// A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg was held on the 9th day of June, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Training Room, City Hall, Larry Taylor, President, presiding. The following Members were present:

Present: Larry Taylor, Curt Diemer, Stephanie Reed, Chris Faraldi, Sterling A. Wilder, Jacqueline Timmer 6

Absent: Martin Misjuns 1

// In the matter of Public Works, Agenda Item #1, Council received bids for the ApCo Easement - Milestone Towers Line. Clerk of Council Alicia Finney-Andrews stated that bids had been requested for an easement at 3525 John Capron Road and that one bid had been received from Appalachian Power Company on June 3, 2026. Ms. Finney-Andrews read the letter of commitment submitted by Appalachian Power Company regarding the grant and conveyance of a right-of-way and easement on City-owned property located at 3525 John Capron Road.

Mayor Taylor asked whether there were any additional bids. Hearing none, Mayor Taylor declared the bid closed.

Councilmember Diemer motioned, seconded by Councilmember Wilder, to accept the bid submitted by Appalachian Power Company.

Councilmember Timmer asked whether Council could vote on the matter during the Work Session without suspending the Rules of Procedure. City Attorney Matthew Freedman advised that the matter fell within the exception.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Timmer 6

Noes: 0

Absent: Misjuns 1

Ms. Finney-Andrews stated that a public hearing would be conducted at the 7:00 p.m. meeting regarding adoption of an ordinance granting the easement to the successful bidder.

// In the matter of Boards and Commissions, Agenda Item #2, Council was briefed regarding Boards and Commissions Quarterly Reporting. Clerk of Council Alicia Finney-Andrews stated that the report was provided to help the public understand time commitments and background alignment for volunteer opportunities and to provide Council with information regarding upcoming appointments and vacancies.

Ms. Finney-Andrews reviewed upcoming opportunities and vacancies for the Central Virginia Community College Board, Historic Preservation Commission, Martin Luther King, Jr./Lynchburg Community Council, Museum Advisory Board, Economic Development Authority, and Building Code Appeals Board. She stated that Council was scheduled for a closed session on July 14, 2026 to make appointments and that applications and resumes would be collected through Friday, July 3, 2026.

// City Council recessed at 4:10 p.m. and reconvened at 4:17 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

// In the matter of the Fire Department, Agenda Item #3, Council was briefed regarding the Lynchburg Fire Department Climate, Culture, and Hiring Process Assessment. Deputy City Manager Greg Patrick introduced Vice President at Raftelis Johnathan Ingram and subject matter expert for Raftelis Tom DeMint. Mr. Ingram and Mr. DeMint presented the findings from the assessment of the Lynchburg Fire Department climate, culture, and hiring process.

Councilmember Timmer asked whether ALS equipment was addressed as part of the assessment. Mr. DeMint replied that ALS equipment was not a significant focus of the assessment. Mr. Ingram clarified that the assessment focused on climate and culture, employee experience, and the hiring, recruitment, and promotion processes, rather than a broader operational assessment of equipment, staffing, deployment, or service delivery.

Councilmember Timmer asked for additional information regarding shift schedules. Mr. DeMint stated that some EMS agencies in the region had moved toward a shorter work week, while the City currently used a 56-hour work week with a 24/48 schedule. He stated that there was interest among employees in a 24/72 schedule, but that any change would require additional analysis regarding cost, staffing, service delivery, and operational impacts. Mr. Ingram added that different shift schedules have advantages and disadvantages and should be evaluated in relation to staffing needs, recruitment and retention, employee well-being, cost, and calls for service.

Councilmember Reed asked about recruitment challenges and how the City could broaden the applicant pool. Mr. DeMint stated that recruitment should include outreach beyond job fairs, including engagement with community colleges, universities, paramedic and EMT programs, high schools, and younger students. He said that early exposure could help students understand fire and EMS careers as a possible path.

Councilmember Wilder expressed interest in follow-up discussions with the incoming Fire Chief, either individually or in small groups. He also asked about the timeline for fire station construction and repairs and discussed opportunities to expose students to fire and EMS careers. City Manager Wynter Benda stated that staff intended to meet with each Councilmember individually to discuss the report and next steps. He also stated that staff may bring forward a proposal for Council to consider amending the FY 2027 budget to fund the proposed human resources and training positions identified in the report.

Vice Mayor Diemer discussed the importance of Councilmembers being able to hear from fire and police personnel. He stated that he wanted to maintain open communication and ensure that employees felt able to speak with Councilmembers.

Mr. Ingram discussed the Council-Manager form of government and the importance of the employment chain of command within a public safety organization. He stated that day-to-day operational responsibility flows through the Fire Chief and City Manager, and that Council direction should come from Council as a body rather than from individual Councilmembers. He stated that Council has a role in understanding departmental operations and holding the City Manager accountable, while allowing established management processes to function.

Councilmember Misjuns asked whether a veterans-preference policy could assist with recruitment of qualified applicants. Mr. DeMint stated that veterans-preference policies are used by many departments and can support recruitment because veterans often have experience working in team-based and physically demanding environments. Mr. Ingram stated that veterans-preference could be one recruitment pathway, but cautioned that the City should avoid creating a recruitment structure that limits access for applicants without military experience. He stated that the City should also develop pathways for local students and other community members to become familiar with the department.

Councilmember Misjuns also asked about the use of oral boards instead of written tests. Mr. Ingram stated that both written tests and oral boards have advantages and disadvantages, including potential bias considerations. He stated that the City should not exclude any option from future consideration by the Fire Chief and human resources staff.

// In the matter of the Council, Agenda Item #4, Vice Mayor Diemer discussed the LU Enrollment Resolution. Vice Mayor Diemer introduced the item and presented a resolution for Council's consideration.

// In the matter of Roll Call, Councilmember Faraldi raised constituent concerns regarding Taylor Road, downtown parking, a Centra announcement related to a facility near Logans Landing, and the possible release of certain School Board application responses to the public.

Councilmember Reed congratulated the Heritage High School girls track and field team on winning the Class 3 state championship and recognized recent high school graduates.

Councilmember Wilder recognized the Community Court/Recovery Court graduation, noted the upcoming Juneteenth event at Miller Park, and highlighted First Fridays and a Lynchburg Museum exhibit.

Councilmember Timmer expressed concerns about sharing School Board application responses, since an applicant's expectations may be different depending on when they filled out the application.

Councilmember Misjuns raised concerns regarding Taylor Road and requested staff review issues related to field preparation and communication for Peachey Park Senior Softball. Deputy City Manager Greg Patrick stated that Public Works was aware of the Taylor Road concerns and would assess the issue.

Vice Mayor Diemer thanked police staff for assistance with Leesville Road traffic concerns and requested continued attention to speeding, particularly near Heritage High School and Greenview Drive. Deputy City Manager Greg Patrick stated that a speed study on Leesville Road was in process and would be brought back to Council.

Mayor Taylor raised concerns regarding vehicles parking against the flow of traffic and asked that the issue be addressed.

// The meeting was recessed at 6:09 p.m.

// A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg was held on the 9th day of June, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Larry Taylor, President, presiding. The following Members were present:

Present: Larry Taylor, Curt Diemer, Stephanie Reed, Chris Faraldi, Sterling A. Wilder, Jacqueline Timmer, Martin Misjuns 7

Absent: 0

// Councilmember Timmer led the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

// In the matter of the Consent Agenda, Agenda Item #1, Council considered approving the minutes from the March 10, 2026 City Council meeting. Councilmember Faraldi motioned, seconded by Councilmember Wilder, to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Timmer noted that she was absent for the March 10 meeting and would be abstaining from voting. The following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Misjuns 6

Noes: 0

Abstentions: Timmer 1

// In the matter of Planning, Agenda Item #2, Council conducted a public hearing in consideration of adopting Resolution #R-26-056 amending the Future Land Use Map and adopting Ordinance #O-26-057 changing the zoning of a certain area located at 1410 University Boulevard. City Planner Rachel Frischeisen provided a summary of the request. Liberty University, Inc. is petitioning to amend the Future Land Use Map from Community Commercial to Institution and to rezone approximately two and seventy-five hundredths (2.75) acres located at 1410 University Boulevard from B-3C, Community Business District (Conditional), to IN-2, Institutional District 2, to allow the reuse of a hotel structure as dormitory housing.

Ms. Frischeisen stated that the property contains a three-story hotel structure with 102 guest rooms and that the existing rooms would be used for an anticipated maximum capacity of 204 beds. She stated that the property is surrounded by the Liberty University campus, that no new buildings, additions, or parking areas were proposed, and that the use should have limited impact on the surrounding area.

Dan Deter, representing Liberty University, spoke in support of the request. He stated that Liberty University purchased the property and intended to use it as North Suites Dorm 99 to increase on-campus housing. He stated that the rooms include kitchenettes and that student parking would be handled through Liberty University’s campus parking system rather than by guaranteeing each resident a parking space at the building.

There was no one else wishing to speak in favor or in opposition, either in person or by voicemail, so the public hearing was closed and the matter rested with Council.

Councilmember Misjuns motioned, seconded by Councilmember Timmer, to adopt the resolution and ordinance. Councilmembers commented that the request was appropriate given the property's location within the Liberty University campus and the need for student housing.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Timmer, Misjuns 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of Finance, Agenda Item #3, Council conducted a public hearing in consideration of adopting Resolution #R-26-058 authorizing the 2026 Bond Anticipation Note and introducing Resolution #R-26-059 amending the FY 2026 General, Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Funds' Operating Budgets to provide appropriations totaling $350,000 with resources from a Bond Anticipation Note, Series 2026, for costs associated with the issuance of $90,500,000 in Bond Anticipation Notes. Chief Financial Officer Donna Witt introduced the item.

Courtney Rogers, Senior Vice President with Davenport & Company, provided a presentation regarding proposals received for the new line of credit. Mr. Rogers stated that proposals were requested from national, local, and regional banks and that Truist provided the recommended proposal due to its lower variable rate and favorable terms. He stated that the Bond Anticipation Note would provide a line of credit for current and future projects and that the line would close before the end of the fiscal year. There was no one wishing to speak in favor or in opposition, either in person or by voicemail, so the public hearing was closed and the matter rested with Council.

Councilmember Misjuns said that the resolution for issuance costs that was uploaded to the system showed as FY26 general water, sewer, and stormwater funds operating budgets amended. He said they did not have a resolution for the issuance costs.

Ms. Witt explained that the resolution Councilmember Misjuns was referring to was for the issuance costs, because the budgets were being amended to account for the costs.

Councilmember Wilder motioned, seconded by Vice Mayor Diemer, to adopt Resolution #R-26-058 authorizing the Bond Anticipation Note, including the selection of Truist as recommended.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Timmer, Misjuns 7

Noes: 0

Councilmember Wilder motioned, seconded by Councilmember Timmer, to adopt Resolution #-26-059 amending the FY 2026 General, Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Funds' Operating Budgets for issuance costs.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Timmer, Misjuns 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of Public Works, Agenda Item #4, Council conducted a public hearing in consideration of adopting Ordinance #O-26-060 granting Appalachian Power Company an easement right to provide electricity on 3525 John Capron Road for Milestone Towers Limited Partnership-V in connection with a current lease held by the City. City Engineer Lee Newland provided a summary of the request. He stated that Appalachian Power Company requested the easement to serve power to a cell tower associated with a lease previously approved by Council.

There was no one wishing to speak in favor or in opposition, either in person or by voicemail, so the public hearing was closed and the matter rested with Council.

Vice Mayor Diemer motioned, seconded by Councilmember Timmer, to adopt the ordinance. Councilmember Timmer stated that the matter had come before the Physical Development Committee and that the easement would allow the tower to be built on the property.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Timmer, Misjuns 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of School Board, Agenda Item #5, Council continued a public hearing to receive citizen input regarding appointments, or reappointments, to vacancies that will exist June 30, 2026 in School Board Districts I, II, and III. Clerk of Council Alicia Finney-Andrews stated that State Code requires applicants' names to be read into the record in order to be considered for appointment.

Ms. Finney-Andrews read the following names for District I: Shay Tinsley, Jack Schewel, Asia Harris, Melanie Phelps, William Lewis, Brittany Smith, Liza De Johnto, Fallon Rose, Xavier Story, Greg Vinson, Jr., Erin Smith, and Patty Webb. For District II, she read Leticia Lowery, Kathleen Riddle, Angela Cox, Nicole Albert, Toby Johnson, Tiffany Good, and Roman Franklin. For District III, she read Delisa Rogers, William Owsley II, Tiana Wilson, Tiersha Royal, and Ryan Thomas.

Mayor Taylor opened the floor for comments from School Board applicants for District 1.

Shea Tinsley, District 1, introduced herself and highlighted her background as a behavioral health executive, licensed psychotherapist, and mother. She supported school choice and believed that parents were also responsible for their child's education.

Jack Schewel, District 1, said he would implement the Mississippi Method if he were appointed to the School Board to improve reading scores. He supported teachers and administrators having the authority to maintain discipline. He supported banning cell phones from school property entirely.

Brittany Smith, District 1, emphasized that as a parent, she had experienced the school system through various interactions and believed schools were strongest when parents, educators, administrators, the School Board, Council, and the community collaborated. She said her goal was to strengthen communication and community engagement.

Xavier Storey, District 1, said he was applying for the School Board because he believed in the transformative power of public education. If selected, he would bring energy and enthusiasm to the School Board based on his experience in higher education and engagement. He highlighted his local government experience.

Mayor Taylor opened the floor for comments from School Board applicants for District 2.

Letitia Lowery, District 2, introduced herself as a retired teacher of 31 years and highlighted her experience serving on the School Board. She expressed support for the new superintendent and improving student test scores.

Angela Cox, District 2, highlighted her background and experience in building stronger children, families, and communities through service, advocacy, education, teaching, and empowerment for over 40 years. She emphasized that all children can prosper and rise above their circumstances.

Toby Johnson, District 2, said he was currently a teacher at a private day school, and he had previously taught for LCS, Amherst County, and the University of Lynchburg. He said he would focus on supporting students, teachers, and administrators by upholding quality learning environments.

Roman Franklin, District 2, highlighted his educational experience, community leadership, and government service. He said he would bring a collaborative leadership approach, a strong work ethic, and a commitment to excellence as an advocate for students and a responsible steward of public resources.

Jerry Carney said he was not a candidate for School Board. He addressed Council regarding concerns over student test scores and absenteeism. He highlighted the important of early childhood, and he noted the need to raise salaries.

Mayor Taylor opened the floor for comments from School Board applicants for District 3.

Delisa Rogers, District 3, introduced herself. She noted she was currently pursuing her PhD in education and curriculum leadership, and she was a parent of two students in LCS. She said she would focus on evidence-based decisions, transparency, and accountability to support student achievement.

Tiersha Royal, District 3, said she was a graduate of LCS and a parent of current students, and she believed she offered a valuable perspective on the school division's needs.

Mayor Taylor opened the floor for comments from the public.

Mr. Carney said that they needed to make a long-term commitment to address the needs in LCS.

Citizen Julie Gillum spoke in support of Shea Tinsley, who she believed would be an effective School Board member.

Citizen Charmaine Davis spoke in support of Shea Tinsley, because she was a woman of principles and integrity, fiercely intelligent, and possessed honest compassion.

A citizen spoke in support of Angela Cox, because the School Board needed a new perspective.

Councilmember Wilder motioned, seconded by Vice Mayor Diemer, to close the public hearing and begin selection of candidates for interviews. Councilmember Wilder expressed appreciation for everyone volunteering their time and thought they had a good selection of candidates.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Timmer, Misjuns	7
Noes:	0

Ms. Finney-Andrews announced that interviews would start on Thursday at 9 a.m. She requested that Council make candidate interview selections at this moment.

Mayor Taylor requested interview candidates for District 1.

Councilmember Faraldi selected to interview for District 1 Shea Tinsley, Jack Schewel, Brittany Smith, and Greg Vinson, Jr.

Councilmember Wilder selected to interview for District 1 Xavier Storey.

Councilmember Misjuns selected to interview for District 1 William Lewis.

Mayor Taylor requested interview candidates for District 2.

Councilmember Faraldi selected to interview for District 2 Letitia Lowery, Angela Cox, and Tiffany Goode.

Councilmember Reed selected to interview for District 2 Toby Johnson and Roman Franklin.

Mayor Taylor requested interview candidates for District 3.

Ms. Finney-Andrews noted that Jabari Jones had withdrawn his application, and Ryan Thomas had been added as a candidate.

Councilmember Faraldi selected to interview for District 3 Tiona Wilson, Tiersha Royal, and Ryan Thomas.

Councilmember Reed selected to interview for District 3 Delisa Rogers.

Ms. Finney-Andrews said that interviews would be scheduled on Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. She would reach out to candidates individually.

Councilmember Misjuns requested that staff confirm the residency of candidates, because he was looking up candidates, and some were not registered to vote in the City.

Ms. Finney-Andrews said she would make verification checks with candidates.

// In the matter of Water Resources, Agenda Item #6, Council conducted a public hearing in consideration of adopting Ordinance #O-26-061 increasing the Water and Stormwater Rates. Director of Water Resources Tim Mitchell provided a summary of the proposed rate increases. Mr. Mitchell stated that the proposed water rate would increase from $3.45 to $3.62 per 100 cubic feet, generating an additional $441,800 in revenue to the Water Fund. He stated that the proposed stormwater rate would increase from

$5.15 to $5.40 per single family unit, generating an additional $196,100 in revenue to the Stormwater Fund. The combined impact to a typical residential customer would be approximately $1.06 per month.

There was no one wishing to speak in favor or in opposition, either in person or by voicemail, so the public hearing was closed and the matter rested with Council.

Councilmember Wilder asked clarifying questions regarding whether the rate increase would allow the Water Resources Department to meet identified needs. Mr. Mitchell stated that it would. Councilmember Wilder motioned, seconded by Vice Mayor Diemer, to adopt the ordinance.

Vice Mayor Diemer stated that water infrastructure is a core need and that he supported the increase because the water fund is self-supporting.

Councilmember Timmer stated that she would support the increase due to the age of the City's water infrastructure and the nature of the Enterprise Fund.

Councilmember Misjuns stated that he opposed the motion due to the stormwater rate.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Wilder, Reed, Timmer	5
Noes: Faraldi, Misjuns	2

// In the matter of the Item Not on the Agenda, Councilmember Misjuns requested to amend the agenda to include Richard Brown to the end of public comment to discuss the Responsible Fatherhood Month proclamation.

// In the matter of Public Comment, Agenda Item #7, Tyler Lewis, representing The People's Reclamation, was not present to speak regarding corporate influence in local elections.

// In the matter of Public Comment, Agenda Item #8, Andrea Yesalis was not present to speak regarding upholding transparency and the Liberty University growth numbers issue.

// In the matter of Public Comment, Agenda Item #9, Melanie Traber, representing Trading Post by Traber Ranch and Lone Star Market & Café, addressed Council regarding loitering. She expressed concerns about people loitering outside of her business and causing issues. She requested more support from police officers to prevent people from loitering. She said that recently, two detectives had told other businesses on Main Street that the Trading Post was responsible for downtown crime, and crime would not stop until the business was closed.

// In the matter of Public Comment, Agenda Item #10, Citizen Jeff Rosner addressed Council regarding the firehouse primary. He noted issues with the recent Republic firehouse primary, including issues with absentee ballot counting process and primary procedures.

// In the matter of Public Comment, Agenda Item #11, Citizen Pat O'Hara addressed Council regarding setting good examples. He read from Ephesians 4:29 and encouraged Council to find bipartisan solutions. He said that mutual kindness was required to save the City.

// In the matter of Public Comment, Agenda Item #12, Citizen Mitxh Richards, representing FOR THE LOV3 OF THE CITY, addressed Council regarding the role for voter accountability. He said he was starting a campaign to increase engagement with young voters.

// In the matter of Public Comment, Agenda Item #13, Citizen Phil Stump addressed Council regarding the public service of Councilmember Misjuns. He referenced prior public statements and actions by Councilmember Misjuns and stated that elected officials should serve all citizens impartially. He expressed the view that Lynchburg deserved better representation.

// In the matter of Public Comment, Agenda Item #14, Citizen Richard Brown, representing Downtown Presbyterian, addressed Council regarding Responsible Fathers Month. He requested that Council designate the month of June as Responsible Fathers Month. He emphasized the importance of having a father in the household.

// Councilmember Misjuns motioned, seconded by Councilmember Timmer, to request a staff presentation at the first Work Session in July regarding loitering, obstruction of free passage, and enforcement options related to concerns raised during public comment. City Attorney Matthew Freedman requested time for staff, the City Attorney’s Office, the Lynchburg Police Department, and ABC to review the matter before bringing it back to Council. Councilmember Reed offered a substitute motion to allow up to 90 days for staff to gather information and return with a presentation.

City Manager Wynter Benda said that staff could provide an initial review of the situation by the first meeting in July.

Mr. Freedman said he would prefer the 90 day timeline in order to contact LPD and ABC.

Mr. Benda noted that if they needed to contact ABC, he would prefer the 90 day timeline, since the state agency could take some time to respond.

Councilmember Reed withdrew the substitute motion.

Councilmember Faraldi said he did not support the motion, but staff should look into the loitering issue.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Wilder, Misjuns, Timmer 6

Noes: Faraldi 1

// In the matter of Second Reading on the adoption of the FY 2027 Discretionary External Service Providers Budget and Water and Stormwater Funds Operating Budgets, Agenda Item #15C, Council considered ratifying the adoption of Ordinance #O-26-045 by at least a two-thirds majority vote and adopting and appropriating the FY 2027 Discretionary External Service Providers Budget. Clerk of Council Alicia Finney-Andrews noted that the action required a 5/7 majority vote. The May 26, 2026 Consent Agenda that included the FY 2027 Discretionary External Service Providers Budget passed with a 4-3 vote. However, Ordinance #O-26-045 requires a two – thirds majority vote (five of seven) to adopt.

Vice Mayor Diemer motioned, seconded by Councilmember Timmer, to ratify the adoption of Ordinance #O-26-045.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Misjuns, Timmer 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of Second Reading on the adoption of the FY 2027 Discretionary External Service Providers Budget and Water and Stormwater Funds Operating Budgets, Agenda Item #15Db, Council considered adopting Ordinance #O-26-046b appropriating the FY 2027 Operating Fund Budgets for Water Fund and Stormwater Fund.

Councilmember Timmer motioned, seconded by Vice Mayor Diemer, to adopt the amended resolution restoring the operating budget to the original proposal.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Misjuns, Timmer 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of Economic Development, Agenda Item #16, Council considered adopting Ordinance #O-26-062 ratifying the sale and disposal of 805 Court Street. Clerk of Council Alicia Finney-Andrews stated that the item required a six-of-seven vote.

Councilmember Timmer, as Chair of the Physical Development Committee, stated that the item had come before the committee multiple times and had been recommended unanimously.

Councilmember Timmer motioned to adopt the ordinance ratifying the sale and disposal of 805 Court Street. The motion did not require a second.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Timmer, Misjuns	7
Noes:	0

// In the matter of City Code, Agenda Item #17, Council considered adopting Ordinance #O-26-063 amending Section § 36-175 of Article IV of Chapter 36 of the City Code to ensure continued Real Estate Tax relief for qualifying elderly and disabled persons in the City. Commissioner of the Revenue Mitch Nuckles stated that the current ordinance allowed the income limit for the Real Estate Tax relief program to increase based on the Social Security cost-of-living increase, but included a $50,000 cap. He stated that the annual increase would bring the limit to $50,200 and recommended removing the cap while continuing to allow the income limit to adjust based on Social Security increases.

Councilmember Reed, as Chair of the Finance Committee, motioned to approve the ordinance. She stated that she supported expanding relief for senior citizens and disabled persons on fixed incomes and encouraged continued public awareness of the program. The motion did not require a second.

Vice Mayor Diemer asked for additional information regarding the amount of relief provided through the program. Mr. Nuckles stated that the program applied to approximately 650 parcels and approximately 575 families, and that the program was budgeted at $675,000.

Councilmember Reed clarified that the income limit would be $50,200 for the household and that the asset limit was $100,000, excluding the home. Mr. Nuckles confirmed that the home was excluded from the asset calculation.

Councilmember Misjuns asked whether the ordinance originally established a $40,000 income limit, which had increased over time based on Social Security adjustments and was now reaching the

$50,000 cap. Mr. Nuckles confirmed that the ordinance would remove the cap and allow the income limit to continue adjusting based on Social Security increases.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Timmer, Misjuns	7
Noes:	0

// In the matter of City Attorney's Office, Agenda Item #18, Council considered adopting Resolution #R-26-064 approving the settlement of a claim greater than $55,000. City Attorney Matthew Freedman stated that the claim related to an overflow of a City sewer line that affected property and caused damage at 712 Sand Hill Drive. He recommended approval of settlement authority.

Councilmember Faraldi motioned, seconded by Councilmember Misjuns, to adopt the resolution.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Timmer, Misjuns	7
Noes:	0

// In the matter of City Council, Agenda Item #19, Council considered Councilmember Timmer's Responsible Fathers Month item. Councilmember Timmer presented a resolution declaring June Responsible Fatherhood Month. She stated that the resolution recognized the role of responsible fathers and father figures and noted the importance of responsible fatherhood to children, families, and the community.

Councilmember Timmer read a statement from a constituent regarding trauma-informed principles and the importance of children feeling loved, secure, valued, and protected.

Councilmember Timmer motioned, seconded by Councilmember Misjuns, to adopt Resolution #R-26-065.

Councilmember Wilder noted that the state has a Fatherhood Engagement Month program in June.

Councilmember Timmer stated that she preferred to maintain the term "Responsible Fatherhood Month" because it includes responsibility and recognizes father figures in addition to biological fathers.

Mayor Taylor spoke in support of fatherhood and the positive role of fathers and father figures in the community.

Clerk of Council Alicia Finney-Andrews asked for clarification as to whether the action should be recorded in the resolution book.

Mayor Taylor said it should be recorded as a resolution.

Ms. Finney-Andrews said that recognitions typically included the title of the official presenting the proclamation. She asked if "City Council" should be set in place of the title.

Councilmember Timmer said she was comfortable putting the Mayor's name in the title position.

Mayor Taylor said he was comfortable putting his name on the proclamation.

Ms. Finney-Andrews asked Council to choose a day to issue the proclamation.

Mayor Taylor directed the Clerk to issue the proclamation for that day.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Diemer, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Timmer, Misjuns 7

Noes: 0

// In the matter of City Council, Agenda Item #20, Council considered Mayor Taylor's motion to reconsider Resolution #R-26-055 regarding Liberty University enrollment projections. Mayor Taylor stated that he intended to vote for the original motion at the prior meeting, which was to deny the resolution, but mistakenly voted for the substitute motion that became the main motion.

City Attorney Matthew Freedman advised that the appropriate procedure was for Mayor Taylor to make a motion to reconsider the previous adoption of the resolution.

Mayor Taylor motioned, seconded by Councilmember Reed, to reconsider Resolution #R-26-055.

Councilmember Misjuns said that the resolution included direction for staff to take immediate action. He asked whether staff had taken action following Council's adoption of the resolution.

City Manager Wynter Benda stated that Mayor Taylor informed staff within 24 hours after the vote that he intended to bring forward a motion to reconsider the resolution. Mr. Benda said staff paused action while awaiting Council's reconsideration of the matter.

Councilmember Faraldi said that he was not aware of the language requiring immediate staff action when he voted on the resolution, and he questioned whether that language had been presented publicly before the vote.

Vice Mayor Diemer stated that, in his view, the adopted resolution clearly directed staff to take immediate action. He said that Council had approved the resolution by majority vote and questioned whether staff could pause action based on the Mayor's stated intent to seek reconsideration.

Councilmember Faraldi called a point of order. He stated that the Vice Mayor's comments were directed toward the City Manager in a manner that he believed violated Council's Rules of Procedure.

Mayor Taylor ruled in favor of the point of order.

Councilmember Misjuns called a point of order. He stated that Section 5.4 of the Rules of Procedure allowed Councilmembers to comment on the performance, conduct, and qualifications of public figures.

Mayor Taylor permitted Vice Mayor Diemer to finish his comments.

Vice Mayor Diemer stated that the original resolution was intended to promote transparency and address information he believed had been inaccurately communicated by the City.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Taylor, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder, Timmer 5

Noes: Diemer, Misjuns 2

The motion to reconsider passed, and Resolution #R-26-055 was placed back before Council.

Councilmember Misjuns motioned, seconded by Vice Mayor Diemer, to adopt Resolution #R-26-055.

Councilmember Misjuns stated that he believed it was important to correct the record and address the City's prior communications.

Vice Mayor Diemer stated that he was concerned about references to possible litigation related to the resolution. He noted that the resolution did not name any specific individual.

Councilmember Reed made a substitute motion to deny Resolution #R-26-055.

Councilmember Faraldi stated that a motion to deny would have the same practical effect as voting against the pending motion.

Councilmember Reed withdrew the substitute motion.

With no further discussion from the Council, the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Diemer, Misjuns, Timmer 3

Noes: Taylor, Reed, Faraldi, Wilder 4

// The meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

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Clerk of Council