

// A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg was held on the 25th day of March, 2014, at 4:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Ceasor T. Johnson, Vice-President, presiding. The following Members were present:

Present: Cary, Foster, Helgeson, Johnson, Nelson 5

Absent: Perrow, Gillette 2

// Mayor Gillette arrived at the meeting at 4:15 P.M.

// City Manager Kimball Payne recognized Mr. Edward Haley on his retirement with the City of Lynchburg with 18 years of service.

// Neighborhood Programs Coordinator Keith Wright provided an overview on the Community Code Compliance Team (CCCT) Annual Report. Mr. Wright stated that the City's Community Code Compliance Team was created by City Council to develop and implement "a proactive, coordinated and focused long-term strategy to improve living conditions through consistent code compliance, thereby facilitating a positive impact on the quality of life in Lynchburg." Mr. Wright further stated that the CCCT includes representatives from the neighborhood, City Council, City Manager's Office, Community Development, Billings and Collections, Fire Marshal, Public Works, Police, City Attorney's Office, Social Services, Commissioner of the Revenue, and Lynchburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority. Mr. Wright went on to say that the Team representatives frequently conduct neighborhood walkthroughs as part of its mission to work proactively with residents to identify concerns and raise awareness of local codes and public maintenance needs.

In 2013 the Community Code Compliance Team coordinated six meetings, four of which were conducted in neighborhoods at the request of residents. Representatives typically use the walkthroughs to resolve neighborhood concerns in a variety of ways. By explaining processes, identifying ongoing maintenance needs, working with the property owners to address specific concerns and empowering residents with contacts for follow up and future assistance, team members strive to set clear expectations for progress on each of the items identified during the visit. The Community Code Compliance Team continues to seek new connections with the City's neighborhoods to promote, protect and improve the health, safety and welfare of both the citizens and the environment. The structure of the team allows the members to coordinate action items and responses among the various departments to better address the needs of the residents who live there. By establishing strong working partnerships among the neighborhoods, those neighbors are empowered to not only identify issues on their street but become part of proactive solutions to improve our community as a whole. In conclusion, Mr. Wright stated that the Team believes that rather than simply citing property owners with a notice for every violation, a better approach is to focus on education regarding applicable Codes. The benefit to citizens and government alike is to gain a well-rounded approach to Code compliance.

// Council Member Perrow arrived at the meeting at 5:10 P.M.

// City Manager Kimball Payne gave an overview of items on "The List".

Tourism – Council Member Helgeson made a motion, seconded by Council Member Perrow to eliminate \$800,000 in the Tourism program. The motion failed:

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

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Noes: Helgeson

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Concealed Weapons Permit Fee – Council Member Helgeson made a motion seconded by Council Member Cary to lower the Concealed Weapons Permit Fee from \$50.00 to \$25.00. Several Council Members were not in agreement to lower the fee. The motion to lower the Concealed Weapons Permit Fee Failed:

Ayes: Cary, Helgeson, Perrow

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Noes: Foster, Johnson, Nelson, Gillette

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Museum System - Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion seconded by Council Member Foster to keep the museum intact with the budget. Several Council Members suggested finding ways to fund the museum and look into how to operate the Museum more efficiently and do research with other museums in the Region to see how they operate. Council Member Helgeson stated that the Museum only creates \$17,000 in revenue from people that use their own money when they visit. The Museum budget is \$436K and he suggested it should be looked at. The motion passed:

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

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Noes: Helgeson

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City Code - Council Member Perrow made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Johnson to outsource the City Code for updates, maintenance, and hosting which will cost \$6,600 annually. The motion passed:

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

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Noes:

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Visitors Information Center - Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion seconded by Council Member Nelson not to close the Visitors Information Center. Several Council Members stated some concern with possibly moving the Visitors Information Center to a different location. Council Member Helgeson stated that the Visitors Information Center is in a poor location and he is not in favor of the status quo. The motion passed:

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

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Noes: Helgeson

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Refuse, trash tag education and enforcement – temporary personnel - A motion was made by Council Member Cary, seconded by Council Member Nelson to support the refuse, trash tag education and enforcement – temporary personnel. Council Member Helgeson stated he would not support this item because of the hiring of another temporary employee. The motion passed:

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

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Noes: Helgeson

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Mayor Gillette stated that there were three remaining items in the Budget for discussion from Council, which are: Real Estate Tax, City and School employee compensation adjustment and Lynch's Landing which will be discussed at a future work session.

// During roll call Council Member Cary stated that the two safety bollards on 5th Street were down again and he would like City staff to possibly find a solution to this problem. He also thanked all City employees that participated in the Civic Engagement Meeting that was held at Linkhorne Middle School on Monday, March 24, 2014.

// Council Member Foster stated that Lynchburg was recognized from a Gallup survey (ranked #37) as one of "The Happiest and Healthiest Cities in America". She also thanked everyone that played a part in the groundbreaking ceremony for the Storytime Room at the Public Library.

// Council Member Perrow thanked Lynn Dodge for starting the process on the Storytime Room at the Library. He also mentioned putting a plan in place for improvements on Timberlake Road at Laxton Road.

// Mayor Gillette announced the last Civic Engagement Meeting will be held on March 31, 2014 at Dunbar Middle School at 6:00 p.m. Congratulations to Amazeement Square for being one of the excellent museums in the Nation. Mayor Gillette also recognized Lynchburg College for receiving the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accreditation, which is a great honor.

// On motion of Council Member Foster, seconded by Council Member Cary, Council by the following recorded vote elected to hold a closed meeting for discussion and consideration of the City Manager's performance evaluation, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A.)(1) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended:

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

Noes: Helgeson 1

// 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 Foster, and Council by the following recorded vote adopted the motion:

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

Noes: 0

Absent: Helgeson 1

// City Council recessed the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

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

The following Members were present:

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

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Absent: Cary

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Council Member Perrow gave the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

// Council Member Cary arrived at the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

// In the matter of Community Development/CDBG, a public hearing was held on City Council Report #6 regarding receiving input regarding the FY 2015 Allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Program Funds. Melva Walker, Grants Manager, gave a summary of the FY 2014/15 allocations for CDBG and HOME Program Funds with recommendations from the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC). Six individuals spoke and thanked Council for their past support and asked Council to continue supporting their programs. There was no one else present who wished to speak to this item, and the public hearing was closed. No action was required at this time. This item will be discussed at the April 8, 2014 Work Session.

// In the matter of City Council, Ms. Consuela Mosley asked that this item be pulled from the agenda.

// In the matter of City Code, City Council Report #8 was considered. On motion of Council Member Perrow, seconded by Council Member Cary, Council by the following recorded vote adopted Resolution #R-14-021, as presented, to petition the Circuit Court of the City of Lynchburg to appoint a special commissioner to execute the necessary deed or deeds to convey the tax delinquent real estate at 915 2nd Street to the City in lieu of its sale at public auction:

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

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Noes:

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// In the matter of Public Works – General, City Council Report #9 was considered. On motion of Council Member Foster, seconded by Vice Mayor Johnson, Council by the following recorded vote adopted Resolution #R-14-022, as presented, maintaining access to Whitehall Road when improvements to the Old Forest Road/Lakeside Drive/ Expressway intersection are designed and constructed:

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

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Noes:

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// Council Member Foster made the statement that she would not participate in the discussion or voting in this matter of taxicabs because she is leasing a building from one of the applicants that is requesting a Taxicab certificate. In the matter of Taxicabs, City Council Report #10 was considered. On motion of Council Member Helgeson, seconded by Council Member Cary, Council by the following recorded vote agreed to conditionally approve the issuance of Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Operation of Taxicabs in the City:

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

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Noes:

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Abstention: Foster

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// The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 P.M.