

**CITY OF LYNDON
CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM all council members were present except Mardy Sidebottom who was absent. Several guests were also present.

Mayor Hagan opened the meeting by revisiting a previously discussed role of Safety Director, Lyndon Codified Ordinance 36.05. He formally nominated George Stewart, a retired Metro detective, citing additional qualifications that support the nomination. A discussion followed regarding the terms of Stewart's employment. City Attorney John Singler emphasized the importance of clearly defining the nature of the position—whether it would be structured as a contract role or a full-time or part-time employee arrangement. Mr. Stewart will be at Council Meeting next Monday. Mayor Hagan stated he would email Mr. Stewart's resume to council and would have a job description for Safety Director available for council. Council member Amy Stuber asked the Mayor if he had responded to Doug Spellman who had shown interest in the position. Mayor stated that he had not received an email or phone call that he has not responded to but with Mr. Spellman having fire department experience, he has elected to choose someone with police expertise.

Mayor Hagan informed the council of a Notice of Public Hearing regarding a proposed zoning change from R-4 to R-5A for property located on Whipps Mill Road for Daycare facility. The hearing has been rescheduled to September 29th at 6:00 PM and will take place at the St. Matthews Community Center. City Attorney John Singler strongly cautioned council members who plan to attend the hearing to refrain from discussing their intended vote with others. He emphasized that council members must not pre-judge the matter prior to its formal presentation and consideration by the City of Lyndon.

Mayor Hagan directed the council's attention to the Treasurer's Report and the monthly variance documents included in their meeting packets. He reviewed several line items that had been previously questioned by Councilmember Ricketts, providing clarifications and detailed explanations for each.

Councilmember Ricketts inquired about the potential hiring of an additional maintenance staff member since Mayor had mentioned the need many times previously. He noted that the city currently employs one full-time maintenance worker who consistently performs well and manages responsibilities well. Mayor Hagan responded that there may not be a need for additional support until winter, at which point a part-time employee could be considered to assist with snow removal. Discussion was held.

Councilmember Vicki Stanley noted that the City of Douglas Hills funded its new playground equipment using ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds. In response, Mayor Hagan clarified that Lyndon's allocation of ARPA funds had been used toward police salaries and has since been fully expended. Councilmember Stanley also inquired about the submission deadline for newsletter articles, to which Mayor Hagan replied that all content must be submitted by September 30th.

Councilmember Ricketts shared that she recently met with Metro Councilmember Paula McCraney to explore potential collaboration between Metro and the City of Lyndon on various initiatives, including proposed upgrades to Robsion Park, sidewalks and beautification projects.

Councilmember Stuber inquired about the status of the Lyndon Lane Streetscape project. Mayor Hagan responded that signage for upcoming lane closures is expected to be posted by next Wednesday. Ms. Stuber also asked about lighting and Mayor noted the preferred light poles have been ordered through another company, not LG&E. Councilmember Ricketts asked about style of light and if lights point downward to address any "light pollution" concerns. Mayor confirmed they are at top of post and point downward. Ms. Stuber also asked about the maintenance costs associated with the new lights. Mayor Hagan explained that the city would maintain which is most cost-effective solution.

Councilmember Ricketts informed the council she has been made aware there are Facebook pages and other social media postings still alleging that the council has taken away money from LPD the police department. She spoke on behalf of herself and the council, she emphasized their strong support for law enforcement, noting that the city recently invested \$4 million in the police headquarters and continues to fully fund the department. Discussion was held.

Councilmember Stuber referenced a document she received from city regarding police overtime and requested more explanation of the figures. Deputy Chief Chris Thomas responded by asking for additional time to thoroughly review the document before providing a full explanation. However, he did clarify that the city receives reimbursement for certain police hours through the Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund (KLEFPF), and shared the current hourly rate used for that reimbursement.

Mayor opened the floor to the public. Lyndon resident Ric Gellespie asked the City Attorney whether a zoning case previously discussed would still come before the City of Lyndon if the Planning Commission were to vote it down. City Attorney John Singler responded that while it is possible for the case to proceed to Lyndon for a vote even if the Planning Commission denies it, such instances are uncommon.

Police Chief Rob Schroeder reported a recent increase in car break-ins throughout Lyndon. He noted that the suspects are believed to operate in groups and the Lyndon Police Department is actively working with Metro Police, St. Matthews Police, and other neighboring agencies to identify and apprehend those responsible. Most importantly, Chief Schroeder shared that a video caught sight of an individuals in possession of an AR-15 rifle. He strongly urged residents not to approach or confront any suspicious individuals.

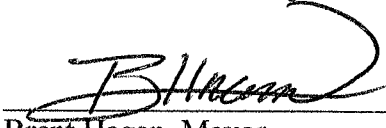
Linda Cambron, a resident of Lyndon, suggested the Mayor write a letter to clarify public misconceptions about the council's position on police funding. She recommended it be signed by council members and published in the next city newsletter. The Mayor welcomed the idea but doubted all members would agree with his letter content. Councilmember Stanley stated if a statement was written about not "defunding" the police, all council members would sign it.

Councilmember Stuber referenced a comment made by the Mayor at the previous meeting, where he claimed he hadn't requested funding for police raises, which is why they didn't receive them—despite money being allocated for that purpose. Stuber clarified that, to her understanding, the council has approved raises for the police over the past two years, and how that money is used is ultimately up to the department. Mayor Hagan said he was not ready to discuss this further.

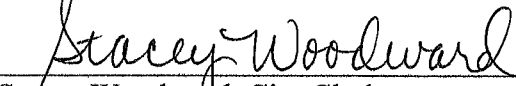
Earlene Grise-Owens, a resident of Lyndon, expressed appreciation for the progress made on establishing the Safety Director position. She also commended the council for their persistence in the topic, noting that having multiple candidates for the role reflects sound governance. Additionally, she praised the council for asking questions, which she claimed, contributed to identifying potential cost savings for the police headquarters. She also expressed strong support for including the letter in the upcoming newsletter to help clarify public understanding of police funding.

A discussion took place regarding the cost savings associated with the police headquarters project. Mayor Hagan disputed the claim made by a few councilmembers in the past that \$500,000 in savings existed, stating he believes the figure is inaccurate. Councilmember Stuber challenged his assertion, that he is reading the bid information. The building committee met with LMH representative and Chief Schroeder. This led to making changes to the front façade which saved about \$500,000. Councilmember Stanley said she had proof of the savings and Mayor Hagan asked her to share it with him. Resident Ms. Morris remarked that the visible disagreements among officials suggested tension with the Mayor. In contrast, Ms. Grise-Owens offered a different perspective, stating that such disagreements are a necessary part of a functioning government. The conversation continued.

Councilmember Ricketts made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Barto to adjourn meeting at 6:42 pm.


Brent Hagan, Mayor

ATTEST:


Stacey Woodward, City Clerk