

**LENOIR CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2018
6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Gibbons presiding. Councilmembers present were Beal, Perdue, Perkins, Rohr, Thomas and Willis. Also in attendance were City Manager Hildebran, City Attorney Blair and Planning Administrative Assistant Jackie Sigmon.

Note: Councilmember Perkins left the meeting at 6:15 p.m. and was not present to vote on any action items.

ABSENT: Councilmember Stevens.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. The meeting was opened by a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Gibbons.

UPDATE; CITY STAFF:

- B. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons asked everyone to keep Rex Cannon, spouse of City Clerk Shirley Cannon, in their thoughts and prayers as he continues to recover from additional surgery.

CONDOLENCES:

- C. Mayor Gibbons also asked everyone keep the family of retired Firefighter Gary Sanders, who recently passed away, in their thoughts and prayers.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION; FAIR HOUSING MONTH:

- D. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons presented a proclamation to Ms. Lauren Hart, Catawba Valley Realtors, proclaiming the month of April as "Fair Housing Month" throughout the City of Lenoir and Caldwell County.

A copy of the proclamation is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. (Refer to page 86).

Ms. Hart thanked the City of Lenoir on behalf of Catawba Valley Realtors Association for all they do to promote fair housing and home ownership. Ms. Hart gave the following snapshot of the real estate market as follows:

- a) Rates have stabilized
- b) Loan applications up 4.8% last week
- c) Average price for homes sold in Lenoir in the month of February is \$148,500
- d) Stated demand is high and inventory is low

Mayor Gibbons thanked Ms. Hart for the good report.

FY2017 ANNUAL REPORT; POLICE DEPARTMENT:

- E. Scott Brown, Chief of Police, presented an overview of the Department's Annual Report for FY2017. Highlights include property crime dropped 6%, violent crime decreased 6%, the communication Center answered over 37,000 calls, of which over 5,000 were 911 calls and processed over 43,000 CAD calls. Chief Brown pointed out the Department's biggest challenge is recruitment and mentioned they have four (4) vacancies. He encouraged anyone that was interested in working for a progressive and professional law enforcement agency to apply.

In addition, Chief Brown reported the Department recovered over \$300,000 in stolen property, \$177,000 in illegal drugs, and \$183,000 in drug related cash and property. The Department's recovery rate for stolen property is around 35%. Also, there were fifty-five (55) drug overdoses in 2017, three (3) drug related deaths (opioid). The drug Nalozone was used eighteen (18) times with fifteen (15) lives being saved and three (3) deaths.

Chief Brown proudly stated the Lenoir Police Department was recognized by the National Council for Home Safety and Security Safest Cities Organization. Lenoir is ranked the 4th safest among cities with populations of 16,000-20,000 residents; the 26th safest City by violent crime index; and the 40th safest City by property crime index. Chief Brown emphasized he was very proud to display the National Council for Home Safety and Security Safest Cities' seal on the Department's website and Facebook pages. The full report is available online at www.cityoflenoir.com.

On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons thanked Chief Brown for the good report and for all the Department does daily for the City of Lenoir and its citizens.

II. MATTERS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Upon a recommendation by City Manager Hildebran, the following Consent Agenda items were submitted for approval:
1. Minutes: Approval of minutes of the City Council Meeting of Tuesday, March 20, 2018 as submitted.
 2. Tax Fund Releases: Approval of the submitted Tax Fund Releases for April 2018 in accordance with N.C.G.S. 105-381. (A copy of the tax fund releases is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. Refer to page 87).
 3. Bid Award; J.E. Broyhill Park Improvements Project: Staff recommends that Council award the low bid of \$68,956.06 to Roy Hall Construction for a new Restroom Facility at the J. E. Broyhill Park. (A copy of the bid tab is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. Refer to page 88).

Upon a motion by Councilmember Thomas, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve the above listed items on the Consent Agenda as recommended by City Manager Hildebran.

IV. REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

V. REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

VI. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

A. Items of Information

FOOTHILLS REGIONAL AIRPORT

AUTHORITY: 1. The Foothills Regional Airport Authority will meet on Monday, April 4 at noon.

CRUISE-IN: 2. A Cruise-In will be held on Saturday, April 7 beginning at 4:00 p.m. in downtown Lenoir.

CITY/COUNTY SERVICES

COMMITTEE: 3. The City/County Services Committee will meet on Monday, April 9 at 11:45 a.m.

CALDWELL COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COMMISSION: 4. The Caldwell County Economic Development Commission will meet on Tuesday, April 10 at 8:00 a.m.

ABC BOARD: 5. The ABC Board will meet on Thursday, April 12 at 2:00 p.m. at Lenoir Store #1 located at 115 ABC Court.

NCDOT'S ANNUAL LITTER

SWEEP: 6. The NCDOT's annual Litter Sweep Campaign begins on Saturday, April 14 and ends on Saturday, April 28. Citizens are encouraged to participate.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY

BOARD: 7. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will meet on Monday, April 16 at 6:00 p.m. at the LHS Auditorium.

SPRING TRASH

BASH WEEK: 8. The Sanitation Division's Annual Spring Trash Bash Week will be held the week of April 16 through 20. The City of Lenoir is also conducting a contest to encourage residents and businesses to help keep Lenoir Litter Free. Additional information is available online at www.cityoflenoir.com. City Staff will participate in a Litter Free Lenoir NC on Monday, April 16.

MAYOR'S PRAYER

BREAKFAST: 9. Mayor Gibbons reported the annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast in conjunction with the National Day of Prayer, is scheduled for Thursday, May 3 at 8:00 a.m. at First Baptist Church located at 304 Main Street in downtown Lenoir. Mr. John Cooper,

owner of Mast General Store, is the guest speaker. Tickets are \$10.00 and available at City Hall.

B. ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

VII. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

VIII. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MAYOR

NOTIFICATIONS; AUTHORITIES, BOARDS & COMMISSIONS:

- A. Mayor Gibbons announced to the general public a vacancy currently exists on the Lenoir Planning Board due to the resignation of Mattie Patterson and also on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board due to the resignation of Lemuel Patterson.

Mayor Gibbons further announced the following list of individuals will be considered for re-appointment to serve on the City's Authorities/Boards/Commissions at the April 17 City Council Meeting:

Lenoir Business Advisory Board
Barbara Weiller

Board of Adjustments
James Bradshaw
Mac Martin
Tim Scobie

Mayor Gibbons also stated two (2) vacancies exist on the Board of Adjustments due to the resignation of Mattie Patterson and Merlin Perry. Mr. Perry will continue to serve as a member of the Planning Board. It was noted the members of the Planning Board serve on the Board of Adjustments.

IX. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF COUNCILMEMBERS

CLOSED SESSION:

- A. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a), (5), and upon a motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Willis, Council voted 5 to 0 to enter into closed session to discuss a property acquisition.

OPEN

SESSION: B. Upon a motion by Councilmember Rohr, Council voted 5 to 0 to re-enter into open session.

X. ADJOURNMENT

- A. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.



CITY MANAGER
SCOTT E. HILDEBRAN

CITY OF LENOIR
NORTH CAROLINA

MAYOR
JOSEPH L. GIBBONS

CITY COUNCIL
J. T. BEAL
T. H. PERDUE
J. I. PERKINS
T. J. ROHR
D. F. STEVENS
C. D. THOMAS
B. K. WILLIS

PROCLAMATION

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

WHEREAS, April 11, 2018 marks the 50th anniversary of the passage of the U.S. Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, which enunciates a national policy of Fair Housing without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, sex, familial status, and handicap, and encourages fair housing opportunities for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Catawba Valley Association of Realtors is committed to highlighting the Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, by continuing to address discrimination in our community, supporting programs that will educate the public about the right to equal housing opportunities, and planning partnership efforts with other organizations to help assure every American of their right to fair housing.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor of the City of Lenoir, North Carolina, and on behalf of the Lenoir City Council, do hereby resolve that April 2018, being *Fair Housing Month*, begins a year-long commemoration of the U.S. Fair Housing Law in the City of Lenoir and urge all citizens to wholeheartedly recognize this celebration throughout the year.

Adopted this the 3rd day of April, 2018.

SEAL

Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shirley M. Cannon, City Clerk



Tax Releases and Refunds				
April 2018				
Tax Releases				
Tax Payer	REF #	Tax Year	Amount	Reason
Lenoir Retail I, LLC	09118 1 20	2017	10,766.74	Property Tax Commission decision - Revaluation - Amount will be refunded upon approval - see attached
Tax Refunds				
Tax Payer	REF #	Tax Year	Amount	Reason
Superior Properties of Hickory LLC	#9139	2016	314.95	Overpayment
Jeffrey and Barbara Helton	#24047	2017	261.33	Overpayment
Wells Fargo Bank	#50849	2008	244.97	Release penalty and interest totaling due to closing issue

Minutes-City of Lenoir Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 3, 2018

CITY OF LENOIR
COUNCIL ACTION FORM

I. Agenda Item:

Request to approve bid to Roy Hall Construction of Lenoir, NC for a new Restroom Facility at J.E. Broyhill Park in the amount of \$68,956.06

II. Background Information:

This is part of the improvement plan at the park and is being funded with CDBG funds.

Bids: Roy Hall Construction \$68,956.06

Gary Dean Cornell \$71,830.72

Seagle Construction \$86,820.00

III. Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends to approval the bid to Roy Hall Construction in the amount of \$68,956.06

IV. Reviewed by:

City Attorney:

Finance Director:

Public Works/Public Utilities Director:

Planning Director:

Recreation Director: Kenny Story