

**CITY OF LYNDON
CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with all council members present and several guests.

Mayor Hagan began with actionable items for next Monday Council Meeting. The first being the 2nd reading of Ordinance 7-28-25 Relating to Budget. There was no discussion. The next item is a grant submission for \$16,500 from the Louisville Free Public Library for a chef in residence pilot project. Chandra Gordon, Sarah Hall and Rachel Smith all representatives who attended and shared details and the vision of the project. Discussion was held regarding grant deadlines and Lyndon is currently the only resource at this time. The Mayor stated these two action items will be on Monday's agenda.

Mayor Hagan opened the meeting up to council for any discussions. Vicki Stanley shared that she and Holly Springs resident Ric Gillespie have been in contact with Waste Management's Robert Lush about concerns at the recycling center. Potential solutions such as fencing, cameras, and signage are being considered. Gillespie views the issue as a Metro management responsibility and noted that Councilmember Marilyn Parker may have funding available for improvements. While Stanley acknowledges that some debris is inevitable at a trash site, she emphasized the need for better communication to reach a resolution.

Ms. Stanley and Mayor Hagan reviewed potential volunteers for the Parks and Beautification Committee. Councilmember Jenny Benner raised a question about the timing of the playground RFP, and Mayor Hagan recommended waiting until the committee begins meeting and gathers more details. City Attorney John Singler suggested visiting recently built playgrounds in Hurstbourne, Douglass Hills, and Middletown to learn about vendors, equipment choices, pricing and challenges associated with their choices.

Councilmember Susan Barto informed the council of her intent to file an open records request concerning KRS 83A.070 for personnel pay classifications. She expressed concern that the city may not currently meet the necessary requirements for staff pay classifications. City Attorney John Singler responded that he would review the ordinances. Councilmember Becky Ricketts asked if the Treasurer and Deputy Chief will present their findings on the issue with the police budget discussed last month. Suggestion of timely distribution of minutes and other details were also discussed.

Councilmember Amy Stuber asked Mayor Hagan for information on CPA's he has interviewed. He stated he has spoken to two individuals but no formal interviews have been set. A discussion was held regarding the potential use of Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) resources, as well as the need to hire a CPA to support the Treasurer and a new Auditor independent of city staff. Mayor Hagan asked council to give him until September Council Meeting to have candidates. Ms. Stuber inquired about the process for re-credentialing the city as a City of Ethics. The Mayor responded that the Ethics Committee is currently drafting an ordinance, and once it is formally adopted, the city will enroll in ethics training provided by the KLC. A discussion followed. The

Mayor also noted that Ethics Committee member Mera Corlett will provide an update at next Monday's meeting.

Councilmember Benner referenced a recent article labeling Lyndon as the most dangerous city in the state, noting that while she didn't wish to debate the claim, it draws attention. She reiterated her proposal to limit the number of cities served by the Lyndon Police Department to better serve Lyndon and be mindful of how our resources are used. Mayor Hagan asked if she had noticed the response from himself and Police Chief Rob Schroeder, which disputed the article's statistics. Chief Schroeder addressed the council, expressing concern that ending contracts with smaller cities could have unintended negative consequences and serving these cities acts as a buffer to Lyndon. He clarified that the article's data came from private security sources, not official records. He cited FBI statistics showing Lyndon's officer-to-resident ratio (2.63 per 1,000) is consistent with Kentucky's average (2.65) and lower than the national average (3.59), affirming confidence in current staffing levels. Chief believes the Lyndon PD is perfectly staffed. Ms. Ricketts raised a question about how serving other cities affects service quality, to which Chief Schroeder responded that service levels vary by city and are not easily measured due to part-time contracts. More discussion was held.

Ms. Benner sought clarification from Chief Schroeder, repeating his words that Lyndon has the proper amount of officers to serve Lyndon. With the addition of 10 cities it lowers the ratio (cuts it in half) and that is ok to take services away from Lyndon taxpayers because it might defer crime in surrounding cities? Chief Schroeder reiterated that not all contracted cities receive the same level of service, and Lyndon's coverage is not compromised. He noted that in July, 77.5% of police activity occurred within Lyndon. He also highlighted that relocating police headquarters to Lyndon would further concentrate officer presence there. Additionally, he explained that Graymoor-Devondale had not paid for police services for four years during the department's transition, but began contributing in July, which will boost revenue. Ms. Benner confirmed with Chief the percentage of time in Lyndon is based on hours not activity.

Ms. Ricketts suggested revisiting the rate schedule for contracted cities and expressed her support for Ms. Benner's position that the council should reevaluate its contract with other cities. The Chief explained once again the different levels of service. Ms. Stanley asked how the council might reach a resolution. She suggested implementing a new rate for contracted cities, noting that if a city chooses not to accept the updated terms, it should have the option to withdraw from the agreement. City Attorney John Singler stated that interlocal cooperation agreement statute requires governmental action to approve an agreement so the council can decide to cancel or change the terms. Chief Schroeder requested that the council revisit the current rate structure, noting the 12.5% increase in rates as of July 1st. and Graymoor-Devondale's payment. The council engaged in a detailed discussion covering hourly service rates, educational resources provided by the Kentucky League of Cities (KLC), and recent grant funding. Ms. Stuber suggested utilizing services from KLC to advise the council on police services. Chief Schroeder stated KLC will be auditing the police department towards end of the year. Mayor Hagan stated he would provide an updated chart outlining the revised hourly rates for each city, including Graymoor-Devondale's payments, since he distributed the last chart in April.

Ms. Ricketts mentioned a recent clean-up effort pushed by Lyndon of a property at the corner of Witawanga and LaGrange. Mayor was thankful the owners were responsive.

Larry Owens, resident of Autumn Ridge, stated he does not want to defund the police. He mentioned different was to approach funding and would like to meet with the Chief. He also inquired about update on RFP for Lyndon Park Lane opened last month. Mayor Hagan informed him they did not issue a price for proposal and has not received any new information. Mayor expressed his ideas to return to initial idea to have a City managed venue. Discussion was held.

Earlene Owens backed up Ms. Benner's comments and said she'd love to hear more talk about the community, especially parks, local businesses, and festivals. She also shared her support for the library grant.

Other topic were briefly mentioned. The Fall Festival is Sunday, October 5th with The Crashers performing. Chief Schroeder referenced the "broken window theory," emphasizing that reporting issues like dilapidated signs or suspicious activity can help revitalize neighborhoods and reduce crime. Ms. Ricketts asked the Chief about "no turn on red" signage at Whipps Mill and LaGrange. He urged her to call KY Transportation Cabinet.

Dana Isbell, a resident of Autumn Ridge, voiced her support for the library grant as well as the Police Chief and efforts in serving smaller cities. She also recommended holding off on any rate changes for a few months to allow time for gathering more data.

Christopher Cook, a visitor to Lyndon, requested that the term "defunding the police" no longer be used in council discussions, noting that he regularly records the meetings and has not heard anyone explicitly support such a measure. Instead, he emphasized that the conversations have focused on ensuring appropriate funding for the police. He also expressed support for requiring contracted cities to contribute fairly for the police services they receive. Councilmember Stuber asked the Mayor if the city could compensate Mr. Cook for recording the meetings and positing them for \$50/hr. Discussion was held and Mayor stated he will give an update next Monday.

Councilmember Ricketts made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Stanley to adjourn meeting at 7:34 pm.


Brent Hagan, Mayor

ATTEST:


Stacey Woodward, City Clerk