// An additional scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg was held on the 29th day of March, 2011, at 4:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Joan F. Foster, President, presiding. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct a work session regarding the FY 2012 Budget. The following Members were present:

Present: Cary, Gillette, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Foster 6

Absent: Johnson 1

// Johnson arrived at 4:06 p.m.

// Sheriff Ronald Gillespie and Chief Deputy Don Sloan gave an overview of the Lynchburg Sheriff's Office Budget for FY 2012. Sheriff Gillespie stated reductions in funding for FY 2012 may affect the ability of the Sheriff's Office to assist in some of the non-mandated duties it provides. Sheriff Gillespie further stated the State is recommending eliminating 200 positions state-wide, which includes one in his department. He is requesting Council provide additional funding of $53,835 for temporary positions and $3,250 for body armor equipment for a total of $57,075 over the amount Proposed by the City Manager. Sheriff Gillespie went on to say the additional funding request is for court security. During Council discussion, several Council Members voiced concerns and questions relating to the layout of the court building, security issues, a full-time position verses a part-time position, a waiting room on the first floor, and if additional funding is not provided by the City what services would be affected.

// School Board Chair Mary Ann Barker along with Schools Superintendent Paul McKendrick and Schools Assistant Director of Finance Kimberly Lukanich provided an overview regarding the Lynchburg City Schools FY 2011-2012 Operating Budget. Ms. Barker's power point presentation included information regarding the Schools budget development process, operating revenue, operating expenditures, and indicators of success. The School Board outlined the following priorities for the current year:

- Improve achievement for all students while closing achievement gaps for identified student groups.
- Improve graduation rates to exceed State standards.
- Offer viable alternative education instruction to augment educational goals.
- Complete comprehensive analysis of facilities usage and long-term facilities needs.
- Improve staff recruitment, retention, development, and diversity.
- Continue to enhance marketing, communication.
- Bring resolution to City/Schools consolidation analysis.

Ms. Barker further stated in order to maintain a viable school system, student achievements should continue in all these areas. Ms. Barker went on to say revenue over the past several years has declined by $10.8 million, a 12.21 percent reduction, between the budget years of 2008-2009 and 2010-2011. Ms. Barker explained that this year's decision making process of the budget included input from staff, parents and the public. School officials responded to questions from Council Members regarding starting pay for teachers, pay scale, what a 1.5% step increase means, number of employees in the 20/20 Program, funding beyond mandates and positions, health insurance, and Virginia Retirement System (VRS) increases. During Council discussion, several Council Members raised the following questions, which require Schools follow-up: 1) Explain the 10.51% increase in Total Employee Benefits and 2) Explain the increase in average teacher salaries over the past several years.

// City Manager Kimball Payne and Deputy City Manager Bonnie Svrcek gave an overview of the External Service Providers. Mr. Payne stated his proposal recommended flat funding for the Contractual and Discretionary External Service Providers with no new funding for additional agencies. Mr. Payne stated there are six organizations that requested funding but are not proposed to receive funding – Fishes and Loaves Born Again Ministries, Fort Early Corp., Lynchburg Community Action Group, Rebuilding Together, The Gateway Inc., and YWCA. Mr. Payne further stated the Fort Early Corp. is more of a capital project, requesting one-time funding for roof replacement. During Council discussion, Council asked staff to add the following to “The List”: Lynchburg Lifesaving/Rescue Squad, Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, Rebuilding Together, Lynchburg Community Action Group, Lynchburg Neighborhood Development Foundation, Region 2000 Economic Development Council, and Fort Early Corp. Council also asked the following questions, which require staff follow-up: 1) What is the City’s return on investment in funding the Lynchburg Lifesaving/Rescue Squad, Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, and Region 2000 Economic Development Council?; 2) If Rebuilding Together and Lynchburg Community Action Group received funding, what would these organizations do with it?; and 3) Provide a copy of the City’s contract with Lynchburg Neighborhood Development Foundation.

// City Manager Kimball Payne gave an overview of the five year, $186 million Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY 2012-2016. Mr. Payne stated Water, Sewer, and Airport Funds, along with Schools, are a large part of the CIP budget. Mr. Payne reviewed the CIP by budget categories – Buildings, Transportation, Economic Development, Parks and Recreation, Miscellaneous, and Reserves.

// The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 P.M.

Clerk of Council