

**LENOIR CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Joe Gibbons presiding. Councilmembers present were Todd Perdue, Ike Perkins, Ralph Prestwood, and David Stevens. City Attorney T. J. Rohr, City Manager Scott Hildebran, Communications Director Joshua Harris were also present along with Candace Simmons, *News-Topic*.

ZOOM: Mayor Pro-Tem Crissy Thomas, Councilmembers Jonathan Beal and Ben Willis along with City Clerk Shirley Cannon participated via Zoom.

Department Directors participating via Zoom were Planning Director Jenny Wheelock, Economic Development Director Kaylynn Horn, Public Works Director Jared Wright, Public Utilities Director Radford Thomas, Deputy Fire Chief Kenny Nelson, Police Chief Brent Phelps, and Recreation Director Kenny Story.

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.
- B. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons asked for continued prayers for the community, nation, healthcare workers, Emergency Services personnel, Police, Fire and all the people that are currently hospitalized along with all those that have lost loved ones because of the COVID-19 virus. Mayor Gibbons informed everyone to be as safe as possible, get vaccinated and continue to wear a mask during this pandemic.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION, 100th ANNIVERSARY;
FAIRFIELD CHAIR:**

- C. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons presented John Beall, Fairfield Chair Board of Directors, and Stewart Beall, Board Member, a resolution and a framed City flag in honor and recognition of Fairfield Chair Company's 100th Anniversary.

A copy of the resolution is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. (Refer to page 331.)

Mr. Beall thanked the City of Lenoir for the recognition and support along with providing the infrastructure necessary for Lenoir's businesses. Mr. Beall further expressed appreciation to the Lenoir Fire Department for all their support and assistance in helping Fairfield to maintain their insurance rates. Mr. Beall also attributed Fairfield's success to their ability to recognize talent along with treating their employees and families well.

Mr. John Beall shared the current Civic Center was originally the furniture showroom for Fairfield. He stated he was proud of what Fairfield Chair has accomplished and commented the company is working on its next 100 years.

Gibbons stated he was proud to honor and recognize Fairfield Chair Company.

II. MATTERS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of Tuesday, September 7, 2021 as submitted.
2. Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting of Tuesday, September 28, 2021 as submitted.
3. Resolution; Fairfield Chair: Approval of a resolution congratulating Fairfield Chair Company upon their 100th Anniversary of operations in the City of Lenoir.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Stevens, Council voted 7 to 0 to approve the above items listed on the Consent Agenda as recommended and as presented 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

POSTPONED; EMPLOYEE

- LITTER SWEEP:** 1. City Manager Hildebran reported the Employee Litter Sweep scheduled for Wednesday, September 22 has been postponed due to inclement weather. The event will be rescheduled for a later date.

PLANNING

- BOARD:** 2. The Lenoir Planning Board will meet on Monday, September 27 at 5:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE

- WHOLE:** 3. The Committee of the Whole will meet on Tuesday, September 28 at 8:30 a.m. at City Hall, Third Floor.

FOOTHILLS REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY:

4. The Foothills Regional Airport Authority will meet on Wednesday, September 29 at noon at the Airport Facility.

CRUISE-IN:

5. A Cruise-In event will be held downtown on Saturday, October 2 from 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

B. ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

VII. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

VIII. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MAYOR

ANNOUNCEMENT, BOARD VACANCY;

ABC BOARD: A. Mayor Gibbons announced a vacancy on the Lenoir ABC Board due to Board Member Elizabeth Wilson moving out of state. Mayor Gibbons reported he will recommend Mr. Steven Stewart for consideration of appointment at the October 5 City Council meeting.

IX. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF COUNCILMEMBERS

X. ADJOURNMENT

1. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 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 CONGRATULATING FAIRFIELD CHAIR
ON THE COMPANY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY**

WHEREAS, Fairfield Chair Company was incorporated by W.J. Lenoir, J.H. Beall Sr. and E.F. Allen and started operating in the City of Lenoir in 1921, and

WHEREAS, Fairfield Chair Company headquarters and Plant 1 has operated on the corner of Harper Avenue and Beall Street NW in the City of Lenoir since its founding, and

WHEREAS, Fairfield Chair Company built a showroom in Lenoir on US 321 in 1970, and that building still stands as an iconic piece of architecture and still serves as the community civic center; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, Fairfield Chair Company built Plant 2 on Kincaid Circle in Lenoir thus expanding its operations, employing more residents, and adding to the local economy; and

WHEREAS, Fairfield Chair Company expanded operations again in 1997 with the first expansion of Plant 2 and in 2007 with the second expansion of Plant 2, which added cutting and sewing departments, and

WHEREAS, Fairfield Chair Company has been a great contributor to the local economy for one hundred years, providing jobs to local residents and sales staff across the country and globe and through purchases from local, state, national, and global suppliers, and

WHEREAS, Fairfield Chair Company has supported community projects, organizations, and events in the City of Lenoir and Caldwell County since its founding, providing financial and leadership support to campaigns for local hospitals, fire departments, churches, recreation facilities, Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute, Caldwell County Schools and supporting agencies, the Chamber of Commerce, and many non-profit organizations, and

WHEREAS, Fairfield Chair Company helped build Lenoir's reputation as the Furniture Capital of the South, and

WHEREAS, Fairfield Chair Company operates more than 500,000 square feet of production, warehousing, and display space, and all the manufacturing, warehousing, and company trucking facilities are located in Lenoir and Caldwell County, and

WHEREAS, Fairfield Chair Company is the ninth largest employer in Caldwell County and has provided careers and job opportunities for thousands of local residents across ten decades;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Mayor Joseph L. Gibbons, on behalf of the City of Lenoir City Council and all our citizens, congratulate Fairfield Chair Company and the Beall Family on the company's 100th Anniversary, and further, I want to thank Fairfield Chair Company and the Beall Family for working tirelessly throughout the years to keep the company prosperous, for employing so many residents, and for contributing untold amounts to the local economy.

This the 21st day of September 2021.

SEAL


Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

