

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the East Bend Town Square Committee was appointed by the East Bend Town Board to spearhead the creation of East Bend's first park—Town Square; and

WHEREAS, despite the challenges presented by starting a project from the ground up in a period of Covid restrictions the Town Square Committee exceeded all expectations, and

WHEREAS, the Committee received a 100% return on the eleven submitted grant applications. These grants totaled 332 pages and required at least 3,000 hours of volunteer work; and

WHEREAS, they were successful in receiving a North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Grant (PARTF); and

WHEREAS, through the efforts of the committee the Square was one of 100 winners from 2,200 nationwide applicants for a Lowes Hometown Grant; and

WHEREAS, the committee raised \$130,000 from local residents before any grant money was ever received; and

WHEREAS, individual members made park visits across the state and nation and had park experts make presentations to determine the best site plan, type of playground equipment and structures for the Town Square; and

WHEREAS, the Committee reported to the town board at regular intervals on the progress and asked for town board members' input. The Committee received approval from this board on all major and minor decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Committee formed a 501c3 nonprofit organization—Friends of East Bend Town Square—to assist the town going forward to ensure the sustainability of the Town Square.

Now, THEREFORE, Archie Hicks, Mayor of the Town of East Bend, with the unanimous concurrence of the Commissioners of the Town of East Bend, on behalf of the grateful citizens of East Bend, award the Key to the Town of East Bend to East Bend Town Square Committee.

In OBSERVANCE THEREOF, I call upon the residents of the Town of East Bend to join me and the Town Commissioners in honoring and commending East Bend Town Square Committee for its contribution to our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereto set my hand and the seal of the Town of East Bend.



Archie B. Hicks, Jr.
Archie Hicks, Mayor