AGENDA ITEM #: 7

// A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg was held on the 23rd day of April, 2019, at 4:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Treney Tweedy, President, presiding. The following Members were present:

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

Absent: Jeff Helgeson 1

// In the matter of Finance- Budget, Council Report #1 was considered to continue discussion of the FY 2020 Budget. City Manager Bonnie Svrcek provided an answer to the question posed by Councilmember Perrow during the April 16, 2019 session regarding the minimum amount of funding needed to reopen trails. Per Ms. Svrcek, the total minimum needed to reopen Creekside Trail would be $533,000 and to reopen Point of Honor Trail at Hollins Mill Park would be $500,000.

// Ms. Svrcek moved on with further discussion on remaining items from "The List" and recommended that review start with item #4 on "The List" concerning additional sworn police officers placed on "The List" by Councilmember Wright. Councilmember Wright had no additional comment. Councilmember Perrow suggested that retention of current officers and hiring of qualified personnel are important factors. Councilmember Perrow also stated that once new slots are needed, Council should consider raising the number of officers allowed and look to do whatever they can to fill positions with competent candidates.

**Councilmember Helgeson entered the meeting at 4:04P.M.

Councilmember Wilder asked about the allowable positions in the Lynchburg Police Department (LPD) and how many officers were on staff. LPD Chief Ryan Zuidema rose to respond and stated that the LPD is authorized 174 sworn officers and currently have 10 hard vacancies. Chief Zuidema advised that the LPD is operating at about 35 sworn officer positions down at this time and that the turnaround time for hiring, training and becoming operational is about a year. Councilmember Wilder asked if over hiring was a possibility and Chief Zuidema responded that over hiring is a strategy used by the LPD. Councilmember Perrow mentioned that it was important to grow police force with the growing needs of the City and he is open to hearing discussion on additional allowable positions. Councilmember Helgeson asked how much the cost was to hire a new officer. Chief Zuidema replied that this cost was "around 55" [$55,000] with salary and benefits and equipment. Councilmember Helgeson noted the City's population growth, the increased demand on officers, and declining school enrollment as factors in making decisions in this budget cycle. He (Helgeson) provided a synopsis of why increasing the amount of allowable officers over time should begin now including the turnover, time out of work, and overtime issues. Councilmember Helgeson suggested a 5-10 personnel increase in allowable officers. Concerning retention, Chief Zuidema informed Council that from 2014-2018, LPD lost 107 officers over that 5-year period for a number of reasons. City Manager Svrcek stated that Chief Zuidema and his team are working on strategies for retention and recruitment of qualified officers. Councilmember Helgeson suggested that Council keep the .2% over fund balance [$394,128] amount in the fund balance to allocate throughout the year for necessary expenditures such as seven (7) officers. Ms. Svrcek stated that CFO Donna Witt advised use of managed vacancy funds would be the best way to address this issue. Councilmember Helgeson asked what the managed vacancy amount was currently, and Ms. Svrcek estimated that it could be around $500,000 if there are 10 hard vacancies. On motion by Councilmember Perrow, Seconded by Councilmember Wilder, Council by the following recorded vote moved that Item#4 be struck from "The List" and that the City Manager develop a plan to fund additional LPD positions if needed.

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Wilder, Wright, Tweedy	7
Noes:		0

// Mayor Tweedy introduced discussion regarding item number five (5) on "The List" concerning $300,000 budgeted within the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY 2020 Two-way traffic –included in Downtown Projects. Councilmember Helgeson voiced opposition to this project and noted that when Council did not spend funds on two-way traffic in the previous fiscal year, a new fire truck was purchased. Councilmember Wright spoke in favor of the project. On motion of Councilmember Wright, Seconded by Councilmember Wilder, Council considered moving $300,000 back into the proposed FY 2020 Budget for a two-way traffic project. Discussion ensued with Councilmember Perrow questioning the timing of this project and clarifying previous action taken by Council that determined two-way traffic would not be implemented until the issue of loading zones was finalized and shown to work downtown. Deputy City Manager Dr. Reid Wodicka noted that the time frame of implementation will not be determined until Council was satisfied with the effectiveness of loading zones downtown. Councilmember Nelson clarified that because an item is within the [2040] Master Plan doesn't mean that Council is required to fund it. He (Nelson) also mentioned that loading zone modifications should be reviewed post-construction and there would be a period of six months to assess if loading zones are working with the current one-way traffic pattern. Councilmember Nelson did not think putting $300,000 into the current budget for this item would be appropriate and spoke in opposition to the motion since review and assessment would not be done until later fiscal years. Dr. Wodicka posited that this portion of the two-way project was for the conversion of Church Street and that staff would like a decision as the design of Main Street renewal is underway. In addition, Dr. Wodicka explained that it would be beneficial to have two-way traffic on Church Street while Main Street is under construction. Vice Mayor Dolan asked how many loading zones were on Church Street and why can't we figure our zoning in Lynchburg when other cities have made this transition. Dr. Wodicka advised the number of loading zones is unknown at this time. Councilmember Perrow asked why the project isn't under a construction budget. Dr. Wodicka acknowledged that the Master Plan intention assumed permanent changes; however staff could definitely consider revision to one-way traffic if loading zones don't work which would allow for maybe a 4-month review time. Councilmember Nelson stated that he did not want to piecemeal the process of two-way traffic and then find out that this method is not effective while there were other more immediate financial needs. Dr. Wodicka contended that the plan to fund in the current year appears to be in agreement with Councilmember Nelson's desire not to piecemeal a project. Councilmember Helgeson proposed that the project is not in line with Councilmember Nelson's assertion and seems to put the "cart before the horse" with loss of parking, banks moving and closing of 5th Street when the City could use funds for other citizen needs. Council, by the following recorded vote, moved $300,000 back into the proposed FY 2020 Budget for the two-way traffic project.

Ayes: Dolan, Wilder, Wright, Tweedy 4

Noes: Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow 3

// Mayor Tweedy referred to item number 8 on "The List" concerning the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service (VCES) and an increase of $795 over the proposed amount of $39,890 to support additional services to the City. Mayor Tweedy informed Council that Mr. Kevin Camm, Director of the local VCES office, sent correspondence to Council requesting the additional funding, therefore she (Tweedy) requested Mr. Camm address Council on this matter. Mayor Tweedy also mentioned an additional $16,000 discussed with Mr. Camm to potentially cover the cost of another employee within the Extension Office. Mr. Camm provided remarks on the benefits and operation of the VCES in the Lynchburg community and distributed an itemized budget to Council members for reference. Mr. Camm advised that he has requested additional funding every year since 2013 to add another Extension agent to his office since he is one agent in a population of 80,000 residents. Currently Mr. Camm works as a dual agent performing duties associated with both 4-H youth development and Agricultural/Natural Resources. With an additional agent, the Extension Office will be able to expand services to the Lynchburg area focused on whatever areas the City deems necessary. City Manager Svrcek clarified that the only item on "The List" is $795 to facilitate Mr. Camm's promotion from the Cooperative Extension Office. Mayor Tweedy noted that she asked Ms. Camm to address Council for information on the available programs, certifications, partnership with Virginia State University, and opportunities for workforce development. Mayor Tweedy mentioned that Assistant City Manager John Hughes, IV will be asked to bring information to Council pertaining to the additional $16,000 amount after further discussion. Mayor Tweedy further commented that conversations have taken place between VCES, Virginia Career Works and the City in regard to workforce, Bridges to Progress, and available training that braids funding and resources. Councilmember Perrow asked if Council was asking Mr. Hughes to bring forth a budget request and/or provide a presentation to Council. Mayor Tweedy acknowledged the intent to have such a presentation upon further discussion with Virginia Career Works and the VCES in a quarterly report. Councilmember Perrow asked if this was an individual request or a request from Council, to which Mayor Tweedy indicated it was her request. Councilmember Perrow indicated that Council could not direct staff individually as a point of order.

// On motion of Mayor Tweedy, Seconded by Councilmember Wilder, Council considered the action of directing the City Manager to further explore the opportunity for programming with the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office through Assistant City Manager John Hughes and Bridges to Progress with the braiding of funds possibly including Virginia Career Works. Councilmember Helgeson noted that he would like to hear what the motion is about as the item up for discussion is concerning only $795. Mayor Tweedy advised that the motion is about the Virginia Cooperative Extension office potentially providing additional services to the City at a cost of approximately $16,000 and she (Tweedy) wanted to discuss the matter while Mr. Camm was present. City Manager Svrcek interjected that the Mayor wanted to seize the moment during discussion of the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service report to bring forth information on a potential opportunity for the City in collaboration with Virginia Career Works and that staff will bring back further results of the exploration at a later date if directed by Council to do so. Councilmember Nelson asked if a motion was necessary given the work of staff and other groups in regard to poverty reduction to investigate methods to connect resources. Councilmember Perrow clarified that the purpose of requesting this motion was to note that no single Councilmember can direct staff and he wanted it on record that Council directed staff, not a single Councilmember. Council, by the following recorded vote, directed the City Manager to further explore the opportunity for programming with the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office through Assistant City Manager John Hughes and Bridges to Progress with the braiding of funds possibly including Virginia Career Works.

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

// In the matter of "The List" Council again considered Item #8, and on motion of Councilmember Wright, seconded by Councilmember Wilder, Council by the following recorded vote concerning the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service (VCES), struck item #8 from "The List" regarding approval of a $795 increase over the proposed amount of $39,890 to support additional services to the City through the VCES.

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Wilder, Wright, Tweedy 7
Noes: 0

// Mayor Tweedy referenced item number 11 on "The List" to consider a 2% general wage increase at the cost of $1.3 million. Councilmember Helgeson stated that the compensation study was completed to bring employees up to minimum pay; however Council should not "further exacerbate the gap." He (Helgeson) suggested that Council should make sure that the "folks that are doing the work are the ones that are receiving the funds" and most of the increase would go to higher paid staff. Councilmember Helgeson offered that funds should go to areas of need such as the police department, fire department and those "in the trenches" and "needed by our citizens" rather than an across the board increase. Councilmember Wright asked for clarification on the justification for a 2% general wage increase. City Manager Bonnie Svrcek stated that the proposed increase was meant to be a general wage adjustment for employees who meet or exceed expectations and to keep the City competitive with the market. Councilmember Wright mentioned that inflation during the previous year was “something like 2 percent.” On motion of Councilmember Wright, seconded by Vice Mayor Dolan, Council considered the question of including $1.3 million for a general wage increase in the FY 2020 Budget and striking it from “The List.” Discussion ensued with Council on the matter. Councilmember Wright noted that hard working City employees deserve a raise that keeps up with inflation. Vice Mayor Dolan voiced her support for the motion. Councilmember Perrow clarified that this motion is to strike the item from “The List.” Councilmember Wilder mentioned that he agreed with the motion to support staff. Council, by the following recorded vote included $1.3 million for a general wage increase in the proposed FY 2020 Budget and struck this item from “The List.”

Ayes: Dolan, Nelson, Perrow, Wilder, Wright, Tweedy 6

Noes: Helgeson 1

// Mayor Tweedy opened discussion concerning item number 12 on the “List” regarding $42,028,498 proposed for Lynchburg City Schools (LCS) funding. Councilmember Wright asked clarifying questions of Dr. Crystal Edwards related to LCS positions and funding available from the State Department of Education (DOE) under Standards of Quality (SOQ). Dr. Edwards noted that the LCS approach to staffing is different than in previous years with use of swaps, trades and repurposing full time equivalent positions, and working within the boundaries of grants, but is not designed to increase staff. LCS absorbed a 3% pay increase within level funding; however an additional 2% was requested to meet a 5% total pay increase request. Councilmember Wright spoke to the concern that less funding should be required of the LCS when there are less students attending. He (Wright) commented that a staff pay raise, growing needs within the schools and 2% rise in inflation require level funding plus an additional amount to cover the 2% cost of living which is around $862,000. Councilmember Helgeson stated that the numbers presented are for Lynchburg schools and the required local effort in the City budget on page 10 should be going down $795,000 partly due to a decline in enrollment. Level funding, per Councilmember Helgeson is “actually an increase of $795,000 of what we should be giving.” Councilmember Helgeson further exclaimed that the City should not pay “a million dollars to get a half a million from the state” and stated that with the composite index of .37 means the City should fund 37% of education with the state funding. Councilmember Helgeson commented that the City should be paying around $185,000, but the request is to fund over $1 million to access the state $500,000 amount and anything over the “required declining local effort” from the previous year is an increase. He (Helgeson) noted that LCS did not present a reduced budget like every other department did, more money is coming from the State, local taxpayers have funded the increases, he has visited schools, home school co-ops, and Christian schools. Councilmember Helgeson suggested that citizens are telling him they will take their children elsewhere to private schools or home schools due to the increased funding through taxes given to LCS. He (Helgeson) recommended leaving the budget to LCS equal to that in FY 2019 based on the required local effort so that the City can fund other necessary projects such as dams, bridges, and police/fire (staffing). Vice Mayor Dolan voiced support for LCS (as well as the budget presented for LCS) and suggested a thorough assessment of the school's needs in the immediate and long-term as proposed with the formation of a Schools Task Force. Councilmember Perrow restated that the required local effort goes up by 4.1% as compared to FY 2019, therefore LCS should be able to absorb this difference and the amount for teacher pay increases within their budget. On motion of Councilmember Perrow, seconded by Councilmember Nelson, Council considered the question of striking item #12 from "The "List." Councilmember Nelson disclosed that his wife is a principal with LCS, but he can be unbiased and has no conflict on the matter. Councilmember Nelson stated that he has confidence in the City Manager's proposed budget and feels that the additional 2% funding requested by LCS could be found within their operational budget. He (Nelson) stated that he did not want to see a reduction in the amount proposed, however he was not in favor of an increase. Councilmember Helgeson mentioned his surprise when a teacher advised him only one raise was received over a 7 year period and Council allocated $12 million more to the School system during that time. Dr. Crystal Edwards clarified this comment by explaining the difference between pay schedules versus percentage of salary raises. Some teachers did not receive a pay schedule change, but did receive a percentage of salary increase. Dr. Edwards has communicated with the School Board, and Teacher's Union on this matter and the Board recently decided to go with the pay schedules. Councilmember Helgeson asked if the additional funding over the years went to teachers, to which Dr. Edwards replied the funds have gone to staff as there are others employed by LCS as well as teachers. Dr. Edwards indicated that previous pay schedules have not kept up with their proposed increases over time as written and this is a concern of employees although no one is making less money than they were ten years ago. Councilmember Helgeson stated that he wanted to be certain that increased funding actually goes to teachers. Councilmember Wright offered a substitute motion to add $862,000 to the

Lynchburg City Schools budget and Vice Mayor Dolan provided a second to that substitute motion. Councilmember Perrow noted that he would not be in support of the substitute motion for the reasons stated previously that the LCS budget can absorb the requested increase. Councilmember Wright stated that he was supporting this action with the thought of LCS not adding positions and asked Superintendent Edwards to elaborate on addressing LCS employees who were included in the City's Salary Study, but did not receive additional compensation. Dr. Edwards noted that the School Board discussed a living wage for employees and the School administration will plan for the future with use of the fund balance reserve and other new fiscal policies. Councilmember Wright asked if six months would be an appropriate time frame for a plan, and Dr. Edwards said she thought it could be done. Councilmember Wright pointed out that Dr. Edwards and LCS have made effort to cut and economize, but are scraping the bottom of the barrel for funding at this point and latitude is needed to achieve the results desired. Councilmember Nelson reiterated that data shows a reduction in students, but a practical analysis is required and students could come from several classrooms, not one specific school. Councilmember Nelson said that funding presented by the City Manager in the proposed budget is satisfactory as it relates to LCS. Councilmember Helgeson stated that the motion for additional funding doesn't seem to make sense when the schools have less students enrolled. He (Helgeson) believed the money is within the LCS budget to accommodate raises, and disagreed with the premise to add to this allocation in FY 2020 and stated that he never heard where the additional funding would come from. Councilmember Wright suggested the funding would come from City Manager's budget in the form of a portion of the vacant deputy Clerk position, withdraw CIP aviary improvement amount and use remaining .2% over the fund balance to fund the difference to add a total of $496,496. Councilmember Perrow noted that the conversation was not germane to the substitute motion on the table. Councilmember Wilder voiced his support of the substitute motion because the school system is in need of assistance and he would not like to lose teachers to other school systems. Mayor Tweedy noted her support of the motion and acknowledged Dr. Edwards' work, as well as the Education Task Force to move education forward in Lynchburg. Council, by the following recorded vote, determined that the substitute motion offered by Councilmember Wright would become the main motion:

Ayes: Dolan, Wilder, Wright, Tweedy	4
Noes: Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow	3

// Councilmember Wright again shared his plan for allocating additional funding to the schools from $52,368 for the deputy clerk, $50,000 from Aviary improvements, and .2% from fund balance over 10%. Councilmember Helgeson asked if the $50K for the aviary was a one-time expense. City Manager Bonnie Svrcek advised this was funding by pay-as-you-go funding. Councilmember Nelson stated that it was unfortunate that the City decided to spend $300,000 on marking streets and signs instead of allocating the money to City Schools. Councilmember Perrow clarified that the original motion was not a cut, but to support the amount in the City Manager's proposed budget and suggested Council consider a guide for funding based on required local effort. Also, Councilmember Perrow advised Dr. Edwards that he would like to discuss a plan to increase average daily membership within the schools. Councilmember Helgeson stated the public school results are appalling over the years and this has led to more residents putting children into private schools as alluded to previously, and throwing more money to the situation does not equal results. He (Helgeson) reiterated funding issues with the police department, fire department and mentioned the tragedy in Sri Lanka, Creekside trails and College Lake dam as worthy issues. Councilmember Wilder spoke to his support of the motion, appreciation for teachers, staff members, and the need to support public education for those who choose to utilize the public school system. Councilmember Wilder also stated that more special needs children have more issues in schools, which costs more to fund, however the school system should be held accountable. Mayor Tweedy voiced her support for the motion and stated that she loves to meet parents who have transitioned children into the public schools from private or home school programs. Vice Mayor Dolan noted that the average cost to educate students per her research is over $17,000. Councilmember Nelson asked if by supporting this motion other allocations discussed by Councilmember Wright would be terminated or suspended or is this rather a general amount as suggested. Councilmember Wright replied that his intent was not to designate a source of funding. Council by the following recorded vote agreed to add $862,000 to the Lynchburg City Schools budget in FY 2020:

Ayes: Dolan, Wilder, Wright, Tweedy 4

Noes: Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow 3

// In the matter of Roll Call, Council Report #2 was considered. Councilmember Helgeson requested that staff bring back information on what transpired with the Grassroots Market funding in regard to Economic Development and the process used to provide the loan on this project as there is $250,000 in the proposed FY 2020 budget for Economic Development. City Manager Svrcek asked for clarification on what is needed from staff in regard to the Grassroots Market. Mayor Tweedy interjected that there was a letter sent to Council with detailed information on this matter and also suggested the Council stay late to review any necessary items related to the budget, thereby not requiring Council to meet on April 30, 2019. Ms., Svrcek mentioned that the first reading of the budget must be held on May 14, 2019. Councilmember Helgeson noted that he would be out of town next week and asked what steps were in place to avoid the same issues again with funding to Economic Development. Ms. Svrcek indicated that the finance committee of the Economic Development Authority (EDA) did their due diligence on the Grass Roots project but it didn’t work out. Councilmember Helgeson disagreed with this statement and cited that two banks had turned down loans for the project prior to the funding from the EDA. Mayor Tweedy asked if Council desired to remain in session until 7PM. Councilmember Helgeson stated that the situation concerning Grass Roots was troubling. Councilmember Nelson noted staying until 7pm would not accomplish much of Council desired to balance the budget, as that would be impossible. Councilmember Perrow mentioned receipt of the Pacific Life Foundation Annual Report and wanted Council to recognize Pacific Life in regard to their Arts and Cultural Center Awards in amount of $25,000 plus other philanthropic contributions from Pacific Life to organizations within the City. Mayor Tweedy mentioned the Bridges to Progress community-wide meeting at Gospel Community Church for the 90-day update meeting on April 25, 2019 from 6pm-8pm. Also the State of the City address will be held on Monday April 29, 2019 at the Academy Center of the Arts. Doors open at 6pm, program begins at 6:30pm.

// City Council recessed the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

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

The following Members were present:

Present:	Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Wilder, Wright, Tweedy	7
Absent:		0

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

// In the matter of Consent Agenda, Copies of the minutes of the March 26, 2019 (Report #3) and April 9, 2019 (Report #4) meetings as revised, having been previously furnished Council, reading was dispensed with, and on motion of Council Member Helgeson, seconded by Council Member Perrow, Council by the following recorded vote approved the minutes as presented and Council Report #5 to adopting resolution #R-19-027 amending the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget and Appropriate Supplemental Funds and Rescind Appropriations for the City of Lynchburg for the Twelve Month Period Beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019:

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Wilder, Wright, Tweedy	7
Noes:	0

// In the matter of Public Comment, Council Report #6 was considered to hear from a citizen regarding a concern. Beth White spoke regarding traffic on Oakridge Blvd and the need to enforce speeding violations witnessed. Mayor Tweedy stated that Police Chief Ryan Zuidema and the LPD would be willing to work with Ms. White on this issue.

// In the matter of General Business – Council Report #7. Consideration of adopting a Resolution to dedicate $10 million to the College Lake Lakebed Improvements/Dam Removal Project in order to accept the $5 million matching grant from the Commonwealth of Virginia Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund. Tim Mitchell, Director of Water Resources provided a brief presentation via PowerPoint that detailed this matter summed up as:

College Lake Dam does not meet current dam safety regulations. The risks associated with the dam were made clear as a result of the August 2nd, 2018 flood event that resulted in the overtopping and near failure of the dam. Interim analysis and actions have been taken to repair the dam, better understand the risk and complexities associated with the dam and College Lake, and enhance the City's Emergency Action Plan to better respond to future flood events. The ultimate solution is to build a new bridge, remove all or a portion of the dam to the point where it is no longer a regulated high hazard dam, and stabilize the lake bed to minimize environmental impacts. The City has been awarded a $5 million matching grant from the Commonwealth for the project associated with the dam removal and lakebed stabilization. The funds will be deposited into the Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund. The grant will be administered through the Virginia Resource Authority. Funds will be disbursed after July 1, 2019 covering 50% of costs as the City incurs expenses. Project costs eligible for these funds include both engineering and construction costs. In order to be eligible to receive the grant, City Council must approve the project and appropriate a minimum of $10 million, with resources from the State grant and local match, for the project in Fiscal Year 2020. Due to the administrative schedule of the supervising agency, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, it is necessary for City Council to endorse dedication of these funds before the approval of the City's Fiscal Year 2020 budget. Actions taken include: 1) Completed update of Emergency Action Plan including a predictive monitoring tool and enhanced evacuation plan, installed remote monitoring technology including: 3 rain gages in watershed, 2 level sensors at the lake, a dam camera, development of technology and graphics to monitor all instruments remotely. Completed an updated "Hydraulics and Hydrology" study and report (Black & Veatch). 2) Completed "Risk of Failure and Interim Recommendations" Study (Black & Veatch). 3) Performed a comprehensive inspection of dam during the winter when vegetation was down, additional deficiencies noted included: a number of large holes in both the upstream and downstream face possibly due to rodents, voids under repaired areas, minor seeps. Greg Zamensky, Americas Practice Leader for dam and flood reduction with the Black and Veatch engineering firm, spoke regarding the condition of the dam and what has happened since then and what else needs to be considered going forward. Mr. Zamensky noted that the dam is an embankment dam that would have likely failed if it had overtopped for a longer period of time. Mr. Zamensky also noted that the efficiency of evacuations downstream during the flood event were commendable and due to several factors, the dam was not able to work as a high hazard dam during this flood event. After the event, per Mr. Zamensky, emergency repairs were needed to make the roadway passable and to stabilize the downstream embankment on a temporary basis. Councilmember Helgeson noted that sediment buildup and the reduced reservoir storage have increased the chance of the dam overtopping when the lake should have been dredged. Councilmember Helgeson asked if the engineers looked at silt of just the dam. Mr. Zamensky noted that the impacted material was of great concern. Councilmember Helgeson stated that he suggested dredging the lake 12 years ago. Councilmember Perrow asked if the bridge was sitting on a rock. Mr. Zamensky said yes, however controlled blasting may be a solution to the engineering hurdles associated with the bridge. Councilmember Perrow asked if Mr. Zamensky had any historic photos, of which he advised he had not seen any. Tim Mitchell returned to the podium and clarified that plans to lower the spillway emphasized how critical of an issued they are facing. Making the area safe for residents and first responders is paramount; therefore the enhanced emergency activation plan was developed. Mr. Mitchell's presentation is online in the electronic record for reference. The $5 million grant from the State General Fund will be deposited into the Dam Safety Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund. Council must appropriate $10 million to obtain the $5 million in State funds. On motion of Councilmember Perrow seconded by Councilmember Wright, Council considered a Resolution to dedicate $10 million to the College Lake Lakebed Improvements/Dam Removal Project in order to accept the $5 million matching grant from the Commonwealth of Virginia Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund. Councilmember Perrow acknowledged his dislike of this project given the history of the dam and the impact to the City's Capital Improvement Program CIP). Councilmember Perrow stated that the City of Chesterfield should be shown appreciation because they had $5 million allocated, but did not use it. Councilmember Wright stated that he was in favor of the motion. Councilmember Helgeson stated that moving forward, definitive plans have not been set. Council, by the following recorded vote adopted Resolution #R-19-028.

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Wilder, Wright, Tweedy	7
Noes:		0

// In the matter of Public Works – Engineering, Council Report #8 was heard to Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Programmatic Administration Agreement for three years, through June 30, 2022. Lee Newland, City Engineer, provided a brief summary of this request. Councilmember Perrow noted the Physical Development Committee (PDC) recommended this agreement and moved the motion. There was no second necessary and Council, by the following recorded vote adopted Resolution R-19-029

Ayes:	Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Wilder, Wright, Tweedy	7
Noes:		0

// In the matter of Public Works –Engineering, Council Report #9 was considered to adopt amendments to an ordinance in City Code Sections 25-1, 25-249, 25-250, 25-265, and 25-270 impacting Central Business District parking that would change the manner of use of loading zones, make it illegal for vehicles to park on one-way streets, and to increase the fine amounts for violations related to loading zones and parking on one-way streets. Deputy City Manager, Dr. Reid Wodicka provided a brief summary of this request through a PowerPoint presentation that is available online and in the electronic record. Dr. Wodicka noted in the agenda summary recommended changes to the Ordinance: 1. The Central Business District needs to be defined as the area of downtown from Fifth Street to the Route 29 Business Expressway and from Clay

Street to the Riverfront (Section 25-1). 2. The penalties for violations need to be updated. Staff recommends that within the Central Business District, anyone violating the loading zone provisions is subject to a $30.00 fine and anyone stopping in the roadway is subject to a $100.00 fine (Section 25-249). 3. Clarification is needed related to rules governing stopped vehicles within the roadways on one-way streets and in loading zones, as well as required permits (Section 25-250). 4. A time limit of 30 minutes is needed such that loading zone provisions are enforceable. Should the time limit not be sufficient for a particular issue, it is necessary for Parking Management to have the authority to issue a temporary parking permit exceeding the standard time limit (Section 25-265). 5. Updates to the temporary parking permit provisions are needed so that there is more flexibility as to the reasons for which temporary permits are issued (Section 25-270). Upon approval of the City Code amendments, City staff will begin the process of implementing a 120 day loading zone pilot program to determine the effectiveness of the newly designated loading zones. A summary of the pilot program for loading zones changes includes: 1. The pilot program will operate from May 2019 to September 2019. Evaluation of the effectiveness of this program will be conducted at the end of this time period, which will consist of staff conducting outreach to downtown stakeholders, as well as evaluating the extent to which motorists are complying with the new provisions of the Code. 2. Defined loading zones will be established in multiple locations, primarily on Main Street, but also on Thirteenth Street and Commerce Street (see Attachment 7 – Loading Zone Communication Flyer) 3. There will be two types of loading zones, based on time of day in which they are active: a. Active between 7:00 am and 11:00am Monday through Friday, reverting to one-hour parking after 11:00am, or b. Active between 8:00am and 5:00pm Monday through Friday. Vice Mayor Dolan asked about when is it illegal to park on one-way streets in the proposal. Dr. Wodicka replied that it would be anytime on one-way streets. City Attorney Walter Erwin stated that parking in the Central Business District would be prohibited on one-way streets, not in the entire City. Councilmember Nelson asked Dr. Wodicka if proposed Section 25-250; Subsection C could lead to violations if a patron parked in a non-loading zone area to pick up pizzas or other items from businesses downtown. City Attorney, Walter Erwin responded that it could be interpreted as a violation if unloading and loading of merchandise is taking place. Councilmember Nelson stated that the Ordinance should be written to read as Council wants the rules to be enforced and advised that he has a problem with an ordinary citizen being subjected to violations when conducting such business from an ordinary parking space. Councilmember Perrow spoke to the possible instance of a UPS or FEDEX or other delivery driver parked in a regular parking space, then that would be an offense, so he (Perrow) questioned if adding the word "commercial" to the Ordinance would help. Councilmember Nelson asked what the undesired effect of having vehicles use a regular parking space that is available to load and unload. Dr. Wodicka responded that something like picking up pizza was not intended to be the thrust of the violations associated with this proposed ordinance revision. Councilmember Helgeson suggested that patrons would decide to conduct business in other areas of town due to the parking restrictions downtown, additional signs and the potential problems with current language in the proposed Ordinance revision. Councilmember Helgeson advised he doesn't like the proposal and feels it is too restrictive and seems to be a "solution in search of a problem" and a push toward two-way traffic. Mayor Tweedy noted that this matter did go through the Physical Development Committee (PDC). Councilmember Wilder mentioned that the intent of this revision was to remedy the issue of loading zones for businesses downtown and said that he was in the PDC meeting. Dr. Wodicka continued his presentation and discussed the pilot implementation of the program, assessment and outreach to stakeholders. Dr. Wodicka summarized that the issues of loading zones must be addressed due to safety and traffic flow concerns. This matter has been articulated to the PDC as well, per Dr. Wodicka. Councilmember Helgeson asked how many parking spaces would be lost with this proposed change. Dr. Wodicka answered 4-6 spaces during the proposed times of loading. Councilmember Perrow noted that PDC reviewed this plan and he remains skeptical of the loading zone issue in regard to two-way traffic downtown; however he realized there must be a prototype for assessment. Councilmember Perrow stated that a pilot is meant to work out the issues and if it isn't successful, Council and staff can revise as needed. Councilmember Perrow voiced concerns over inefficient loading zones, hindrance to residence in the area, and tractor-trailer sized loading zones. He (Perrow) also stated that the new signs would be double-marked to reflect loading zone times and regular parking times clearly. As chair of the Physical Development Committee (PDC), Councilmember Perrow noted that PDC recommended this agreement and moved the motion. There was no second necessary. Councilmember Nelson reiterated his concern with the language that could have an adverse effect on citizens. City Attorney Walter Erwin suggested adding "commercial vehicle" to the language. Councilmember Nelson voiced his desire to table this motion. Dr. Wodicka advised that timeline changes were a crucial factor during construction ongoing in downtown. Councilmember Helgeson mentioned tractor-trailer parking in the loading zone and questioned how these vehicles would park and if the space would be large enough. City Engineer Lee Newland responded that the space would be large enough to allow parking of a tractor-trailer by pulling in as opposed to parallel-parking. Dr. Wodicka clarified spaces available for tractor-trailer parking. Councilmember Wilder thanked staff for working on this and voiced appreciation for workers who deliver downtown. He (Wilder) noted the discussions held in PDC on this matter and his support for the pilot program to address any issues with this proposed ordinance. Mayor Tweedy asked for clarification on the direction Council was taking on this in terms of postponing action. Councilmember Wilder suggested shortening the pilot program period. Councilmember Nelson thought it was in order to move ahead with signs, but the language must be reviewed. Councilmember Nelson called for a Substitute motion to postpone decision on this matter until the language in the Ordinance is revised in compliance with discussions to be reviewed at the next regular meeting. Councilmember Wright provided a second to the motion and Council, by the following recorded vote, postponed further discussion on the matter of considering amendments to an ordinance in City Code Sections 25-1, 25-249, 25-250, 25-265, and 25-270 impacting Central Business District parking that would change the manner of use of loading zones, make it illegal for vehicles to park on one-way streets, and to increase the fine amounts for violations related to loading zones and parking on one-way streets.

Ayes: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Wilder, Wright, Tweedy 7
Noes: 0

// In the matter of Thriving City, Council Report #10 was considered to hear a report for information on the City's Thriving City initiatives, including Bridges to Progress, (with a brief presentation regarding Lynchburg Feeds) Reimagining Neighborhood Centers, the Economic Development Master Plan and the Downtown 2040 Master Plan. Presenters included John Hughes, IV, Assistant City Manager, Michael McKee, CEO of the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, Charlotte Lester, Supervisor of Neighborhood Centers, Marjette Upshur, Director of Economic Development, Tourism and Museums, and Kent White, Director of Community Development. The presentation is available online and in the electronic record. Mr. Hughes provided an update on the ongoing poverty reduction effort in Lynchburg with information on the Bridges to Progress movement and mini-grants allocated to work groups. Councilmember Helgeson asked if the transportation piece could be utilized instead of building a "$10 million dollar sidewalk" and inquired how application for such a grant would be done. Mr. Hughes advised that the Transportation Task Force would have to address Council for such a request. Mayor Tweedy asked if the City buses from the Greater Lynchburg Transit Company (GLTC) could navigate under the train trellis. Staff indicated this area was not accessible by a regular GLTC bus. Councilmember Perrow voiced concern over the limited amount of spending associated with approved grants as presented and also requested data regarding trends in poverty reduction and unemployment rate. Concerning the question of spending of grant funds, Mr. Hughes advised that groups have supplemented funding in some cases with personal and donated funds, as well as requested the ability to reallocate funds for specific projects. Councilmember Wilder mentioned his attendance at the Oasis meeting that was productive as well as the Faith and Schools meeting that were looking at collaboration between these entities. Councilmember Wilder suggested looking into the Community Foundation for grants and requested information on the benchmarks for measuring success. Mr. Michael McKee, CEO of the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank shared information on the public awareness campaign entitled Lynchburg Feeds. Per Mr. McKee, 18,000 people are being assisted in the greater Lynchburg area. Councilmember Helgeson asked what needy people did before the program was available. Mr. McKee stated people went without food, reduced intake or reduced quality of nutrition. Councilmember Perrow reflected on taking a young man to get pizza who was asking for money one evening and asked how to discern between a real need and being taken advantage of. Mr. McKee stated that when someone waits in line to receive a bag of groceries for two hours, that is a good indication of true need. Mayor Tweedy offered her appreciation for the information Lynchburg Feeds provides to residents. Councilmember Wilder noted the benefit of coming together with information on food sources compiled through Lynchburg Feeds. Jenny Jones, Director of Parks and Recreation introduced Charlotte Lester, Supervisor of Neighborhood Centers for the presentation on reimagining Neighborhood Centers. Ms. Lester provided status updates on improvement projects to Neighborhood Centers, partnerships with other organizations, as well as featured programs and services offered at the Centers. Councilmember Wilder commented positive impact of the Black Minds Matter series offered to the community. Mayor Tweedy commended Parks and Recreation staff for working within the community. Economic Development, Tourism and Museums Director, Marjette Upshur presented the Blueprint for Opportunity update associated with the Economic Development Master Plan. Ms. Upshur reviewed updates, goals, recent accomplishments, and collaborative efforts with various stakeholders investing in Lynchburg.

//Councilmember Helgeson left the meeting.

Councilmember Wilder asked about the VEDP site selector group. Ms. Upshur advised that this was the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, which is Virginia's Economic development Group and they work to locate appropriate sites in Virginia for businesses. Councilmember Perrow noted that jobs are the main point of growing Economic Development in the City and referenced Pacific Life's contributions to the City as well as the work Economic Development did to get Pacific Life in Lynchburg. Councilmember Perrow suggested a letter be sent to Pacific Life in appreciation of their beneficial presence in the City. Mayor Tweedy noted the work with TechHire and the City Schools to develop a trained skilled workforce in Lynchburg. Kent White, Director of Community Development presented an update on the Downtown 2040 Master Plan to Council. Mr. White gave information on 2018-2019 Downtown Lynchburg Association programs, discussed the upcoming 2019 projects (Loading Zone pilot, Compactor Interest Meeting, Main Street Renewal), and summarized the intersections of Thriving City Elements in his presentation.

// City Manager Bonnie Svrcek advised Council that she spoke with Councilmember Helgeson between sessions and he suggested the Council meet on May 7, 2019 since he would not be available on April 30, 2019 due to a planned vacation. Council agreed to meet on May 7, 2019 at 4pm to finalize budget balancing.

// The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 P.M.

____

Acting Clerk of Council