

// A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg was held on the 28th day of February, 2017, at 4:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Joan Foster, President, presiding. The following Members were present:

Present: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster

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Absent: Perrow

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// Shannon Valentine with the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) and Chris Winstead, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) District Engineer, and Rick Youngblood with Lynchburg Regional Connectivity provided Council with a presentation on the Lynchburg Regional Connectivity Study.

The Study identifies three broad themes and eight strategy areas. The CTB themes are: 1) Labor Market and Intra-regional Connectivity; 2) Inter-regional Connectivity; and 3) Digital Connectivity.

The regional study, the first of its kind in Virginia, unfolded in two major phases:

- Phase I – Baseline Assessment
- Phase II – Strategies for Improvement

While this Study has produced a wide array of data and information on the Lynchburg region's current and potential future connectivity, as detailed in this report, there are a few important high-level themes that emerged:

- Foundation: The Lynchburg region benefits from quality infrastructure and prior investments that provide a platform upon which to build towards stronger multimodal connectivity.
- Synergy and Added Value: This study recognizes that maximum economic gains can only be achieved through synergistic, multimodal efforts that cross strategy areas.

The document summarizes the strategies and actions recommended in the Study. There are eight strategy areas organized into three broad themes as listed below. Individual actions are also recommended under each strategy area.

- Labor Market and Intra-Regional Connectivity
 - o Placemaking
 - o Local Bottlenecks
 - o Transit and Transportation Demand Management
- Inter-Regional Connectivity
 - o Intercity Passenger Rail
 - o Air Service Development
 - o Access on Key Highway Corridors
 - o Cargo-Oriented Development
- Digital Connectivity
 - o Broadband Coverage

There are three recommended actions that were suggested from the Commonwealth Transportation Board and Virginia Department of Transportation:

1. Build awareness of the Virginia Rail Industrial Access program within the regional economic development community as a tool for supporting new cargo oriented development.

2. Focus industrial development efforts on sites adjacent to existing rail infrastructure and rail customers.
3. Continue open lines of communication with the Class I railroads and the region through the Commonwealth Transportation Board's standing Rail Subcommittee.

// Parking Manager David Malewitz provided a presentation and discussion on the 1200 block of Main Street On-Street Parking Pilot Program. On September 23, 2014, at the Work Session, City Council agreed to implement a pilot on-street metered parking program in the 1200 block of Main Street at the recommendation of the City Manager and Parking Authority. Mr. Malewitz went on to say that the initiative was brought up for consideration through merchant and commercial property owner concerns as a more effective means to manage the challenging and limited parking in that block. The purpose of the pilot was to gather data related primarily to vehicle turnover, space availability, acceptable on-street parking rates, and community input of the program. The pilot program was slated to run 6 months to a year to allow sufficient time to gather suitable data. The relevant data collected did show that the pilot program was successful in reaching its goals as identified. The program began in May 2016 and is still in operation today. Challenges exist regarding how to use the functions of the machine and the requirement to enter license plate information. The general consensus from business owners in the area is that the pilot program has run its course and with the pending construction projects slated for downtown, the pilot on-street paid parking should end. After reviewing the pilot program data and hearing community member feedback, the Parking Authority does not support the continuation of the On-street Metered Parking Pilot Program in the 1200 block of Main Street. City Council discussed the pros and cons of the Parking Pilot Program and suggested, if it has run its course, it should be discontinued. Mr. Malewitz further stated that there has been an agreement that if, and when, the City reconsiders paid on-street parking a comprehensive implementation plan must follow so it does not appear one part of downtown is being singled out from the rest.

// During roll call Council Member Nelson mentioned he heard from retailers in the 600 block of Church Street requesting that the dust on Church Street be watered down from the construction of the Virginian Hotel.

// Vice Mayor Tweedy mentioned she has received inquiries from constituents requesting updates on River Ridge Mall and the space formerly occupied by Macy's.

// Mayor Foster recognized Valeria P. Chambers, Clerk of Council on the occasion of her 30th anniversary with the City of Lynchburg. She also mentioned the following announcements:

- March 2, 2017 @ 6:30 P.M. - Citizens Academy Session in Council Chamber
- March 6, 2017 @ 7:00 P.M. – State of the City Address in Council Chamber

// City Manager Bonnie Svrcek mentioned that on March 28, 2017 at the work session there will be an update on the two way traffic for Church and Main Streets.

// Financial Services Director Donna Witt reviewed the FY 2018 – FY 2022 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) submissions. Below are the projects that were discussed for the FY 2018 – FY2022 CIP.

- Major Building Repairs
 - o 925 Church Street renovation;
 - o City gas pumps replace generator;
 - o Public Safety Building replace 2 HVAC units;
 - o Public Safety Building paint exterior and columns
 - o Public Library entrance
 - o Public Library
- Major Building Repairs Sidewalk Program
 - o Florida Avenue
 - o Old Forest Road
- Major Building Repairs Public Works complex
 - o Refurbish Sheds
 - o Roof and Reskin
- Parking Deck Repairs and Maintenance
 - o Main Street Parking Deck
- Roof Replacements
 - o City Hall
 - o Fire Station #5
- Building Project
 - o Public Safety Complex 805 Court Street (West Building)
 - o Public Safety Complex 905 Court Street
- Parks and Recreation Projects
 - o Athletic Field Renovations
 - o Fort Avenue Park Fence
 - o General Signage and Repairs
 - o Repairs to Community Centers
 - o Repairs to playground equipment, trails, and parks
- Lynchburg City School Projects
 - o Sandusky Elementary School
 - o Linkhorne Elementary School
 - o Paul Munro Elementary School
 - o Dearington Elementary School (roof repair/replacements)
 - o Capital Maintenance Projects (plumbing/restroom renovation, paving and fencing, mechanical/electrical and athletic fields)

// Human Resources Director Heather Brown provided Council with the Calendar Year 2016 Workforce Overview Report. Ms. Brown went on to say that this report contains an overview of the state of the City of Lynchburg workforce including summary information related to employee demographics and current human resources trends. The City's workforce of 1,296 full-time employees has had little demographic

variance over previous years, representing a stable, experienced employee group. An on-going area of concern is the non-representative ethnic diversity throughout the City and especially in public safety positions. Ms. Brown explained turnover and the City's ability to attract and retain qualified employees is the cornerstone of effective service delivery. The total turnover is comprised of voluntary resignations and other types of turnover such as retirements, promotions, demotions, dismissals, resignations in lieu of dismissal and releases during the initial employment period. There was an increase in turnover during Calendar Year (CY) 2016 which was driven primarily by persons who left the City for other employment. Pay and market competitiveness is determined by gathering public and private, where available, salary data for about 200 benchmark positions. A comparison of pay range minimums has helped us understand our ability to attract applicants to City positions.

The following are items Ms. Brown discussed:

- Turnover
- Pay Data
- Benefits
- Training and Development
- Public Safety Recruiting
- Occupational Health/Employee Wellness Clinic

// City Council recessed the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

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

The following Members were present:

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

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Absent:

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Vice Mayor Tweedy gave the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

// In the matter of Parks and Recreation, Resolution #R-17-015 to amend the FY 2017 General Fund budget and appropriate \$49,686 with resources from the Virginia Department of Health to the Parks and Recreation Fees budget for a donation to the "We Got The Beet" campaign at the Lynchburg Community Market, laid over from the February 14, 2017 meeting, was again presented and read, and on motion of Council Member Helgeson, seconded by Council Member Perrow, Council by the following recorded vote adopted the Resolution:

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster

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Noes:

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// Council Member Helgeson asked that Agenda Item #6 be pulled from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately. Council Member Helgeson stated he would be voting against the School FY 2017 General Fund budget increase in school funding while there is still a decline in enrollment. In the matter of Schools, Resolution #R-17-016 to amend the FY 2017 General Fund budget and appropriate \$767,779 with resources from unexpended FY 2016 Schools Operating Fund appropriations for transfer to the FY 2017 Schools Operating Fund and to the Schools Capital Fund to fund needs as approved by the School

Board, and introduce a resolution to appropriate \$591,176 to increase the Schools Health Insurance Reserve (\$500,000) and the Schools Textbook Reserve (\$91,176) with resources from unexpended FY2016 Schools Operating appropriations, laid over from the February 14, 2017 meeting, was again presented and read, and on motion of Vice Mayor Tweedy, seconded by Council Member Wilder, Council by the following recorded vote adopted the Resolution:

Ayes: Dolan, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster 6

Noes: Helgeson 1

// In the matter of Public Works, a public hearing was held regarding City Council Report #7 regarding granting New Dominion Solar, LLC a lease agreement on City owned property at 3815 Old Forest Road. Deputy Public Works Director Clay Simmons provided Council with a summary of the request. Mr. James Brady with New Dominion Solar asked Council to approve the lease agreement. There was no one else present who wished to speak to this item, and the public hearing was closed. Council Member Perrow, Chair of the Physical Development Committee (PDC) stated that this matter came before the PDC which recommended approval. This motion does not require a second. Council by the following recorded vote adopted the lease agreement, as presented, granting New Dominion Solar, LLC a lease agreement on City owned property at 3815 Old Forest Road:

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of Circuit Court, City Council Report #8 was considered. Council Member Helgeson, Chair of the Finance Committee (FC) stated that this matter came before the FC which recommended approval. This motion does not require a second. Council by the following recorded vote introduced and laid over to a later meeting for final action Resolution #R-17-017, as presented, to amend the FY 2017 City/Federal/State Aid Fund budget and appropriate \$3,070 with resources from a grant from the Library of Virginia to preserve one (1) Deed book numbered KK with records dated November 1884 through July 1888 at the Lynchburg Circuit Court Clerk's Office:

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of Human Services, City Council Report #9 was considered. Council Member Helgeson, Chair of the Finance Committee (FC) stated that this matter came before the FC which recommended approval. This motion does not require a second. Council by the following recorded vote introduced and laid over to a later meeting for final action Resolution #R-17-018, as presented, to amend the FY 2017 Detention Home Fund budget and appropriate \$657,000 from the State Department of Juvenile Justice to operate the Community Placement Program and to approve the addition of three (3) full-time positions at the Detention Center to assist with the operation of the Community Place Program:

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of Parking, City Council Report #10 was considered regarding permit parking in certain designated areas of Church and Court Streets. Council Member Perrow made the following statement: "I

am a member of a group that owns and rents property on Court Street. As a member of this group I can be impartial and will vote on this item, at any time during the discussion I feel I can no longer be impartial, I will abstain from discussion and voting. Council Member Nelson made the following statement: "I occupy and own a business on Court Street but I am able to participate in this matter fairly, objectively, and in the public interest. Therefore, I will participate in the discussion of and vote on the permit parking in certain designated areas of Church and Court Streets. Parking Manager David Malewitz provided a report to repeal City Code Section 25-304 regarding Permit Parking in certain areas of Church and Court Streets. Mr. Malewitz went on to say that Permit Parking in certain areas of Church and Court Streets basically states that residents within the designated areas in these streets are allowed to purchase an on-street residential parking permit for a fee of \$15.00 per year for each permit issued. After the presentation on permit parking, Council Member Perrow stated he would abstain from discussion and voting on this item because of personal interest of about 30% of property in the designated area of Court Street.

During Council discussion on permit parking several concerns were mentioned such as:

- Is City Code Section 25-304 still valid today and does it adhere to the parking principles currently being administered?
- The program was created as an incentive program to bring development downtown that would support residential living.
- Suggestion to raise the parking fee.

On motion of Council Member Nelson, seconded by Council Member Helgeson, Council by the following recorded vote agreed to postpone this item indefinitely regarding permit parking in certain designated areas of Church and Court Streets:

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster	6
Noes:	0
Abstain: Perrow	1

// On motion of Council Member Perrow, seconded by Council Member Wilder, Council by the following recorded vote elected to hold a closed meeting to consider appointments to Council-appointed Boards and Commissions, i.e. Lynchburg Community Action Board, Lynchburg Regional Airport Commission, Zoning Appeals Board, Youth Services Citizens Board and Local Emergency Planning Committee; pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended:

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster	7
Noes:	0

// The meeting was re-opened to the public.

// Council Member Perrow made the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Lynchburg has convened a closed meeting on this date, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by City Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Lynchburg certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by Council.

The Motion was seconded by Council Member Nelson, and Council by the following recorded vote adopted the motion:

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of Appointments, and on nomination of Council Member Nelson, seconded by Council Member Dolan, Council by the following recorded vote re-appointed J. Randolph Nelson, to serve on the Lynchburg Community Action Board for a term to expire December 31, 2019:

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster 7

Noes: 0

On nomination of Council Member Nelson, seconded by Council Member Dolan, Council by the following recorded vote appointed MaryJane Dolan, Sterling Wilder and Treney Tweedy to serve on the Lynchburg Community Action Board for terms to expire December 31, 2017:

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster 7

Noes: 0

On nomination of Council Member Nelson, seconded by Council Member Dolan, Council by the following recorded vote re-appointed Debra Allen and Charles Nowlin, Jr. to serve on the Lynchburg Regional Airport Authority for terms to expire December 31, 2019:

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster 7

Noes: 0

On nomination of Council Member Nelson, seconded by Council Member Dolan, Council by the following recorded vote appointed Matthew K. Forbes to serve on the Youth Services Citizens Board to fulfill an unexpired term ending June 30, 2017:

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster 7

Noes: 0

On nomination of Council Member Nelson, seconded by Council Member Dolan, Council by the following recorded vote appointed Turner Perrow to serve on the Local Emergency Planning Committee for an indefinite term:

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster 7

Noes: 0

// The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.