

// A special meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg was held on the 30th day of March, 2021, at 4:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, MaryJane Dolan, President, presiding. The following Members were present:

Present: MaryJane Dolan, Beau Wright, Jeff Helgeson, J. Randy Nelson, Treney Tweedy, Sterling A. Wilder, Chris Faraldi 7

Absent: 0

// In the matter of Budget, Agenda Item #1, Lynchburg City Schools (LCS) Superintendent Dr. Crystal Edwards provided Council with an overview of the LCS FY 2022 Operating Budget and request. Dr. Edwards stated that LCS is asking for level funding of \$39,828,498, the same amount requested the previous year, to support full instruction five days a week, full staff hiring, regular athletic seasons, in-person performing arts programs, in-person professional development, and regular staff/student travel.

Councilmember Tweedy thanked the LCS staff for their commitment to the students and stated that it's imperative for Council to support schools and the families that receive those services.

Councilmember Helgeson stated that he is not in support of funding the schools for the same amount as the previous year due to the fact that there are less students. Even though the request is the same, with declining enrollments the cost per pupil is increasing. He further explained that LCS has received federal and state coronavirus aid and that this is an area that can alleviate financial burden for the local tax payers.

Vice Mayor Wright stated that the school system has shown great leadership and has managed to provide in-person learning in a pandemic all while navigating shifting federal and state guidance. He furthered his support stating public schools are a public trust and until Lynchburg has the best schools in the state he would not consider cutting the schools funding. He commented that he would be open to having a conversation about what makes sense given outstanding priorities to the city and the school system and commented that he has some qualms about the budget as it's presented but would not be supportive of any big cuts.

Councilmember Tweedy stated that Council needs to consider the aging infrastructure as it makes its decision on the budget because the buildings are growing old and as city owned assets, they are Council's responsibility. She also stated that now is the time to build new innovative programming.

Councilmember Faraldi asked Dr. Edwards why there hasn't been a decrease in spending since there has been a decline in enrollment coupled with the fact that LCS received CARES funds. Dr. Edwards replied that CARES funding has limitations and it cannot be used to supplement any shortcomings and is not a long-term solution. She further explained equating funding per pupil to healthcare costs, stating that not every student will cost the same based on the need. Councilmember Faraldi asked what the rationale was for using CARES funds for recurring costs over the next few years and wanted to know if the expectation was for the City to have to fill those gaps long-term. Dr. Edwards explained that the budget was built based on needs and that staff took care to offset certain items in the budget where CARES funding could be used. Councilmember Faraldi asked why there was about \$126 million in revenue but only about \$100 million in expenditures and asked for clarification on the discrepancy. Dr. Edwards explained that this is the operating budget and the money in the CARES funding is not City supported so therefore is not included in the revenue request, however, it was included in the presentation where the funds will be used. Councilmember Faraldi asked why the transportation cost remained flat when it has been identified as a major component in getting kids back in schools. Dr. Edwards explained that the transportation vacancies are often unfilled. She stated that staff haven't cut transportation and in fact have done some things to make the job more attractive by adding a VRS component. Councilmember Faraldi indicated that the Remote Academy is a large line item and asked for specifics regarding the program. Dr. Edwards clarified that the program will be funded in CARES funding and is not in the operating budget. There have been some successes with remote learning and some families expressed an interest in its continued availability. She also indicated that this could be a practical avenue in tapping into the homeschool population. Councilmember Faraldi asked what the rationale is for targeting homeschool students. Dr. Edwards answered that LCS has some valuable services that homeschool families might not know are available to them. Councilmember Faraldi asked to be walked through the justification on a nearly \$10,000 compensation package for school board members when it was not first presented to Council. Dr. James Coleman, School Board Chair,

was in attendance and came forward to answer the question. He asked for clarification on how the figure was calculated to which Councilmember Faraldi responded that his calculations provide a \$2,400 stipend and \$7,000 in healthcare costs. Dr. Coleman replied that there are two sections in the Code of Virginia that permit stipends for school board members with a vote from the school board. He further stated that the Lynchburg City School Board is one of only three school boards in the entire division that is not compensated. He also commented that it is common for school board members in the state of Virginia to be offered some health benefits as well. Councilmember Faraldi asked if any school board member had any discussion with Council regarding this since they are a Council-appointed board. Dr. Coleman said that state code does not provide the need to discuss the allowance with City Council unless it's for the Chair to receive an additional sum. Councilmember Faraldi concluded that he will not be supporting this budget.

Councilmember Tweedy stated that she is in support of the compensation for school board members, citing the amount of time and dedication required to fill this role.

Councilmember Nelson asked Dr. Edwards what morale issues may arise if some part time positions in the school who don't have the opportunity to get health insurance and the persons who are not employees do. Ms. Kim Lukanich replied that any employee who works six hours or more is eligible for health insurance. Councilmember Nelson asked what will happen to the remote learning academy when the funding runs out in 2024? How will it be justified to terminate highly qualified people at that time? Dr. Edwards replied that staff always audit for effectiveness of any program and any decision will be based on student needs, not necessarily first program in, last program out. Councilmember Nelson asked if the TV, Media, and Public Engagement position will be a new position or be a result of consolidating other similar positions. Dr. Edwards responded that this is an additional position because the need to engage and connect with the community outside of the schools' walls is extremely important. Councilmember Nelson stated that the Education Task Force was chartered to address a lot of these issues addressed in the proposed budget. It would not be efficient for the schools to do this when the School Board and City Council have already decided this is what the task force should be working on. For example, the remote academy is so novel and should go before the task force to refine since they have the personnel and insights to very successfully assess what will be a very critical component to public education. He'd rather see LCS staff take the

programs they have already undertaken and perfect them instead of using their resources to start something else that is on the drawing board.

Vice mayor wright shared the concern about long term fiscal responsibilities of the budgetary decisions being made now. The stipend for costs incurred while serving on the school board but is not a compensation. If we want a diverse school board we have to lower barriers for entry.

Councilmember Tweedy you're building for your customers, build for your demographics.

Mayor Dolan said she also shares the concerns of randy and beau but appreciates everything the schools have done.

// In the matter of Budget, Agenda Item #2, the continuation of review of the Proposed FY 2022 – FY 2026 Capital Improvement Program, Council decided to layover this item until the April 6, 2021 Budget Meeting.

// In the matter of Roll Call, Agenda Item #3, Councilmembers Faraldi and Wilder had no items. Councilmember Tweedy said it's really sad that landlords disrespect the refuse policies and procedures and throw out whatever they want on the curb. Councilmember Nelson had no items. Councilmember Helgeson asked staff to reconsider the no electric fence rule, put forth by a resident. Vice Mayor Wright had no items. Mayor Dolan made the following announcements:

// The meeting was recessed at 6:25 p.m.

// City Council reconvened the special meeting at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present:

Present: MaryJane Dolan, Beau Wright, Jeff S. Helgeson, J. Randy Nelson, Treney Tweedy, Sterling A. Wilder,
Chris Faraldi

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Absent:

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// Interim City Manager Dr. Reid Wodicka gave opening remarks for both public hearings. He provided a brief summary of the strategic initiatives outlined in the budget. He also stated that the recommended budget does not include changing the real estate tax rate, but does include a flat rate which would result for many property owners as an increase tax bill. We've

also seen a decline in key tax areas such as meals tax, consumer utility tax, communications tax, lodging tax, and others that are problematic as we go along.

// In the matter of Agenda Item #4, a public hearing was held on the Proposed Real Property Tax Increase.

Mr. Wilson Carter stated that the value of his property on Fillmore Street has gone up significantly in the last two reassessment cycles and he is on social security. He owns rental property and stated that he would not be able to handle the tax increase with his income. He asked Council to consider lowering taxes to accommodate seniors with limited income.

Mr. Jehudiyah Naomi who also owns property on Filmore Street and is a nurse and has seen a decrease in hours since the pandemic and is struggling to pay taxes on her house already without the increase. She suggested Council either leave the tax rate the same or decrease it.

Mr. Robert Morse, a local accountant, has several clients that own property and when they get increases they pass it on to the end user. He talked about the rising increases in taxes and bills in the pandemic already and said that the increase might not be much by itself, but with everything else it's a lot and the rates will be raised.

Mr. Ben Castle said that there are three reasons that Council should lower the tax rate. First is the economic downturn from Governor Northam. Optics, how does this look to the working man increasing the tax burden on citizens. Third, Council are servants of the people, you must lighten the tax burden on citizens.

Mr. Wendell Walker said that he's concerned about our future as far as property taxes here in the city of Lynchburg. He believes that Lynchburg can live without more new taxes. He stated that he and his wife are retired and live on a fixed income. With healthcare, utilities, food prices rising, they have to live within our means and government should do the same. He commented that he wants to live in the city but may have to relook at that.

Mr. Jack Collins stated that a tax increase would disincentivize new development and push citizens out of town. This tax is antibusiness and prioritizes government over citizens.

Mr. Andrew Glover stated that he moved from Vermont to flee because of high property tax rates. He has a short-term rental property and both of his property's values went up. Instead of seeing an increase in service, he's seen a decrease. School closure, trash delays, and riots are negative key performance indicators.

Mr. John Vassar believes that there is a shortage of housing stock in the city and with a growing population, an increase in real estate taxes will make Lynchburg less desirable.

Ms. Hope McRorie stated that she is concerned that the people aren't convinced that Council is concerned with them. She commented on only getting three minutes to talk to Council and stated that Council works for the citizens, but it seems its flipped around and citizens have to live with the decisions that Council makes for them.

Mr. Steve Troxel stated that his wife owns a business and her income has gone down considerable due to the pandemic but the city's income has gone up. They had to adjust their budget and the city needs to adjust their budget too. Everything in the budget looks good and important to somebody or else it wouldn't be in the budget. He stated that he has a lot of things that would look good in his budget but he can't go out and tax somebody to get the money to do it.

Ms. Stephanie Reed wanted to speak on behalf of families and children who are struggling. The city has a high poverty rate before the pandemic. Now there are people that have lost jobs, have a reduced income, or have to stay home with kids for school because of the pandemic. Now is not the time to increase taxes.

Mr. Josiah Wyble asked council to equalize the tax rate because there are a lot of impoverished people in Lynchburg and Charlottesville and surrounding counties have a lower tax rate.

Mr. FJ Jalil asked Council to seek revitalization and not taxation. Incentivize the revitalization of blighted properties and asked Council to not think of people as piggy banks.

Mr. Jared Hesse owns multiple businesses and commercial properties and if his taxes go up, he'll have to raise the rates on his tenants, and commented that it is a bad time to raise taxes in a pandemic with rising costs of healthcare and child care.

Ms. Linda Campbell and her husband are retired and living on a fixed income. The city is stressed economically with not receiving revenue from key sources and we are finally seeing a way out of this with vaccinations. Reconsider raising taxes so the majority of us can make it through the pandemic because in a few months the city will have all the regular taxes flooding back in.

Mr. James Berrigan said we are in the middle of a pandemic and I can't fathom how this is a left or right issue and the City should not consider raising taxes one cent. People who want to go out do and contribute their taxes that way. The cost of living is low, but he is very aware that he can go somewhere else and make more and probably get charged a lot less in taxes. Either people will vote Council out or people will leave.

Ms. Amber Haskew a local landlord, said that the economic impact is hurting children because of starvation. One of her properties went up 17% and if Council doesn't equalize tax rates then she'll have to charge higher rental rates and that will be taking away from children she's trying to feed. She knows people who are moving because of the tax rate and she pointed out that the tax rate in the city is significantly higher.

Ms. Cheryl DeLeon moved from California in 2014 to escape the high cost of living and loves the community. She substitute teaches and is aware of the socioeconomic depravation of our students and the disparity. She can't afford a price increase to her taxes so she will consider moving from the city.

Ms. Sarah Kalafian and is a housewife living in the city for the past 20 years and has watched taxes increase. She stated that the City needs to reel in how they are spending citizens' money.

Ms. Mary Coran loves the community and the area and is discouraged to hear that Council may not equalize the tax rate. There are cascading effects to the increase in property taxes; she is a renter and she is worried about the rent going up. It won't affect her so much, but there are plenty in the city who it will affect.

Mr. Ryan Fields asked Council if any of them own a business that was affected by the pandemic, or otherwise lost income due to the pandemic. Having a mask mandate, having capacity restrictions, changing business models around, these are all factors that have already been affecting businesses and now tax rates will be going up too.

Mr. Ryan Thomas was a renter in the city for many years and during that time he had a very low income. He is now self-employed and has to fund his own health insurance or matching 401k. He decided he wanted to get into the rental business and bought several houses and uses them as rental property and stated that he charges what is needed in order to make it work and nothing else. Any tax increases will be passed on to his renters and renters are typically in a more vulnerable position. He is also in a vulnerable position because the entertainment business took a dive. Everyone is struggling so he asked Council to reconsider the tax increase.

Mr. Anthony Difietro is in the real estate business and stated that everyone has budgets that need to be tightened because of the pandemic. He flips houses because he sees the value in turning blighted properties into usable homes, but now there are considerable cost pressures from a business standpoint. Materials have increased due to the pandemic and the city is collecting higher sales taxes on those materials.

Mr. Daniel Peters stated that whatever Council taxes, they'll get less of. Whatever they subsidize, they'll get more of. If Council taxes improvements on homes, they'll get less improvements and they'll get people letting their houses go.

Mr. Sky Riggelman signed up but did not show.

Mr. John McCann asked Council to consider not raising real estate taxes and to think of another way to get the money the city needs.

Ms. Angela Payne Cox is a homeowner and her husband works for the city and also has a second job and she would hate to see taxes raised in the city. She lives on a street with some fellow homeowners but also a lot of rental properties. If the taxes are raised then the landlords will probably not be able to keep up with their property. She stated that she wants to rent her home out and get another home, but she now might not be able to.

Mr. Rick Florezzo and his family recently moved to Lynchburg and commented on it being a wonderful, affordable town to live in and thanked City Council for all of their work.

Ms. Ina King stated that her occupation is buying and selling of real estate and the number one reason buyers don't want to buy in Lynchburg is because of taxes where they're currently at. Equalizing the tax rate is important so the city won't further drive clients out of the city.

There were several written correspondences previously furnished to the Clerk of Council by citizens to read into the record. Mr. Philip Stump asked Council to reject equalizing the tax rate in order to meet revenue shortfalls and fully support the schools. Mr. and Mrs. John and Marjorie Murphy asked Council to not raise taxes because the community cannot afford to take another hit in the pandemic. Ms. Erin Rupe said that the increase to taxes is not drastic and will help support the city's growing infrastructure. Mr. Dylan Schumacher asked Council to not equalize the tax rate due to the fact that community benefits of the revenue increase far outweigh the cost to individual taxpayers.

There were several previously recorded voicemails submitted to the Clerk of Council by citizens to be played into the record. Mr. Gary Woodson asked Council to consider a reduction in the tax rate citing the burden to citizens. Mr. Horace Scarlett said the increase on taxes would place an undue burden on his family. Mr. Lawrence Woody said the increase in his assessment places an undue burden on his 83-year-old wife and himself and asked Council to lower the tax rate to \$1.03 or lower. Mr. Marvin Clark asked Council to lower the tax rate because the tax increase places an undue burden on his 85-year-old wife and himself and encouraged Council to lower the rate to \$1.03 or lower. Mr. Wayne Fitzgerald stated the tax increase places an undue burden on his retired family and encouraged Council to lower the rate to \$1.03 or lower. Ms. Linda Collins stating that she was surprised her assessment went up so much and although she realizes the city needs the revenue, she suggested Council lower the tax rate to \$1.03 or lower. Ms. Debra Allen stating that she is a widowed senior citizen on a fixed income and if the tax rate is not lowered to \$1.03 or lower, it will cause an undue burden on herself.

Councilmember Faraldi asked the Clerk of Council, Ms. Alicia Finney, to record the following over 280 names into the record that signed a petition initiated by Councilmember Faraldi to not have their taxes raised:

Name	Physical Address
Nathan McMurray	7121 Meadowbrook Rd
Barbara Kepler	104 Wyndpark Circle
Greg O'Berry	1030 Ardmore Drive
Ann Pleinies	6256 Pawnee Drive
David Foust	109 Overlink Court
Steven Hill	3476 Ivylink place
Chris Williamson	230 Belvedere St
Benjamin Kahle	137 Acres Ct Lynchburg, VA 24502
Liz Highley	300 Atlanta Ave.
Julia McClurg	3416 Sky View Place
Deborah Fears Keeling	1716 Main Street
Donald A. Peschken	127 Village Park Court, Lynchburg, VA
ALBERT LAVERN BILLINGSLY	1115 MOREVIEW DR
Donna Cantrell	302 Oakridge Boulevard
Sandy Logan	720 Sanhill Dr
Julie Fields	233 V.E.S. Rd
Pete Parziale	1415 Park Avenue
Robert Morse	3108 Sedgewick Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24503
Charles Gammon	4900 Dodd St. Lynchburg 02
Jason Brown	4812 Old Boonsboro Road
Anne Miller Schlenk	2507 Link Road, Lynchburg VA 24503
Rebecca Mahanes	6005 Modac Place
Pat Stump	132 Yorkshire Cir
Angela Weaver	110 Aaron Place, #201, Lynchburg, VA
Cheryl Camarillo8	1303 Oakwood Court
Shirley A. Huffman	112 Thornfield Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24502
Kim Anita VandeBogart	902 Main Street
Zena King	7108 Meadowbrook Rd. Lynchburg, VA 24502
Robert Weaver	201 Aaron Place
Luke Mannion	6276 Pawnee Dr, 24502
George M Loper	119 Dreaming Creek Dr

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Sandra Travis	205 Alta Ln, Lynchburg
Rose E Hall	220 WAYNE DR
Holly Sweet	3807 Moorman Drive Lynchburg
Kathy Calvert	7125 Richland Drive
Richard Palazzo	1012 Biltmore Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24502
Blake Edmondson	602 Fleetwood Dr
Michael Christensen	2100 Weeping Willow Drive Apt. I Lynchburg, VA 24515
John and Elizabeth Sargent	1414 Nelson Drive, Lynchburg 24502
Kevin Broad	341 Norfolk Ave
Luke Dykeman	1519 CLUB TER
Peggy Summy	1801 Heritage Circle
Lindsey Morris	1519 club terrace, Lynchburg, va 24503
David Bruce	4621 Locksview Rd.
Timmy Williamson	100 Tradewynd Drive Apt. B
Caleb McAllister	110 Settlement Drive
Brenton	120 Fieldstone Ct
Letitia Lowery	601 midvale street Lynchburg Virginia
Michael Horst	414 Wiggington Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502
Greg Berry	1513 Russell St
Lisa pelletier	341 Norfolk Ave
Steve Troxel	204 Pennsylvania Avenue
Melanie Thompson	4100 Fort Avenue
Sondra Perricone	430 New Britain Dr
MaryJane Murray	219 Ivy Dr Lynchburg
James S Whitaker	6012 MODAC PL Lynchburg VA 24502
Joel Olenik	322 sumpter street
Mike Sharrett	2035 Overbrook Rd
Graeme Neil Leitch	1130 Moreview Dr
David Corry	515 Lady Slipper Ln, Lynchburg, VA 24502
Linda Devereese	417 Cornerstone St
Toby Davies	511 Stafford St

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Allen Edmondson	102 Pilgrim Rd.
Corey Thomas	165 ROCKWELL RD
Tina Cooley	407 Langhorne Lane
Dennis A. Cooley	407 Langhorne Lane
Chad Mooney	2219 Poplar
Thomas Strayhorn	309 Wyndhurst Dr
Ronald Wayne Rhodes	1152 lindsay st lynchburg 24502
Nicholas J Sweet	3807 Moorman DR
Karl Miller	1819 Royal Oak Dr Lynchburg 24503
Courtney Turkekul	104 Lawton Lane, Lynchburg VA 24501
Brenda Cafazza	204 Lookout Dr
Sarah Kalafian	111 Earls Court, Lynchburg, Va 24503
Nicholas Freesland	3020 Cardinal Pl Lynchburg, VA 24503
Nikki Perkinson	206 MAPLE HILLS DR
Todd Patterson	134 Bon Ton Rd Lynchburg
Charles W Rodgers	1908 Eastwood Lane / 24503
Shanna Davies	511 Stafford St.
Alexander Stuart	1504 Waverly Pl
Claybrooke Dean	345 Norfolk Ave, Lynchburg, VA 24503
Bre Rock	1500 Fort Manor Dr
Russ Rock	1011 N. Grand Ave.
Lauren Rock	1358 McKinney Ave
Sky Pacot	4509 Boonsboro Rd
Caleb D Rock	519 Stafford ST
Sam Rock	1358 McKinney Ave Lynchburg, VA 24502
Melinda L Tennis	1019 Church St
Amy Couch	1813 Laxton Rd
Jeri Rock	519 Stafford Street
Terry Adams	111 Pilgrim Road
Rebekah Carwile	4528 Greenwood Drive
Linda Rock	1011 North Grand Ave

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Nate Rock	1500 Fort Manor Dr
Dan Ebersold	3408 Memorial Ave
Caleb Di Lella	1121 Toledo ave
Olivia Rock	1900 Weeping Willow Dr, APT C
Lisa Pacot	4509 Boonsboro Road
Ken Frederick	2215 Indian Hill Rd.
Gregory S. McCauley	1009 Jeffetson Street Apt. D Lynchburg,VA 24504
Andy Smith	113 Parkview Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24502
Ronald Gillispie	110 Kings Drive
Christy Sattler	108 Chris Lane
Michelle Osborne	515 Bent Oak Ct, Lynchburg, 24502
Linda Chicette	109 Westover Blvd
Robert Pyle	108 Marguerite Dr
Ben Parziale	4333 Montgomery Road Lynchburg VA 24503
Joshua Brandon	2230 mimosa drive Lynchburg va 24503
Cheri Almond	106 North Street, Lynchburg, VA 24502
Emily Foster	1424 Edley Place
Wendy C Jacobs	344 Bell Street
Marina Guenther	1928 Hillsdale Road Lynchburg Virginia 24501
Charles Faulconer	4627 Fieldale Road, Lynchburg, VA 24503
Neil Leitch	3428 Milton Street, Lynchburg, Va 24501
Jonathan McMahon	4409 Goodview Street, Lynchburg, VA 24502
Amber Haskew	203 Fleetwood Dr
John Vassar	107 Emeline Drive
Martin Misjuns	140 Palmer Drive, Lynchburg VA 24502
Betty Gibbs	313 Legacy Oaks Circle
William Worley	7102 Suncrest Dr
RPLind	3025 Cranehill
Daniel Pense	1301 10th street
FJ Jalil	1045 Moreview Drive 24502
Dr. Mary Alford	2 Easton Ave, Lynchburg, VA

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Theresa Palazzo	1012 Biltmore Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24502
Hilary Leitch	1130 Moreview Dr.
Todd Hibbard	535 Eldon St. Lynchburg, VA 24501
Jeremy Buttil	160 Ivy Creek Lane Unit #202 Lynchburg, VA 24502
William R Jennings Jr.	2304 Heronhill Place, Lynchburg, VA 24503
Braden Murphy	55 Murphy Lane
Patsy R Walker	2432 INDIAN HILL ROAD
Christy G Solomon	1006 Craigmont Drive
Gary N. Garner	310 Robin Dr., Lynchburg, VA. 24502
Veronica Bratton	759 Wyndhurst Dr
Reginald Richards	1716 Lakeside Drive
Matt Lynn	314 BREEZEWOOD DR
Howard M Rice	130 Farley Branch Drive
Andrew Glover	1504 Lockewood Dr
Donald and Carla Sloan	134 FARLEY BRANCH DRIVE
Kenneth Kepler	104 Wyndpark Circle
Malia C. King	1026 New Hampshire Ave
Barbara McCann	114 Valleydale Drive
William Steele	201 Farley branch drive Lynchburg va 24502
Peter Alexander	2228 Falcon Hill Pl
Janet Gibbs	318 Warren Ave Lynchburg Virginia 24501
anne mcveigh	3515 Otterview place
Shelley Scranton	1104 Milford Lane
Mr. Terry Adams	111 PILGRIM RD
Steve Gilliatt	204 Woodway Drive
Brenda Guill	1506 Brookville Lane
Robert Bowden Jr	214 Windham Ct
Autumn Johnson	316 G Killarney Court
Maria Dennis	2004 Pocahontas Street
Wanda S Martin	71 E Lake Dr
Evan Murch	2208 Fairview Avenue

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April McWilliams	1063 Coronado Lane
Brian Landergan	1111 Rhode Island Ave
Philip Germeroth	211 Pearson Dr.
Michelle Jolly	4819 boonsboro Rd Apt B, Rear of house lower level
Carolyn Lee Peerman	103 LOOKOUT DRIVE
Cheryl A Todd	1024 Rivermont Ter
Mary B Swan	104 Adams Drive
Wilson Swan	104 Adams Drive
Don Marsh	611 Rotunda St.
Debra Knowlton	6016 Edgewood Ave.
Susan Stowell	18 Westdale Dr., Lynchburg, VA 24501
SHANNON WHEALTON	524 Hayes Dr
Glenn Babbitt	6200 Pawnee Dr.
Ariel McCullough	1025 Greenway Court
George Miklas	1011 Wood Rd, Lynchburg, VA 24502
Logan Skillman	3500 Weeping Willow Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24501
Herman Murray	219 Ivy Drive Lynchburg, VA 24503
Ryan Thomas	165 Rockwell Rd. Lynchburg, VA
Megan Okimoto	201 Harrison St.
Janet Fletcher	101 Fredonia Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24504
Cherise Agnew	722 Commerce Street
James	7110 Richland Drive
Kelsey Shade	105 BRIDLEWOOD LN
Karen Olsen	324 Legacy Oaks Circle, Lynchburg, VA 24501
Ryan Fields	233 VES Rd. Lynchburg Va.
Gary Viar	1009 Moreview Drive
Christopher L Guynn	2915 Confederate Avenue
Dallas Davis	102 Salisbury Circle
Melanie Chenault	1002 Enterprise Dr Unit 410
Ann Robbins	7219 Richland Drive
Marjorie Murphy	308 Boston Avenue

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Linda Scoville	1502 Brookville Lane
Josh Davies	201 Bonterra pl 24501
Kevin Eberl	215 Yeardley Ave., Lynchburg, Va. 24501
Kathy Germeroth	211 Pearson Dr. Lynchburg, Va 24502
Tara L Watkins	1331 Dover Pl.
Deborah Johnson	3750 Woodside Ave
Richard A Kidd	1307 Radcliff Ave.
Rebecca Riggins	316 Keywood Dr
Debbie Roth	347 Wild Turkey Rd, Lynchburg, VA 24502
Melanie Dalton	3327 Milton St.
Michael Bradshaw	121 Dreaming Creek Dr
Christy Jo Bradshaw	121 Dreaming Creek Dr
Rev. Bennie Castle	4510 Hilltop Drive Lynchburg VA
Scott Stevens	207 Perrymont Ave
Faith Fretz	2010 Wiggington Road Lynchburg VA 24502
No additional taxes	5328 hickory hill dr lynchburg va
Jennifer Brown	1208 Norvell House Court
Ezekiel Loftin	1121 Harrison St., Lynchburg VA 24504
Gary Takacs	1037 Moreview Dr Lynchburg Va 24502
Joyce Doss	1533 Liggates Rd
Thomas A. Taylor, Jr.	1048 Oakmont Circle Lynchburg, VA 24502
Rex W Metzgar	2612 LINKHORNE DR
ghgoh_97@yahoo.com	407 Cornerstone St
Patrick Templeton	1208 Krise Circle
Hajnal Sandidge	218 WINDSOR RD
Stephanie Berkland	1410 Edley Place
Karen Allen	4527 boonsboro rd
Pamela O Miles	201 BUCKINGHAM DR
Brenda S. Hunt	1920 Royal Oak Drive
Hermann K Ulrich	2103 Woodcrest Drive
SHANNON LANGWORTHY	511 Bent Oak Ct Lynchburg VA 24502

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bill bryant	1611 bedford ave
James Catel	1005 V. E. S. Rd.
Danny Smith	141 Yorkshire Circle
Melody Revell	4107 Fort Ave
Kimberly Moore Ness	4301 Morningside Drive, 24503
Suzanne Chappell	1026 MOREVIEW DR
Bonnie Zaleta	1016 Moreview Dr, Lynchburg 24502
I whole heartedly oppose this tax increase	3410 Plymouth Place
Harry J Hoss Jr	222 Ivy Drive Lynchburg Va
Syed M Ali	301 Reno Drive Lynchburg VA 24502
Allyn Chappell	1026 MOREVIEW DR
Lynn Wayne Seipp	300 Portico Street. Lynchburg, VA 24592
John Ritchey	720 Hayes Dr
Dawn Eberl	215 Yeardley Ave, Lynchburg VA
Stephen Langeland	4725 Oxford St Lynchburg VA 24502
Peggy Grimes	436 Preserve Drive
Marlo Horne	142 White Pine Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24501
Joseph Coley	1219 Craigmont dr
Cindy Gresham	204 Bryant Rd
Steve D Tyree	3056 Forest Hills Circle
Kathy Pribble	101 Willow Bend Dr 24502
Oksana Chernaya	623 Wyndhurst drive unit 206 Lynchburg VA 24502
Dong Danny Li	2321 Woodcrest Dr
Mitchell Downs	106 Easton Ave Lynchburg VA 24503
Ryan	202 Capital Street
William Wells	503 Victoria Avenue
Karen Elizabeth Quigg	525 Savannah Avenue
Susan P Atkins	347 BURR OAK RD
Cheryl A. DeLeon	3871 Boonsboro Rd. Lynchburg, VA 24503
Donna Schwarz	1216 regency woods place
Jonathan McMillan	7123 Peachtree Road, Lynchburg, VA, USA

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sarah reynolds-blanchette	7120 Meadowbrook Rd
Jeff Baird	7125 Meadowbrook Road
John & Mary Myers	1006 Oakmont Cir
Ronald Cooper	203 9th Street apt 7A Lynchburg VA 24504
Jul-aina Hamajad	7126 Meadowbrook Rd Lynchburg, Va 24502
Irina Tanjala	1428 Nelson Dr, Lynchburg, VA, 24502
Rebecca Kintgen	7113 Meadowbrook Rd, Lynchburg VA 24502
Charles Donneberg	7415 Richland Drive Lynchburg Va 24502
Erin R Knobeloch	23 Easton Ave
Brett Strock	1130 Villa rd.
Judy Wade	1222 Shirley Road
Kimberly Rodgers	1908 Eastwood lane
Patterson Wilhelm	4104 Peakland Pl
autumn quinn	1119 heath ave lynchburg va 24502
Tara Nye	403 Cornerstone Street
Chip and Debbie Daniel	207 Creekview Ct Lynchburg 24502
Katherine G Taylor	144 Mill Lane Rd
Judith Gallion	302 Meridian Street Lynchburg VA 24502
PATRISHA ANN FLOOD	105 Sublett Ct
Bryan Sobeck	504 Victoria Ave
Kim Smith	610 Capstone Drive, Lynchburg
Julie Fielda	233 VES Road
Eunice Paulett	1904 Lakeside Drive 24501
Joshua Dugan	1312 Rivermont Ave
Marcia L Schweisthal	1807 Taylor Street
Kristine Scharven	117 Page Street
Mary Coran	1001 Moreview Drive
Stephen Mitchell Baldwin	1030 VES Road
Patricia Powers	204 Whitley Way Lynchburg, VA. 24503
Craig R. Wallwork	503 Washington Street
Tina Watson	1132 Ardmore Drive Lynchburg VA 24501

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Wendy Bryant	203 Perrymont Avenue Lynchburg, VA 24502
Landon "Skye" Riggleman	103 Buckingham Drive, Lynchburg Va 24502
Andrew Connor	7129 peachtree road Lynchburg va 24502
Nate Mahanes	6005 Modac Place
Dalton King	7108 Meadowbrook Rd
Patrick H Gatti	608 Washington Street

He continued by stating that there has been an outcry from citizens that support equalizing the tax rate and that it is incumbent on Councilmembers to support measures that accomplish that. He stated that citizens who have expressed opposition to equalizing the tax rate have cited not wanting to lose access to service. However, there is an increase to the city's Fund Balance Reserve that would seem to align to the amount of the proposed tax increase. This way Council can put forth a budget that puts the tax payer at the forefront.

Councilmember Helgeson made the motion to set the tax rate to \$1.03, not the equalization rate of \$1.033, stating that there are ways to come up with the money like cutting back the Fund Balance Reserve from 12.3% Councilmember Faraldi seconded the motion, stating that it is the right thing to do.

Councilmember Nelson stated that there are sufficient funds in the Fund Balance Reserve that helps bolster the City's standing with bond rating agencies so that we can borrow money for capital improvement projects at a lower rate. He agreed that he does not want to put the burden of taxes on citizens, however, he is hesitant to support this motion because there is still a lot of budget to get through. He continued, stating that he is for lowering the tax rate but doesn't know how much is an appropriate rate and until budget discussions are finished, Council can't responsibly know.

Councilmember Tweedy asked staff to elaborate on what would happen if the city equalized its services equivalent to services citizens receive in the neighboring counties. Dr. Wodicka stated that cities and counties are very different in the services they provide. The City provides fulltime police and fire services, are responsible for the maintenance of its own roads, and have a much more robust parks system. Councilmember Tweedy said she is perplexed on who she will be making this decision for and who she will be ultimately helping. All Council has heard tonight was landlords stating that they will pass

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the increase on to their renters. It's a complex issue, renters want to keep expenditures low, but Council has a duty to look at all of those affected.

Councilmember Wilder asked staff to provide more information at a later date on tax assistance programs, the average increase amount for citizens, how much the departments looked to see where they could decrease in their budgets, and an explanation on the reserves policy.

Vice Mayor Wright stated that property reassessments are a normal process; every two years the state says the City Assessor must reassess property and wanted to be clear that this is not being brought forth by anyone on Council.

Mayor Dolan said she needs more time to evaluate and is not ready to decide tonight.

Councilmember Nelson stated that if Councilmember Helgeson does not want to withdraw his motion then he will call the question; Councilmember Helgeson did not wish to withdraw. With that, the following vote to set the Real Property Tax Rate to \$1.03 per \$100 assessed value was recorded:

Ayes: Helgeson, Faraldi 2

Noes: Dolan, Wright, Nelson, Tweedy, Wilder 5

// In the matter of Budget, Agenda Item #5, a public hearing was held on the Proposed FY 2022 Operating Budget and FY 2022 – 2026 Capital Improvement Program for the City of Lynchburg.

Mr. Ben Blanks stated that he relies solely on the Greater Lynchburg Transit Company as his means of transportation. He also stated that many citizens also rely on the GLTC to get to and from their places of work. As such, he is supportive of the GLTC funding in the budget.

Ms. Belle Evans who previously signed up to speak was not in attendance during the public hearing.

Mr. Andrew Glover, representative of Conservative Parents of Lynchburg, stated he is not in support of funding the Lynchburg City Schools in the budget citing the decrease in school enrollment numbers as a key factor.

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Mr. Rick Loving, President of the Lynchburg Police Foundation, stated that he is in support of funding the police in the form of hiring additional staff, retaining staff by addressing compression issues that were identified in the Korn Ferry pay study, and building the police headquarters.

Mr. Carl Hutcherson, Jr., who did not previously sign up but was in attendance and chose to speak, stated that he is in support of funding the police by hiring 26 additional sworn staff and 16 professional staff.

There were several written correspondences previously furnished to the Clerk of Council by citizens to read into the record. Ms. Dee Tinsley, owner of Dee's Designs, stated that she is in support of the Community Market renovations budget line item. Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne and Jannett Spearman, owners of Spearman Artisanry, stated that they are in support of the Community Market renovations budget line item. Mr. Tom Hayman stated he was in support of the Community Market renovations budget line item. Mr. Aaron Ruehle stated that he is in support funding Lynchburg City Schools. Mr. Steve Lobb stated that he is in support of funding the Lynchburg City Schools.

There were several previously recorded voicemails submitted to the Clerk of Council by citizens to be played into the record. Ms. Mollie Gardner Ledford said that she is in support of funding the Lynchburg City Schools. Ms. Rebekah Melton, member of the Community Policing Advisory Group, stated that she was in support of funding for the police department.

// The meeting adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

Clerk of Council