

March 11, 2014

019

// A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg was held on the 11th day of March, 2014, at 4:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Michael Gillette, President, presiding. The following Members were present:

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

7

Absent:

0

// City Manager Kimball Payne presented an overview of the Proposed FY 2015 Budget for the City of Lynchburg. Mr. Payne stated this year's budget totaled \$392.5 million, the increase is mainly attributable to the appropriation for the construction of the new Heritage High School (\$75.1 million). Mr. Payne stated the Proposed FY 2015 Budget represents only modest change from the current year. It is characterized by stable revenues and lower than anticipated costs in some areas. The most significant new expenditures are for debt service for the new Heritage High School and other necessary capital projects and an across-the-board pay increase of one and a half percent (1.5%) for City and Schools employees. The proposed budget also funds increases in the cost of employee benefits, provides for some enhanced services and continues to support important infrastructure projects. The Proposed FY 2015 Budget demonstrates that sound fiscal management, good planning, and discipline in execution can produce positive results. Mr. Payne went on to say that the City can take pride in the accomplishment which funded the largest General Fund capital project in City history, Heritage High School, without a tax increase or a significant reduction in our ability to provide necessary services to the citizens of Lynchburg. The confirmation of the City's AA+ bond rating by Standard & Poor's validated the approach followed by City Council. Mr. Payne further stated that on October 8, 2013, City Council adopted a new vision statement and strategic plan for the Lynchburg community. The strategic plan was a natural evolution from the Sustainable Lynchburg Initiative that had been underway for several years and includes both a foundation and strategic pillars (core areas) that support the vision of Lynchburg as, "A Great Place to Live, Work and Play."

Mr. Payne concluded that the Proposed FY 2015 Budget is offered for City Council consideration, deliberation, amendment, and adoption. Over the next several weeks, Council will have the opportunity to hear from and question the representatives of the various departments and agencies seeking funding in the FY 2015 Budget.

// Director of Human Resources Margaret Schmitt provided a Workforce Data Follow-Up to Council with Updated Market Comparisons and Turnover by Departments. Ms. Schmitt stated that the overall turnover rates have increased slightly with 6.94% voluntary which are resignations and 11.16% total for other reasons (Resignation, Resignation in lieu of Dismissal, Release during Initial Employment Period (IEP), Dismissal, Retirement, Death). Ms. Schmitt shared information about Departments with 25 or more full time employees. The Market Comparison Trend which included Market Data and Salaries as of January 2014 was also explained. In conclusion, Ms. Schmitt explained examples of Department Market Comparisons as of January 2014.

// Water Resources Director Tim Mitchell presented an overview of the FY 2015 Rate Study and Annual Report which includes information on the following:

- Drinking Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Overview
- Financial Overview including: Revenues and expenditures by fund and division, rate analysis and comparisons
- Projection Letter from PJ Sun, LLC
- Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Projections
- Statistical data

Mr. Mitchell stated that the utility rate strategy developed for this year continues with the guiding principles of:

- Minimize the impact of rate adjustments on residential and other small customers
- Ensure necessary funding is provided for increases in operating and debt service costs
- Ensure compliance with the Special Order for Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO)
- Ensure compliance with adopted Fund Balance and Debt Management Financial Policies
- Provide an equitable distribution of costs based on actual services provided

Mr. Mitchell went on to say the proposed increases include increasing the monthly service charge by \$2.00 per month per equivalent meter size which was done last year to continue to help stabilize revenues to cover the fixed costs of operating the water and sewer systems. In addition it is recommended to increase the water volume rate by 2% in order to cover rising costs associated with chemicals and power and to be able to continue water distribution system improvements. Mr. Mitchell stated this will result in an increase to a typical residential water and sewer bill of 3.8%. The actual percent increase will vary depending upon actual consumption. City of Lynchburg customers' water and sewer bills are now 10% below the statewide average. Other proposed increases include a 5% increase in industrial surcharges and septic hauler charges, and a 3% increase for sewer only customers. In conclusion, Mr. Mitchell stated that Water Resources' mission is to "provide excellent water, wastewater, and stormwater services that promote the health, safety, and prosperity of the community." Basically, we want to produce the cleanest water possible while being good stewards of the environment and provide these services at a reasonable and equitable cost.

// During roll call Council Member Nelson stated that on Court Street in the stairs coming down to Church Street there is a lot of trash that needs to be cleaned up.

// Council Member Cary stated that procedures should be put in place about closing schools when there has been a robbery nearby.

// Vice Mayor Johnson stated that he received a complaint from a citizen on Grove Street and he would get with Deputy City Manager Bonnie Svrcek on this issue. He also mentioned that two community leaders in Lynchburg had passed away, Dr. L. Garnell Stamps and Dr. William F. Quillian, Jr.

// Mayor Gillette made the following announcements:

Lynchburg Public Library's Story Time Reading Room Groundingbreaking Ceremony - Thursday, March 20th at 10:00 A.M.

Civic Engagement Meetings – 6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

March 18, 2014 – Sandusky Middle School Cafeteria

March 24, 2014 – Linkhorne Middle School Cafeteria

March 31, 2014 – Dunbar Middle School Cafeteria

// City Council recessed the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

// City Council reconvened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

The following Members were present:

Present: Cary, Foster, Helgeson, Johnson, Nelson, Perrow, Gillette 7

Absent: 0

Council Member Nelson gave the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance from Boy Scout Troop 180 from Forest, Virginia.

// Mayor Gillette presented a Proclamation for Social Services Work Month, to Human Services Director Tamara Rosser and staff on a job well done and for providing valuable services to the community.

// Copies of the minutes of the January 28, 2014 meeting, having been previously furnished Council, reading was dispensed with, and on motion of Council Member Nelson, seconded by Council Member Cary, Council by the following recorded vote approved the minutes as presented:

Ayes: Cary, Foster, Helgeson, Johnson, Nelson, Perrow, Gillette 7

Noes: 0

// Copies of the minutes of the February 11, 2014 meeting, having been previously furnished Council, reading was dispensed with, and on motion of Council Member Nelson, seconded by Council Member Cary, Council by the following recorded vote approved the minutes as presented:

Ayes: Cary, Foster, Helgeson, Johnson, Nelson, Perrow, Gillette 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of Communications and Marketing, Resolution #R-14-013 to amend the FY 2014 City/Federal/State Aid Fund budget and appropriate \$85,476 with resources of \$64,107 from a Federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program award, \$17,095 from the General Fund Reserve for Contingencies, and \$4,274 of in-kind matching service to implement an emergency notification system to provide critical information to the citizens of Lynchburg, laid over from the February 11, 2014 meeting, was again presented and read, and on motion of Council Member Nelson, seconded by Council Member Cary, Council by the following recorded vote adopted the Resolution:

Ayes: Cary, Foster, Helgeson, Johnson, Nelson, Perrow, Gillette 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of Community Development - Zoning Amendments, a public hearing was held regarding City Council Report #8 (1) to amend the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) from Low Density Residential to Medium Density Residential.

Mayor Gillette made a statement to correct an error in the Planning Commission Report. (On the Agenda Summary Report the vote was recorded incorrect, it should have been 4-2 instead of 6-0 for the

rezoning petition.) City Planner Tom Martin gave a summary of the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) and rezoning at 402 Alta Lane. Mr. Martin stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the FLUM and rezoning petitions. Mr. Norm Walton with Perkins & Orrison, Inc. representing the petitioner asked Council for approval of the FLUM and rezoning petitions. There was no one else present who wished to speak to this item, and the public hearing was closed. Following Council discussion and on motion of Council Member Helgeson, seconded by Council Member Cary, Council by the following recorded vote denied the FLUM petition:

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

Noes: Johnson 1

On motion of Council Member Helgeson, seconded by Council Member Cary, Council by the following recorded vote denied the rezoning petition at 402 Alta Lane:

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

Noes: Johnson 1

// In the matter of Community Development - Zoning Amendments, a public hearing was held regarding City Council Report # 9 outlining the petition of American Property Management Corporation to rezone approximately sixteen and six tenths (16.6) acres at 200 and 218 Timbrook Place from R-1, Low Density, Single-Family Residential District to R-4C, Medium-High Density, Multi-Family Residential District (Conditional) to allow the construction of a one hundred ninety-two (192) unit apartment complex and associated parking. City Planner Tom Martin gave a summary of the request and stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the rezoning petition. Mr. Doyle Allen with Hurt & Proffitt, Inc., representing the petitioner outlined the request and asked Council to approve the rezoning petition. Four individuals spoke in opposition of the request with concerns that additional apartments in the area would destroy the quiet neighborhood and traffic would increase. There was no one else present who wished to speak to this item, and the public hearing was closed. On motion of Council Member Perrow, seconded by Council Member Cary, Council by the following recorded vote adopted Ordinance #0-14-017, as amended, (adding the following proffer: The developer agrees to construct a chain link fence, which will be five (5) feet high and approximately two hundred fifty (250) feet long, along the Gordon and Sandra Hensley property line that abuts the project. The fence will be constructed on the Hensley property and the Hensley's will own the fence), granting the petition:

Ayes: Cary, Foster, Helgeson, Johnson, Nelson, Perrow, Gillette 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of Community Development – General, a public hearing was held regarding City Council Report #10 adopting the “*Growing Tinbridge Hill*” Neighborhood Plan as part of the City's *Comprehensive Plan*. The plan establishes a vision for Tinbridge Hill, establishes priority pedestrian corridors, provides recommendations for improving bus amenities and establishes goals for improving neighborhood character, safety and livability. City Planner Tom Martin gave a summary of the request and stated the Planning Commission recommended adopting the Growing Tinbridge Hill Neighborhood Plan. Four individuals spoke in favor of the Plan stating the objective of this planning effort was to prepare a plan that

reflects the character and aspirations of the community, that sets realistic and achievable goals for community improvement, and that establishes a specific action plan for tasks to be pursued to help achieve the goals. There was no one else present who wished to speak to this item, and the public hearing was closed. On motion of Council Member Foster, seconded by Council Member Nelson, Council by the following recorded vote adopted Resolution #R-14-018, as presented, adopting the "Growing Tinbridge Hill" Neighborhood Plan as part of the City's Comprehensive Plan:

Ayes: Cary, Foster, Helgeson, Johnson, Nelson, Perrow, Gillette 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of City Code/Fire – General, City Council Report #11 was considered. On motion of Council Member Nelson, seconded by Vice Mayor Johnson, Council by the following recorded vote adopted Ordinance #0-14-019, as presented, amending the City Code relating to the provision of Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Services within the City:

Ayes: Cary, Foster, Helgeson, Johnson, Nelson, Perrow, Gillette 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of Human Resources – Benefits, City Council Report #12 was considered. On motion of Council Member Helgeson, seconded by Council Member Perrow, Council by the following recorded vote adopted Resolution #R-14-020, as presented, amending the City of Lynchburg Employment Policies and Procedures to include the provision that employees hired on or after July 1, 1996, who qualify for City medical and dental coverage into retirement will no longer be eligible for City medical or dental coverage once they become eligible for Medicare:

Ayes: Cary, Foster, Helgeson, Johnson, Nelson, Perrow, Gillette 7

Noes: 0

// The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 P.M.

Clerk of Council