// A special meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg was held on the 21st day of March, 2017, at 4:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Joan Foster, President, presiding. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct a work session regarding the FY 2018 Budget. The following Members were present:

Present: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Wilder, Foster 6

Absent: Tweedy 1

// Mayor Foster stated that Council Member Helgeson had a request to return to the City Manager's message before the overview of the FY 2018 Proposed Budget. Council Member Helgeson stated that his questions are more general in nature and more factual in regard to the process:

1. Page ii – Council identified four focus areas – Economic Development, Infrastructure, Poverty, and Workforce. An additional one was added - Succession Planning/Recruitment and Retention
2. Page iii – Requested 2.5% decrease from City departments - how was that determined to request a 2.5% from City departments
3. Page iv – To address poverty reduction (ex: finishing high school, working 40 hours a week and don't have children before marriage). Are these the type of things that you are hoping will address poverty reduction?
4. Page v – Real Property Taxes proposed - tax increase of approximately one half of one percent (0.4%). It is disappointing that our real estate values have remained relatively flat. Why: 1) regarding the housing industry in the last 10 years; 2) the record growth in Liberty University in enrollment and hiring employees; and 3) after two years our real estate has only increased by 0.4%?
5. Page x – school enrollment for FY 2010 is 8,327 (Actual Daily Membership) and on Page 35 – school enrollment for FY 2010 is 8,597 (Actual Daily Membership). Why is there a difference?
6. Page xii – Citywide Compensation and Implementation Study Reserve and the Improved Education Outcomes and Poverty Reduction reserve
7. Page xiv – Capital Improvement Program

City Manager Bonnie Svrcek answered questions that Council Member Helgeson proposed.

// City Manager Bonnie Svrcek provided an overview of the FY 2018 Proposed Budget General Fund regarding individual budgets within the following categories: General Government Administration; Judicial Administration; Public Safety; Public Works; Health and Welfare; Parks, Recreation and Culture; and Community Development. During the budget overview and due to time constraints Council discussion stopped after Public Safety. On April 4, 2017, Council will continue with the review/walk-through of the FY 2018 Proposed Budget starting with Public Works. Council Members requested the information listed below, which requires Staff follow-up:

1. Provide a history of assessment-to-sale value ratios going back before the last time the Real Estate Tax was increased. (Helgeson)

2. Provide a correlation of average assessed rates versus elementary school zones. (Perrow)
3. Provide an explanation for the 16.2% increase in insurance premiums. (Perrow)
4. Provide options for more meaningful performance measures for Human Resources and Occupational Health. (Perrow)
5. Provide an explanation of the structure and responsibilities of the Registrar and Electoral Board. (Perrow)
6. Provide the amount of increase for electoral worker's pay. (Foster)
7. Provide the number of employees (which are all State funded) in the General District Court. (Helgeson)
8. Provide an explanation of the increase in the Animal Control Unit budget from Actual FY 2016 to Manager's Proposed FY 2018. (Helgeson)

// Council advised staff to add the following to "The List":

- Eliminate City Assessor position
- Eliminate 6 month funding for an Assistant City Attorney
- Eliminate Occupational Health Nurse

// The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 P.M.

Clerk of Council