

// An additional scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg was held on the 16th day of March, 2010, at 4:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Joan F. Foster, President, presiding. The following Members were present:

Present: Dodson, Gillette, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Foster

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Absent: Johnson

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// Human Services Director Margaret Schmitt continued with the presentation on City Workforce Overview.

Ms. Schmitt explained the comparison of health benefits from the public side and also from the private side, for every dollar spent on the health management program, the City is receiving a \$1.92 in benefits and with occupational health the City is receiving a \$1.29 for every dollar. Ms. Schmitt stated that there would be changes to Virginia Retirement System (VRS) in the future that would impact employees hired on or after July 1, 2010, but it would not impact public safety employees. After Council discussion regarding the VRS benefits some Council Members expressed concerns about the City's VRS rate being the highest in the State. In response to Council concern; staff advised that they have asked numerous times for information on how the VRS rate is calculated but have been unable to get a correct answer. Council Member Gillette stated a concern regarding the lack of transparency at the State level. Council asked staff to draft a Resolution requesting Delegate Garrett to look into the VRS rates.

// City Manager Kimball Payne asked for Council reaction to the Proposed FY 2011 Budget that was presented on March 9th. Council Member Gillette stated it is important to be very clear that this year's budget is the result of intelligent planning, steady leadership, and hard work as well as responding to Council, citizen, and employee priorities.

// Council Member Johnson arrived at 5:09 p.m. during the presentation regarding the Council Reaction to the Proposed FY 2011 Budget.

// Council Member Gillette identified three items to keep in mind as Council moves forward: External service providers – are we getting a true return on our investment; Heritage High School Funding – to be careful not to over fund in the current year without taking into consideration potential future renovations; and the Tourism Program – a report on how the program is meeting the stipulations of the contract is needed. Council Member Helgeson expressed disappointment that the Schools did not provide a 90% scenario. Several Council Members commended the city manager and staff on the proposed budget, specifically the creativity of the budget process and keeping the expenses down.

// Mayor Foster and Vice Mayor Dodson presented certificates to 16 Virginia's Junior Miss Contestants from all over the State.

// Council Members took a short break at 5:26 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 5:41 p.m.

// Financial Services Director Donna Witt explained changes to FY 2011 revenues that have occurred since February 6th Council Retreat: Personal Property Tax, Sales Tax, Parking Revenues, Social Services and Police (DARE officers).

// City Manager Kimball Payne and Deputy City Manager Bonnie Svrcek provided an overview regarding individual budgets within the following categories: General Government Administration, Judicial

Administration, Public Safety, Public Works, Health and Welfare, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, and Community Development.

// During the budget discussion, Council Members raised several questions that required staff follow-up, i.e., (1) Community Development: provide a year to year comparison of division expenditures and provide history of code enforcement staffing. (2) Human Resources provide a list of occupied positions to be eliminated. Council would like staff to come back in order to have further discussion on the animal control, brush and bulk collections, branch library, point of honor, city market and neighborhood centers and information technology processes, constitutional officers, and social services. Mr. Payne stated that information requested would be provided to City Council at the next work session.

// The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 P.M.

Clerk of Council