

**LENOIR CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

- PRESENT:** Mayor Joe Gibbons presiding. Mayor Pro-Tem Crissy Thomas, Councilmembers present were Jonathan Beal, Kent Greer, Ike Perkins, Ralph Prestwood, and David Stevens, City Manager Scott Hildebran, City Clerk Shirley Cannon and Attorney David Lackey who filled in for City Attorney Timothy Rohr.
- ABSENT:** Councilmember Todd Perdue and City Attorney Timothy Rohr.
- CITY STAFF:** In attendance was Finance Director Donna Bean, Fire Chief Norman Staines, Deputy Fire Chief Kenny Nelson, Police Chief Brent Phelps, Interim Planning Director Ed Evans, Parks & Recreation Director Phil Harper, Public Services Director Radford Thomas, Public Works Operations Manager Jon Hogan, Downtown Event Coordinator Matthew Anthony and Communications Director Joshua Harris.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. The meeting was opened by a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance as led by Mayor Gibbons.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION;
CONSTITUTION WEEK:**

- B. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons read and presented a proclamation to Cindy Day, Executive Director of the Caldwell Heritage Museum and Regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Tuckers Barn Chapter, in honor and recognition of "Constitution Week" to be observed the week of September 17 through September 23 in the City of Lenoir. Mayor Gibbons also reported it is the 236th anniversary of the founding of the constitution.

Mayor Gibbons shared a ceremony was held earlier today at the Charters of Freedom on the square with members of the Daughters of the American Revolution and remarked he was proud to celebrate this historic occasion. In addition, Mayor Gibbons thanked the group for all that they continue to do to educate people about the history of our country.

Ms. Day thanked City Council and stated she appreciated Council's support in honoring this important document. She explained the background of how the Constitution was formed and encouraged everyone to study the Constitution. Ms. Day stated the test individuals have to take to become a natural citizen is very hard as they have to know the judicial branches and legislative bodies among other things. She commended Economic Development Director Kaylynn Horn for her considerable knowledge about the Constitution. Ms. Day also gave a brief "test" to City Council about the Constitution by asking how many representatives there were in the United States with Councilmembers giving the correct answer of 435. Ms. Day informed Council that DAR members plan to begin work on the Bill of Rights in December.

II. MATTERS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the City Council Meeting of Tuesday, September 5, 2023 as submitted.
- B. Proclamation; Constitution Week: Approval of a proclamation proclaiming the week of September 17 through 23 as "Constitution Week" throughout the City of Lenoir. (A copy of the proclamation is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. Refer to page 251.)
- C. Revised Capital Project Budget Ordinance; Crossroads Sign Capital Project: Approval of a Revised Capital Project Budget Ordinance to authorize activities for the Crossroads Sign Capital Project as submitted. (A copy of the Revised Capital Project Budget Ordinance is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. Refer to page 252.)
- D. Resolution; Helping Hands Clinic: Approval of a resolution in honor and recognition of Helping Hands Clinic's 25th Anniversary. (A copy of the resolution is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. Refer to page 253.)

Upon a motion by Councilmember Stevens, City Council voted 6 to 0 to adopt items A through D on the Consent Agenda as described above and 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

NCDOT'S FALL LITTER

- SWEEP:**
- 1. NCDOT's Fall Litter Sweep began on Saturday, September 16 through Saturday, September 30. Additional information is available online at www.ncdot.gov/littersweep.

EMPLOYEE LITTER

- SWEEP:**
- 2. The City of Lenoir Employee Litter Sweep will be held on Wednesday, September 27 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

CANCELLED;

PLANNING BOARD:

- 3. The Planning Board will not meet in September. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 23 at 5:30 p.m. at the City/County Chambers.

COMMITTEE OF THE

WHOLE:

- 4. The Committee of the Whole will meet on Tuesday, September 26 at 8:30 a.m. at City Hall, Third Floor Conference Room.

FOOTHILLS REGIONAL

AIRPORT FACILITY:

- 5. The Foothills Regional Airport Authority will meet on Wednesday, September 27 at noon at the Airport facility.

NATIONAL NIGHT

OUT: 6. The Police Department will host their annual National Night Out on Tuesday, October 3 from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in the downtown area. The public is invited to attend. There will be a number of activities available for families to enjoy.

GATEWAY

SIGN: 7. City Manager Hildebran shared the new gateway sign project would begin in around three weeks and stated representatives of Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute are meeting on Wednesday to execute the easement document to the City of Lenoir for the property where the sign will be located.

B. Items for Council Action

VII. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

VIII. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF COUNCILMEMBERS

**UPDATE; SCULPTURE
CELEBRATION:**

A. Councilmember Beal stated the Sculpture Celebration went well and there were 50 artists from around the southeast that participated. He reported around 1,000 people attended and a sponsor donated \$10,000 to be used for award money. Mr. Beal said the sculptors also appreciated all of the efforts made by the City and Staff that helped make the event a success. In addition, he remarked everyone was impressed with how great the downtown area looks.

IX. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MAYOR

A. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons thanked Attorney David Lackey for filling in for City Attorney Timothy Rohr. As information, Mayor Gibbons also reported the DRL Group was currently hosting a meeting at the former LHS Auditorium in order to receive community input regarding their master plan for The Campus.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:13 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
F. KENT GREER
T. H. PERDUE
J. I. PERKINS
R. S. PRESTWOOD
D. F. STEVENS
C. D. THOMAS

PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF CONSTITUTION WEEK

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the United States of America, the guardian of our liberties, embodies the principles of limited government in a Republic dedicated to rule by law; and

WHEREAS, September 17, 2023 marked the two hundred thirty-sixth anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and its memorable anniversary and to the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate the occasion; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating the week of September 17 through September 23 as Constitution Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor of the City of Lenoir, North Carolina, and on behalf of the Lenoir City Council and all the citizens, do hereby proclaim the week of September 17 through September 23, 2023, as "**Constitution Week**" in the City of Lenoir and urge all citizens to study the Constitution and reflect on the privilege of being an American with all of the rights and responsibilities this privilege affords.

This the 19th Day of September 2023.

SEAL



 Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

Revised Capital Project Ordinance for the City of Lenoir

Crossroads Sign

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council Members of the City of Lenoir, North Carolina that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following capital project ordinance is hereby revised:

Section 1: The project to authorize activities for Crossroads Sign Capital Project to include the expenditure of funds for the design, construction, and project administration for the Crossroads Sign Capital Project. The project will now be funded by the Lenoir Tourism Development Authority (LTDA) and ARPA revenue replacement funding.

Section 2: The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the capital project within the terms of the budget contained herein.

Section 3: The following revised amounts are appropriated for the project:

Description	Original Budget	Revision	Proposed Budget
Crossroads Sign Construction	\$165,000.00	\$341,500.00	\$506,500.00
Total Expenditures	\$165,000.00	\$341,500.00	\$506,500.00

Section 4: The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

Description	Original Budget	Revision	Proposed Budget
LTDA Funding	\$165,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$215,000.00
ARPR Revenue Replacement Funding	\$0.00	\$291,500.00	\$291,500.00
Total Expenditures	\$165,000.00	\$341,500.00	\$506,500.00

Section 5: The Finance Officer is hereby directed to maintain within the Capital Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements of the Project Ordinance.

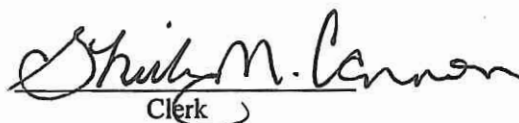
Section 6: The Finance Officer is directed to report, on a quarterly basis, on the financial status of each project element in Section 3.

Section 7: The Budget Officer is directed to include a detailed analysis of past and future costs and revenues on this capital project in every budget submission made to this Board.

Section 8: Copies of this capital project ordinance shall be furnished to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for direction in carrying out this project.

Adopted this 19th day of September, 2023.


Mayor


Clerk



CITY MANAGER
SCOTT E. HILDEBRAN

CITY OF LENOIR
NORTH CAROLINA

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Helping Hands 25th Anniversary

WHEREAS, in 1998, a group of concerned citizens recognized the need for a resource in Caldwell County for uninsured individuals struggling with medication insecurity and access to healthcare; and

WHEREAS, approximately 20% of residents in Caldwell County were uninsured and, in many cases, forced to choose between paying for medical care and medications and putting food on the table for their families; and

WHEREAS, in acknowledgement that access to healthcare is a human right and to address the growing need in our community, Helping Hands Clinic was founded in August of 1998; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Helping Hands is to improve the health of uninsured adults and empower them to engage in their wellness by providing access to healthcare, health education, and prescription medications at no cost; and

WHEREAS, Helping Hands has grown from a volunteer-driven, two-night per week service to a full-time Clinic and licensed pharmacy with a dedicated team of nine staff in addition to many wonderful volunteers; and

WHEREAS, because wellness is a holistic practice, expanded services including chronic disease management, lab services, dental care, mental health counseling, social work consulting, diabetes and tobacco education, and healthcare navigation are offered onsite at the Clinic; and

WHEREAS, providing consistent access to medication and medical care for both acute and chronic illnesses help avoid unnecessary trips to the emergency room, improve quality of life, reduce the community's cost of care, and support the workforce by keeping people healthy; and

WHEREAS, since its founding, Helping Hands Clinic has provided more than \$300 million in quality healthcare and nearly 350,000 prescriptions to more than 30,000 individuals in Caldwell County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Joseph L. Gibbons, on behalf of the City of Lenoir City Council and its citizens, do hereby congratulate Helping Hands Clinic on its 25th anniversary and thank the staff and volunteers for their devotion to the health of our community, for providing medical care and prescriptions for the uninsured residents of Caldwell County, and for empowering and encouraging their patients to practice good health. I further recognize that the services at the Clinic are acts of love, compassion, and good will.

THIS, 14th day of September 2023.

SEAL




Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

