summer with completion expected in the early to late fall of this year.

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

This EPA Administrative Order on Consent project includes over \$33,725,000 worth of sewer improvements that will be completed in the next four years. This project is funded with a \$16,660,000 principle forgiveness grant, a \$15,000,000 zero percent interest loan and \$2,056,600 from the City of Eden. This undertaking is a massive project that will see sewer line improvements in virtually every corner of the City. The engineering design work is now over 50 percent complete and submittals for approval will be made during the early summer this year with construction expected to begin in early 2019. Construction to complete the needed work will then be ongoing through mid- to late 2021. e anticipate that the EPA AOC will be completely satisfied by the five-year deadline of its issuance date of April 22, 2017 – April 22, 2022.

Mayor Hall said the report was very informative and answered a lot of questions. It was available to anyone in the city. He appreciated the city manager's and department head's work in getting the information prepared.

Council Member Burnette said it addressed rumors as well.

Council Member Grogan said she encouraged anyone in the public to read it. It was available and answered a lot of questions.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approval and Adoption of February 20, 2018 and February 24, 2018 Minutes.
- b. Consideration and approval of the final development plan for Summit Place, Phase 3, a Planned Unit Development located on Wilshire Drive. ZONING CASE Z-12-01.
- c. Consideration of Knuckle Boom Truck Financing for 5 years.

Minutes of the regular March 20, 2018 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

On January 16, 2018, City Council approved the purchase of a new knuckle boom truck for the Solid Waste department to be financed for a 5-year term. On February 23, 2018, Assistant Finance Director Amy Winn requested bids from local banks for the financing and received the following quotes:

BB&T	3.19%
Carter Bank & Trust	2.74%
United Financial (Home Trust)	2.04%

The lowest quote was from United Financial at 2.04%. The first payment would not be due until next fiscal year (2018-2019) and the annual payments will be \$30,920.94 for five years. Ms. Winn respectfully asked that Council approved United Financial (Home Trust) as the successful bid.

d. Approval and Adoption of Budget Amendment 1.

The City of Eden received a grant from the North Carolina Community Foundation for the extension of the Smith River Greenway parking lot in fiscal year 2016-2017; however, the project was not completed during this budget year and the funds were transferred to the General Fund fund balance. The attached budget amendment appropriates the grant funds for this project from Fund Balance Appropriated to the Economic and Tourism Department budget.

	Account #	From	To	Amount
General Fund Revenues				
Fund Balance Appropriated	10-3991-99100	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	<u>\$ 15,000.00</u>
General Fund Expenditures				
Econ Dev C/O Land Improvements	10-4135-54000	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	<u>\$ 15,000.00</u>

Appropriates grant funds received for the Smith River Greenway Parking Lot extension.

Adopted and effective this 20th day of March, 2018.

Attest:

Sheralene Thompson, City Clerk

Neville Hall, Mayor

e. Approval and Adoption of Budget Amendment 2.

During fiscal year 2017-2018, three events (Riverfest, Oink & Ale, and Shaggin' on Fieldcrest) that had been accounted for through the Downtown Development Corporation are now being accounted for in the city's financial statements. The attached budget amendment appropriates the revenue that was transferred to the city's account to the specific line items in the Economic Development & Tourism budget.

Minutes of the regular March 20, 2018 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

	Account #	From	To	Amount
General Fund Revenues				
Riverfest	10-3350-02100	\$ -	\$ 44,000.00	\$ 44,000.00
Oink & Ale Festival	10-3350-02200	\$ -	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,100.00
Shaggin' on Fieldcrest	10-3350-02300	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
				<u>\$ 48,600.00</u>
General Fund Expenditures				
Riverfest	10-4135-30210	\$ -	\$ 44,000.00	\$ 44,000.00
Oink & Ale Festival	10-4135-30220	\$ -	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,100.00
Shaggin' on Fieldcrest	10-4135-30230	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
				<u>\$ 48,600.00</u>

Appropriates festival proceeds to expenditure line items.

Adopted and effective this 20th day of March, 2018.

Attest:

Sheralene Thompson, City Clerk

Neville Hall, Mayor

f. Approval and Adoption of Budget Amendment 3.

The attached budget amendment appropriates the reimbursement we received from North Carolina Department of Public Safety to cover the expenditures incurred for the tornado cleanup. This amendment increases the Storm Damage line item in the Solid Waste Department.

	Account #	From	To	Amount
General Fund Revenues				
Tornado Cleanup Reimbursement	10-3451-82000	\$ -	\$ 102,500.00	\$ 102,500.00
General Fund Expenditures				
Solid Waste Storm Damage	10-4710-29300	\$ -	\$ 102,500.00	\$ 102,500.00

Appropriates reimbursement from NC Department of Public Safety for tornado cleanup.

Adopted and effective this 20th day of March, 2018.

Attest:

Sheralene Thompson, City Clerk

Neville Hall, Mayor

g. Approval and Adoption of Budget Amendment 4.

Minutes of the regular March 20, 2018 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

The attached budget amendment appropriates \$5,000 from the reserved fund balance for Historic Preservation to the Eden Historical Museum to assist with museum repairs. As of June 30, 2017, the fund balance reserved for Historic Preservation was \$7,825.

	Account #	From	To	Amount
General Fund Revenues				
Fund Balance Approp - Historic Preservation	10-3991-99700	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>
General Fund Expenditures				
Planning Historic Preservation Expense	10-4910-29903	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>

Appropriates funds to the Eden Historical Museum for museum repairs.

Adopted and effective this 20th day of March, 2018.

Attest:

Sheralene Thompson, City Clerk

Neville Hall, Mayor

h. Approval and Adoption of Budget Amendment 5.

The attached budget amendment appropriates funds received from the Bulletproof Vest Grant Program. This amendment increases the Police Safety Equipment line item to cover a portion of the costs of bulletproof vests.

	Account #	From	To	Amount
General Fund Revenues				
Bulletproof Vest Grant Program	10-3431-86000	\$ -	\$ 2,800.00	<u>\$ 2,800.00</u>
General Fund Expenditures				
Police Safety Equipment	10-4310-21300	\$ -	\$ 2,800.00	<u>\$ 2,800.00</u>

Appropriates funds received from the Bulletproof Vest Grant Program.

Adopted and effective this 20th day of March, 2018.

Attest:

Sheralene Thompson, City Clerk

Neville Hall, Mayor

A motion was made by Council Member Burnette to approve the consent agenda. Council Member Hampton seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Minutes of the regular March 20, 2018 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Council Member Ellis said the quarter cent sales tax increase was good for the college. It was needed to expand the workforce, to prepare the students for the future. He was highly in support of it. It was important for the county, for the city as well.

Mayor Hall said there was a lot of good information about it available online and throughout the county. If anyone had questions, they should not hesitate to contact someone in the city to get information about it.

Council Member Epps wanted to thank the law enforcement there protecting them with all that was happening. He agreed with getting resources for the schools.

Council Member Grogan said she and the Mayor had the opportunity to represent the Council in Washington the previous week. They had been able to learn what other states and communities were doing and to network. The need for workforce development was mentioned on several occasions. She wanted to thank the community for giving them the opportunity to go and represent them.

Mayor Hall agreed. Issues like workforce development were not only in small cities like Eden. Big cities all over the country were experiencing the same issue. Like Council Member Ellis said, there was a movement to try and change the direction of workforce development in the area. Hopefully things would begin to get better as far as that went. It was a major problem everywhere and a social issue too.

CLOSED SESSION:

a. Closed Session in accordance with GS 143-318.11 (a) (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. General policy matters may not be discussed in a closed session and nothing herein shall be construed to permit a public body to close a meeting that otherwise would be open merely because an attorney employed or retained by the public body is a participant. The public body may consider and give instructions to an attorney concerning the handling or settlement of a claim, judicial action, mediation, arbitration, or administrative procedure. If the public body has approved or considered a settlement, other than a malpractice settlement by or on behalf of a hospital, in closed session, the terms of that settlement shall be reported to the public body and entered into its minutes as soon as possible within a reasonable time after the settlement is concluded; and (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. Any action approving the signing of an economic development contract or commitment, or the action authorizing the payment of economic development expenditures, shall be taken in an open session.

March 20, 2018

City of Eden, N.C.

Minutes of the regular March 20, 2018 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

This item was pulled from the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by unanimous consent to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheralene Thompson, MMC, NCMMC
City Clerk

ATTEST:

Neville Hall
Mayor