

CITY OF EDEN, N.C.

The regular meeting of the City Council, City of Eden, was held on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 308 E. Stadium Drive. Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Mayor:	Neville Hall
Council Members:	Gerald Ellis
	Jerry Epps (absent)
	Phillip Hunnicutt
	Kenny Kirkman
	Bernie Moore
	Bruce Nooe
	Tommy Underwood
City Manager:	Jon Mendenhall
City Attorney:	Erin Gilley
City Clerk:	Deanna Hunt
Media:	Roy Sawyers, Rockingham Update
	Mike Moore, Mike Moore Media

MEETING CONVENED:

Mayor Hall called the regular meeting of the Eden City Council to order and welcomed those in attendance. Pastor Douglas Diamond of First Church of the Brethren gave an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Fire Chief Todd Harden.

Mayor Hall stated that he was glad Mike Moore of Mike Moore Media was present after recently facing some health concerns.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

There were none at this time.

SET MEETING AGENDA:

Mayor Hall said that he was going to rearrange the agenda because he felt the agenda needed to be set before an item that required action was presented. He moved item 6-Roll Call and item 7-Set Meeting Agenda in front of item 5-Special Projects. Mayor Hall also wanted to remove item 11(a) 'Consideration to adopt a contract with Retail Strategies for commercial and restaurant recruitment' from the agenda as it was not ready for presentation at the current time. A motion was made by Council Member Moore to set the meeting agenda as amended. Council Member Ellis seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion carried, 7-0.

SPECIAL PROJECTS:

- a. Consideration of Strategic Planning Commission funding for Morehead High School's mural project.

Mayor Hall called on Staff Advisor Cindy Adams.

Ms. Adams said she seemed to always have the privilege of presenting some exciting projects and the one up for discussion was no less than any others that had been presented before. On behalf of the Strategic

Planning Commission, she requested Council's approval for the first of two exciting mural projects for Morehead High School. In August of 2021, Council approved the commission's concept of a community art/mural project. The community was identified as Morehead High School's student body and staff; the students decided what they wanted the art to look like and partnered with the City to assist with finding an artist. The mural, which was being named The Breakout Panther, would be seen from the football stadium itself and Stadium Drive. She showed Council a rendering of what the mural would look like. Students would be working with local artist, Mary Ryan, to refine the rendering shown. For instance, the white around the panther would appear to be bricks when it was actually painted, making it look like the bricks were being busted out from the building. The teeth would be whiter, the eyes would be green, and the tongue would be red. She had spoken to a couple of Council and explained that the City seal might be smaller and less prominent as the M that stood for Morehead High School. The high school would pay for the pressure washing of the wall and all paint for the mural. The wall faced the football stadium and Stadium Drive. When facing the press box from Stadium Drive and looking to the right, the mural would be located on the wall of the adjacent building. It would be very prominent and intimidating to the visitor's side of the stadium. The associate superintendent had approved the mural and the school board had been informed. The mural had been designed by art students and the high school was working with Ms. Ryan. The Strategic Planning Commission had seen the mural concept and students had approved the rendering from Ms. Ryan. She would also be working with the art students regarding the business aspect of art. The work would begin when the weather was steadily between 55 and 85 degrees for multiple days. She wanted to introduce some special people in the audience who had worked very hard at the high school on getting the rendering together by meeting with Ms. Ryan and taking the lead on the project. She recognized Dr. Ryan Moody, principal of Morehead High School; Christy Hensley, career development coordinator at the high school, Shelia Thompson, business information technology marketing and Adobe teacher; and students Tyonna Clark, Stephanie Aguirre, Arsalan Gondal, William Lovett, Olivia Nelson, and Levi Carter. She thanked them for everything they had done on the project thus far. The commission requested \$7,500 that would be used for labor and the rental of a lift from the funds that had already been allocated in the budget for Strategic Planning Commission projects. The project was unanimously passed by the Strategic Planning Commission at their February meeting.

Council Member Kirkman asked if the project had to be approved by the school board.

Dr. Moody said they were aware and in favor of the project.

Council Member Kirkman asked if the school board approved for it to be put on the building.

Dr. Moody said the school board was notified of the mural being painted on the building.

Council Member Kirkman said he thought it would need the school board's approval.

Council Member Underwood asked Ms. Adams if the project was the first of two projects.

Ms. Adams said yes. The second mural would go on the outside of the student lounge area. The rendering she showed was rough but added that staff would come back before Council with that project once it was refined.

Council Member Underwood asked if both projects totaled \$7,500.

Ms. Adams said no. The \$7,500 request was only for the first project presented. There would be another request at a later date for the second project.

Minutes of the February 15, 2022 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

Council Member Hunnicutt said the agenda stated the item was a request for funding. He asked if that meant that the artist was being hired by the school. He asked who employed the artist.

Ms. Adams said the artist would be hired by the City of Eden.

Council Member Hunnicutt asked if the City had a façade easement to perform the painting if the artist was being hired by the City.

City Attorney Erin Gilley said the City did not have a façade easement; rather, it had permission from the school. The City was legally authorized to paint the mural.

Council Member Hunnicutt said he might should have asked the question differently. He asked if the City needed a façade easement to paint the mural.

Ms. Gilley said legally the City did not need a façade easement because it had permission from the school to paint the mural.

Council Member Hunnicutt said he did not want to get too far ahead but asked who would be responsible for correcting, repainting, or replacing the mural if it was decided the mural was not liked or the mural was damaged.

Ms. Gilley said the City was giving the funding to paint the mural as proposed. If there were to be any damage to the mural, she supposed the school board could come back and ask the City about repairing it but it would be the school's building, making them responsible for repairing it. The City would have no obligation to fix it.

Council Member Ellis said he understood that the students would be doing the work.

Ms. Adams said the students would be working with Ms. Ryan.

Council Member Ellis said the group of students present at the meeting were very talented with what they had done in the past and what they were currently doing. They were working under the excellence of Ms. Vido, the art teacher at the high school. He was sure she had a lot to do with the outcome of the students. Nothing had been put on the establishment since probably 1985 when the M was put up by the boosters club. In regards to the question about the school board's approval, he did not think that school board approval was needed when it involved something being painted and not built. The school had already given the City permission to use the facility for the painting. The students would gain experience through the Rock-a-Top program, which was very large in Rockingham County. The project, along with Ms. Thompson's program, would provide a stepping stone for the students towards what they were looking to do with their art talent in the future. The school's stadium was a success and the mural was very promising for it. The banners in the stadium that were supported by the City were close to over 100. Several members inside City Hall were even on those banners and represented businesses. He felt for \$7,500, the project was a good asset for the school and for the City.

Council Member Ellis made a motion to approve \$7,500 of Strategic Planning Commission funding for Morehead High School's mural project. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. Council Members Moore, Nooe, Epps, Underwood, Hunnicutt, and Ellis voted in favor of the motion. Council Member Kirkman voted in opposition of the motion. The motion carried, 6-1.

Council Member Kirkman said he voted in opposition only because it had not been approved by the school board.

Mayor Hall said it would have to be approved by the school board before any work was done on the project.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- a. (1) Consideration of a zoning map amendment request and adoption of an ordinance to rezone property at 303 W. Meadow Road from Business General to Residential 20.
- (2) Consideration of a resolution adopting a statement of consistency regarding the proposed map amendment to rezone the property located at 303 W. Meadow Road.

Mayor Hall declared the public hearing open and called on Director of Planning and Community Development Kelly Stultz.

Ms. Stultz said the piece of property was at the intersection of Meadow Road and Monticello Street. It was originally a residence but a number of years ago a rezoning request was brought before the Council to make it business-zoned so that an antique store could be placed in the property. The current owner requested that it be zoned residential so that it could be sold as a house. Her professional recommendation was that a residence would be its highest and best use and she recommended that the request be approved.

Council Member Hunnicutt said he felt the property would be a good example of a location where the property could be well used either way. He asked if the City had a zoning that would allow such.

Ms. Stultz said yes and added that it would be Residential Mix, which she later corrected to say Neighborhood Mix, which was how the property was zoned before it had to be changed back to Business General. However, the owner had asked for the zoning to be Residential 20.

Council Member Hunnicutt asked if the Residential Mix (later corrected to be Neighborhood Mix) would cover both uses of the property.

Ms. Stultz said yes. She stated that she meant to say Neighborhood Mix instead of Residential Mix.

Council Member Ellis asked if anything on the outside of the property had to be changed.

Council Member Hunnicutt said the property used to be a residence but then converted to a business because of the location. Now, the property was being converted back into a residence. He said he was trying to find a solution so Council would not have to rezone property each month.

Ms. Stultz said it would be difficult to get her to recommend changing it again.

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

Council Member Kirkman made a motion to adopt an ordinance and a consistency statement to rezone property at 303 W. Meadow Road from Business General to Residential 20. Council Member Ellis seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion carried, 7-0.

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

Minutes of the February 15, 2022 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

relative thereto, the Unified Development Ordinance of the City of Eden is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1 - Change from Business General (BG) to Residential 20 (R20) the following property:

Tract 1: Beginning at an iron in the north edge of Meadow Road said iron being set at the northwest intersection of Meadow Road by Monticello Street; thence with the north side of Meadow Road, South 59 deg. 54 min. West 90.7 feet to an iron; thence leaving Meadow Road North 26 deg. 52 min. West 172.45 feet to an iron; thence North 57 deg. 47 min. East 72.17 feet to an iron on west side of Monticello Street; thence with the west side of Monticello Street South 32 deg. 13 min. East 175 feet to the Point of Beginning and containing 16,279 sq. ft., more or less.

Tract 2: Beginning at an iron in the north side of Meadow Road 25 feet north of center of present paving said iron being South 59 deg. 54 min. West 90.7 feet from an iron marking the northwest corner of Monticello Street and Meadow Road and marking the southwest corner of a 16,279 sq. ft. tract deeded by Spray Cotton Mills to Otha Owen Dalton and wife, Ruth Hagood Dalton on August 14, 1945; thence with the north side of Meadow Road South 63 deg. 50 min. West 45 feet to an iron, said iron marking the southeast corner of a tract deeded by Spray Cotton Mills to Sidney L. Cox and wife, Flora Valeria Cox on August 14, 1945; thence leaving Meadow Road and running with the east line of said Cox tract North 26 deg. 52 min. West 167.67 feet to an iron marking the northeast corner of before mentioned Cox tract; thence North 57 deg. 47 min. East 45.17 feet to an iron marking the northwest corner of tract before mentioned deeded to Otha Owen Dalton and wife, Ruth Hagood Dalton, on August 14, 1945; thence with the line of said tract South 26 deg. 52 min. East 172.45 feet to the Point of Beginning and containing 8,770 sq. ft., more or less. See Deed Book 447, Page 177 and Deed Book 1394, page 1406.

The above described property being commonly known as 303 W. Meadow Road and identified by the Rockingham County Tax Dept. as 7070-16-93-1463 and Parcel No. 106669.

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

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND EFFECTIVE, this 15th day of February, 2022.

CITY OF EDEN

BY: Neville A. Hall, Mayor

ATTEST: Deanna Hunt, City Clerk

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A STATEMENT OF CONSISTENCY REGARDING A PROPOSED
AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF EDEN ZONING ORDINANCE CASE NUMBER Z-21-18
MAP AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 160D-605, prior to adoption or rejection of any zoning amendment, the Eden City Council is required to adopt a statement as to whether the amendment is consistent with the Land Development Plan and why the City Council considers the action taken to be reasonable and in the public interest;

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

WHEREAS, the City of Eden Planning Board received a request to rezone property located at 303 W. Meadow Road from Business General to Residential 20.

WHEREAS, On January 25, 2022, the City of Eden Planning Board voted to recommend to the Eden City Council that the rezoning request be approved.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

Minutes of the February 15, 2022 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

This request was submitted to rezone property located at 303 W. Meadow Road from BG to R20. The BG districts are generally located on the fringe of the central business districts and along major radial highways leading out of the city. The principal use of land is for dispensing retail goods and services to the community and to provide space for wholesaling and warehousing activities. Because these commercial areas are subject to public view and are important to the economy of the area, they shall have ample parking, controlled traffic movement and suitable landscaping. The R20 district is established for residential development and related recreational, religious and educational facilities. They are intended to act as transitional zoning districts between rural development and the more urban development of the city. These regulations are further intended to discourage any use which would be detrimental to the predominately residential nature of the areas included within the district. Based on the residential uses in the adjoining neighborhood and the Future Land Use Map indicates this property as Traditional Neighborhood, the property is suitable for residential use and would not be detrimental to the surroundings.

STATEMENT OF CONSISTENCY:

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

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

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

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

- 1. The Eden City Council finds that the proposed amendment to the City of Eden Unified Development 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 Unified Development Ordinance is reasonable and, in the public's, best interest.

Approved and adopted and effective this 15th day of February, 2022.

CITY OF EDEN

BY: Neville Hall, Mayor

ATTEST: Deanna Hunt, City Clerk

REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS:

Mayor Hall asked Ms. Gilley to read the City's policy regarding public comments.

Mayor Hall addressed those that signed up to speak and stated that the three minutes given was their time to speak and Council would not interrupt them or answer any questions. They would simply listen to what was said and would not enter into a debate in which Council took up the speaker's allotted time.

Melanie Paschal Wiles said she owned the property at 617 Monroe Street in Eden, known as Melanie Paschal's Dance Creations. She was currently in her 27th season of being a business owner in the downtown Leaksville area. In that time, she had seen a lot happen in the area. She was speaking to voice

some major concerns regarding the proposal to turn Monroe Street into a one-way street. She also was not approached regarding the proposal as to what her thoughts and concerns might be, how it could affect her business, or if she even wanted to give input. She was not able to attend merchant meetings due to the fact they were held during her business hours up to that point. It had yet to be determined how to let every merchant have a voice and a vote, even when they were working during the meetings and unable to attend. She hoped that would change. Her business served more than 200 families, some who frequented her establishment two to three times a week for classes. Every child was dropped off and picked up on Monroe Street. She operated three studio rooms that could accommodate 100 kids comfortably in a class at a time, along with six to 12 staff members. Within her clientele and staff, there was a total of 20 who drove, but they were not always at the studio at the same time. Therefore, the number of clients being dropped off and picked up outweighed the number of those who were actually staying for an extended period of time. However, whether staying, picking up, or dropping off, the clients needed a place to park for it to be safe for her students. If there was no parking available, drivers would have to stop and quickly drop off or pick up the student, which would slow the traffic flow and could be dangerous. As everyone knew, there was a major problem with parking in the area and there were times even with two-way traffic that traffic became backed up. She could only imagine what would happen with a one-way street. She was concerned that there could potentially be major backups with a one-way street, which in turn would affect multiple businesses on the street. With the proposal she had seen, she was told the street would gain five new parking spots, but she was not convinced of such and added that it would not even begin to help the parking situation. She did not mind change and giving the area a facelift but she felt the priority should be parking and solving that issue. An additional five parking spaces, trees, and outdoor dining areas would not solve the problem in her opinion. Bringing new businesses had and would continue to bring new clients to the downtown area but if they did not have anywhere to park or had to sit on a one-way street waiting to find a parking spot, she questioned if they would continue to come to the area or if they would find somewhere else more convenient. She thanked Council for their time.

Mayor Hall said he wanted to make something clear about Monroe Street. It was time to repave Monroe Street, which would be done in the fall. It was also time to redo the sidewalk, which would be done at or near the same time. The proposal that was presented at the small area meetings were only proposals. If there was something different that the merchants wanted to try, now was the chance, whether that was making the street one-way, adding more parking, or something else. Once it was painted, it was done and it would be too late for merchants to decide they wanted something else. The City was trying to find a way to add parking spaces but was not trying to force any decision on the merchants. Now was the time to have the discussion and if there was any interest in changing the street, it needed to be addressed before the street was paved.

Josh Woodall of 141 Meeks Road in Eden was yielded three minutes from Kim Woodall of 141 Meeks Road. He said he and his wife were the owners of The Hair Company located at 624 Monroe Street. The Hair Company had been in business at that particular location for over 20 years. Of those 20 years, his wife had worked there for over 18 years. They purchased the business from Larry Turner in September of 2020 and currently employed a total of seven people. He wanted to express his objection to the proposed changing of Monroe Street to a one-way street. While he objected the proposal to make the street a one-way street, he did not object to a streetscape project. His opposition spoke solely on the creation of a one-way street. He was previously employed by the City of Eden for eight years in the Planning and Inspections Department. During that time, part of his duties included the feasibility and development of various City projects, including parking lots, greenways, and streetscapes. The City Council had always trusted his judgment to make those decisions and while his employment may have changed, his education, background, and experiences had not. He offered five reasons why converting Monroe Street to a one-way street was a bad idea. As part of his first concern, he stated that studies had shown that one-way streets decreased property values. According to Dr. John Gilderbloom, director for the Center for Sustainable Urban Neighborhoods at the University of Louisville, property values not only went down with one-way

streets but businesses hurt as well. Dr. Gilderbloom went on to touch on Mr. Woodall's second concern, which was that traffic accidents doubled on one-way streets. The chances of being involved in an accident or almost getting hit by a car doubled on one-way streets; he reminded Council that Ms. Paschal-Wiles had over 200 students who crossed Monroe Street. His third concern was that speed increased on one-way streets, which was a proven fact. According to Chris Barr, a graduate assistant with the University of Wisconsin, two-way streets had been found to be safer than one-way streets because one-way streets correlated with higher speeds and decreased levels of driver attention. Pedestrians preferred crossing two-way streets since drivers were inclined to travel more slowly on two-way streets and vehicular conflicts were more predictable. His fourth concern was in regards to accessibility for emergency vehicles. He asked if it was known how much turning radius was required for emergency vehicles, such as fire trucks turning from Washington Street onto Monroe Street. According to N.C. Fire Code Appendix D103.3, the minimum turning radius shall be determined by the fire code official. Therefore, the City would need to consult with its fire chief to find out what the turning radius was on the City's largest firetruck to ensure that it would be able to make it up Monroe Street if it were only one-way. He also asked if it was known what the drive-by width would be on Monroe Street as a one-way street. A fire truck with its outriggers, on average, would need a clear span of 20 feet; therefore, Mr. Woodall asked if the street would provide 20 feet of drive-by width for a firetruck with an aerial apparatus. Changing Monroe Street to a one-way street might sound like a simple task but there were a number of issues. His fifth and final concern with the proposed idea was that the sole reason for changing it to a one-way street was to possibly gain additional parking. As the road was currently striped, there were 59 parking spaces, which included three ADA accessible spots and the existing City parking lot on the side. He had seen information stating that reconfiguring the street with angled parking would provide 5 to 15 spaces. He asked what plans the possible five additional spaces were based on. Merchants had seen the illustrious drawing that was admitted to be incorrect by City staff as it showed some incorrect driveway cuts; therefore, he asked where the addition of five parking spaces was coming from because if it was based on the drawing, that calculation was incorrect. He offered to provide Council with a scaled plan of Monroe Street that showed the area being limited to 55 parking spaces. He said the street would likely lose a few parking spaces once the three required ADA parking spaces were configured; the street would need two accessible parking spaces and one van-accessible parking space, which required eight-foot aisles on each side whereas the standard aisle was five foot. The requirement of a three-foot clearance around fire hydrants needed to be taken into consideration considering there was one fire hydrant on the street. He asked what the purpose of converting Monroe Street into a one-way street would be if the street was going to ultimately lose parking spaces. It would not be solving the problem the City intended to solve and did not make any sense to him. He said Council was more than welcome to look at the plan he developed and offered to email all the information he collected to Council. He felt it was a terrible idea and would be a huge mistake to convert Monroe Street to a one-way street. He felt it would be a kneejerk reaction to the parking problem and would not solve it, but rather would create more issues.

Aaron Evans of 102 N. High Street in Eden said he was not present to speak on behalf of a business nor was he present to speak for or against a business but rather, as someone who had a family in the city that frequented the uptown area, formerly known to him as downtown for the 13 years he had lived in Eden. He was against the changes to Monroe Street for a number of reasons, some of them which were previously addressed by Mr. Woodall. Research conducted by Clemson University and the University of Louisville, along with studies in Vancouver, Wash., studies in Perth, and the Journal of Planning Education showed what would happen or potentially happen to the businesses that were located on Monroe Street. The studies showed the potential for 13 to 20 percent of a decline in City revenue from the businesses, which would be a hit. There could be 13 percent or more of a decline in revenue for those individuals who owned businesses on the street. The distance traveled for people was going to increase as they could only get on the street by means of one way. As previously stated, Mr. Evans questioned how EMS would be able to access the street in order to rescue someone or put out a fire if they could only access the street via one-way as traffic would be jammed up at the other end of the street, waiting to turn off. One-way streets

caused decreases in property values and business revenue while increasing traffic safety concerns. One-way streets had a higher rate of child pedestrian injuries than in a two-way street and as Ms. Paschal-Wiles mentioned, there were 200 children who frequented the street, two of which were his. The street had eight businesses, six of which were female or minority owned businesses. Converting the street to a one-way street would potentially put those owners out of business or reduce their business. He might have to take his child somewhere else to frequent that type of business simply because he would be unable to get them there on time due to the traffic issues that the one-way street would cause. His biggest concern was parking and the traffic, not only on Monroe Street, but on Washington Street and the other surrounding streets as well. He thought change was inevitable but good. He thought all of Council could say the same thing and see change each day when they looked into the mirror. He also felt it was a knee-jerk reaction to fixing a problem because it would not solve the problem. He understood repaving the street was an issue but at the present time, he did not think it was a great idea for the City of Eden.

Rhonda Price of 603 Monroe Street in Eden said she and her husband, David, owned two properties on the corners of Monroe Street and Jay Street: David Price Auto Works and Dave's Towing. They had been in business for over 18 years. She saw issues that perhaps she had not thought of and some that had been brought up before. She also saw issues with people saying they had not heard about the one-way street proposal and that it was sprung on them, but she begged to differ on that. She was a board member for the Uptown Merchants group, which was an open group for all businesses and property owners downtown. The group met once a month at 6 p.m. The discussion began in April of 2021 when Ms. Stultz and a few members from the City came and advised the group of the future plans for the area, which involved paving Washington Street and Monroe Street in addition to some streetscapes. They also had a meeting in May of 2021 with Jason Julian from North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) where he discussed the paving that would take place on Washington Street. The City's Director of Transportation Engineering Tammy Amos was also present to talk about a study for the traffic pattern and questioned if the merchants had discussed the possibility of changing it to a one-way street as lots of things would have to be done before that could happen. In June of 2021, representatives from Stewart Incorporated discussed with the group about the small area plan. In addition to the merchants' monthly meetings, the City held meetings in different areas around the city to discuss small area plans, seeking input from the residents, merchants, or anyone interested in seeing renderings and conceptual drawings from the artists as nothing was set in stone at that point; it was just ideas of how things could look with trees, and bump outs for parking, as well as renderings not including trees and bump outs. Everyone knew change was coming and it was great, but it did come with problems. The major problem in that area was parking and she felt that everyone could agree on that, even Facebook. Whenever there was any positive announcement of a new business or resident coming downtown, the first thing asked on Facebook would be where to park. Anywhere the area could gain some parking would be great. There would be additional parking gained between the changes that might take place on Monroe Street and the municipal parking lot. She could not speak for all the residents on Monroe Street but she could speak for herself and she was in favor of the one-way parking.

David Price of 603 Monroe Street in Eden said he was not for or against the one-way street proposal. When he first heard about the proposal, he thought it would be a good thing because it was going to increase parking on the street. However, when the drawings were shown that contained trees and Japanese lanterns, it appeared the street actually shrunk and would not be near as wide. It also showed the number of parking spaces gained would go from 15 spaces down to five. It did not look to him that it would be much of a gain.

Scottie Eanes of 644 Summit Road in Eden signed up to speak but opted not to.

Mike Avina, owner of 621 Monroe Street in Eden, said he had owned the property for the last 20 years, all of which had been great. He had seen a lot of development on the street and a lot of new businesses

successfully operating. He worked for Edward Jones and had 700 clients who relied on them for services; two-thirds of which were over the age of 70 and needed the parking spaces in front of the business. One of the things that caused him to be strongly opposed to a one-way street was the fact that elderly people had a difficult time particularly with one-way streets. Not only did his business serve clients in Eden but also served clients from all over the state and Virginia. Many times, staff must go out and help clients into their vehicle. One thing they had done to be creative and help accommodate fellow businesses was to no longer accept appointments after 4 p.m., except by rare exception, to help accommodate the flow of the traffic from the dance studio. He was very active in patrolling the streets as well and there was not a day that went by that he did not go down the street after hours to see where the traffic was or if there was anything odd that needed to be reported. The reason he was strongly opposed to a one-way street was due to what would happen if the one-way traffic went towards Washington Street, which would be that it would block the stoplight. That particular stoplight shut down before all the cars could get through it during high traffic times. There was no egress; even if the one-way traffic routed the other way, it would end up at a four-way stop, causing traffic problems. He asked Council to not approve a one-way street as it would obviously narrow the pathway. Trucks used the street to make deliveries for both the granite business and often times for his business with computer, furniture, and other needs. It would be extremely difficult and confusing for his clients to use the street along with the trucks at the same time if it were a one-way street. He asked Council not to approve the one-way street concept.

Mark Martin of Martinsville, Va., said he had worked in Taji, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan for 10 years where he served as a contractor for the government. He did a lot of networking with George Lester and Jay Lester, as well as Pete Osborne. He purchased the property on 408 Van Buren Road next to the supply store. He was present to ask about growth and change. He stated that Rockingham (County) was great, as well as all four counties. He wanted to see people's opinion about what they would like to see come to the area as far as store chains, small business chains, drug detox and alcohol centers, homeless shelters, or a jail. He asked what people would like to see as far as growth that would benefit all four counties and would be helpful for everybody. He said that George Lester was operating from a wheelchair and was 84 years old. He had a Firehouse Subs, Domino's, and a Starbucks that was coming; he had not stopped. He wanted to see some growth in Eden, whether it was a store or a restaurant, that would help people, whether they were homeless or needed to detox from alcohol and drugs.

Mayor Hall asked Mr. Martin to reach out to either him or someone at the City, such as the Economic Development Department, and they would be glad to sit down with him and see if they could get some ideas. He appreciated him attending.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. Consideration of a request to proceed with Uptown Eden improvements.

Mayor Hall called on Ms. Stultz, Director of Public Works Paul Dishmon, and Ms. Amos.

Ms. Stultz said a number of Uptown Eden improvements had been discussed and some projects had been completed and removed from the list. Mr. Dishmon and his staff had removed the trees in the City's Bridge Street parking lot and an engineer had evaluated the lot and given advice on how it should be repaired. Staff still needed to meet with the Emerine's to get their approval to do some things on the property that belonged to them. The alley behind Ray Commons was to be repaved and according to Ms. Amos, it would cost \$6,000. The drainage issue was being taken care of. A lot of discussion regarding Monroe Street had taken place in respect to whether or not it should be a one-way street. It had been scheduled for resurfacing for the last couple of years and it was definitely time for it to be done; it was set to be repaved in the fall. The Monroe Street parking lot had some drainage issues but they were set to be complete within the next few days, at which time the lot would be available for parking again; it was scheduled to be resurfaced in

the spring. The crosswalk installation was something discussed in January and final review would be conducted by the City Council once bids were open; Ms. Amos sent the bid documents out. The Monroe Street sidewalk had also been discussed a lot at the meeting. The sidewalk had not been repaired in many years and needed to be replaced, regardless of if there were any additions or deletions made to it. The paving for Monroe Street was part of the Powell Bill funding that the City received each year and as part of the operating budget of the Public Works Department. In addition, there were funds allocated for sidewalk repairs and replacements each year in Mr. Dishmon's department budget. It was estimated to cost \$45,210 to replace the sidewalk as it currently was, but that did not include the cost of rerouting any sewer taps, phone lines, cable lines, or any of the sort. The concrete and replacement work would be completed by City staff. The sidewalk needed repair, which was part of normal maintenance as well. It would not be a separate budget request.

Council Member Nooe stated that he had been talking to City Manager Jon Mendenhall about some of the issues on Monroe Street and added that he would like to have a scaled drawing that Council could look at. He felt that the City could maintain all of the parking spaces while still doing some streetscape. He said he would like to leave the street as a two-way street while working to come up with a plan to maintain the parking spaces and add some streetscape. There were some hatch areas where the City could do some islands and such. He felt the City could maintain and keep everything where it was in regards to parking spaces.

Council Member Nooe made a motion that the City accept the changes listed in the improvement list and proceed with a plan to keep Monroe Street as a two-way street while also adding some streetscape and maintaining parking. Council Member Ellis seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion carried, 7-0.

Mayor Hall asked if item 10a was a request to approve all of the items A-G listed in the improvements or if they were just updates.

Ms. Stultz said they were just updates except for the items identified by Council Member Nooe.

Ms. Stultz asked if Council was going to authorize her to hire someone to generate engineering plans.

Council Member Nooe said he and Mr. Mendenhall had talked about doing the engineering plans in-house and he would help.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Consideration to adopt a contract with Retail Strategies for commercial and restaurant recruitment.

This item was removed from the agenda.

- b. Consideration to adopt a resolution to commit financial resources to the north basin of the wastewater treatment plant.

Mayor Hall called on Mr. Dishmon.

Mr. Dishmon stated that he would like to have consideration to adopt a resolution to commit to financial resources to the north basin of the wastewater treatment plant. The plant needed repair and if the City was going to have industry, the City was going to need somewhere to take the wastewater.

Mayor Hall agreed.

Minutes of the February 15, 2022 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

Council Member Ellis said it had to be done.

Mayor Hall agreed.

Council Member Ellis made a motion to adopt a resolution to commit financial resources to the north basin of the wastewater treatment plant.

Council Member Hunnicutt asked how much the commitment would be for.

Ms. Gilley said it was a resolution. The funding agency needed a resolution that basically said the City would cover the amount not covered by the grant.

Mr. Dishmon said that was correct.

Mayor Hall said he believed it was a matching grant.

Ms. Gilley said it was a resolution that the funding agency required. She said the City often received those from granting sources. The agency is asking the City to be responsible for the rest of the funding if it were to receive the grant.

Council Member Hunnicutt asked for someone to refresh their memories on how much money was being talked about or what the total amount was.

Mr. Mendenhall said the total amount was approximately \$10 million. Council action taken about six months ago authorized Joyce French to pursue some grant funds from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) in the amount of \$5 million. Therefore, there was a \$5 million balance that the EDA wanted the City to commit to; it could be City dollars or it could be an assortment of dollars. Staff went back to Ms. French and authorized her to go to the State Revolving Fund (SRF) and make a grant application for federal dollars that had been received by the State in the form of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding that was available. Hence, there was a potential to have an EDA component and the potential for an ARPA federal dollar component to pass through the State, which would minimize what the City would have to finance locally. The City had to meet its commitments to complete the application but it wanted to minimize local taxpayer or ratepayer liability moving forward. The City had not yet submitted an SRF application but that was the intent as it moved forward in the process.

Council Member Hunnicutt asked if it was fair to say the City was talking about a commitment of funds not to exceed or around \$5 million.

Mr. Mendenhall said that was correct.

Council Member Hunnicutt said it might not be that much if the City received grants.

Council Member Ellis said it would depend on how much the grants were.

Council Member Hunnicutt said he wanted to make sure that everyone understood the perspective of what was being talked about.

Mayor Hall said the resolution was stating that the City would pay the difference of what the grants were. They wanted to know that before they gave the City a grant.

Minutes of the February 15, 2022 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

Council Member Hunnicutt seconded the motion previously made by Council Member Ellis to adopt a resolution to commit financial resources to the north basin of the wastewater treatment plant. All members voted in favor. The motion carried, 7-0.

- c. Consideration to approve Environmental Protection Agency Remediation Plan Contracts 2a and 3.

Mayor Hall called on Special Projects Manager Terry Shelton.

Mr. Shelton said staff was not asking for anything for Contract 2a because it had to be rebid due to not receiving sufficient bids when they were opened on February 1; it was scheduled to be rebid on February 25. The estimated cost of that contract would be \$2,470,000. He apologized for the change and stated that Council should have received an updated memo shortly before the start of the meeting due to a delay in staff receiving the updated numbers for Contract 3. He reminded Council that staff did not have all of the numbers populated in the memorandum that was sent out the week prior, but the contract came in at \$19,623,626. The City was getting very close to using all of the Connect NC bond money. The City needed to negotiate the contract down. Staff removed about four sheets of work in the drawings for the extremely large project and was able to negotiate the project down to \$17,200,000 for the majority of all the work listed in the contract. In addition to the negotiated contract price, there would be an engineering and monitoring fee of the project that would end up totaling \$1.2 million, bringing the total project cost to \$18,400,000. The City had approximately \$20,900,000 in Connect NC bond money left, which was enough to cover the negotiated fee for the contract. Contract 2a was expected to be close to \$2.5 million, which would consume within \$30,000 of the available Connect NC bond money. The City did have \$500,000 in contingency in Contract 3. Therefore, if the City were to face anything that drove up the cost, there should be some money built into the contract to cover it. There was a lot of rock in Eden that made things very unpredictable in regards to how much it could cost to do some work. It was not an ideal climate to be bidding such jobs because inflation was driving things crazy and materials for construction had gone through the roof. The wait times for pumps, equipment, and pipe had gotten very long. The City had one pump station project on New Street where the contract was signed and notice to proceed was given in June of 2021, but the contractors had not yet received the order of pumps and control systems for the pump station. They hoped to receive it by the beginning of April, but that proved how long the lead times were for such things. He stated that an interesting note pertaining to the contract was that when it was opened, the City only had one bid on the second date for opening bids. According to the contractor present at the bid opening, his bid increased \$800,000 from the December 16, 2021 bid opening to the February 1, 2022 bid opening due to suppliers increasing the cost of equipment needed for the project. Thus, he felt that some of the high numbers on the contract were from where the contractors were allowing some buffer for inflation. From the time the bids were opened on February 1 to the time where a contractor could receive notice to proceed, the prices from suppliers would likely increase.

Council Member Moore asked if the City was locked into the contract price given if it were to be approved.

Mr. Shelton said if Council approved the contract, it would still have to be given to the State for their approval of releasing the funds. The contractor was not solely obligated to the amount until after the City were to sign the contract, which could only be done after the State approved it.

Council Member Moore asked how long it normally took to get the State's approval.

Mr. Shelton said it could take up to 60 days but he hoped the City could receive approval faster since prices were continuing to increase in the meantime.

Minutes of the February 15, 2022 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

Mayor Hall said there were not a lot of companies who could even perform the job, which was likely why the City was having a hard time getting many bids.

Mr. Shelton said he believed contractors were staying busy and were not very willing to do much bidding due to the constant changes in prices. They were also facing problems with their labor force in regards to keeping their skilled employees with the rising costs associated with retaining them. Additionally, they were not able to control the cost of the materials they needed.

Mayor Hall asked Mr. Shelton if he was seeking Council's approval of the Remediation Plan Contract 3 and not Contract 2a.

Mr. Shelton said that was correct.

Mayor Hall asked if Contract 2a would come back to staff before the next Council meeting. He also asked if the City was in the same time constraint with the increase in prices on Contract 2a.

Mr. Shelton said he believed so and added that it was probably more so with Contract 2a than Contract 3 due to the fact that Contract 2a dealt with the Bridge Street pump station, which involved pump controls, pumps, and big pipes associated with change configuration inside of the pump station. Contract 2a could be escalating if metal prices and such kept increasing, as well as electronics.

Council Member Hunnicutt said he assumed that since Mr. Shelton was not asking for approval for Contract 2a, that meant he was not ready to proceed with it. He asked if that was correct or if Council could proceed with approving Contract 2a as well.

Mr. Shelton said the City had received the estimate for Contract 2a but not the bid.

Council Member Moore made a motion to approve the Environmental Protection Agency Remediation Plan for Contract 3. Council Member Underwood seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion carried, 7-0.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

a. City Manager's Report

Mayor Hall called on Mr. Mendenhall.

Mr. Mendenhall said he would like to include the City Manager's Report by reference and said he would be happy to answer any questions.

Mayor Hall stated that he had extra copies of the report available for anyone wishing to have one and added that it was printed in Eden's Own Journal and posted on the City's website.

City Manager's Report:
February 2022
City Manager Jon Mendenhall

ADMINISTRATION

Division of Design & Construction
Water Main Projects Update

Minutes of the February 15, 2022 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

A crew from Haymes Brothers, Inc. was able to complete a bore under the railroad tracks located roughly 2,120 feet east of S. Edgewood Road and north of Duke Energy property on January 12. Afterwards, the crew completed tie-ins to a 16-inch diameter water main pipe they previously installed east and west of the bore site. The contractor moved equipment needed for proposed bores north of Mill Avenue and south of E. Meadow Road. A 12-inch diameter cast iron water main was damaged while the crew was spotting utilities on January 25, near a proposed bore pit north of the railroad tracks and east of Dry Creek. The crew encountered hard shale rock while digging a bore pit north of a tributary to Dry Creek at a spot approximately 840 feet north of Mill Avenue. The crew used a rock hammer for three days in order to break the rock so that the pit could be completed. A crew began spotting existing utility mains off the east side of S. Edgewood Road on the last day of January as part of prep work for making a wet tap early in February.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Bridge Street & Mill Avenue Recreation Centers

These two facilities are open Mondays from 1 to 9 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12 to 8 p.m., and on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Those attending may participate in basketball, track walking, cornhole, or the playground. The Bridge Street center offers tennis courts while Mill Avenue center offers a baseball field.

Bridge Street Recreation Center: a new cornhole league is planned to begin during the month of February. The senior center is hosting exercise classes at the center on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. They have also started up a line dance class. Meals on Wheels continues to operate out of the nutrition center each weekday.

Mill Avenue Recreation Center: pickleball is played on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 8 a.m.

Freedom Park

Open daily from dawn to dusk, this park offers a walking track, nature trail, skateboard park, basketball courts, playground, dog park, picnic shelters, and an amphitheater.

Garden of Eden Senior Center

The Garden of Eden Senior Center is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and offers paint classes, mahjonn, pickleball (mornings and evenings offsite), exercise classes, cornhole, knit and crochet, strength and balance, legal aid, quilt guild, Friends Club, bingo, watercolor classes, craft classes, senior technology classes, and card games, along with assistance and referral for seniors. The center hosted programs from Eden Drug, Brookdale of Eden, UNCG Recipe for Success, and the City’s Information Technology Department on internet and scam safety. Along with their usual programming, the center held an AARP class at the Bridge Street Recreation Center.

Sports

The department is now registering for indoor soccer for ages 4 through 12. The Bridge Street Recreation Center will host ages 4 through 7 on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons while ages 8 through 12 will be hosted at Mill Avenue Recreation Center.

Registration has also begun for the Eden Prowlers Baseball and Softball program, which is for ages 4 through 12.

You may register for both sports at Bridge Street or Mill Avenue Recreation Centers, City Hall-Customer Service Office, or online at www.edennc.us

PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Collections

Payments received for code enforcement fees during the month of January consisted of \$452.78.

Grants

Four applications were received for the CDBG-COVID grant; two were submitted to the consultant for review and were approved, resulting in \$2,602 being paid towards rent, mortgage payments, and electrical bills. Staff is waiting on remaining documents to be turned in for the third application. The fourth application was forwarded to the consultant for evaluation.

Inspections and Permits

Total Inspections Performed-January:	144 (not including fire inspections)
Total Permits Issued-January	87

Minutes of the February 15, 2022 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

Tenant upfits for ChopStix, Aaron's, and Dayspring Family Medicine have begun. Staff is continuing to review construction documents for Purina and plans for the Spray Cotton Mill project.

Downtown and Economic Development Activities

Draper

Mustard Seed Café and Catering Company is coming to 121 N. Fieldcrest Road. The café has begun to set their menu and already has catering reservations. They hope to open mid-February.

McNeil's Home Care is opening in February at 115 N. Fieldcrest Road.

Uptown Eden

Biscuits, Bagels & Bread is a new deli that is expecting to open in early March. They will have their own entrance at the back of Sophisticated Rubbish and will feature deli meats and cheeses, along with biscuit and bagel offerings.

A new restaurant is coming to 637 Washington Street. The building is being renovated containing apartments and a commercial space upstairs. Below will be a two-concept restaurant; soups and sandwiches, and street tacos.

Other

A new department store is coming to Meadow Greens Shopping Centre. Roses plans to begin construction in February in the space formally occupied by Pennies for Change.

Two local business owners have joined forces to create the "RoCo is Home" concept that will take the place of the former "Makers Market." Their first RoCo Makers Market will be held March 26 at First Presbyterian Church.

POLICE

All police vehicles purchased under the Police Department's vehicle capital outlay have been delivered. Parts for the animal control truck have been ordered and are awaiting installation.

The department's contract with Axon Enterprises has been signed with a rush order placed for implementation of the body worn cameras. The fielding of the tasers and in-car cameras will follow.

The department is currently conducting its second field test of the Tait TP9600 handheld radio system. The department purchased and installed four Tait TM9400 mobile radios to replace unserviceable systems in the patrol fleet. At the present time, the TM9400 systems have proven to be reliable. Therefore, the department foresees Tait radios as being a viable option for the agency as they move towards the July 1, 2025 Time Division Multiple Access compliance date.

b. Report on advisory committee proceedings.

(1) Strategic Planning Commission.

Mayor Hall called on Ms. Adams.

Ms. Adams said she was presenting a proposed list of members for their approval for the Strategic Planning Commission. They were Hope Bogaert, Ed Wilson, and a Chamber of Commerce position, which had not yet been filled as they currently had an interim and were awaiting a permanent position. Other members were Gerri Hunt, Sandra Meadows, Christy Hensley, Jim Burnette, Sarah Stokes, Houston Barrow, Jamie Galloway, Sarah Heston, and John LeSueur.

Mayor Hall said he assumed that if Sandra Meadows were to fulfill the executive director position for the Chamber of Commerce, there would be another board member appointed.

Ms. Adams said that was correct.

Council Member Ellis made a motion to approve the Strategic Planning Commission members. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried, 7-0.

Mayor Hall thanked all of the members for volunteering to serve on the commission, as well as all of the City's boards and commissions.

(2) Planning Organization Boards.

Mayor Hall called on Ms. Stultz.

Ms. Stultz said the Planning Board was not set to meet until the following week. They were going to be delayed getting the next phase of the Comprehensive Plan ready for the board to review. The Tree Board was to meet the previous day but they did not have a quorum. The Historic Preservation Society met the previous day but she had not had a chance to talk with Staff Advisor Debbie Galloway in order to get a summary. The department was moving forward with the Comprehensive Plan project, which was no doubt the biggest thing that she was working on with the City's boards and commissions at the moment, along with the department's budget request.

(3) Parks Commission.

Mayor Hall called on Staff Advisor Terry Vernon.

Mr. Vernon said the commission had not met in February but they planned to meet in March. They had been working with the Boys and Girls Club to coordinate the interleague play this year. They wanted to form a working advisory group with the Boys and Girls Club to work toward greater cooperation this season and in the future. Staff had been signing up and registering kids for baseball. The City had generated a lot of interest and would be participating in a Rockingham County league this year. Leaders would be having a meeting on February 22 with all of the communities in the county that played in the league, which was a pony league. The City was actually Dixie Youth but he was going to check and make sure that it was OK for the City to play in the pony league and still be affiliated with Dixie Youth. He felt it would be fine because that particular pony league did not get into the pony sanction but rather played independently. They would be using pony rules but the City would be using Dixie Youth rules at the end of the post season if everything went like he thought it would. He had been a part of several meetings over the past few weeks with the Boys and Girls Club and other members of the community; he did not think the City and the Boys and Girls Club would be under the same umbrella this year but hoped they would be able to do so next year. The City was looking for positive things in Eden for baseball this year but did not want to hurt any other programs. They wanted to do what was best for the kids in the community.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approval and adoption of the January 18, 2022 regular meeting minutes.
- b. Approval to declare items surplus.

Mr. Dishmon wrote in a memo that Public Works was requesting the 1986 Morbark Chipper be declared as surplus inventory and be sold "as-is" through the GovDeals website.

- c. Approval to award the FY 2022-2023 Audit Contract to Rouse, Rouse, Rouse, and Gardner, LLP.

Minutes of the February 15, 2022 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

Director of Finance and Personnel Tammie McMichael wrote in a memo that she was seeking approval for the FY 2021/22 audit contract. The contract amount was \$58,695. If City personnel completed the items listed in the contract, the amount would be reduced to \$52,495, which would be a five percent increase when compared to the \$49,900 that was paid last year. The Rouses' and their staff have been conducting the City's audit for 41 years. Their love and compassion for the City of Eden showed in their willingness to assist in any way they could to make sure the City's Finance Department operated in the most efficient and effective way of providing accurate financial information. They had always been very faithful and dedicated to the City. Staff called on them for assistance with day-to-day questions that came up or for special projects. They never billed the City for anything extra. Ms. McMichael stated it was very nice to know that the City had someone that could be called anytime. If the firm did not have the answer immediately, they never referred the City to someone else; rather, they always took the time to make telephone calls on the City's behalf. They looked after the City's best interest in making sure that the City received any needed answers. They kept the City updated on Governmental Accounting Standards Board and Internal Revenue updates. They also kept the City updated on any classes/seminars 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 stated that she could not make a better recommendation than to award the FY 2021/22 audit contract to Rouse, Rouse, Rouse & Gardner.

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

d. Approval of Invoice Cloud Agreement, third party provider with Southern Software.

Ms. McMichael wrote in a memo that the Finance Department would be moving to Southern Software's Utility Billing and Cash Collections in the next few months. Therefore, staff needed to set up the Interactive Voice (electronic telephone payments) and Online Bill Pay options. Invoice Cloud was the third-party provider that worked directly with Southern Software. Staff requested Council's approval to enter into an agreement with Invoice Cloud because they were the third-party provider that would process electronic payments by telephone and online through the City's website. The cost for the payment options would be passed on to the customer just like what was currently being done.

e. Approval and adoption of Budget Amendment #2.

Assistant Director of Finance Amy Winn wrote in a memo that the budget amendment appropriated proceeds from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund to the Police Department for the in-car camera and body worn camera replacements. Council approved the purchase at the November 16, 2021 Council meeting but the actual budget amendment to transfer the money was not attached and approved.

f. Approval and adoption of Budget Amendment #3.

Ms. Winn wrote in a memo that the budget amendment appropriated funds from Unauthorized Substance Tax and Federal Forfeiture for the expansion of the Police Department evidence room.

A motion was made by Council Member Kirkman to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Ellis seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion carried, 7-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Hall said he had an announcement that was tough to make. The City's Director of Transportation Engineering, Tammy Amos, was in attendance at her last Council meeting. She was set to retire on April 1 after 27 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Eden. The City would benefit from her hard work, attention to detail, and excellent communication skills for many years to come. She was a valued leader, colleague, and friend. She would be missed by everyone at the City. He thanked Ms. Amos for everything she had done. He also stated that the Morehead High School boys' basketball team won their conference championship the previous weekend and would be playing at the high school at 7:30 p.m. that night in the conference tournament. He encouraged everyone to support the Morehead Panthers as they always had.

Minutes of the February 15, 2022 meeting of the City Council, City of Eden:

Council Member Ellis asked for everyone to keep Council Member Epps in their daily prayers.

Mayor Hall agreed and said they looked forward to having him back soon.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Deanna Hunt
City Clerk

ATTEST:

Neville Hall
Mayor