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August 11, 2015

// A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg was held on the 11th day of August, 2015, at 4:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Michael Gillette, President, presiding. The following Members were present:

Present: Foster, Helgeson, Johnson, Nelson, Perrow, Gillette 6

Absent: Tweedy 1

// Deputy City Manager Bonnie Svrcek introduced Jim Davenport and John Stirrup, representatives with Alcalde & Fay, the City's Federal Relations Liaison. Ms. Svrcek stated that during the deliberations on the FY 2016 Operating Budget, staff proposed funding for a Federal liaison in Washington, D.C. to assist the City in the pursuit of Federal grant funds for various projects. The representatives gave a brief report on their expertise and work done to date. With their federal and local government experience, they outlined the working plan for Lynchburg.

- Develop federal agenda to include City's funding and policy objectives:
 - o Federal grant goals, such as TIGER, Department of Justice, water/wastewater and EDA program
 - o Legislative objectives, such as surface transportation reauthorization, waters of the U.S., and protecting tax exempt status of municipal bonds
- Pursuing and protecting federal program funding in appropriations and legislation critical to the City
- Advocating City's interest during legislative and regulatory processes
- Monitoring federal grants of interest to the City and assisting with grant submissions
- Enhance City's relationships with members of Congress and federal department officials
- Providing monthly federal legislative updates
- Organizing meetings in Washington on behalf of City officials and staff to advocate for City's priorities

During the presentation the representatives explained the services provided by their firm and mentioned other clients they serve in Virginia. They provided information on how they would let the City know what grants are available and outlined some recent work done for the City (i.e. body worn cameras, EDA grant programs, drafted letter on behalf of the City to congressional delegation opposing cuts to the Department of Housing and Urban Development HOME Investment Program).

They will continue to provide monthly reports and grant alerts.

// Mr. Vince Sawyer from The Healing Place of Southwest Virginia provided a presentation on the Healing Place Program as an alternative to incarceration for persons with substance abuse disorders. In the presentation the following concerns were addressed:

- A Healthcare Problem
- Need for Treatment of Substance Use Disorders (SUD)
- Homelessness and Substance Use Disorders
- High Cost of Inaction
- Potential 2014 Jail Cost Savings
- Cost/Benefit for SUD Treatment

Mr. Sawyer explained several phases to approach the cost and how to develop and operate such a facility by beginning with Region 2000 and the adjacent Planning Districts.

// Human Services Director Tamara Rosser gave a presentation on the Foster Care Program. The Foster Care Program provides services to children and families when circumstances require the child to be removed from their home. Foster Care provides a safe and stable environment for children and older youth until the issues that made placement outside the home necessary are resolved. Ms. Rosser provided information on the following:

- Overview of Foster Care (FC) Program
- Overview of Lynchburg Program
 - o Demographics
 - o Goals
 - o Staffing
- Funding
- Foster Care Stories
- Challenges

// During roll call Council Member Forster stated she had received several emails regarding residential parking downtown and would like an update from the Parking Authority on this issue.

// Council Member Perrow gave a special recognition to Lynchburg Historical Foundation and Ken Faraoni for the unveiling of the Water Bearer Statue now located at the Lower Bluff Walk.

// Council Member Helgeson shared the 2015 SOL scores from the Lynchburg City Schools.

// Vice Mayor Johnson announced the opening of a new exhibit at the Legacy Museum on Saturday, August 15, 2015 at 12 noon and invited everyone to come and see this new exhibit.

// On motion of Council Member Helgeson, seconded by Council Member Perrow, Council by the following recorded vote elected to hold a closed meeting for consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff concerning a specific legal matter requiring the provision of legal advice, specifically the discussion of legal matters related to the Midtown Connector project, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(7), of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended:

Ayes: Foster, Helgeson, Johnson, Nelson, Perrow, Gillette	6
Noes:	0
Absent: Tweedy	1

// Council Member Tweedy arrived after the vote to go into the closed meeting and joined the other Council Members in the closed meeting.

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

// Council Member Helgeson 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 Vice Mayor Johnson, and Council by the following recorded vote adopted the motion:

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

Noes: 0

// City Council recessed the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

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

The following Members were present:

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

Absent: 0

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

// Copies of the minutes of the July 14, 2015 meeting, having been previously furnished Council, reading was dispensed with, and on motion of Council Member Perrow, seconded by Council Member Nelson, Council by the following recorded vote approved the minutes as amended:

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

Noes: 0

// Council Member Helgeson and Mayor Gillette asked that the June 28, 2015 minutes be removed from the Consent Agenda because they were both absent at that meeting. Item #7 was voted on separately.

Copies of the minutes of the July 28, 2015 meeting, having been previously furnished Council, reading was dispensed with, and on motion of Council Member Foster, seconded by Vice Mayor Johnson, Council by the following recorded vote approved the minutes as presented:

Ayes: Foster, Johnson, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy 5

Noes: 0

Abstention: Helgeson, Gillette 2

// In the matter of Public Works – Street Vacation, a public hearing was held regarding City Council Report #8 regarding the petition of Winnifred C. Schenkel to vacate an unpaved portion of right of way known as Sky View Place, which extends approximately 130 feet beyond the existing pavement of the cul-de-sac and adjoins 3424 Sky View Place, 2859 Link Road, and 3429 Sky View Place. The portion proposed for vacation is approximately one hundred eighty-two thousandths (.182) of an acre. Zoning Administrator Kevin Henry provided a brief summary of the request. The petitioner, Mr. Winifred Schenkel outlined the request and asked for approval. 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 Ordinance #O-15-066, as presented, to vacate an unpaved portion of right of way known as Sky View Place, which extends approximately 130

feet beyond the existing pavement of the cul-de-sac and adjoins 3424 Sky View Place, 2859 Link Road, and 3429 Sky View Place:

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

7

Noes:

0

// City Manager Kimball Payne stated that a presentation would be made by Mr. George Dawson and other individuals associated with the restoration and fundraising efforts of the Academy Theatre.

The first speaker, Mr. Sackett Wood of the Academy Board of Trustees, gave a brief background on the history of the Academy and the ongoing restoration efforts. He referred to the City's Downtown Master Plan, in which the Academy was seen as an anchor to Lynchburg's Central Business District revitalization efforts. He thanked the City for their commitment to the Theatre and went on to say that the restoration of the Academy would be good for the economy, provide access to arts and culture, contribute to quality of life, compliment business recruitment and provide compelling community access.

Mr. Geoff Kershner, Executive Director of the Academy spoke second. He talked about the commitment of the Academy moving forward to provide inclusive, diverse entertainment and educational opportunities for the community.

The last speaker, Mr. George Dawson, Capital Campaign Chair, spoke about the "Case Statement on the Benefits and Estimated Economic Impacts to the City of Lynchburg for the Completed Restoration of the Historic Academy of Music Theatre," that had been presented to City Council indicating the potential financial benefits through tax and other revenue. He went on to say that the most recent fundraising campaign the Academy launched was in 2012. The Academy's goal is to raise more than \$16 million of the total \$29 million project with the remaining amount to be made through tax credits. To take advantage of the tax credits, the remaining funds of \$7 million must be raised by early 2016. Mr. Dawson stated that efforts are being made to raise at least \$3.5 million of the remaining amount and asked City Council to consider providing the remaining \$3.5 million.

During Council discussion the majority of Council was in favor of receiving more information on the request. The discussion included concerns about whether the City should make a contribution to a private entity; desire to solicit the opinion of the Lynchburg Economic Development Authority; examine the potential of providing a smaller amount of support; potential sources of funding and the costs associated with the redirection of funds. Council Member Helgeson stated he has appreciation for the arts, but could not support the request because he could not see taking money from citizens and giving to a private entity. Council Member Nelson made a motion, seconded by Council Member Foster for staff to explore how \$3.5 million could be allocated for this project. Council by the following recorded vote agreed to have staff explore how \$3.5 million might be identified for the Academy and to report options to Council for further discussion:

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

6

Noes: Helgeson

1

// The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 P.M.