June 12, 2019

AGENDA ITEM # 5

// An additional scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg was held on the 12th day of June, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Treney Tweedy, President, presiding. The purpose of the meeting was to interview candidates interested in serving on the Lynchburg School Board. The following members were present:

Present:	MaryJane Dolan, E. J. Turner Perrow, Treney Tweedy, Sterling A. Wilder, Beau Wright	6
Absent:	J. Randy Nelson	1

// On motion of Councilmember Helgeson, seconded by Council Member Wilder, Council by the following recorded vote elected to hold a closed meeting to interview candidates interested in serving on the Lynchburg School Board, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended:

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

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

Councilmember 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.

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The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wilder, and Council by the following recorded vote adopted the motion:

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

// In the matter of the Task Force on the Future of Education in Lynchburg PreK-12 and Beyond. Ms. Svrcek indicated that the revisions requested by Council are indicated on the track changes copy provided to them for today's meeting. The highlights include increasing the steering committee from four members to six members and the chairperson and vice-chairperson will have experience in community leadership and will not be chosen from either the school board or Council. Clarity has been provided regarding the deliverables of the subcommittees and task force. Language noting the task force will be inclusive and reflective of the City's demographic has been added. Also, a more specific but less aggressive timeline for the work of the task force has been outlined.

Councilmember Wright feels that the charter should explicitly state that information requested by the task force of the schools in the City should be provided transparently and in a timely fashion. The task force has the right to information even if providing the information is uncomfortable for either body or institution. The City Manager has drafted some language "Both City of Lynchburg and Lynchburg City School staff will be responsive and transparent in responding to requests of the task force. In the event the task force does not receive information requested of staff in a timely manner, the task force chair should be notified and will discuss any concerns with either the superintendent or City Manager." Ms. Svrcek indicated they are suggesting it be inserted into the section called "Scope of Activity and Responsibility." Councilmembers were in consensus to include this language.

Councilmember Wright asked them to consider whether an even number of members is a good idea in case there is a matter of division. Councilmember Perrow thinks an even number of members is fine because they will then have to come to some kind of consensus. An even number might help force them to reach a broader consensus.

Councilmember Wright also pointed out the charter says funding requests should be directed to the governing body but does not say which governing body. The councilmembers were in consensus to spell this out as the school board and not the governing body.

Councilmember Wright also pointed the metrics for diversity are only indicated as race, age and gender. There are other areas of diversity such as faith tradition, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression. Councilmember Perrow suggested that at the risk of being an exclusive list, they strike all those metrics and just say it respect diversity. Councilmembers were in consensus to make this change.

Councilmember Wright noted that there is only one place in the charter where it lists any kind of timeline for a forecast and that is the financial section where it says it will be a 15-year forecast. Ms. Svrcek stated that staff feels the first five years will align with the schools' new strategic plan. Twenty years ago when we had a CIP task force, it was a 10-year horizon. Staff thought we could be a little more visionary with the task force and go out 15 years. Councilmember Helgeson noted this allows for opportunity to be way out of kilter and he hopes the task force will be looking at factual things.

Councilmember Perrow wondered what the forecast will be for the whole plan and what it is for the school's comprehensive plan. Councilmember Helgeson noted the school is supposed to review its comprehensive plan every two years. Councilmember Perrow suggested it might need to be a 20-year planning horizon overall and finance might need to be a 15-year constraint because the further out you go, the less accuracy you will get. He does not know how far the Weldon Cooper reports go out but it would make sense that there is one planning horizon that everyone is working around. Councilmember Wright suggested the chair and the committee decide how to define the horizon and he has no strong feelings about it. Councilmember Perrow agreed that it could be put back on the committee. Ms. Svrcek said that in the final work product it says "the final report will include a proposed timeframe for implementation of task force recommendations."

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Mayor Tweedy asked for a motion to adopt the task force charter with the verbiage as presented by the City Manager and with the revisions suggested by Councilmember Wright. Councilmember Wright made that motion and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilder. Councilmember Perrow asked if Councilmember Nelson's comments have been addressed and if, in their opinion, Councilmember Nelson would be supportive of this document. Mayor Tweedy indicated she thought he would be and his concerns have been addressed with staff's revisions.

Councilmember Helgeson noted that the school board is supposed to do its comprehensive plan every two years and update its data. He hopes this task force is not used as an excuse to not cut things because the task force is working on it and has not yet rendered its report. They might say we are not going to do anything with consolidating schools or changing attendance zones until after the report is given. He hopes this is not used as a way to delay things that need to be done. He mentioned to Dr. Edwards yesterday that he hopes they will provide the figures that are needed by November 1, 2019 so they are not further out of compliance. Mayor Tweedy says this has been mentioned during leadership meetings because the schools have moved forward on strategic planning. This task force work will be in alignment with the ongoing work that the school system is doing. Councilmember Helgeson asked if they might suggest closing a school before the task force concludes its work; for instance, maybe it will be suggested in November when they provide their figures for the comprehensive plan. Mayor Tweedy said schools will not wait on presenting anything like that while they wait for the task force to provide its recommendations. She does not want to say what they are going to come back with but can assure Councilmember Helgeson that they are working on a strategic plan. That work will not be halted because a task force is being formed. Councilmember Helgeson would like to know what this task force is going to do then separately. Mayor Tweedy said it is a broader conversation because the City owns the buildings.

Dr. Wodicka indicated that the timeframe on the school strategic plan is a five-year plan. The task force will be coming up with a 15 to 20-year plan. The task force's plan should be

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informed by the school strategic plan but also informs future strategic plans for the school system as well. Councilmember Helgeson asked for assurance that it is not going to be a redundant committee. Dr. Wodicka said it will not be and they want to make sure all the documents are talking to each other and the school system could certainly make recommendations to consolidate schools in the meantime.

The motion to accept the task force charter was passed by the following vote:

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

// On motion of Councilmember Helgeson, seconded by Council Member Wilder, Council by the following recorded vote elected to hold a closed meeting to discuss appointment of Steering Committee members to the Task Force on the Future of Education PreK-12 and Beyond pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A) of the Code of Virginia, as well as appointments to the following boards, commissions or committees: Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority, Central Virginia Community College Board, City Employee Appeals Board, Code Enforcement Task Force, Economic Development Authority, Historic Preservation Commission, Local Emergency Planning Committee, Martin Luther King/Lynchburg Community Council, Metropolitan Planning Organization, Museum Advisory Board, Sister City Liaison Representative, Virginia First Cities Policy Committee and Youth Services Citizens Board:

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

On nomination of Vice Mayor Dolan, seconded by Councilmember Helgeson, Council by the following recorded vote appointed Ryan Zuidema to serve as an alternate on the Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority for an indefinite term and Bonnie Svrcek to serve as a member on the Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority for an indefinite term:

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Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

On nomination of Vice Mayor Dolan, seconded by Councilmember Helgeson, Council by the following recorded vote appointed Bonnie Svrcek and Beau Wright to serve on the Central Virginia Community College Board for terms to expire June 30, 2023. (It was later determined that an elected official cannot serve and another member will be appointed at Council's June 25, 2019 meeting):

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

On nomination of Vice Mayor Dolan, seconded by Councilmember Helgeson, Council by the following recorded vote appointed Marc Gaskins and Tremayne Edwards to serve as members of the City Employee Appeals Board with terms to end June 30, 2022:

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

Vice Mayor Dolan and Councilmember Wilder agreed to continue serving on the Code Enforcement Task Force for indefinite terms.

On nomination of Vice Mayor Dolan, seconded by Councilmember Helgeson, Council by the following recorded vote reappointed John Stone to serve as a member of the Economic Development Authority with a term to end June 30, 2023:

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

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On nomination of Vice Mayor Dolan, seconded by Councilmember Helgeson, Council by the following recorded vote reappointed Shanda Horner and appointed Elizabeth Doucette to serve as members of the Historic Preservation Commission with terms to end June 30, 2022:

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

Councilmember Perrow agreed to continue serving on the Local Emergency Planning Committee with an indefinite term.

On nomination of Vice Mayor Dolan, seconded by Councilmember Helgeson, Council by the following recorded vote appointed Shaquelle Cook and Lakisha Newman to serve as members of the Martin Luther King/Lynchburg Community Council with terms to end June 30. 2022:

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

On nomination of Vice Mayor Dolan, seconded by Councilmember Helgeson, Council by the following recorded vote appointed Councilmember Turner Perrow to serve as a member of the Metropolitan Planning Organization with a term to end June 30. 2022:

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	5
Noes:		0
Abstentions:	Perrow	1
Absent:	Nelson	1

On nomination of Vice Mayor Dolan, seconded by Councilmember Helgeson, Council by the following recorded vote reappointed Marjorie Freeman, Joseph Morrell and Kenneth Mayo and appointed Peter Barker, Clifton Potter and Doug Lee to serve as members of the Museum Advisory Board with terms to end June 30. 2022:

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Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

On nomination of Vice Mayor Dolan, seconded by Councilmember Helgeson, Council by the following recorded vote appointed Maegan Fallon to serve as the Sister City Liaison with a term to end June 30, 2022:

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

Councilmember Perrow agreed to continue serving on the Virginia First Cities Policy Group with an indefinite term.

On nomination of Vice Mayor Dolan, seconded by Councilmember Helgeson, Council by the following recorded vote appointed Jason Fleshman and Brittany Smith and reappointed Michael Brosmer and Dorothy Holmes to serve as members of the Youth Services Citizens Board with terms ending June 30, 2022:

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

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

Councilmember Helgeson made the following motion:

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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;

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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 Councilmember Wright, and Council by the following recorded vote adopted the motion:

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Wright	6
Noes:		0
Absent:	Nelson	1

// The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

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Clerk of Council