

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF KENNETT TOWNSHIP  
Kennett Township  
801 Burrows Run Road  
Chadds Ford, PA 19317**

**August 21, 2019**

Chairman Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present:       Chairman, Scudder G. Stevens  
                  Vice Chair, Dr. Richard Leff  
                  Supervisor, Whitney S. Hoffman  
                  Public Works Director, Roger Lysle  
                  Chief of Police, Lydell Nolt  
                  Dave Sander, Solicitor  
                  Alison Rudolf, Interim Township Manager

<b>TOWNSHIP INVESTIGATION UPDATE</b>
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**Chairman Stevens presented the following prepared statement on the Township Investigations:**

*Good evening everyone,*

*As you know, we made a commitment to keep you informed about the two investigations currently underway in Kennett Township by the Chester County District Attorney's Office and a forensic auditor hired by the Township.*

*These investigations are looking into suspicious transactions on Township accounts which came to light in late April of this year.*

*As you probably also know, all Township employees (including the Supervisors) have been asked by the District Attorney not to discuss any information which might jeopardize the investigations, and to refrain from speculation. We have been following those instructions and cooperating fully in the investigations. What that means is that we are not free to talk about any of the facts or details of this matter that everyone wants to hear about. We all understand that and I appreciate your understanding.*

*That said, in keeping with our commitment to communicate what we can, we have four items to report tonight.*

*First, on the progress of the investigations*

*You'll recall that I've reported at each meeting on both parts of the investigation:*

*First, the District Attorney's investigation into potential criminal wrongdoing.*

*Second, the forensic accountant's investigation into determining actions which might have been either improper or illegal.*

*We continue to be in touch periodically with the District Attorney's office and the forensic accountants.*

*Both tell us that they are continuing to work on their investigations and remind us to be patient. These things take time.*

*I do want to remind everyone tonight that the timing of both investigations is not under our control, nor is the time when they will conclude and report their findings.*

*They will tell us when their investigations are complete, NOT the other way around.*

*We are waiting to hear their results along with all of you.*

*I appreciate your understanding as we work to fully cooperate and support their efforts, including not to do or say anything which might jeopardize or hinder either investigation.*

*Second, a brief Township Operations Update:*

*I've discussed this before, but it bears repeating, we continue to work diligently to ensure that the government of Kennett Township proceeds without interruption and to take prudent steps to add both additional safeguards and security to all of our systems – financial and otherwise.*

*Third, we are financially sound*

*As we have reported in the past, the Township is in good shape financially, and our bills are all paid or current.*

*Fourth, as you know, we took action in May to place our former Township Manager on administrative leave. When we a short time later received additional information, and with the advice of our legal counsel, we took action to terminate that individual.*

*That situation obviously created a vacancy in the position of Township Manager.*

*We promptly engaged the Meyner Center at Lafayette College, who are experts in township and municipal governance and who have extensive connections within the municipal community, to help us find the right Township Manager for Kennett Township.*

*Two very important – and very positive – things resulted from our work with the Meyner Center.*

*First, we hired Alison Rudolph as our Interim Township Manager in May. She has done a wonderful job on so many levels and she will be with us a while longer during our transition.*

*Second, the Meyner Center was also very helpful in our search for a new Township Manager. As you may recall, two weeks ago I reported that we had made good progress in our search and tonight I will introduce and we will officially hire our new Township Manager during the regular business portion of our meeting.*

*Last, on behalf of Richard Leff, Whitney Hoffman and myself, I would like to thank all our Township staff and all the residents of Kennett Township once again for their continued support and encouragement as we navigate this challenging process.*

*I will now take questions specifically related to the investigations. We will take questions on other Township business later on in the meeting as we usually do.*

**Questions and Answers:**

Carol Kerns noted that there was a two signature process was in place for all checks, asking if that failed, what measures are being taken to make sure this does not happen again. Chairman Stevens responded noting that it is difficult to answer that question without speculating and confirming what went wrong in the first place. Chairman Stevens confirmed that the Township had and has a policy that two signatures are required on checks written over two thousand dollars. It was reported by Supervisors Leff that only the Board of Supervisors have signing rights on checks now.

Bill Kaiser asked for a range that is being talked about that is missing. Solicitor Sander responded that the Board, even if they know cannot give that information as the investigation is ongoing.

John Haedrich asked if the Township is in financial risk because of this issue. Chairman Stevens responded no. John Haedrich asked why no, Chairman Stevens clarified that the Township is not in jeopardy or at risk of paying bills.

*(Conclusion)*

*Thank you for your questions. I'll be glad to answer additional questions personally after the meeting, should you have any.*

*Now we will return to the Agenda and Township Business.*

<b>INTRODUCTION AND APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP MANAGER</b>
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Chairman Stevens read the following prepared statement:

*As you all know, the Board of Supervisors has been diligently seeking a new township manager for some weeks. We wanted a township manager possessing the skills and educational background to effectively and efficiently manage Kennett Township – as well as an individual with the foresight to lead the township forward for many years.*

*We received dozens of resumes and with the aid of the Lafayette College's Meyner Center, we narrowed the field and then settled upon the best candidate, Eden R. Ratliff. I believe you will be pleased by his credentials, skills and all that he will bring to Kennett Township in the years to come.*

*We had a very thorough process, including a professional background check on Eden including his work experience, his education, his references (both personal and professional). The background check was conducted by a well-respected former chief of police recommended to us by the Meyner Center. Eden checked out and received a thorough clearance. We have copies of Eden's bio, resume and a press release for you. Our plan is that he will officially begin his new role here on September 23 – about a month from today.*

*I would now like to introduce our candidate for Kennett Township's new manager – and following his remarks we will be taking up a resolution to hire him.*

*Please join me in welcoming Eden Ratliff.*

Eden Ratliff read a prepared statement (attached to the minutes).

### **Resolution to appoint Township Manager**

**Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-23 appointing Eden R. Ratliff as Township Manager. Vice Chairman Leff seconded the motion.**

#### **Discussion:**

Supervisor Hoffman commented that she is thrilled with the appointment and feels that everyone will be happy.

Chris Burkett asked how the Township reviewed the experience of working only with Boroughs verses Townships. Chairman Stevens commented that the structures of the different organizations only have minor differences, notably council member's verses supervisors and boroughs have mayors.

Supervisor Hoffman commented on Eden's utility experience and how that will be helpful.

Alison Rudolf commented that in her experience working in several different classes of municipalities, the basic skillset levels of manager are the same noting that second class Townships are less restrictive of them all.

Patricia Maisano commented noting that she has lived in the Township for almost thirty years and thanked the Supervisors for their openness and efforts in making the Township more transparent, and the communications with the citizens more transparent noting that they have walked into a wall of a mess stating that she thinks the supervisors are awesome.

Bill Kaiser commented that the supervisors did a great job in their search and have a great result noting the Eden's presentation to the community was great.

**Motion adopted unanimously.**

## **MINUTES**

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to adopt the minutes from the August 7, 2019 meeting. Vice Chairman Leff seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Executive Session Announcement:**

Sander announced that the Kennett Township Board of Supervisors met in executive sessions on August 13, 16, 17, 20 and 21st to discuss personnel matters.

## **REPORTS**

### **Township Manager:**

#### **County Ordinance Review:**

*The Township continues to work with the Chester County Planning Commission on a comprehensive review of Township Ordinances. Work will be done during the planning Commissions monthly work sessions which are now the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm in the Townships public meeting room.*

#### **Trails:**

*Work on the refurbishment of the first part of the Parish and Pennock Park trails is completed. Areas that were prone to flooding and washing out were raised and replaced with a "boardwalk" filled with aggregate. The second portion of the trail is scheduled to be completed in the next round of work with a different grant.*

#### **Longwood Gardens Bridge/Overpass:**

*Work on the Longwood Gardens Bridge/Overpass continues, please expect delays around the Longwood Gardens section of Rt. 1. Work hours are scheduled 9am-3pm on weekdays. Longwood Gardens is making necessary repairs to the overpass bridge into Longwood Gardens. The bridge will not be closed however there will be times that there are lane restrictions. Route one will have partial closures to northbound and southbound Route 1 approaching Longwood. Clear lane restriction and directional signage will alert and direct drivers when work is taking place.*

#### **Landscaping Workshop:**

*Do you need help with your garden? Wondering where to start? We will show you how to landscape using native plants to make beautiful gardens and landscapes with four-season interest and benefits to a healthy environment for our community. This is a two part workshop being held on September 17<sup>th</sup> and 24 at 7pm in the Township's Public Meeting room. Registration is FREE but required. There is a maximum of 30 attendees, if this workshop max's out, it will be offered again over the winter. Please register on the Townships website.*

#### **Managing your Streamside Property:**

*Once again, the Township will be teaming up with Brandywine Red Clay alliance to offer a special educational program for residents who are interested in learning and getting advice on best practices on keeping streamside properties managed so that the stream and groundwater stays healthy. This is a free program open to all on September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Township meeting room.*

#### **Zoning Hearing Board Case 502:**

Board of Supervisors Meeting, August 21, 2019

*The Zoning Hearing Board of Kennett Township will conduct a public hearing at the Kennett Township Municipal Building, 801 Burrows Run Road, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317, at 7:00 PM, on Monday, September 16, 2019 to act upon the following appeal:*

*Case No. 502: The Applicant and equitable owner; is The Commonwealth Group, 300 Water Street, Suite 300, Wilmington, DE. 19801. The Property owner is Giordano Properties LLC, 633 E. Cypress Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348. The Property which is the subject of the application consists of 10+/- acres located on Ways Lane, consisting of tax parcels 62-4-48; 62-4-50; 62-4-51, 62-4-52, zoned C – Commercial and a portion of tax parcel 62-4-53 zoned BP – Business Park. The Applicant seeks variance relief from Section 240-1802. F of the Kennett Township Zoning Ordinance which allows a maximum of 40% disturbance of existing Class II Woodlands on a property and limits the removal of Heritage trees. The Applicant seeks to exceed the 40%, and to disturb up to 75% of the Class II Woodlands, and to remove two (2) heritage trees in order to continue the redevelopment of the Property.*

**Discussion:**

Chris Burkett asked if there is any update on the Chandler Mill Bridge. Alison Rudolf responded that she does not have updated information in front of her but will present an update with her next report.

Pat Muller announced that on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 4pm at the Creamery, Office Hours Kennett will hold its next presentation, information and free registration at [www.officehourskennett.com](http://www.officehourskennett.com)

**Chief of Police Report:**

Chief Lydell Nolt presented the Chief of Police Report for the month of July 2019:

*The Kennett Township Police Department provided police services to 569 police incidents in the municipality of Kennett during the month of July 2019.*

*The department responded to three overdose incidents in the month of July 2019, one of those incidents is now currently being investigated as an overdose death. Naloxone was administered successfully in one of the three incidents. The department continues to warn the public about dangers of opiate based controlled substances. We encourage parents, family, friends and the community to take an active role in reporting narcotic activity. These reporting's and early interventions are keys steps in preventing overdose deaths.*

*The department continues to focus on traffic related issues throughout the township. The department reminds the public that over 90% of the crashes involve the driver's actions as the cause of the crash. Obedience to the traffic laws is a huge first step in preventing crashes. We will continue to have officers take a proactive role in education and enforcement as a way of preventing crashes.*

*The department as part of our involvement with the Chester County Emergency Response Team (SWAT) provided an officer to assist the team on two call outs in the month of July. The department also assigned a officer to a roving DUI patrol as part of our highway sobriety safety grant.*

*The department is very pleased to announce that our body camera equipment has been updated. We received funding from the Longwood Rotary Club and TRI-M Incorporated to make this upgrade possible. The department values the partnership we share with the community, we continue to work daily to promote our community policing relationships. The department has been a strong advocate for the use of body cameras, not only in our department but throughout the region as well. The program continues to provide a high level of integrity to our community.*

*The department provided the following professional devolvement training in July. The department as a whole reviewed the required annual training for our body camera program. Sgt. Gordon received additional training for his (ERT SWAT) assignment.*

*The department engaged in 6 community policing events in July 2019. This reaffirms our commitment to community through police and community engagement programs.*

*Additionally, I would like to discuss a topic of significant concern. We as a nation continue to experience active shooter situations. The loss of life and trauma experienced in these situations is unspeakable. As the primary law enforcement agency that serves our community, we would be doing a disservice if we did not prepare for these types of threats. We however, have no currently identified threats in our community. But, I want to ensure the community we are doing everything necessary to prepare, and prevent these types of incidents locally. Our officers are all have received specialized training in active shooter response and threat assessment. The department jointly trains with our local, state and federal law enforcement partners in active shooter responses. The department is an active partner in the County Emergency Response Team which brings the full resources of a county wide (ERT/SWAT) team to our municipality if needed. These are a few of the many preparations the department is taking to protect our community. Lastly, we strongly suggest the public report any and all suspicious activity to 911 immediately. These immediate 911 calls allow law enforcement to respond without delay to investigate the activity.*

***Discussion:***

Supervisor Hoffman commented that she noticed in the newspaper that body cameras are being rolled out to other departments throughout the county and asked if the Chiefs expertise has been used during these new rollouts. Chief Nolt responded that the Townships policies have been used as a template for other municipalities in Chester County.

Richard Gaw asked Chief Nolt if his department will or has worked with local school districts as it relates to prevention of mass shootings. Chief Nolt responded that the Township has been working with the School district proactively over the last couple years to provide resources to this issue.

Chairman Stevens commented that there have been incidents at the local Walmart and asked how the Township police department is preparing for such incidents. Chief Nolt responded noting that the Police department has a mutual aide agreement with surrounding agencies and works in conjunction with the County Emergency Response Team to prepare and responded to large scale emergency situations.

Carol Kerns asked about the body camera procedures and retention periods. Chief Nolt responded that the body camera is used for any official police activity and the retention period is sixty days by state law but the departments policy is to keep longer.

Sara Leff asked if the Township Police department does cooperative training drills with other departments in the area. Chief Nolt responded yes, the Township is part of the county wide training program.

**Public Works Director Report:**

Roger Lysle presented the Public Works Report for the month of July 2019:

Lines were painted on roads that were paved last month.

New drainage inlet and pipe was installed on Elmwood Drive.

Shoulders were stoned on Chandler Mill Road and West Hillendale Road after paving was completed.

Several trees were cleaned up after storms went through the area.

A new call box was installed at the VFW sewer pump station after failure.

A new Information board, trashcan and dog waste station were installed at Spar Hill Farm.

Rubberized crack sealing is being completed on the roads that will be a slurry sealed later this month.

Drainage berm was built in the Black rock development to help with water runoff on two properties.

Weaver mulch completed grinding yard waste, still waiting on total cubic yards. Lots of material was unable to be grinded, too much dirt. New signs are ordered and posted at the site. Rules will be enforced. Four dump truck loads of trash had to be hauled to the landfill.

Co-op is going out to bid for salt for the 2019–2020 season. We bid two sources to cover deliveries.

Paving will take place on August 26, 27th, 28th Starting in Greenville Meadows then moving to Old Hammorton. Residents are asked to allow extra time for traveling in these areas, follow crew member instructions and do not park on the roadways.

PennDOT will close tomorrow, 8/22/19 between Bayard road and nine gates for a pipe replacement.

### **Kennett Fire Company Report:**

Bruce Mitchell, Fire Chief reported that for the month of July, Kennett Fire Company responded to 37 Fire calls, 13 of which were in the Township, 189 calls for the year. For EMS, there were 111 total calls, 50 were in the Township, 712 year to date. It was reported that 43.4% of calls are false alarms. Chairman Stevens commented that since the EMS Commission was started, he has become aware of the alarming rate of false alarms that ties up resources. The importance of maintaining alarm systems was discussed.

Bruce Mitchell reminded that public that the Township has a “no burn” report. It was noted that if someone notices signs of burning, call 911. Discussion ensued. Mike Majeski commented clarifying that agriculture farms are exempt from the burn permit. Bruce Mitchell noted that 911 should be called for all burning and the police and fire companies will investigate.

Chris Burkett commented that Chandler Mill Bridge continues to be closed to emergency vehicles when it was promised to be used for that purpose noting that public safety does not get trumped by open space. Alison Rudolf responded that the engineer has been working on the evaluation of the bridge and will provide a report in September. Chairman Stevens responded noting that the goal is to reconstruct it while maintaining its historic character. Chairman Stevens commented that the engineering has changed and there has been a challenge with keeping the historical integrity of the Bridge while being able to carry emergency vehicles. Chris Burkett and Chairman Stevens discussed the ramifications of the bridge being closed.

Hoffman commented the Chandler Mill Bridge project is still moving along, there has been some engineering issues that needed to be resolved with the Townships new engineer before proceeding noting that she appreciates Mr. Burkett's concerns and updated plans will be forthcoming.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Public Hearing-Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Ordinance**

Chairman Stevens asked for a motion to open a public hearing for the proposed Transfer of Development rights Ordinance.

**Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to open a hearing for the proposed Transfer of Development Rights Ordinance. Vice Chairman Leff seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.**

Tom Comitta, the Township Landscape Architect presented the proposed revision to the Transfer of Development Rights Ordinance noting the purpose of the Ordinance is to add the BP district to the Sending area of the original TDR ordinance.

#### **Discussion:**

Scudder asked Tom Comitta if there is a downside to this ordinance, Tom Comitta replied that in his opinion no, there is benefit of open space and this ordinance would give another option to protect open space.

Vice-Chairman Leff commented giving comparisons to Anson B. Nixon park which is in the BP district.

The Board of Supervisors, Solicitor and Tom Comitta discussed scenarios in which Transfer of Development Rights could be used with the ordinance.

**Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to close the public hearing. Vice Chairman Leff seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.**

**Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to enact Ordinance 222, which amends the Townships Transfer of Development Rights Ordinance, adding the BP district to the sending area. Vice Chairman Leff seconded the motion. Motion adopted unanimously.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Pay Bills**

**Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to pay the bills for the month per the bill vouchers.**

**Vice Chairman Leff seconded the motion.**

**Motion adopted unanimously.**

**Authorization to Advertise-Planned Village Ordinance**

Tom Comitta provided an overview of the proposed Planned Village Ordinance.

Sander asked the Board of Supervisors to consider to make a motion to advertise the Ordinance for public hearing and consideration for adoption.

**Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to authorize the advertisement of a proposed revised Planned Village Ordinance for a September 18<sup>th</sup> hearing. Vice Chairman Leff seconded the motion.**

**Motion adopted unanimously.**

**Review Investment Fund Transfer**

Alison Rudolf introduced Tom Schorn who has been assisting the Township as its investment advisor for its reserve funds. Mr. Schorn reported that he has moved from managing accounts with the brokerage of Pershing, LLC to TD-Ameritrade and requested that the Township authorize moving its accounts to TD Ameritrade.

**Vice-Chairman Leff made a motion to move the Township Investment accounts from Pershing to TD-Ameritrade. Supervisor Hoffman seconded the motion.**

**Discussion:**

Vice-Chairman Leff confirmed that the change will not affect any fees or anything else. Mr. Schorn noted that he is a Township resident and does not charge the Township any fees.

**Motion adopted unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Supervisor Hoffman made motion to adjourn.**

**Vice Chairman Leff seconded the motion.**

**Motion adopted unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael O'Brien  
Recording Secretary

## ***Bio of new township manager***

### ***Eden R. Ratliff***

*Eden R. Ratliff is a graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He has a Masters degree in Employment and Labor Relations and a Bachelors degree in Political Science with a minor in Economics. He is completing a Masters degree in Public Management and is scheduled to graduate in December 2019 from Johns Hopkins University.*

*For the past three years, Eden has served as borough manager and chief administrative official of the Borough of Greencastle in Franklin County, PA. Some of his duties include creating and administering municipal operating budgets; developing a strategic vision for the borough; implementing a comprehensive asset management program for utility operations; and serving at times as chief administrative official, zoning officer, water authority manager, borough secretary, chief code enforcement officer and treasurer.*

*For two years, Eden was borough manager and chief administrative official for the Borough of Ford City near Pittsburgh. At Ford City, Eden managed long term projects, created and administered annual municipal budgets and negotiated a non-uniform Collective Bargaining Agreement.*

*Eden's volunteer activities include being a member of the Uwchlan Ambulance Corps, the Greencastle-Antrim Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs and chair of the Franklin County Council of Governments Legislative Affairs Committee.*

*An Eagle Scout, Eden grew up in West Chester and is married to Gabby Ratliff.*

**Press release on new township manager**

August 21, 2019

**EDITOR:** The following information is for immediate release. If you have any questions, contact Kennett Township Supervisor Scudder Stevens at (484) 368-2075 or [scudder.stevens@kennett.pa.us](mailto:scudder.stevens@kennett.pa.us)

**Kennett Township Supervisors name  
Eden Ratliff new Township Manager**

**KENNETT TOWNSHIP** \_ The Kennett Township Board of Supervisors has hired Eden R. Ratliff as its new Township Manager, effective September 23.

*“The board is looking forward to working with Eden,” Supervisor Chair Scudder Stevens said. “Eden has the skills, background and foresight to lead our great township into the future.”*

*For the past three years, Ratliff has served as borough manager and chief administrative official of the Borough of Greencastle in Franklin County, PA. Some of his duties there included creating and administering municipal operating budgets; developing a strategic vision for the borough; implementing a comprehensive asset management program for utility operations; and serving at times as chief administrative official, zoning officer, water authority manager, borough secretary, chief code enforcement officer and treasurer.*

*Ratliff also previously served for two years as borough manager and chief administrative official for the Borough of Ford City near Pittsburgh. At Ford City, he managed long term projects, created and administered annual municipal budgets and negotiated a non-uniform Collective Bargaining Agreement.*

*A graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Ratliff has a Masters degree in Employment and Labor Relations. Ratliff is currently completing a Masters degree in Public Management at Johns Hopkins University.*

*Ratliff will begin his duties on September 23, 2019.*

*“During the transition, Eden will be working with Alison Rudolf, our interim township manager,” Stevens said. “Alison has done a wonderful job on an interim basis.”*

*Rudolf took over the position in May after the former township manager was dismissed. The dismissal took place after bank officials discovered suspicious transactions in township bank accounts on April 25, 2019. Investigations by the Chester County District Attorney’s office and forensic accountants are continuing.*

###

**Township Manager Introductory Remarks  
Kennett Township Board of Supervisors Meeting  
August 21, 2019  
Eden R. Ratliff**

**Thank you for the introduction, Scudder. I am very proud to be named your next Township Manager and to represent all of you and Kennett Township. Thank you for having me tonight. It is my pleasure to accept the position of Township Manager and I look forward to working together. I'd like to tell you who I am, where I have been, and how I arrived in Kennett Township.**

**My name is Eden Ratliff, I am married to my best friend, Gabrielle Ratliff who is here tonight, we are both from Chester County and I was born and raised in West Chester, I have two brothers who are some of the finest young men I have ever known and both live in the area. We also have a wonderful dog, Otis, who wants me to tell you that he loves the Anson B. Nixon park.**

**I have been a municipal manager for 5 years and our move to Kennett Township will be the first time I have lived at "home" since I left for college. Every time Gabrielle and I spend some time in this community it becomes more and more clear that this is a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family. As a matter of fact, that is exactly what we intend to do.**

**Before I became a municipal manager I was laying the early ground work that would shape how I approach my career today. I earned the rank of Eagle Scout, a Masters in Employment and Labor Relations, and a Bachelors in Political Science both from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. I am also wrapping up a second Masters in Public Management from Johns Hopkins University.**

**After my time at IUP I was named the Borough Manager of Ford City which is about 90 miles outside of Pittsburgh.**

**I remember when I was just getting started as manager, fresh out of college, when a seasoned road master and many years of experience said to me, "Eden, welcome to Ford City, I understand that you have a lot of education and that's very nice, you don't know anything about the streets in this town but we can work together and maybe teach each other something."**

**I learned a great deal in Ford City, I made a few mistakes, but enhanced my understanding of what it means to bear the responsibility of making things work for everyone in the municipality.**

I was later appointed Borough Manager of Greencastle, Pa where I am still manager today. I manage a government that has an uncompromising focus on an accessible and open government with intelligent citizen participation. I write a newspaper column, host a public radio program, hold information only town hall meetings, traverse a speaking circuit, and much more to ensure that every citizen has the opportunity to be proactively involved in their local government. In Greencastle I have created a self-sustaining stormwater utility, manage large scale construction projects, and oversee multiple public utilities. Additionally, I have spent much time in land use management, zoning, overseeing civil engineering projects, and professionalizing our finance reporting and utility management systems.

I bring with me experience in strategic planning, comprehensive financial management, and proactive governance.

I love going to work because I love what I do. I knew I wanted to make a difference in people's lives and try to make them better. As a municipal manager that is what I do every day and I want to do it in a place I call home. Kennett Township.

Municipal management to me is personal because local government impacts your personal lives.

Let me tell you a story about a wonderful women in Greencastle. Victoria Rhodes lost her daughter to an opioid addiction. In her daughters honor she wanted to Bring Black Balloon Day to Greencastle. Black Balloon Day is every March 6<sup>th</sup> and raises awareness about overdose deaths through the deployment of black balloons. Mrs. Rhodes had no idea how to engage her local government to get approval for this event. Together we have made Black Balloon Day a staple event and ongoing conversation in Greencastle. It was personal.

Municipal management is personal to me and I will work hard to bring my education, experiences, and unwavering desire to serve to Kennett Township. I am looking forward to getting started. I am anxious to learn about your priorities, concerns, and areas you want me to focus. Together we can generate positive outcomes in this community.

Together we can make great things happen in Kennett Township.

Thank you very much for having me, thank you for the opportunity to serve, and I look forward to getting started.

I will be here to talk and answer questions about my new job after the meeting and I hope to meet each of you.