

**LENOIR CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Joe Gibbons presiding. Councilmembers present were Jonathan Beal, Ike Perkins, Todd Perdue, Ralph Prestwood, David Stevens, and City Manager Scott Hildebran.

Communications Director Joshua Harris was also in attendance.

VIA TELECONFERENCE:

Participating via teleconference were Mayor Pro-Tem Crissy Thomas, Councilmember Ben Willis, City Attorney T.J. Rohr and City Clerk Shirley Cannon.

Department Directors participating via teleconference were Finance Director Donna Bean, Fire Chief Ken Hair, Recreation Director Kenny Story, Planning Director Jenny Wheelock, Economic Development Director Kaylynn Horn, Public Utilities Director Radford Thomas, Public Works Director Jared Wright and Garrett Stell, *News-Topic*.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

INFORMATION; FIRE AND POLICE

DEPARTMENTS: B. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons commended Martin Crisp upon his recent promotion as Police Sergeant and new hire Brian Fagan, Firefighter, upon his recent employment with the Lenoir Fire Department

CONGRATULATIONS;

BEN WILLIS: C. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons congratulated Councilmember Ben Willis upon the recent article in the North Carolina League of Municipalities (NCLM) *Southern City* magazine describing his business background and desire to become more involved with local government. Councilmember Willis is currently serving a third term on the City Council and also serves as the District 10 representative on the NCLM's Board of Directors. Mayor Gibbons commended Mr. Willis for all of his hard work and accomplishments during his tenure.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION;
RICHARD HEDRICK:**

- D. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons presented a resolution to Richard Hedrick in honor of his twenty-three years of dedicated and outstanding service to the Planning Board and the community. Mayor Gibbons commended Mr. Hedrick for helping build, grow, and expand the City during his tenure. Mayor Gibbons also presented Mr. Hedrick with a key to the City and stated this is

the highest honor the City can bestow upon a citizen.

(A copy of the resolution is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. Refer to page 181).

Mr. Hedrick stated it has been an honor to serve and thanked City Council for the recognition. Mr. Hedrick further thanked Planning Director Jenny Wheelock along with the Planning Staff for all of their support.

Director Wheelock also thanked Mr. Hedrick for his great contributions to the City and for his assistance with helping her better understand the history of the City and the Planning Board when she first accepted the position of Planning Director with the City.

FY2019-2020 ANNUAL

AUDIT REPORT: E. Eric Bowman, PA, presented the FY2019-2020 Audit Report for the City of Lenoir. Mr. Bowman reported at the end of the fiscal year, the unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$10,483,369 or 58.23 percent of total general fund expenditures for the fiscal year. This amount equals to seven (7) months of expenditures in reserve for the City.

In addition, Mr. Bowman reported the City's Enterprise Fund's net position increased by \$1,418,306.00 and commended Staff for their cost savings efforts regarding both the General Fund and Fund Balance.

Mr. Bowman shared the City's long-term debt has increased by 3% for a total amount of \$21,715,982.00, but stated that \$14,000,000.00 (64%) is at 0% interest. Mr. Bowman reported this additional debt is due to the City's Biosolids Project.

Mr. Bowman commended Finance Director Donna Bean and Staff for all their hard work regarding the budget and stated everyone with the City is great to work with. Mr. Bowman emphasized the Department Directors and Staff has done an outstanding job over the past two years at reducing expenditures.

On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons expressed Council's appreciation of City Staff and all they do for the citizens of Lenoir. Mayor Gibbons also commended City Manager Hildebran and Department Directors for using the City's money wisely and making good decisions.

City Manager Hildebran also commended Finance Director Bean for doing an outstanding job in maintaining the daily budget and operations of the City.

Councilmember Perdue commented the City was in a great financial position and further commended Mr. Hildebran and Staff.

II. MATTERS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Upon a recommendation by City Manager Hildebran, the following Consent Agenda items were submitted for approval:

1. Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of Tuesday, September 15, 2020 as submitted.
2. Closed Session Minutes: Approval of the closed session minutes of the City Council meeting of Tuesday, September 15, 2020 as reviewed by the City Council, City Attorney and City Manager.
3. Closeout; Rural Building Reuse Grant; UNC Health Care: Authorization to close Rural Building Reuse Grant for the City of Lenoir for the UNC Health Care Behavioral Facility. This project was complete as of September 3, 2020 with total expenditures of \$500,000.00. There were no excess funds (A copy of the Capital Project Budget Ordinance is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. Refer to page 182).
4. Closeout; Capital Project Budget Ordinance; Bernhardt WTP Improvements, Phase II: Approval to close the Bernhardt Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project, Phase II. City Council adopted the Capital project Ordinance on January 16, 2018 and the Project was completed on September 30, 2020 at a cost of \$9,039,576.24 and was \$1,010,423.76 under budget. (A copy of the Capital Project Budget Ordinance is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. Refer to page 183).
5. Resolution; Richard Hedrick: Approval of a resolution in honor of Richard Hedrick's twenty-three years of dedicated service on the Lenoir Planning Board.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Stevens, Council voted 7 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

OCTOBER CALENDAR:

1. By consensus of the Council, the calendar for the month of October was approved listing various meetings.

2021 HOLIDAY

SCHEDULE: 2. The 2021 Holiday Schedule was submitted to Council as information. (A copy of the holiday schedule is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. Refer to page 184).

2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE:

3. The 2021 City Council Meeting Schedule was submitted to Council for their review. (A copy of the meeting schedule is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. Refer to pages 185-186). Mr. Hildebran recommended that Council approve the two schedules as submitted.

Motion

Upon a motion by Councilmember Perkins, Council voted 7 to 0 to approve the 2021 Holiday Schedule and the 2021 City Council Meeting Schedule as presented by City Manager Hildebran.

ABC BOARD:

4. The ABC Board will conduct a virtual meeting on Thursday, October 8 at 2:00 p.m.

LENOIR BUSINESS ADVISORY

- BOARD:** 5. The Lenoir Business Advisory Board will conduct a virtual meeting on Thursday, October 8 at 6:00 p.m.

CITY/COUNTY SERVICES COMMITTEE:

6. The City/County Services Committee will conduct a live and virtual meeting on Monday, October 12 at noon.

EDC:

7. The Caldwell County Economic Development Commission (EDC) will conduct a virtual meeting on Tuesday, October 13 at 8:00 a.m.

PARKS & RECREATION

ADV. BOARD:

8. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will meet on Monday, October 19 at 6:00 p.m. at the Optimist Park Clubhouse.

EARLY VOTING; MUNICIPAL

- ELECTIONS:** 9. Early Voting for Municipal Elections begins on Thursday, October 15 through Saturday, October 31 from 8:00 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. at the Caldwell County Resource Center located at 120 Hospital Avenue, Lower Level. Early voting will also be held on Saturday, October 17 and Saturday, October 24 from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and again on Saturday, October 31 from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

B. ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

DELEGATE/ALTERNATE; NLC CITY SUMMIT:

1. City Council will choose a Delegate and an Alternate Delegate to represent the City of Lenoir during the National League of Cities (NLC) City Summit's Virtual Business Meeting to be held on Friday, November 20.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Perdue, Council voted 7 to 0 to appoint Mayor Joe

Gibbons to serve as the City's Delegate and Councilmember Ben Willis to serve as the City's Alternate Delegate at the National League of Cities (NLC) City Summit's Virtual Business Meeting on Friday, November 20.

VII. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

VIII. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MAYOR

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

A. Mayor Gibbons recommends the following individuals to serve on the City's Authorities/Boards/Commissions. The two new board appointments and one re-appointment were announced for the general public at the September 15, 2020 City Council meeting.

Marta Lazo	Planning Board	4-year term
Margaret Forney	Lenoir Business Adv. Board	2-year term
Dr. John Tye*	ABC Board	3-year term
*re-appointment		

Upon a motion by Councilmember Prestwood, Council voted 7 to 0 to appoint the above listed individuals to the City's Authorities/Boards/Commissions as described above and as recommended by Mayor Gibbons.

IX. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

CLOSED SESSION:

A. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a), (3), and upon a motion by Councilmember Perkins, which carried unanimously, City Council entered into closed session to discuss attorney/client privilege.

OPEN SESSION:

B. Upon a motion by Councilmember Stevens, which carried unanimously, City Council re-entered into open session.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Shirley M. Cannon, City Clerk

Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor



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
R. S. PRESTWOOD
D. F. STEVENS
C. D. THOMAS
B. K. WILLIS

RESOLUTION HONORING
Richard Hedrick

WHEREAS, Richard Hedrick, has served faithfully and diligently as a member of the Lenoir Planning Board since 1997 when he was first appointed to serve as an Extraterritorial representative; and

WHEREAS, Richard Hedrick went on to serve as a regular member of the Lenoir Planning Board as well as a member of the Lenoir Board of Adjustment, and recently was also an inaugural member of the Lenoir Historic Preservation Commission; and

WHEREAS, Richard Hedrick during his 23 year tenure as a Board Member, has served with great competence and made important contributions to a large variety of land development cases; including the adoption of a Comprehensive Plan, amendments to the Land Development Code, re-zonings, conditional use permits, variances, conditional zoning districts, and other planning projects; and

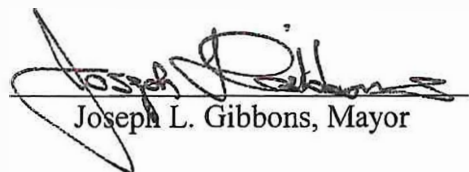
WHEREAS, Richard Hedrick is being honored and recognized for his volunteerism, devotion to the community, and his commitment and hard work;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lenoir City Council hereby expresses sincere appreciation to our friend and colleague, who, through his leadership and dedicated service to the City has earned respect and has made lasting contributions for the betterment of the City,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, I, Mayor Joseph L. Gibbons, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Lenoir, North Carolina, and on behalf of the City Council and all the citizens, do hereby extend sincere appreciation and deep gratitude to **Richard Hedrick** for his devoted and outstanding service.

This the 6th day of October, 2020.

SEAL


Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

**CLOSE RURAL BUILDING REUSE GRANT AUTHORIZED
FOR THE CITY OF LENOIR**

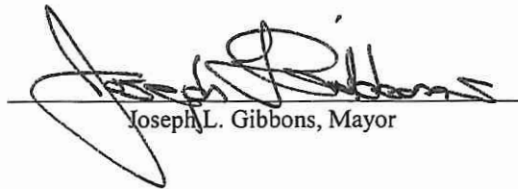
WHEREAS, the City Council desires to recognize the completion of the following authorized Rural Center Reuse Grant(s), and

WHEREAS, The City authorized the Rural Building Reuse Grant for the UNC Health Care Behavioral Health Facility on August , 2018 with a total grant from the NC Department of Commerce in the amount of \$500,000.00. This project was complete as of September 3, 2020 with total expenditures of \$500,000.00. There were no excess funds.

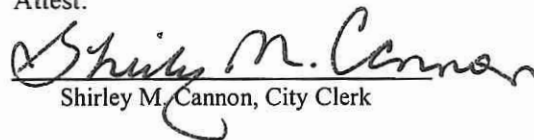
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LENOIR, NORTH CAROLINA, THAT:

The Rural Building Reuse Grant for the UNC Health Care Behavioral Health Facility is closed.

Adopted this 6th day of October, 2020


Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

Attest:


Shirley M. Cannon, City Clerk

ORDINANCE #2021-1

**CAPITAL PROJECT BUDGET ORDINANCE TO CLOSE CAPITAL PROJECT
FOR THE CITY OF LENOIR**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Lenoir has adopted a Budget Ordinance for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021, in accordance with the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina, and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to recognize the completion of the following Capital Project(s), and

WHEREAS, The City adopted the Capital Project Budget Ordinance for the Bernhardt Water Treatment Plant Improvements - Phase II on the 16th day of January 2018 with a total project budget of \$10,050,000.00. This project was complete as of September 30th, 2020 with total expenditures of \$9,039,576.24. There were excess funds of \$1,010,423.76.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LENOIR, NORTH CAROLINA, THAT:

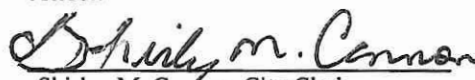
The Capital Project Budget Ordinance for the Bernhardt Water Treatment Plant Improvements-Phase II closed.

Adopted this 6th day of October, 2020.



Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

Attest:



Shirley M. Cannon, City Clerk

CITY OF LENOIR

2021 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Friday, January 1

New Year's Day

Monday, January 18

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Friday, April 2

Good Friday

Monday, May 31

Memorial Day

Monday, July 5

Independence Day

Monday, September 6

Labor Day

Thursday, November 11

Veterans Day

Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving Holiday

Friday, November 26

Thursday, Friday & Monday
December 23, 24, & 27

Christmas Holiday

CITY OF LENOIR

LISTING OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR 2021

JANUARY

City Council	Tuesday, January 5	6:00 p.m.
City Council	Tuesday, January 19	6:00 p.m.
Committee of the Whole	Tuesday, January 26	8:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY

City Council	Tuesday, February 2	6:00 p.m.
City Council	Tuesday, February 16	6:00 p.m.
Committee of the Whole	Tuesday, February 23	8:30 a.m.

MARCH

City Council	Tuesday, March 2	6:00 p.m.
City Council	Tuesday, March 16	6:00 p.m.
Committee of the Whole	Tuesday, March 23	8:30 a.m.

APRIL

City Council	Tuesday, April 6	6:00 p.m.
City Council	Monday, April 19*	6:00 p.m.
Committee of the Whole	Tuesday, April 27	8:30 a.m.

*Please note date change.

MAY

City Council	Monday, May 4	6:00 p.m.
City Council	Tuesday, May 18	6:00 p.m.
Committee of the Whole	Tuesday, May 25	8:30 a.m.

JUNE

City Council	Tuesday, June 1	6:00 p.m.
City Council	Tuesday, June 15	6:00 p.m.
Committee of the Whole	Tuesday, June 22	8:30 am.

JULY

City Council	Tuesday, July 20	6:00 p.m.
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**Only one meeting in July.*

AUGUST

City Council	Tuesday, August 3	6:00 p.m.
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City Council	Tuesday, August 17	6:00 p.m.
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Committee of the Whole	Tuesday, August 24	8:30 a.m.
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SEPTEMBER

City Council	Tuesday, September 7	6:00 p.m.
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City Council	Tuesday, September 21	6:00 p.m.
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Committee of the Whole	Tuesday, September 28	8:30 a.m.
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OCTOBER

City Council	Tuesday, October 5	6:00 p.m.
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City Council	Tuesday, October 19	6:00 p.m.
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Committee of the Whole	Tuesday, October 26	8:30 a.m.
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NOVEMBER

City Council	Tuesday, November 2	6:00 p.m.
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**Only one meeting in November*

DECEMBER

City Council	Tuesday, December 7	6:00 p.m.
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City Council	Tuesday, December 21	6:00 p.m.
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2021 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

NCLM MEETINGS**Event**

TBA

Town & State Dinner

April 21-23

Annual City Vision Conference
(Wilmington, NC)

NLC MEETINGS**Event**

March 7-10

Congressional City Conference
(Washington, DC)

November 17-20

City Summit
(Salt Lake City, Utah)