

**CITY OF LYNDON
CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024**

Mayor Brent Hagan called the Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Those present: Susan Barto, Jenny Benner, Becky Ricketts, Mardy Sidebottom, Vicki Stanely, Amy Stuber and City Attorney, John Singler. Lyndon Police Chief, Deputy Chief and Major were present along with other guests. Carla Nalley was absent.

Mayor Hagan introduced Heather Harris and John Ketenbrink of LMH architecture to open bids received for the police headquarters project. The bids were read aloud, and some discussion followed. The mayor stated that no action was to be taken tonight and the architects would tabulate all bids to be presented for Council review as early as the next day. Bids included base price, additions or subtractions concerning alternate scopes stemming from the committee opinions. These were for the cost of finishing the basement, installing an elevator, installing an asphalt shingle roof or metal, and enclosing 3 of the 4 sides of the property with a privacy fence. Construction duration was also an element of consideration.

The mayor reminded the council of the need to amend the current fiscal year budget which had been mentioned as early as the April council meetings. Four categories of appropriation have exceeded what was previously budgeted. General government, due to the finalization of retirement systems contributions which had to be back dated to the inception of the police department in August of 2022, as well as final costs of insurance for all officers on the force. Sanitation, due to the new contract awarded after the budget had been approved. Public safety, vehicles and upfitting costs were higher than anticipated. Community development, which includes city events, increased due to several inflationary factors. The Mayor presented the revised budget without amending the revenues which did not include the occupational tax revenue that began January 1st 2024. John Singler recommended that the entire budget be revised to update all line items, while not necessary, so many things have changed that it would be wise to amend the entire budget for clarification.

Also on the agenda for the Council meeting is the 2nd reading of the upcoming 2024-2025 fiscal year budget. Several changes from the first reading were proposed. The mayor stated that the police command staff in attendance were willing to forego the standard cost of living increase so the rest of the force could receive a raise. Mayor Hagan referred to a handout which included the hiring flyer for several local police departments and the discrepancy of pay Lyndon Police receive vs. those departments. While he wasn't aiming to match their hourly rate, as the other cities generate substantially more revenue than Lyndon, he wanted to get closer. Discussion about policing was held. Additionally, since the first reading, more accurate data concerning revenue projection for the upcoming year has been included for the second reading.

The mayor provided the previous request for proposals (RFP) for development of Lyndon Park Lane for discussion. The mayor handed out that document and asked the council to review it and make changes so that a new RFP could be issued soon to generate interest in the parcel due to the Pickleball project not moving forward.

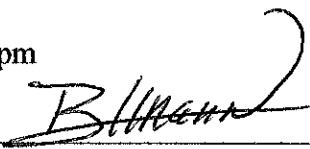
Discussion about a letter the mayor received from St. Matthews Fire Chief concerning their employees withholding for the occupational tax. Because employees of the fire district are stationed at any one of their 4 stations, it is unable to track each employee and where they performed work within the city of Lyndon. They propose that 20% of all its employees' salaries or wages be subject to the fee. This percentage reflects the percentage that the districts employees actually perform work in the city vs. the majority of territory served, stations, and fire district employees being outside of the City. The same arrangement is already in place with the City of St. Matthews, and they would appreciate the same from Lyndon. More discussion was held. The matter could be addressed with an internal amendment to the collection policy.

Councilwoman Stuber asked about whether there was money in the upcoming budget for videotaping the council meetings. It was discussed and plausible if someone wanted to determine the cost. She then asked if the monthly Police Report could be an agenda item moving forward, much like the Treasurers Report. The mayor committed to that request.

Councilwoman Stanley applauded the building committee for the results of the last headquarters bid. She proposed more committees including a Capital Campaigns committee, also inquired about compensation for committee participation. Mr. Singler said it was not possible and recited a state law about changing the compensation for elected officials prior to May of an election year. It was just a suggestion and wouldn't preclude her from participating in more committees.

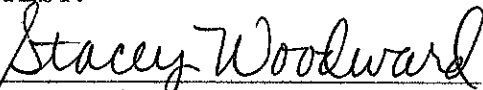
Councilwoman Ricketts asked about attendance at Summer Festival. The mayor stated an estimate was 7,000 for both days. Councilwoman Benner provided a resident compliment about the cleanliness of the park at all times. Councilwoman Sidebottom asked if the vendors were happy. All said, the festival was a successful and enjoyable event and the mayor thanked the council for their involvement.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm



Brent Hagan, Mayor

ATTEST:



Stacey Woodward, City Clerk