

CITY OF EDEN, N. C.

The regular meeting of the City Council, City of Eden, was held on Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 308 E. Stadium Drive. Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Mayor:	Wayne Tuggle, Sr.
Council Members:	Bernie Moore
	Jim Burnette
	Angela Hampton
	Jerry Epps
	Darryl Carter
	Neville Hall
	Jerry Ellis
City Manager:	Brad Corcoran
City Clerk:	Sheralene Thompson
City Attorney:	Erin Gilley
Deputy City Clerk:	Deanna Hunt
Representatives from Departments:	
News Media:	Roy Sawyers, RCENO
	Joe Dexter, Rockingham Now

MEETING CONVENED:

Mayor Tuggle called the regular meeting of the Eden City Council to order and welcomed those in attendance. He explained that the Council meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. and works from a prepared agenda; however, time would be set aside for business not on the printed agenda.

INVOCATION:

Mr. A.C. Brock, Pastor, Leaksville United Methodist Church, gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:

- a. Iron Eagle Tire – Recognition of 20th Anniversary.

Mayor Tuggle asked Mr. Mike Dougherty, Director of Business Development, to come forward.

Mr. Dougherty recognized Mr. Bruce Price and explained that Bruce and Wanda Price started Iron Eagle in Madison 20 years ago. Bruce and his son ran the shop and they grew into three locations and last June they consolidated their operations to a location on Meadow Road.

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SET MEETING AGENDA:

A motion was made by Council Member Ellis seconded by Council Member Hall to set the meeting agenda. All Council Members voted in favor of this motion. This motion passed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

There were no public hearings scheduled.

REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS:

No one came forward to speak at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no Unfinished Business at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Morehead Hospital Update by Dana Weston, President and CEO, Morehead Hospital.

Mayor Tuggle asked Ms. Weston to come forward.

Ms. Weston also introduced the management team which consisted of Mr. Tom Stevens, Vice President of Human Resources; Ms. Jo Ann Smith, Chief Nursing Officer and Vice President of Patient Care Services; Mr. Ray Owings, Chief Financial Officer; and Ms. Myla Barnhardt, Director of PR and Marketing.

She explained that she wanted to provide them with an update on what was going on at Morehead. She explained that the Council would get questions from community members about what was going on. They did solicit questions in advance and have a few of those that they have received so she would address those here. She explained that the City Council should have a handout of frequently asked questions that were provided to their employees so that they could explain exactly what has happened.

What exactly has happened?

The Morehead Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees has been working for months to identify strategies that will strengthen the hospital and ensure it remains a local, trusted provider of quality care for years to come.

Ten months ago, the Board took the first steps to achieve this by starting a search for a partnership with another healthcare system. That search is still underway, but in late spring it became apparent that Morehead's large amount of debt was an obstacle for some of the most desirable partners. In order to make the hospital a more attractive candidate, the Board of Trustees

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voluntarily and unanimously decided to use the Chapter 11 bankruptcy process to restructure the debt that Morehead carries.

Ms. Weston explained that a partner was really the best solution for small community hospitals in order to stay viable to the future. As they continued searching for a partner, they continued to receive feedback over and over, and one of the bits of feedback that they were hearing was that it was a great hospital, but it has a significant amount of debt.

As an analogy, she used as an example to Councilman Burnette, she wanted to buy his car and he told her that his car was a \$20,000 car. She would then say that she would give him \$20,000 for his car but then he told her that he took out a loan to redo his house a few years ago so he was selling his car for \$60,000. That was a really bad sales pitch and that was the position the hospital was in and they knew they had to take a move to deal with the debt. All of the documents from the hospital were public so they were fully transparent that the debt was nearing \$60 million. So, they needed to do something to address the debt and the best tool available to any business in that position is Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

What is Chapter 11 bankruptcy?

A Chapter 11 bankruptcy is a common tool that helps companies reorganize their debt in order to continue operating as a more financially sound company. Unlike Chapter 7 bankruptcy, which is often used to liquidate a business, Chapter 11 is future oriented. By providing debt relief, the company is given an opportunity to put a better business model in place.

She explained that Chapter 11 was very different than Chapter 7. A lot of folks were familiar with the “everything must go sale” and Chapter 7 was a liquidation and that has not happened at Morehead Memorial Hospital. It is a Chapter 11 which was a reorganization of the debt.

Is Morehead closing its doors?

Morehead is not closing.

Ms. Weston explained that the doors will remain open and their services would remain the same as they have been and all of their staff would continue to be employed and get paid.

Is Morehead still seeking a partner?

Yes, establishing a partnership is still our goal, and using Chapter 11 as a tool to restructure our debt is part of that process. It will make Morehead more attractive to potential buyers.

She explained that a very common misconception is that the partnership search ended and so they had to file for Chapter 11. She pointed out that the Chapter 11 helps the partnership process. So they were still looking for a partner and they hope this makes them more attractive to potential partners as one of the things they received as feedback was that the debt was a concern.

Will there be layoffs as part of the bankruptcy?

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Layoffs were not planned or expected. We are intent on continuing to provide quality healthcare, and we need our employees in order to do so.

She explained that they have a role in this community to provide quality healthcare. They need their staff, they were an important part of Morehead so layoffs were not a part of Chapter 11 and were not required as part of Chapter 11. They did not expect there to be any impact to the staff.

How will the Chapter 11 process impact employees, physicians and patients?

There should be minimal, if any, impact on employees, physicians, and patients. Morehead will continue to operate with minimal disruption, including hiring staff and filling vacancies. Quality care is essential – patient safety and satisfaction will not change based on the Chapter 11 process. Providing care to our patients will continue to be our mission and highest priority.

Ms. Weston explained that there should be minimal disruption and staff would continue to get paid as they always have. Their quality was just as high as it always had been and it was not uncommon when hospitals file for Chapter 11 for the courts to appoint what was called a patient ombudsman. She explained that was someone who oversees the quality to make sure that the quality does not suffer. When they went before the court last Friday they presented Morehead's quality. They showed them what their survey results were, what their scores were, and how they performed against their peers in their market and the courts decided that a patient ombudsman was not necessary. The quality they had prior to the bankruptcy was the exact same as it was now and patients should not feel or notice a difference.

Will the Chapter 11 process affect employee benefits? What about the pension?

Morehead employees' pay, benefits and 403B should not be affected by the Chapter 11 process. Morehead will continue to pay medical claims to health care providers (doctors, dentists, etc.) Employees should feel no significant difference from the bankruptcy filing.

Morehead's pension plan was frozen many years ago and no further benefits are accruing. As part of the bankruptcy filing, the pension plan was terminated and the plan's assets will be turned over to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC). The PBGC ensures that retired employees will receive the benefits they are entitled under the plan (with limited exceptions that have already been resolved).

Ms. Weston explained that as the pay stays the same, the benefits or 403B would not be affected. They would continue to pay medical claims as Morehead was self-insured and so when they accrue claims going to the doctor, Morehead would continue to pay those as they always have. As far as the pension goes for those employees who were vested in the pension, the pension at Morehead was frozen back in 2013-2014, so it was already not accruing any new benefits. They will continue to receive their benefits. Morehead did file to terminate the pension, which means that the pension plan assets would be turned over to Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation or PBGC. The PBGC will administer the benefits. She explained that back in 2013 or 2014 depending on how long you had been there, when the pension was frozen, employees received a letter and that letter had a dollar amount of what they were entitled to receive from the plan. That dollar amount has not changed.

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She explained that all that was changing was that it would not be Morehead administering it, it would be PBGC and that was a very common misunderstanding that they were hearing, as folks received a letter in the mail that said that Morehead was terminating the pension and they believed that it was over and they were not getting their benefit. She pointed out that because of that they would be hosting some benefit seminars at Morehead the first of which would occur July 20th and be open to current employees who were vested in the plan as well as anyone in the community who has the pension, to come and get their questions answered as it has been a source of confusion.

Will there be any changes at Morehead Nursing Center?

Morehead Nursing Center will continue to operate as usual. Residents and employees should not notice any change during this process.

Will the management agreement with Novant Health continue, and will our leadership change?

Our management agreement with Novant Health is still in place and Dana Weston will remain at Morehead as President and CEO. The Executive Management Team (EMT) remains in place and will primarily focus on day-to-day operations. To care for the many Chapter 11 procedures and requirements, a consultant (Mike Lane, H2C) will join the management team as an advisor with significant experience restructuring hospitals in similar situations.

Is there a target date to emerge from bankruptcy, and what is that timeline?

Bankruptcy, by its very nature, is uncertain. We have attorneys, consultants, administrators and our finance staff working to ensure that this process goes as efficiently as possible. A best estimate is that it could take up to a year if all goes smoothly.

She explained that they have estimated that it could take up to 12 months. She explained that the analogy was to think of bankruptcy as a tunnel. They got into it and there was another side of it where you can come out. It was unclear as to exactly how long that tunnel was. If they were to find a partner early on in the process it would speed up the process. If they did not find a partner, then they have to present a plan to the court of how they would operate going forward so that takes a little more time.

If someone from the media has questions about the process, who should they call?

Media inquiries may be directed to Myla Barnhardt, the Director of Marketing & Public Relations. Her contact information is: (336) 627-6191, myla.barnhardt@morehead.org

She explained that they have received great and accurate coverage so far. If the media should reach out to the City Council or if they have questions, they should contact Myla Barnhardt.

She explained that she also had received a few questions that she wanted to briefly address. A few questions were regarding the partnership search. She explained that overall it was just rumors about the search. Were there any larger hospitals that have shown interest and if so, how long would that

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take for it to proceed. There was also a question concerning a rumor around town, that they were not considering any offers from the Cone Health system.

They were still in search of a partnership. There were larger hospitals that have shown an interest and some that show more interest than others, but they were not able to get as deep into those conversations as they wanted to because of the debt. So, by addressing the debt they believe that there were hospitals that will return to the table, and they can go a little bit deeper into the conversations about the future.

There was not a hospital system at all, anywhere that has been off the table. So, any rumor that indicates that Morehead Hospital was not willing to talk to someone is false. It could be a hospital that was local or a system that was far away. They could be for profit or not for profit. They could be a healthcare provider or a private equity. Anyone who has shown an interest in Morehead is welcome to the table.

The caveat to that is that they have a deep desire to see Morehead remain as a hospital. So, they prioritize conversations with partners who were interested in having Morehead remain as a hospital. It does not mean that anyone is off the table, it just meant that they wanted to give the hospital the best chance it has to remain as a hospital.

Ms. Weston stated that there were also questions about vendors. They have really done a great job discussing from the employee perspective, “will I have a job, will I get paid”, but they have not heard as much from the vendor perspective, especially for local vendors. There was a great question as to their debt to Eden, past due water and sewer debt.

She explained that the way that Chapter 11 bankruptcy works, there was a hard line in the sand the day that you file. On the day that you file, the courts say that you cannot pay anything that was due prior to the day that you filed as it has to go through the court process. So for anyone that had a bill that Morehead owed prior to July 10th, the court says they could not pay it, it has to go through a court process. Going forward, they absolutely can and would pay, so bills accrued from June 11th forward would be paid.

She stated that this was the right decision, but there were moments when it was difficult. One of those moments was when a local vendor tells them that the amount they owe makes a difference to their business and that was tough. The tradeoff was that they pride themselves with using local vendors and that meant that they had a higher number of them that either had invoices that they had not received yet or they were in the pot of outstanding invoices, so there was an impact to local vendors. Their goal was to continue to use local resources as much as possible going forward and hope that those vendors will continue to work with them.

Lastly, the most common question that they get from community members was how they could help. There were three things that come to mind. They include (1) be positive. When you look on Facebook, when someone says something negative, people pile on. It almost becomes a contest of who could tell the worst stories. When you say something positive, the same thing happens. So when you have the opportunity, speak positive. Next (2) correct what was not accurate. When you are out and someone says “Morehead is closing” or “retirees are not going to get their pension” you

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all know the accurate truth now. So it is helpful to actually take the time to tell people. Then last (3) utilize the hospital. If you do not use it you will lose it. People do not realize the power that they have when selecting where they get their care. Even if it was just to get labs done or a scan, when your physician tells you they are sending you somewhere else, ask the question, “is this something I can get done at Morehead”.

Council Member Burnette stated that he appreciated them coming and they have now heard from the CEO of the hospital and he could assure them also that the Board of Trustees was dedicated to keeping this hospital in the community. There was a lot they could do and he thanked her for coming.

Mayor Tuggle stated that she did the best thing she could do. A lot of disinformation was out there and those questions were helpful to them to get the information out there.

Ms. Weston also offered to share this information with the community in any way possible. She pointed out that misinformation flies at a speed much faster than accurate information, so the more the better.

Mayor Tuggle thanked Ms. Weston for her presentation and they appreciated them coming.

- b. CRC Update by Debbie Tuggle, Vice President of Career Development Services, Goodwill Industries of Central North Carolina, Inc.

Mayor Tuggle introduced Ms. Debbie Tuggle, Vice President of Career Development Services.

Ms. Tuggle explained that she was asked to provide an update on the numbers that the Eden Community Resource Center (CRC) had served. She stated that they could really be proud with the results they have gained since they first opened their doors.

She pointed out that when they provide a career center in one of the five counties that they serve, they establish benchmarks that were expected. In order for it to be successful they have to reach that benchmark. Their benchmarks were how many people were serving unduplicated each year and how many of those folks were placed or assisted in placing and then what does that equate to financially.

She explained that they began having conversations in April of 2011 with Councilman Burnette and Mr. Mike Dougherty, Director of Business Development. They made contact with her and had a meeting. That mushroomed in bringing to the table the President of RCC, Mayor Pro Tem Tuggle and City Manager, Brad Corcoran. She went to her CEO and he established a benchmark goal of 500 people to be served in this center from the end of October until the end of June. She noted that they served 1150. She really had to give credit to the two ambassadors, Burnette and Tuggle. They were everywhere doing presentations and that was what really made the program so successful in the first year. They also saw 195 people placed that first year and when you calculate the economic impact that was about \$2 million in earning potential generated in 8 months.

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As they see the growth they continue to grow every year. This was significant because Reidsville was the second largest in their four-county area. The feeling was that if Eden grew, Reidsville would shrink and that was not true. They now have three centers in Rockingham County, more than in any other county. Those three centers serve half of the 17,000 people they serve every year. So, they were meeting a need in Rockingham County.

Since October of 2011 they have served 12,164 people in this center and they have placed over 2,000 which was an economic impact of almost \$29 million. For the 5-year growth trend and how they run supportive services, folks walk in and just want a job. They have a lot of placement assistance and support. Those services have grown from just under 10,000 to over 20,000 a year.

They have also grown from 12 partners to about 82. They did not have the data in for this year but that was pretty substantial. A lot of their partners were not just coming from Eden but surrounding areas. The hiring events have now been more successful than job fairs. Last year they had 72 employers and 557 participants and people just do not show up for the job fairs anymore. She noted that you could walk into any of the centers, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and someone was going to be hiring at just about all of their centers and that was now common.

They began the community classes with Dr. Michael Helmick (RCC) and he was 100% in. She noted that in 2011 their HRD offerings were 53 classes in 8 months. They would also notice a decline in classes and there was a decline in attendance at the community college across the state. That told them that they were sick of the same thing so they needed to offer something different. She also pointed out that the GED was also decreasing and a few skills training classes at the Eden CRC.

She explained that the first beer crafting class was held at their center because the lab downtown was not ready and Dr. Helmick was the pioneer who brought that to Eden and he was ready to start the class so they started the class on their site. They could not mix any beer, they had to wait for the lab, but they had the classes there and that jump started that program.

Gildan came to them and wanted to offer a Certified Production Tech class and that too was offered on their site for Gildan employees to upgrade their skills. She explained that there have been a lot of people in this town who had done a lot of work to get these results.

They started with corporate but because of the hard work and many of them were individually recognized over the past few years, Rockingham Community College received their highest award, the Cornerstone award in 2011. That was for their partnership in up fitting their 5,000 square foot facility. In 2012 the City of Eden was recognized as the top winner for the Cornerstone and that was because over a 2 year period the City of Eden provided \$125,000 toward the operation of the center and they were very specific that they would be a supporting partner of the center with the stipulation that if it was successful they would stay there and Goodwill would take it from there. The city has been excellent just for the support in the community.

She explained that the Workforce Development Board was recognized in 2013 because they came in and provided full time staff for three years. Century Link then won the national recognition for their system because they provided internet for four years at no cost. Gildan was also the Employer

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of the Year in 2013, the same time the Workforce Development Board was recognized because they were with them from day one and supported them. She explained that Gildan was such a large business partner that when you have someone substantial like them, other companies started taking notice. They were very aware of the collaboration that this center has and it has allowed them to be a part of it and this center has affected so many people's lives.

She stated that they were looking at following the research to evolve the center from just a community resource center to a skills training center model. They will have the same type of offerings from Rockingham Community College, HRD and Basic Skills but they were projecting about 12 HRD classes of about 68 to 70 students and a GED class of about 127. That was what they have had from day one and that was kind of the staple that would continue from the college.

As a new endeavor, they were looking at a partnership between Morehead Hospital and Morehead High School. It would basically allow some of those high school students to come on site and get involved with the healthcare while they were in high school and earning college credit. Potentially they could graduate as a senior with an Associates or very close to that. That was a huge partnership that no other partnership was doing and another first for Eden. She explained that RCC's Dr. Kinlaw really paved the way for this. This was a projection on what they were looking at and it was based on the fiscal year.

Lastly, she explained that they were currently located in a 5,000 square foot facility that they have outgrown. Mr. Pete Osborne had been looking at building a new facility on the corner behind Walmart but cost was estimated at about \$1.3 million for about 8,000 square feet. The board was ready to do it but there were budget cuts. Another option was to look at the strip mall across the street from the Goodwill retail store. The mall was almost unoccupied and that may be a better way to go. They did not have a cost for that but Mr. Osborne was working on it. It was their hope that the Board will make a decision by fall, break ground and be ready to open this center by January or February.

Mayor Tuggle stated that this was one of the best things that he ever had to refer people to and Ms.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

City Manager's Report – July 2017

Administrative & Legal Services Department

Positively Eden Strategic Plan – Implementation Responsibilities

The recently adopted *Positively Eden* strategic plan outlines five different strategies. Within each strategy are various goals designed to help achieve the given strategy. In addition, each goal has a corresponding "idea box" section that includes various ideas that could assist us in working toward the achievement of the specific goal. The ideas included in the "idea box" are merely suggestions and are designed to serve as a starting point. It is anticipated that additional ideas will be generated and implemented in order to fulfill the corresponding goal and related strategy. While

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implementation of this plan will truly be a team effort that will include elected officials, city staff and members of the community, it is important to know who will have the overall responsibility for working towards the fulfillment of each strategy. The specific strategies and staff person responsible for each of these strategies will be as follows:

Strategy 1: Broaden the Impact of Downtown: Randy Hunt, Main Street Manager

Strategy 2: Increase Economic Vitality: Mike Dougherty, Director of Economic Development

Strategy 3: Neighborhoods & Housing: Kelly Stultz, Director of Planning & Inspections

Strategy 4: Integrate Recreation & Health: Johnny Farmer, Director of Parks & Recreation

Strategy 5: Engage Citizens: Cindy Adams, Coordinator for Tourism & Special Projects/Events

Each of these employees will be able to call upon anyone they feel may be beneficial and/or interested in helping them to work on specific goals and action items within their specific strategy. The City Manager will be working closely with each of them on this initiative and they will all meet periodically as desired with the strategic planning steering committee as well the City Council. It is anticipated that some specific recommendations in relation to various action items and funding initiatives associated with the implementation of the strategic plan will be submitted to the City Council for their formal consideration within the next 30-60 days.

Update on Regional Industrial Facility Authority (RIFA) and Pittsylvania County Service Authority (PCSA) Negotiations Concerning Water Agreement & Water Service Charges & Other News In Relation To The Berry Hill Mega Park

Erin Gilley, City Attorney recently reached out to Mr. Chris Adcock, the Director of the Pittsylvania County Service Authority (PCSA) asking him about the status of the “draft agreement we submitted” between the City, RIFA and the PCSA for the provision of water to serve the Mega Park and the water service rates. He stated that he would attempt to get the agreement on the next agenda for the PCSA. He stated that if he could not get it on the agenda for later this month, he would put it on the August agenda. In addition, we are currently awaiting word on the \$2.0 million EDA grant application that we submitted to help fund the proposed water line extension and a final decision by the Southern Company on their purchase agreement at the Mega Park. Also, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has been in discussion with RIFA staff about proposed transportation improvements to the Berry Hill Road.

Matrimony Creek Nature Trail Project & Grant Update

The surveys of the property have now been completed and work is being done on the legal easements and property donations that will be needed in order to proceed. Our preliminary plan is to have a formal ground breaking ceremony in early October if not sooner. We hope to have the new trail completed and open for public use by May of 2018. The City of Eden received a Duke Energy Water Resources Fund Grant in the amount of \$100,000 for this project.

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Eden Youth Council Update

The Eden Youth Council's official 2017-2018 meeting schedule begins on Monday, August 7th. The executive members will be meeting on July 18th to brainstorm for the upcoming year.

Citizens Academy Update

The application deadline for the 2017 Citizens Academy is July 31st. As of July 10, 2017 there have been 12 applicants. All meetings will be held from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. The sessions will run from August 17th through October 12th with graduation taking place at the Eden City Council meeting on October 17th.

FY 2017-18 Budget Priorities Established By City Council - Update

On February 25, 2017 the City Council met for its annual budget/planning retreat. A listing and status update on the top fifteen funding priorities established by the Mayor and members of City during that meeting includes the following:

1. Additional Street Resurfacing Needs (Includes East Harris Place)

Contracts 1 (\$469,236.54), 2 (\$179,723.05) and 3 (\$858,019.41) have already been awarded to Waugh Asphalt and the East Harris Place project contract (\$162,632.70) will be awarded to Waugh Asphalt on July 18, 2017. This is a combined total of \$1,669,611.70 in funding that has already been awarded to four different contracts. The current budget includes a total of \$1,869,400 for the FY 2017-18 street resurfacing projects. Included in this total is \$1,100,000 in loan proceeds. The City intends to finance a portion of these resurfacing projects over a period of fifteen years with revenues received from the municipal vehicle license fees the City receives on an annual basis.

2. First Phase of Additional Strategic Plan Initiatives and Recommendations (Action Items That Have Not Been Specifically Identified and Included in the Budget as Submitted)

Specific recommendations related to the *Positively Eden* strategic plan initiatives will be submitted to the City Council in the near future. The current budget includes \$300,000 for initial strategic plan recommendations that were not already specifically identified and included in the current budget, such as funding for the Main Street Manager position, the Downtown Rehabilitation Grant program and the new LED sign for the corner of Stadium Drive and Pierce Street.

3. Replacement of Ladder 2 Fire Truck

This has been completed. The total price (including finance charges) was \$822,224. The City financed this purchase over a period of 15 years. The FY 2017-18 budget includes \$54,900 for the first of fifteen annual debt service payments.

4. Replacement of 8 Police Vehicles

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A purchase order in the amount of \$234,707 has been issued for the acquisition of these vehicles. There will be additional costs for the purchase and installation of equipment and vinyl striping. The FY 2017-18 budget includes receiving \$314,400 in loan proceeds for the replacement of the 8 police vehicles. The City intends to finance this purchase over a period of five years.

5. Replacement of 36 Heating & Air Control Boxes @ City Hall

A purchase order in the amount of \$292,500 has been issued for this project. The FY 2017-18 budget includes receiving \$300,000 in loan proceeds for this effort. The City intends to finance this project over a period of five years.

6. Replacement of Compactor Unit @ Solid Waste Transfer Station

This has been completed. The total price (including finance charges) was \$179,560. The City financed this purchase over a period of 5 years. The FY 2017-18 budget includes \$45,000 for the first of five annual debt service payments.

7. Incentive Grant Program for Building Upgrades in Downtown Areas (This is also a recommendation of the Strategic Plan)

The eligibility guidelines and application materials for the Downtown Rehabilitation Grant program will be presented to the City Council for consideration at their meeting on August 15, 2017. The FY 2017-18 budget includes an initial allocation of \$25,000 for this initiative.

8. Replacement of Automated Side Arm Garbage Truck

This item has not been ordered yet. The FY 2017-18 budget includes receiving \$285,000 in loan proceeds for this effort. The City intends to finance this project over a period of five years.

9. Replacement of 12 Sets of Fire Department Turnout Gear

The Fire Chief is currently in the process of getting competitive prices for this purchase. The FY 2017-18 budget includes \$30,000 for this item.

10. Repairs and Improvements of Mill Avenue Swimming Pool

This has been completed. The total cost was \$36,614. This came in under the previous budget estimate of \$47,000.

11. Replace Entrance Signs @ City Hall (Includes Electronic Sign for Corner) (This is also a recommendation of the Strategic Plan for additional Communications)

This project is currently underway. The FY 2017-18 budget includes \$30,000 for this project and is expected to cost right at the projected cost of \$30,000.

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12. Installation of a Heating & Air System for the Facilities & Grounds Shop

A purchase order in the amount of \$4,588 has been issued for the installation of this system. This came in under the previous budget estimate of \$5,500.

13. Construction of new sidewalk from Hidden Valley to Food Lion Shopping Center

This project is currently underway. The FY 2017-18 budget includes \$6,400 for this project and is expected to cost right at the projected cost of \$6,400.

14. Freedom Park Trail Improvements

Initial discussions and planning related to this project is currently underway. The City received a \$25,000 Rockingham Community Foundation Grant for this initiative and \$25,000 is included in the FY 2017-18 budget for this item.

15. Matrimony Creek Greenway Nature Trail

The surveys of the property have now been completed and work is being done on the legal easements and property donations that will be needed in order to proceed. The City received a \$100,000 Duke Energy Water Resources Fund Grant for this initiative and \$100,000 is included in the FY 2017-18 budget for this item.

Economic & Tourism Development Department

MillerCoors Site Update

Activity in reference to this industrial site is ongoing with one of the prospects for this site. In addition, four additional requests for proposals have been responded to for additional potential tenants.

National Main Street Accreditation for 2017

We are pleased to announce that Eden received accreditation for the second consecutive year from the National Main Street Center. This means Eden’s Main Street program meets the requirements of all communities that are under the Main Street umbrella of downtown revitalization standards.

Downtown Initiatives & 622 Washington Street

We recently reaffirmed the importance of downtown development during the strategic planning process. With those goals in mind, we have been giving careful consideration to the redevelopment of property owned by the City of Eden in our traditional downtown areas. We currently own one parking lot behind the traditional downtown area known as Downtown Draper. It was updated several years ago and a walkway made so that merchants can park back there and save on street parking for customers. Additionally, this lot is used for customers, festival and parade attendees throughout the year. The Veterans Park on Fieldcrest Road has been updated in the recent past and

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receives regular maintenance from the City. Staff has been looking into the potential of another project in this area.

A street resurfacing project included a portion of The Boulevard during the past month. The remainder of The Boulevard will be resurfaced within the next seven weeks. A couple of years ago, the City Council approved a large scale zoning change in The Boulevard downtown area in hopes of increasing development pressure and promoting new businesses.

Within the past year, the Cook Block has received sidewalk and lighting improvements and the NCDOT (North Carolina Department of Transportation) plans to resurface Morgan Road from Lee Street to Washburn Avenue at some point later this fall.

Currently, The City of Eden owns the building located at 622 Washington Street. Portions of the building collapsed several years ago when it was under different ownership. We, as a staff, are considering all available options for this property to make sure that we make the best, most cost effective decision for the City and the downtown district. We plan to put out a Request for Qualifications to potentially engage a firm and do a Design Build project for 622 Washington Street. The City of Eden also owns two parcels that adjoin this property in the rear. We are considering potential plans for merchant parking and customer parking on these additional parcels. We plan to bring specific recommendations for various downtown initiatives to the City Council in the near future.

Eden Downtown Development, Inc. – Update

The EDDC Board of Directors met on July 10th. The Board has addressed the plans to restore the 622 Washington Street building, seeking an Urban Forestry Grant for a Draper Downtown site in early 2018 and business expansions in the Washington Street area. In addition, an Asheville artisan is moving to Eden and he wants to create a location to draw local artists as he helped do in Asheville.

New Entrance Signs @ City Hall Update

Demolition of the old sign has been completed and construction of the new City Hall sign has been initiated. The large sign at the corner of Stadium Drive and Pierce Street is being constructed of block and will have stacked stone placed on the surface both front and back. The LED sign and lettering will be installed in the near future. Minimal landscaping will take place at this time, but more extensive landscaping will be completed during the early fall. As noted previously, the two smaller entrance signs will not be demolished but will be covered with stack stone and have new letters installed to match the large sign.

Rivers & Trails Group – Update

The Rivers and Trails Group recently met with Mr. Homer Wright and his daughter, Ms. Martha Hopkins to discuss property the family is considering donating to the Matrimony Creek Nature Trail Project. Our rivers and trails group will be conducting a field trip to the property on Thursday, July

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20th to both introduce them to the proposed trail and to this property. It is a potential connector to Douglass Elementary School and the Ellerbe Court neighborhood.

Eden Receives Seven Rockingham County Tourism Development Authority (TDA) Grants for FY 2017-18

The City of Eden has been awarded seven Rockingham County TDA grants totaling \$16,300 during the recent grant cycle for FY 2017-18. The specific grants awarded to the City include:

- RiverFest \$ 2,500
- Pottery Festival \$ 1,500
- Shaggin’ On Fieldcrest \$ 1,500
- Oink & Ale \$ 1,500
- Touch-A-Truck \$,500
- Grown & Gathered \$ 1,000
- Dixie Youth Tournament \$ 7,800
- Total \$16,300

Schedule Of Upcoming Special Events

Our Explore Eden monthly E-Newsletter is another way we try to share information with our citizens in an effort to help keep them informed about what is going on in our City. The following upcoming events have recently been featured:

- Shaggin on Fieldcrest – Saturday, July 22nd (7-10 pm) featuring Jim Quick and Coastline. Admission is FREE.
- Grown & Gathered – A farm to form experience. Enjoy a dinner featuring the bounty of our local farms and producers prepared by Chefs Ross and Amy Hammond along Washington Street. \$50 per person or \$90 per couple: Includes dinner, 2 drinks, a local handmade pottery plate and live music – August 12th @ 7:00 p.m. Please call Cindy Adams 336-612-8049 or Debbie Moore 336-344-5539 for reservations. Seating is limited.
- Touch-A-Truck – Saturday, August 19th (10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.) on Henry Street. Admission – a non-perishable food item for the Kids Backpack Food Program. This event will include food, face painting and much more.
- Freedom Park Music & Cruz In @ Kiwanis Amphitheatre at Freedom Park. Cruz in starts at 5:30 p.m. and live music at 6:30 p.m. Event is open and FREE to the public. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy. Concessions available. 50/50 drawing, corn hole, door prizes and more. Upcoming sessions include:
 - Saturday, July 29th @ 6:30 p.m. – The Impacts
 - Saturday, August 26th @ 6:30 p.m. – “Against the Nights” (Christian Blues music)
 - Saturday, September 30th @ 6:30 p.m. – The Impacts
 - Saturday, October 28th @ TBA – Fall Festival
- August 27th @ Wright Memorial Event Center – Live Beach Music – Gates open at 3:00 p.m. Entertainment is: Jacob Vaughan @ 4:15 p.m. and The Embers at 5:30 p.m. There will be door prizes, food, vendors, and Shaggin. Tickets can be purchased online at

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www.eventbrite.com and at The Bette-R-Look Salon (Eden), Eden Chiropractic Office (Eden) and Roadside Gypsy (Eden).

- Trailbuilding Workshops are being offered through Rockingham Community College's Outdoor Skills Training Program 336-342-4261 Ext. 2011. Intro to Sustainable Trailbuilding 7/8 or 7/22 and Sustainable Trail Design & Layout 8/12 or 8/19.
- RiverFest – September 15th (5:00 – 10:00 p.m.) and September 16th (10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.) along Washington Street. Celebrating Eden's 50th Anniversary!

Facebook Page

Eden has a Facebook page and we invite everyone to “Like” it and follow us. This is another very important and popular way that we use to try and get out information about events and other important City of Eden information.

Karastan Mosaic Public Art Project in Grogan Park

City staff recently met with representatives of Karastan to discuss an upcoming Karastan Rug Mosaic public art project in Grogan Park that will be placed on the floor underneath the gazebo. In addition, we are planning to hold a Karastan exhibit once the mosaic artwork is completed and we do the unveiling/dedication. Also, there are plans to get the famous World's Fair rug sent to Eden for display during this event. More information will be made available as the project develops.

Eden Quilt Square Unveiling

We conducted our Quilt Square Unveiling on Thursday, July 13th. Our speakers included Mayor Wayne Tuggle and Jan Critz, Rockingham County Director of Economic Development & Tourism. Our square is the 30th on the Rockingham County Quilt Trail. Our location will now go on the new map that is being published. The piece was created by artist Darlene Holman. She created many of the squares on the trail. Our square represents Eden's rich natural resources, recreational opportunities and wildlife.

Tourism Board – Update

The Tourism Board did not meet during the course of the past month.

50TH Anniversary Update

We will be placing a rock and bronze plaque in front of City Hall very soon that will commemorate our 50th Anniversary. Staff is working with the Eden Historical Museum to get their windows ready for RiverFest. The windows will have an anniversary theme.

Sheralene Thompson, City Clerk is assembling a 50th Anniversary celebration timeline manuscript that will be finished by the end of July and will head out for publishing in August. The book will contain articles and quotes from newspaper clippings from The Eden News and Greensboro News

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& Record, Mayor Jones Norman's scrapbook and items from the City of Eden minutes. We believe that you will find the history of our City to be very interesting.

Engineering Department

Transportation Projects – Update

Below is a list of highlights/accomplishments on current transportation projects:

- **2017 Powell Bill Report**

- The Certified Statement, Map, Street Listing and the Add & Delete Sheet was approved, certified and submitted to the NC Powell Bill Manager's Office on July 11th.

- **FY 2017-18 Street Resurfacing Contracts, No. 1, 2 & 3**

- Waugh Asphalt plans to start construction on contracts 1 and 2 during the week of July 17th.
- Waugh Asphalt is tentatively planning to start construction on contract 3 at some point in September.

- **East Harris Place Improvement Project**

- Bids were received on June 29, 2017.
- Waugh Asphalt was the low bidder with a bid of \$162,632.70.
- Request to Award the Contract is being brought to Council on July 18, 2017 for approval.
- Since our last meeting, staff has been able to reach Walmart Corporate. Our request for financial assistance has been submitted to Tyler Latimer, Sr. Manager of Real Estate for our district. Our request is being considered at this time. We hope to hear something very soon.

- **Southwood Drive Upgrade**

- The City of Eden and the developer of the future Ashton Way Apartments on East Harris Place have reached an agreement for improvements to the gravel section of Southwood Drive. Specifically, we have agreed to join forces to complete this section of roadway.
- The city will be responsible for removing the existing material from the site, grading and installing the 6-inch stone base on Southwood Drive. This work will be completed in conjunction with the East Harris Place Improvement Contract.
- A mixture of the stone base and the millings removed from East Harris Place will be installed on Southwood Drive to be used as the stone base.

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- City forces will be responsible for spreading the material as it is hauled to the site, compaction and the grading of the newly placed material.
- The developer of Ashton Way Apartments will be responsible for the installation of the 3.5 inches of asphalt material. The asphalt base will be installed once the stone base is in place prior to the start of construction of the apartment complex to allow it to be used during construction. The asphalt surface course will be installed during the final stages of construction on the apartments.
- It is important to point out that the original estimated cost for the city to construct this section on Southwood Drive was approximately \$65,000. By joining forces with the developer and not having to purchase the stone, we now estimate a cost not to exceed \$10,000.
- This project is currently scheduled to start in September.

Waterline Replacement Projects Update

Since June 16th our contractor has completed the 6-inch DIP (ductile iron pipe) water main installation project along Hudson Street between Hopper Lane and Caleb Lane. New taps were made for five houses after tests for the new waterline were passed. The project cost ended up being about \$15,000 less than the bid price due to encountering very good soil and reducing the amount of pavement cut that was required. In addition, our contractor has installed about 300 LF (linear feet) of 6-inch DIP water main along Caleb Lane, and about 26 LF of 6-inch DIP waterline along the east side of Caleb Street at the intersection with Caleb Lane.

Between now and August 15th we expect that our contractor will install a 2-inch PVC waterline for the northern part of Caleb Street, and a 6-inch DIP waterline for the section of Caleb Street from Caleb Lane to Flinchum Street. The contractor will make new taps after testing of the new water main is completed. In addition, the contractor will make any necessary pavement repairs. Also, we anticipate holding the bid opening for the Victor Street 2-inch waterline replacement project prior to the August 15, 2017 meeting of the Eden City Council.

Finance & Human Resources Department

Update on Closeout of FY 2016-17, Audit Process & Commencement of FY 2017-18

The last day of fiscal year 2016-17 was Friday June 30, 2017 and the first day of fiscal year 2017-18 was Saturday July 1, 2017. We will be working in both the current fiscal year 2017-18 and the prior fiscal year 2016-17 through August 16, 2017. This will allow us to recognize revenues and expenditures that come in after June 30, 2017, but are for fiscal year 2016-17. Representatives from the Independent Auditing firm of Rouse, Rouse, Penn and Rouse started their preliminary audit work on June 20, 2017. They completed the year-end inventories on July 3, 2017 for Fleet Maintenance, Public Works Warehouse, Water Filtration, and Wastewater Treatment. According to Ms. Judy Rouse, CPA, "All inventories went well. Everyone was ready". The Auditor's will begin the main part of the audit after August 16, 2017, and they will have it completed by October 31, 2017. The final copy of the audited financial statements will be submitted to the Local Government Commission for review/approval. Once we receive their approval, the Auditor's will distribute

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copies of the audit to the City Council and they will appear before the City Council at a monthly Council meeting to make their annual audit presentation.

Fire Department

Fire Department Statistical Data For 1st Six Months Of 2017

The Eden Fire Department responded to a total of 326 calls over the past six months. The following categories further break down the response to what type of call with a brief explanation:

- 29 fire related calls or 8.90%. The fire related category includes structure fires, vehicle fires and outside or brush fires.
- 93 rescue and emergency medical calls or 28.53%. This includes automobile accidents and assisting with Rockingham County EMS crews.
- 62 hazardous condition (No fire) type calls or 19.02%. These calls include trees on power lines, gas leaks, and fluid spills.
- 47 general service calls or 14.42%. These are requests for general service.
- 37 good intent calls or 11.35%. This includes smoke scares and odor investigations.
- 55 false alarms or 16.87%. These occur usually due to a malfunctioning alarm system or accidental/unintentional activation of the alarm system.
- The fire department also had 2 major weather events that represented .61% of the call volume and there was 1 overpressure/rupture event that equaled .30% of the calls.
-

During the first six months of 2017 the Eden Fire Department has conducted five public education events at different locations in Eden, including schools and churches with a combined audience of over 400 people. The topics discussed included the use of 911; home escape drills and the proper use of fire extinguishers. In addition, the fire department has a smoke detector program for citizen's who own their home and do not have the means to buy smoke detectors.

The fire department will give the homeowner one smoke detector free of charge or they can schedule an appointment with us and we will come to their home and install it for them. Over the past six months we have given away or installed 4 smoke detectors.

Parks & Recreation Department

Parks & Recreation News & Reminders

In addition to several weekend softball tournaments at Freedom Park and our normal programs we hosted a concert in the park/cruise-in at Freedom Park on June 24th, have operated the Mill Avenue swimming pool each day from 12:00 noon to 5:45 p.m. and have been continuing to operate our Summer Day Camp program that runs through August 18th. On Friday, July 14th we held the opening ceremonies for the North Carolina Dixie Youth Baseball Ozone State Tournament and play got underway at Freedom Park on Saturday, July 15th. The City of Eden was recently awarded a Rockingham County Tourism Development Authority (TDA) grant in the amount of \$7,800 to help defray some of the costs associated with sponsoring this tournament.

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2018 Scottish Highland Games

On June 26th staff met with Jimmy Murray of the Scottish Highland Games about the possibility of the Games being held at Freedom Park in the spring of 2018. He is going to make a proposal to his Board and will let the City know in the next few weeks if they will choose Eden as the location for the Scottish Highland Games in 2018.

Freedom Park Nature & Educational Trail Improvements - Update

Staff within the Parks & Recreation Department and Municipal Services Department will soon be working together to upgrade the nature trail in the back of Freedom Park. Work will include applying additional granite dust to the trail, adding additional benches, picnic tables, and constructing 8-10 RV pads for camping in the back at Freedom Park. There will be electrical hook ups, water hook ups, as well as a sewer disposal location for the use by the campers. We anticipate that work will begin in the early fall and will be completed and opened to the public for use by the spring of 2018. The City of Eden received a Rockingham Community Foundation Grant in the amount of \$25,000 for this project.

Parks & Recreation Master Plan – Update

Parks & Recreation Staff will be working with the City Manager to develop a list of individuals who would be willing to serve as a member of the new Parks and Recreation Advisory Board that was recommended in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. In addition, there are several smaller recommendations in the master plan that was approved by the City Council that the City can work to accomplish in the upcoming months, such as the Dog Park, improvements to trails, addition of new trails, and the potential for a Splash Pad with a capital campaign effort to help generate funding for this project. Specific recommendations will be brought to the City Council for their formal consideration once finalized.

Planning & Inspections Department

Ashton Way Apartments Coming To Eden

We have received construction drawings for a new apartment complex that will be located off of East Harris Place behind the WalMart. They will be called Ashton Way Apartments. The developer, Wynnfield Properties has estimated that site work will begin within 60 – 90 days and vertical construction will begin in approximately 120 days. Once construction begins, it will take between 9 and 10 months to complete. The plans call for 8 1-bedroom units (2 w/office), 22 2-bedroom units, and 18 3-bedroom units. In addition, there will be a 1-story community center, a fenced playground area and a picnic shelter. The main entrance and exit will be off of East Harris Place.

Code Enforcement Update

Since the June meeting of the Eden Council the Planning and Inspections Department has mailed out statements to all delinquent accounts. During this time we have collected \$781.07 in fees.

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Kelly Stultz, Director of Planning and Inspections and Erin Gilley, City Attorney have met and formulated a plan of action that includes selected properties for immediate legal action. First, letters will be sent from the City Attorney to all delinquent owners stating that legal action is imminent if their bills are not paid. After that happens, we will be proceeding with foreclosure actions on most of the properties and other means of collections on the others. Attachment of personal property is also available and will be pursued. There is a process of notification that is required in code enforcement issues and this will be completed as well.

Planning Commission Update

The Planning Commission did not meet during the course of the past month.

Board of Adjustment Update

The Board of Adjustment did not meet during the course of the past month.

Community Appearance Commission Update

The Community Appearance Commission attempted to meet on June 27th but did not have a quorum so no official business was conducted.

Tree Board Update

The Tree Board met on June 19th. Mr. Chris Colvin from Lamar advertising came to the meeting. He has concerns about the visibility of a Lamar billboard sign because of the street trees. The sign is located on Highway 14 South across from the Ford Dealership. The Tree Board discussed the situation and the board made a motion to accept the following conditions: We would have the trees appraised by several local nurseries. We would average the price for each one and Lamar Advertising will in return pay for the replacement of an equal value of street trees along Highway 14. Lamar Advertising also agreed to donate free advertisement space on the billboard to the city for events if it's available.

Historic Preservation Commission Update

The Historic Preservation Commission is working with the State Historic Preservation Office to obtain more information for the local landmark request/report for the Eden Historical Museum property.

Lidl Project Update

The Lidl project is well under way at this point. The shell building is close to being dried-in and the interior slab is being prepared for concrete. Most of the site utility work has been completed at this time.

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Howard’s Restaurant Update

Howard’s Restaurant, owned by Howard Tate is now under construction. Footings will be poured this week. He plans to open a small restaurant that will only serve breakfast and lunch.

Police Department

Police Department Statistical Data For 1st Six Months Of 2017

Included is the CFS (Call For Service) information from January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017 that was received from Jason Wood, Rockingham County 911 Database Manager. The Eden Police Department received 10,377 calls for service during the first six months of 2017. The total dispatched calls from the 911 center were 9,047 and the traffic stop calls were 1,330.

Also included below is the incident report information for the first six months of 2017. Incident reports are being generated for motor vehicle accidents. The incidents created for motor vehicle accidents expand the master name database for the new records management system. To provide an accurate representation of the incidents worked by the department, the traffic accident incident reports are not included in the statistics. The information below provides the statistics for the total number of criminal incidents for the entire department, as well as statistics for the investigative unit. The investigative unit and/or a detective in the unit are assigned any case that needs further investigation. During previous years, the statistics provided from the old “Police Pak” Records Management System included all incidents created. The statistics listed below is a more accurate reflection of the criminal offenses that occur in our city and the investigation of those offenses.

Traffic Collision Reports January 1, 2017- June 30, 2017: 298

Eden Police Department total cases/incidents to include on view arrests by patrol and cases investigated by the Investigative Unit for January 1, 2017- June 30, 2017:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Cases</u>	<u>Total Cases Closed/ %</u>	<u>Total Closed by Arrest/%</u>
Jan.-June	1124	740 (65.8%)	484 (43%)

Investigative Unit total cases/incidents assigned to investigators for further investigation during the year January 1, 2017- June 30, 2017:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Cases</u>	<u>Total Cases Closed/ %</u>	<u>Total Closed by Arrest/%</u>
Jan.-June	912	545 (59.7%)	234 (25.6%)

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Public Utilities Department

EPA Administrative Order On Consent and Mandatory Projects to Stop Sewer System Overflows - Update

At this time, we are ahead of schedule for our projects and our documentation submittals to the EPA and water infrastructure for our grant and loan funding. Our engineering report was due on June 1st, and this deadline was met. The Water Infrastructure Section of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources has until November 1st to complete their review of our engineering report and give their approval for all projects. The rehabilitation of the Bridge and Junction Pump Stations as well as the digester improvements at the wastewater treatment plant have been in progress for several months now and may be bid earlier than most of the other projects due to a greater need to have these facilities rehabilitated first. Our first semiannual progress report to be submitted to the EPA as part of the Administrative Order on Consent will be due November 1, 2017.

Mega Park Water Line Project – Update

Currently, the engineers at Dewberry & Davis are ready to begin the design work of the new water line that will serve the Mega Park and the water improvements that will take place in the east end of Eden that will loop some of our lines and provide redundancy to our trunk lines serving this area. Our engineering report for this project was submitted before the deadline of June 1st, and is currently under review by the Water Infrastructure Section of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Water Infrastructure has until November 1, 2017 to complete the review of the engineering report.

Chloramine Project – Update

We hope to schedule another start up attempt to put the chloramine project online before the end of this month. We have made previous attempts to start up this project and each time we found an issue with the equipment or design that delayed having the system online. We were able to bring the system online and make chloramines in May, but we discovered that a chlorine control valve would be needed to make the system function properly. This control valve was ordered and has been installed and the control programming to our plant computer system will be completed in the near future. If we have a successful startup prior to the end of July, the system will be online and will remain so until further notice. It is our current plan to have the system online and functional to help us meet our scheduled August compliant monitoring sampling of Trihalomethanes.

Leachate from the Duke Energy – Update

The Duke Energy landfill project began pumping leachate to our Wastewater Treatment Plant during the last ten days of June. At this point it appears that our plant will be able to treat the Coal Ash leachate.

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

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This Project will tie the Meadow Greens and Covenant Branch Sewer Pump Stations into the underutilized Railroad Pump Station Force Main to provide redundancy to the existing force mains serving these pump stations. When the project is completed in December 2017, we will be able to control flow from these pump stations into the larger Railroad force main to provide greater capacity to these pump stations during high flow periods. This project was funded with grant money totaling \$534,000 with the city making a match contribution of \$35,000 to complete the project. Although, this project was not directly part of the EPA – AO, the project will serve to help control and ensure that we do not have overflows from these pump stations. This project is underway and construction should begin in early August. Sam W Smith, Jr. is the contractor on this project. This project is on schedule and expected to easily meet the December 2017 deadline for completion.

Melinda Ward – Superintendent of Wastewater Treatment Plant Featured in Article

The July 2017 issue of TPO (Treatment Plant Operator) Magazine did a story on the legacy of Melinda Ward's family in the wastewater industry. A picture of Melinda in her Eden All-American City shirt is on the cover of the magazine. In addition to Melinda's work, her father, Lynwood Sessoms, was superintendent of the plant in Tarboro, NC. and her husband, Michael Ward is Superintendent for the Henry County (Virginia) Public Service Authority. Melinda was honored by her peers earlier this year when she was selected to receive the 2016 William D. Hatfield Award from the NCWEA.

Municipal Services Department

Tornado Clean-up Efforts

Anglin Earthworks has two outfalls left to clean as a result of the May 5th tornado. It is anticipated that they will complete their work within the next 2-3 weeks, weather permitting. Also, we have advertised the fact that July 28th will be the last day for the collection of any storm related debris. After that point in time we will continue to collect all debris placed curbside as long as it meets our existing rules and regulations. After July 28th we will solicit bids for the chipping and hauling component associated with removing the temporary tornado debris pile. Based on preliminary estimates from Timberland Mulch we believe that price could likely be somewhere in the neighborhood of at least \$103,000. Once that work is completed we will then be in a position to submit our reimbursement request to NC Emergency Management.

Eden Greenway – Update

Hudson Welding has completed construction of the greenway bridge and the bridge has been installed, anchored down into bridge pillars and is now useable. We still have some dress up work to do around the area of the bridge. The Street Division has installed rip rap on the banks for erosion control and they are forming a concrete headwall on each end of the new bridge and working the walking trail into both ends of the new bridge. In addition, Anglin Earthworks is currently wrapping-up their tornado cleanup efforts. If the weather cooperates we hope to have the Greenway fully accessible again by July 21st.

SKAT Bus Shelters - Update

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The SKAT Bus Shelters are almost complete. One will be located at the Dollar General on Stadium Drive, one at the Dollar General on Morgan Road and the third one will be installed on property at the Habitat Restore or Love Oil Company (Ron’s Mini Mart) depending upon the acquisition of the required easement.

Draper Landing – Update

The steps at Draper Landing have been removed due to the entire embankment sliding into the river. This was an emergency decision that was made so we would not lose the steps. The major issue with the landing is the land in that area is mostly sandy soil and it’s difficult to anchor the steps. We are currently discussing various options and developing a plan of action. The current location is a problem due to the lack of solid ground. One of the options we are investigating is the installation of pylons to anchor the steps.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approval and Adoption of Minutes: June 20, 2017.
- b. Approval and Adoption of E. Harris Place Improvements Contract, (SRC 2017-18-04). Request to Award Contract.

The bids were received on June 29, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. A total of 4 responsive bids were received for the project. The low bidder was Waugh Asphalt, Inc. in the amount of \$162,632.70. The date of availability for the contract is August 1, 2017. The Engineering Department is requesting Council’s approval to award the contract to Waugh Asphalt, Inc. based on their bid amount shown above

- c. Approval and Adoption of Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Article 7 – Main Street Advisory Board.

The City Council previously established a Main Street Advisory Board in 2003 and created Chapter 2 Article VII to govern the Board. This Board was dissolved in 2007, but the Code was never amended to reflect the dissolution. Staff recommendation was that the City Council repeal Article VII of Chapter 2 of the Eden City Code to reflect that there was no longer a Main Street Advisory Board.

- d. Approval and Adoption of General Fund Street Resurfacing Projects Financing Resolution.

Council approved a new loan in its FY 2017-2018 budget of \$1,100,000 within the General Fund. The City needs to proceed with private placement financing for the Street Resurfacing Projects. Please find attached the Resolution to Proceed with the acquisition of financing proposals from interested banks for their consideration.

**RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH PRIVATE PLACEMENT FINANCING
FOR THE GENERAL FUND STREET RESURFACING PROJECTS.**

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WHEREAS, the Eden City Council (the “Council”) has determined that it is in the best interests of the City to finance the resurfacing of city streets of certain projects within the City known as the (1) GENERAL FUND STREET RESURFACING PROJECTS (SEE ATTACHED LIST) (the “Projects”) with proceeds of tax-exempt obligations; and

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

WHEREAS, the Council has approved a new loan in its FY 2017-2018 budget of \$1,100,000 within the General Fund for the Projects and now wishes to appoint an authorized representative and direct staff to proceed with the acquisition of financing proposals from interested banks based on rate, terms, and fees.

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

Adopted and approved this 18th day of July, 2017.

Wayne Tuggle, Mayor
Attest:

Sheralene Thompson, CMC, MMC, NCCMC
City Clerk

e. Consideration and Approval of Property Donation Acceptance.

City Staff has had discussions with Martha Wright Hopkins, a representative of the Homer Wright, Jr. Family regarding the Family’s desire to benevolently donate properties to the City of Eden. After discussions with Mark Bullins and Josh Woodall, it was determined that numerous properties could be used by the City for public use. The uses include water and sewer access purposes, and recreational purposes, mainly for the Matrimony Creek Greenway and Trail. Mrs. Hopkins has been a major force in the creation and design of this greenway, and without the land donations included herein, the greenway would probably not be a reality.

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City of Eden, N.C.

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Staff recommendation was that Council vote to accept these land donations and authorize Staff to proceed with any action, legal or otherwise, to facilitate this donation.

A motion was made by unanimous consent to approve the consent agenda.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by unanimous consent to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheralene S. Thompson,
CMC, MMC, NCCMC
City Clerk

ATTEST:

Wayne R. Tuggle, Sr., Mayor