

**CITY OF LYNDON  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025**

Mayor Brent Hagan called the Special Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of acting as a regular City Council Meeting since the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday falls on Memorial Day. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll was called and those present were: Susan Barto, Jenny Benner, Becky Ricketts, Mardy Sidebottom, Amy Stuber, Jim Yates and City Attorney, John Singler. Vicki Stanley was absent. Many guests were present.

A motion was made by Jim Yates, seconded by Susan Barto to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2025 Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The City Treasurer, Sonya Kaiser, read the May 1, 2025 Treasurer's Report with ending balance of \$1,977,364.07. Treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

There was no report made on the Ad Hoc Committee since there has not been a second meeting.

Police Chief, Rob Schroeder gave a summary of the April police reports and discussion was held regarding recent sexual assault case.

The Ad Valorem Tax Ordinance #4-28-25 was place on agenda for a second reading, although there should be two advertisements in Courier Journal prior to action because the .13 rate will exceed the compensating rate. He asked the council if the city could proceed with advertisements and continue with the .13 rate so that a special meeting can be held in June to have the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and action. Council member Amy Stuber said she would feel more confident proceeding if the dates were changed on the calculations sheet that was presented to them from the Department of Local Government. Mayor said he will have those dates changed. Council agreed to proceed.

Ordinance #5-19-25 was on agenda and Mayor asked for a motion to have a first reading. Councilmember Jenny Benner made a motion to table the first reading saying the budget document has changed three times in the past three weeks and wants more discussion. The motion was seconded by Amy Stuber. Mayor Hagan agreed to discussion and explained to the council last week that it was a draft and he gave them opportunity for their input via email or individual meetings. Motion carried with 4 "ayes" and 2 "nays" to table the first reading. The Mayor delivered his budget message, reviewed his projections, and then opened the floor for discussion. Council members inquired about the projections and received detailed explanations and clarifications from the Mayor regarding his calculations. Much discussion was held.

A proposal was made by Councilmember Jenny Benner for Lyndon PD to only serve Lyndon, Graymoor-Devondale and Hurstbourne moving forward. As previously discussed on multiple occasions, Mayor Hagan clarified that the small city contracts do not result in financial losses for Lyndon. Ms. Stuber referenced how Graymoor-Devondale PD was ran with 16 officers when Lyndon acquired the department and she stated Louisville Metro continues to respond in

Lyndon. Mayor informed Ms. Stuber the police department is completely different under Lyndon and some of the part-time cities they served under Graymoor-Devondale are now served full-time. More discussion was held and Mayor asked what Ms. Benner's goal is to reflect this change on the budget. She reiterated Mayor Hagan's earlier statement that the occupational tax funds the police department so she believes the city does not need the additional revenue from those other cities. Ms. Benner proposes to have more service in Lyndon and only serve Graymoor-Devondale and Hurstbourne.

Police Chief Rob Schroeder addressed the decline in Metro services for this area, highlighting the benefits of providing service to neighboring cities that border Lyndon. Deputy Chief, Chris Thomas, also spoke and focused on the vast difference in the way Graymoor-Devondale ran their department and his pride for Lyndon PD now. He also highlighted the value of 'community policing' that Lyndon upholds, something that Metro is unable to provide because they are so busy and short on staff. Councilmember Stuber thanked him for his service and spoke on behalf of council, saying their hope is the staff is satisfied with what they have been provided. Councilmember Jim Yates, a former law enforcement officer, expressed his pride in the department under the Chief's leadership and wants to ensure it remains properly funded.

Lyndon Police Officer, Jessica Morrison, talked about how much she loves working for Lyndon's police department and how it saved her career after leaving Louisville Metro PD. As a resident of Barbourmeade, one of the contracted small cities, she expressed the significance of Lyndon's services to her neighborhood. Councilmember Becky Ricketts responded saying she appreciates the department and wants to be financially responsible with tax dollars.

More discussion was held regarding budget worksheets presented by the Mayor. More questions were asked about line items. Ms. Stuber requested that all budget line items related to police expenses be separated and categorized within the police budget. In discussion about professional fees, Ms. Stuber stated she would like to have \$65,000 to be added as a separate line item on budget in professional fees to hire a CPA and an additional attorney to represent the council. Councilmember Benner inquired about payment of Lyndon Lane streetscape by end of fiscal year. Mayor stated it is scheduled to be finished soon and will be paid off.

More questions were asked about what is considered capital projects and municipal road aid. Ms. Benner asked if more money needs to be allocated for street widening and Mayor said the priorities need to be identified because not all can be funded. Ms. Benner stated if there is money that can be added to those projects, Lyndon should spend it. Mayor responded that he needs a number to plug into budget because miscommunication during last year's budget caused concern. Discussion was held and more questions asked about capital projects. Ms. Stuber questioned the allocation of \$50,000 for the Police Headquarters, stating that she had been under the impression that spending on the project was finalized. The Mayor explained that additional expenses, including a sign, landscaping, and unforeseen necessities not initially accounted for may arise. Ms. Stuber stated a budget was given and she expects it to be upheld. The Mayor explained that a budget is an estimate, and it's impossible to predict every expense with certainty. For this reason, a financial cushion is included to account for unforeseen costs. Comments went back and forth between audience. The Mayor requested that council members review the budget worksheet, propose any necessary changes, and submit them promptly. This would allow for a first reading

at a Special Meeting prior to Caucus Meeting, followed by a second reading and final action at the June Council Meeting, ensuring enactment by July 1st.. Ms. Stuber then asked for additional expense of \$2,400 to be added to budget for meetings to be videotaped and put on a Youtube channel. The audience reacted negatively. Mayor noted Ms. Stuber's addition.

**ORDINANCE #5-19-25A – 1<sup>ST</sup> Reading – Repealing Section 95.17 of Codified Ordinance-** City Attorney, John Singler explained the need for the repeal. Councilmember Ricketts read a section that named other weapons and asked if these would be included. Mr. Singler stated you repeal it in it's entirety. A motion was made by Susan Barto, seconded by Amy Stuber introduce and have 1<sup>st</sup> reading by summary of Ordinance 5-19-25A. Motion carried unanimously. A second reading and action will be on June Council's agenda.

**MUNICIPAL ORDER #5-19-25B – Grant Funding- Lifehouse Maternity Home for \$5,000-** Mayor read details of grant. Ms. Ricketts asked if anyone in audience represented this organization with no response. She made a comment that council usually hears from representatives before approving. She made a motion to table action of Municipal Order #5-19-25B, seconded by Susan Barto. Motion carried unanimously.

**MUNICIPAL ORDER #5-19-25C -Cybersecurity Training for City Employees-** Attorney Singler read Municipal Order #5-1-25C. A motion was made by Amy Stuber, seconded by Becky Ricketts to approve the ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

**Request for Proposals – 8100 Lyndon Park Place-** Mayor Hagan explained the last failed proposal due to financing and he is recommending the RFP to be reviewed and opened back up for bidding process. Discussion was held regarding value of property and timeframe of RFP. A motion was made by Becky Ricketts, seconded by Jim Yates to reopen RFP bidding process for 8100 Lyndon Park Place. Motion carried unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mayor informed everyone the Lyndon Summer Festival is June 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. The next Caucus Meeting is June 16, 2025 and the next Council Meeting is June 23, 2025, both at 6:00pm.

Councilmember Stuber inquired about Opioid Settlement funds location on budget. Mayor informed her they are under 'Other Category' but will be pulled out and categorized under 'Restricted' because those funds must be used for those specific programs.

Councilmember Benner asked Mayor about status of Public Safety Director appointment. Mayor Hagan stated he has not been able to contact the gentlemen who showed interest. He also mentioned more will be updated on Ethics Committee in near future. Doug Spellman, the interested person in the Public Safety Director was in attendance and made sure the Mayor received his email in which the Mayor confirmed.

**OPEN FLOOR:** An audience member inquired whether the Immigration Ordinance, which received its first reading last month, had been tabled or withdrawn. Mayor allowed Councilmember Stuber to answer. She stated an outside attorney is reviewing it. The citizen

asked if she is considering it 'tabled' and she confirmed. Ms. Stuber was asked the name of the attorney and she would not announce the person's name.

An unnamed audience member stated that the citizens of Lyndon voted for the council and suggested to remember the community when voting and keep personal agendas out. Audience applauded.

Ric Gellespie, citizen, requested Ms. Stuber state the name of the attorney because he was aware of some acting as immigration attorneys and council needs to be careful. Ms. Stuber said she will talk to him after the meeting. Mr. Gellespie also voiced his support for the Mayor's budget and understands it fluctuates. He suggested granting Mayor to have the flexibility to do his job and if changes need to be made, then evaluate those changes.

Another unnamed audience member is concerned about federal funding the city would lose if we pass the immigration ordinance. Mr. Singler informed her the city doesn't receive federal funding but the Mayor added there could be lawsuits. The lady mentioned putting a vote on the ballot.

Earlene Grise-Owens, Lyndon citizen, clarified that the Mayor is the executive branch and the Council is the legislative branch. She expressed her concerns for Robsion Park playground equipment. She thanked council for asking questions about budget on behalf of citizens. She asked, "What is the goal in the metric of success for the police?" Ms. Grise-Owens initially believed that property taxes had been raised but was informed that it was actually occupational taxes that had been enacted. She remains concerned about whether the financial goal with police is being achieved without increasing taxes.

Peggy Meyer, resident of Lyndon Lakes Pl., asked why Ms. Stuber's request for \$65,000 for their own CPA and attorney is justifiable if the city already has one. Mayor Hagan replied the council doesn't trust him or the attorney. Councilmember Benner stated the current auditor suggested a separate CPA to aid with financials. However, the Mayor explained that he had asked a CPA commonly used by other cities to review the last audit, though the council identified concerns regarding his performance. Discussion was held. Ms. Meyer showed her support for the police.

Linda Cambron, a resident of Birk Lane, stated that she would willingly pay any tax increase if it ensured adequate police protection for the citizens. She praised the occupational tax and emphasized her strong belief in the council's responsibility to safeguard residents and respond to their needs. Ms. Stuber asked her if she is receiving police protection. Ms. Cambron said yes but she doesn't agree with efforts to defund the police. Ms. Stuber said with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice, she is one of the council members who voted to acquire the police department but also has responsibility. More discussion held.

Dawn Metzerott, resident of Thoroughbred Acres, asked for help from city to inspect the condition of 1318 Gallant Fox Run Rd. her street with inoperable vehicles and tall grass. Mayor Hagan said he is aware of the property and the city Code Enforcement Officer has written citations. Mayor assured her the city is responding to complaints.

Dr. Larry Owens, urged everyone to focus on public safety in way of economic development, property city planning/housing, social support, health access (parks) and meaningful engagement, not to focus all on the police department itself. He also thank council for their service.

Ron Huber, resident of Autumn Ridge, requested the next paving projects to add to requirements to raise sewer caps up to level of new pavement to avoid a rough path. Mayor made note to consider.


Chief Schroeder wanted to respond to the question a citizen asked about the metric of success. He quoted Robert Peel who was known as the Founder of Modern Policing stating, "The task of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, not visible evidence of police action in dealing with it." Chief Schroeder believes Lyndon is a safe community thanks to the officers who do their job well.

Christopher Cook thanked council for addressing the weapon ordinance. He asked for clarification on tabling the budget ordinance and suggested council to continue working together for a common goal. He shared personal experience with LMPD being unreliable and believes Lyndon officers do a great job. He also suggested to avoid disagreements on council to consider polling citizens.

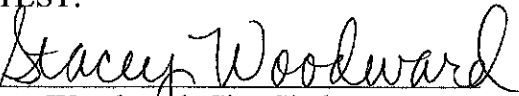
Calvin Shaak, a Lyndon resident, spoke about his time in the military. He announced a Flag Retirement Ceremony will take place on June 14<sup>th</sup> at Hugh Colbert's Farm, 7:30 p.m. for anyone who wants to attend.

Becky Gaslin, resident Holly Springs, asked if the City will ever have an official Facebook page. Mayor informed her it was removed but will have a new one soon. All information is also on the city's website. Mr. Huber who spoke earlier asked where he can obtain police incident reports on a regular basis. Councilmember Ricketts informed him the reports are given and every council meeting and Mayor Hagan added those reports could be added to our website.

A motion was made by Jim Yates, seconded by Susan Barto to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 pm.

  
Brent Hagan, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Stacey Woodward, City Clerk