

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINING
ROOM
TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024
8:30 A.M.**

Present: Mayor Joe Gibbons, Jonathan Beal, Todd Perdue, Ralph Prestwood, Kimmie Rogers, Crissy Thomas and Mayor Pro-Tem David Stevens.

Absent: Councilmember Ike Perkins.

Staff Present: City Manager Scott Hildebran, City Clerk Shirley Cannon, Finance Director Donna Bean, Public Services Director Radford Thomas, Public Works Operations Manager Jon Hogan, Public Utilities Operations Manager Jeff Church, Downtown Event Coordinator Matthew Anthony, Kaylynn Horn, Economic & Main Street Director, Parks & Recreation Director Phil Harper, Fire Chief Norman Staines, Police Chief Brent Phelps, Police Major Andy Wilson and Communications Director Joshua Harris.

ABC Board members present were Jerry Brooks, Dr. Jon Tye, Steven Stewart and Mike Suddreth.

I. Mayor Pro-Tem David Stevens welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

- II. ABC Audit: Jerry Brooks, ABC Board Chair stated both ABC stores had a busy year resulting in record sales along with their highest distribution on record to the City of Lenoir in the amount of \$550,000. Mr. Brooks said he was very proud of this accomplishment. In addition, he stated the Board distributed \$63,285 to the Caldwell County School system and their change in net position was \$20,571.

Mike Suddreth, General Manager reviewed their current assets and liabilities and noted there were increases in all accounts plus they did not experience any issues. Their total gross sales were \$5,414,562 with gross profits of \$1,354,108. Mr. Suddreth verified the ABC Board is a participating employer in the statewide Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS). In addition, he reported they hired one full-time position.

Mr. Brooks further reported that in 2022 their interest on investments was \$241 and in 2023 it was \$4,994. He reviewed their distribution of income for education as required by the state as follows:

Law Enforcement-City of Lenoir	\$27,188
Alcohol Education – 7% to three entities:	
Caldwell House	\$25,483
City DARE Program	\$ 8,584
County DARE Program	<u>\$ 3,997</u>
	\$38,064

In addition, Mr. Brooks stated they met the working capital minimum amount of \$161,000 as required by the Alcoholic Beverage Control law and reiterated there were no budget violations.

On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons thanked Mr. Brooks and Mr. Suddreth for the great report.

III. Citizen Comments

A. There were no citizen comments presented at this time.

IV. Committee Items:

- A. Update: Public Services: Radford Thomas, Public Services Director stated Public Utilities Operations Manager Jeff Church and he are currently working on the Capital Improvements Projects (CIP) for Public Utilities for the upcoming budget meeting. Director Thomas also shared the Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG) has made revisions to the BRIC grant. The Quarterly Reports for October, November and December were presented to City Council as information.
- B. Public Utilities Operation Manager Jeff Church presented updates on the following items:
1. **Mueller Meter Project Update:** There are approximately 480 remaining meter pending firmware updates that will be replaced as RMAs with new RDMs. These meters are scheduled for shipment by February 1, 2024. Fortiline will conduct the meter replacements.
 2. **Lenoir-Valdese Interconnect Project:** Design contract approved at last night's Council meeting.
 3. **Crossroads Sewer Project:** The project closeout meeting with NCDEQ was held on January 18, 2024. The final closeout documents are to follow in the near future.
 4. **Finley Water Project:** The geotechnical data will be evaluated and compared with previous borings over the coming weeks and the geotechnical engineer will submit the final report of geotechnical recommendations for the tank design. The proposed water system pressures are being compared with the water line plans.
 5. **Freeze and Nichols (FNI) Lead and Copper Inventory Project:** FNI will present a draft website at the January Committee of the Whole meeting. Bids are being received through 1/15/24 for a contractor to conduct service line identification. An initial Scope of Work was submitted in November 2023 and is scheduled to be approved in February 2024. Once approved, the City staff will recommend contractors to assist in performing field inspections.
 6. **Rhodhiss Flashmix Basin Repairs Project:** The bid opening was held on January 4, 2024 for the Rhodhiss Flashmix Basin Repairs Project. The unofficial low bid is from Fryessinet Company for \$844,051.50 and Staff is waiting on a recommendation letter from McGill.
- C. Public Works Operations Manager Jon Hogan presented the following update:
1. **Freeze and Nichols, 1003 Pennell St. Phase 1 Stormwater:** Survey was completed and received on 12/8, Site visit was conducted 1/08/2024. Currently Modeling culvert, tributary, and Zack's Fork Branch for 25 year storm event.

Upcoming events include Finalizing ECA (Existing Condition Assessment) and modeling 25 year storm event with existing system and developing concept plans. Schedule calls for Concept deliverables on 2/23/24.

2. **LFD Infrastructure Repair (Sinkhole):** WK Dickson is finalizing plans (Should have 100% this week). Water and Sewer permits are being submitted. Waiting to hear back from Golden Leaf about funding in February. Still looking to let for bid in early February.
3. **Hospital Avenue Sidewalk Project:** Utility relocation is still being completed, AT&T and PNG. Bid date was pushed forward due to additional funds. Project still scheduled to let in February.
4. **Greenway; Google Connection, HWY 18 Crossing and PED Counts:** Mattern & Craig has completed a design bid package for all remaining connectors that we hope to get out to bid in the next week. Hwy 18 Crossing Engineering report has been submitted to NCDOT for recommendations and approved crossing measure. Hope to design and bid this out in spring.
5. **Smith Crossroads Gateway Sign:** Sign is 98% Complete, awaiting Duke Energy to install service.
6. **23-02 N.C. Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Financial Assistance Award - Tree Canopy Cover Assessment:** City parcel spreadsheet has been submitted to Forestry Service and PlanIT Geo, Cost share agreements have been signed and submitted. Meeting with WPCOG to discuss 8th grade planting project.

V. Community Development

- A. Lenoir Business Advisory Board: The Lenoir Business Advisory Board met on Thursday, January 11, 2024 Minutes of the November 9, 2023 meeting were submitted as information.

DLR Group presented their final draft of the Downtown Lenoir Master Plan and the final plan presentation and potential adoption is scheduled for the February 6, 2024 City Council meeting.

Economic & Main Street Development Director Kaylynn Horn reported that LBAB approved two facade grants for projects located at 128 Main Street (Pour House location) and 914 West Ave (Service League location). The Downtown Lenoir Development Alliance is working on a loyalty app program for Downtown businesses to engage customers and drive traffic. Building & Maintenance and Matthew are creating a map to locate all of the holiday decor for future placement of each piece, including all the trees, as all are dependent on their unique power source. She stated that Mayor Gibbons and Mr. Hildebran also updated the Board on the City's current projects and events.

Next, Director Horn shared they were continuing to work with a firm in Hickory on the submitted design of the clock tower and mentioned there were 27 tiles available for purchase. Matthew Anthony said three new tile workshops are being scheduled.

- B. Lenoir Tourism Development Authority: The Lenoir Tourism Development Authority met on Thursday, January 4, 2024. Minutes of the November 2, 2023 meeting were submitted as information. Kaylynn Horn, Economic & Main Street Development

Director along with Downtown Community Engagement Coordinator Matthew Anthony presented a report of current projects. Downtown Event Coordinator Anthony also distributed a magnet to everyone that listed all of the City's downtown events on it.

- C. Planning Board: The Planning Board will conduct a work session on Monday, January 22, 2024. Hannah Williams, Planning Director, presented the following report. She stated Bob Teague was working on obtaining his Statewide Zoning Certification. In addition, Director Williams reported the Caldwell Arts Council has been purchased by a company that has an interest in opening a small funeral home/crematory. A brief discussion was held regarding parking should the project move forward.

Additional information given included the following:

- former bank building on Mulberry Street has been purchased.
- staff is conducting mobile home inspections
- UNC Healthcare has two new projects (expansion of pharmacy)
- apartments by Bo's will be by-right due to zoning (senior apartments planned)

- D. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board did not meet in January. Phil Harper, Parks & Recreation Director presented the following updates:

Maintenance

- Assisting at MLK Center with set up and breakdown of holiday events.
- Assisting with the cleaning of the facility.
- Continuing to work on cleanup of the storm from several weeks ago.

MLK Center

- 2nd annual Freedman Cultural Center Christmas Party attendance of 200+.
- Santa Claus is coming to town 12/21 attendance of 190 kids & 20 volunteers
- 100+ parents
- MLK Breakfast 1/13/24 120 attended - MLK Gospel Singing 1/14/24 130 attended -MLK Memorial March 1/15/24 120 attended -MLK working on events for Black History month in February

Aquatic Fitness Center

- Opening of outdoor pool scheduled for 5/25/24
- Leprechaun Leap Rack scheduled for 3/16/24 10:00 a.m. Greenway Entrance off of Powell Road.
- Indoor pool remains busy with all the HS practicing in the evening from 3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Mulberry Recreation Center

- Easter Egg Hunt 3/23/24 10:00 a.m.
- Last Blood Mobile Drive 1/2/24 20 donors/goal was seventeen
- Youth Basketball & Spring Cheer season is underway beginning on 1/22/24 in

the evenings on, Tuesday, and Thursday & occasionally on Saturdays. Games are played at MLK and Mulberry Recreation Centers.

- Pickleball is now very popular in the mornings at both MLK and Mulberry in the gyms from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

V. Finance and Administration

- A. Sanitation Division; Restructure/Job Descriptions: Finance Director Bean reviewed the job descriptions and general statement of duties for a Streets and Solid Waste Division Superintendent, Streets Assistant Superintendent and for a Solid Waste Assistant Superintendent.

A copy of all of the proposed job descriptions are available in the Finance Director's office.

The Streets and Solid Waste Division Superintendent will perform responsible, technical, managerial, administrative and supervisory work in the maintenance, repair activities, planning, organizing and directing of the Streets and Solid Waste Division.

Director Bean explained the restructure would help the City improve and be more efficient. In addition, Director Bean reviewed the job duties for a Solid Waste Assistant Superintendent and the Streets Assistant Superintendent.

Further, Director Bean recommended revising the job description for the Labor Supervisor for the Streets Division and Solid Waste.

Public Works Operations Manager Jon Hogan also explained how the restructure would work and stated these positions would become effective today following approval by City Council. He pointed out that staffing continues to be an issue.

Motion

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Councilmember Perdue, City Council voted 6 to 0 to approve the Streets and Solid Waste Division Superintendent, Solid Waste Assistant Superintendent, Streets Assistant Superintendent, Labor Supervisor Street Division, and Labor Supervisor Solid Waste Division as described above and as recommended by Finance Director Bean and Public Works Operations Manager Jon Hogan.

- B. December Financial Summary: Director Bean reviewed the Financial Summary as of December 30, 2023. The over/under balance in the General Fund is \$3,789,817.96, Downtown District (\$133,707.09) and Water & Sewer Fund \$1,318,090.74.

A copy of the December Financial Summary is attached to these minutes as information.

Director Bean stated all of the financials are on target and are where she anticipated them to be at this time.

- C. Update; Bernhardt Lease Proposal: City Manager Hildebran presented an update of the Bernhardt Lease Proposal. He explained the City has historically (30+ years) leased a portion of the Public Services Facility property located at 510 Greer Circle to Bernhardt Transportation, LLC for their maintenance garage facility.

Mr. Hildebran stated Bernhardt officials are asking the City to consider a ten-year lease term but pointed out the City's concern is space. Bernhardt's current lease expires December 31, 2024. A Resolution of Intent and Lease Agreement will be placed on the February 20 Agenda for City Council's consideration of approval of Bernhardt's request for a ten-year lease.

- D. Bids; City Hall Restroom Renovations: Staff recommends City Council award the low bid for the City Hall restroom renovations to Precision contracting Company for the sum of \$88,774.00. Purchasing and Risk Manager David Coffey stated Building Maintenance Superintendent Duke Moore and he met with four contractors and reviewed the renovation project to make the restrooms ADA compliant.

Mr. Coffey shared the City only received two bids and one no bid and recommends approval of the low bid of Precision Contracting in the amount of \$88,774.00. (A copy of the bid tabs are attached to these minutes as information.)

Motion

Upon a motion by Councilmember Crissy Thomas, City Council voted 6 to 0 to award the low bid in the amount of \$88,774.00 to Precision Contracting Company as submitted and as recommended.

- E. Update; Public Communications: Joshua Harris, Public Information Officer, stated he was currently working on several stories including the wayfinding signs project.

VI. Public Safety

- A. Update; Police Department: Brent Phelps, Police Chief, presented the following report: He commended Major Andy Wilson and Captain Couby Stilwell along with the building maintenance staff for their hard work on the renovation of the training room. The 4th Quarterly report was not submitted due to a software issue that has been resolved by IT. The report will be submitted in the February agenda packet. This month the Police Department (PD) submitted the required paperwork to NC Training and Standards. PD is still working to fill several openings. There are five openings currently in patrol. At the start of January, PD has placed the last two SRO's at Valmead and Davenport Elementary. All schools inside the City has an assigned School Resource Officer (SRO.) Command Staff is currently working on Budget Preparations.
- B. Update; Fire Department: Norman Staines, Fire Chief presented the following report:
1. Fourth Quarterly Reports (October, November & December): Fire Chief Staines stated the fourth quarterly reports were included in the packet and asked if anyone had any questions. He presented the following update on current projects:

- Fire Department will have its 5 year "Heavy Rescue" inspection on Tuesday, January 30th.
- Fire Department is continuing the transitioning from Emergency Report to ESO (Reporting Software).
- Fire Department is awaiting smoke detectors from American Red Cross. These will be installed as requested by our citizens.
- Fire Department staff is working on budget/priority planning for 2024-25.

VII. OTHER

- A. Sister Cities: Councilmember Jonathan Beal shared at the National League of Cities conference in the fall of 2022, he met individuals who are involved with the Sister Cities program. He reviewed a handout that listed what the obligations of the City of Lenoir and other parties would be should City Council choose to participate in an agreement for a Ukraine Sister City Project. City Attorney Rohr and Mr. Hildebran have reviewed the agreement which doesn't include any financial obligation from the City of Lenoir. Additional information may be discussed in the future regarding this issue. (A copy of the handout is attached to these minutes for reference.)

Mayor Gibbons also shared that Honorary Consulate Estonia Luckadoo is available at the Appalachian State facility in Hickory.

- B. February Calendar: The calendar for the month of February was provided in packet as information listing committee meetings and upcoming events.

VIII. ADJOURN

- A. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Attachments

December Financial Summary
Bid Tab for City Hall Restrooms
Agreement for Ukraine Sister City Project



**City of Lenoir
Financial Summary
As of 12/31/2023**



General Fund					
	2023-2024 Budget	12/31/2023	% of Budget	Change from Previous Year	12/31/2022
Total Revenue	\$ 22,066,505.00	\$ 14,680,155.82	67%	\$ (93,860.50)	\$ 14,774,016.32
Expenditures	\$ 22,066,505.00	\$ 10,890,337.86	49%	\$ 594,404.49	\$ 10,295,933.37
Over/Under	\$ -	\$ 3,789,817.96		\$ (688,264.99)	\$ 4,478,082.95
Downtown District					
	2023-2024 Budget	12/31/2023	% of Budget	Change from Previous Year	12/31/2022
Revenues	\$ 236,900.00	\$ 35,760.32	15%	\$ 2,188.63	\$ 33,571.69
Expenditures	\$ 236,900.00	\$ 169,467.41	72%	\$ (45,819.95)	\$ 215,287.36
Over/Under	\$ -	\$ (133,707.09)		\$ 48,008.58	\$ (181,715.67)
Water/Sewer Fund					
	2023-2024 Budget	12/31/2023	% of Budget	Change from Previous Year	12/31/2022
Revenues	\$ 10,726,980.00	\$ 5,615,106.16	52%	\$ 226,521.31	\$ 5,388,584.85
Expenditures	\$ 10,726,980.00	\$ 4,297,015.42	40%	\$ 640,071.05	\$ 3,656,944.37
Over/Under	\$ -	\$ 1,318,090.74		\$ (413,549.74)	\$ 1,731,640.48

Precision Contracting Co.
1761 Morris Creek Rd.
Granite Falls, NC 28630
Office (828) 759-3994 Mobile (828) 217-1879
Unlimited License #64428
dgray@steelconbuilders.com

To: City of Lenoir
 801 West Ave.
 Lenoir, NC

September 14, 2023

Attn: Duke Moore
 Building Maintenance Dept.

Re: City Hall Building
 Existing 8 Toilet Rooms Renovation

Dear Sir:

Per your request, see the following proposal and scope of work.

Demolition

1. In each room we will remove all hard tile, plumbing fixtures, toilet accessories, toilet partitions, electric heaters, acoustical ceilings and light fixtures.
2. All debris will be removed from site. We will protect existing areas and clean-up on a daily basis.

New Work

1. New current style porcelain tile on floors and wainscot to match existing layout.
2. Paint all walls and door frames.
3. Install new acoustical ceilings and LED light fixtures.
4. Each room will have new ADA compliant water closet and wall mounted hand sink. Each water closet will have ADA grab bars. All hand sinks will have new mirrors. Per ADA regulations, rooms will not have partition walls.
5. We will reuse the exhaust fan ductwork and install new exhaust fans; except for the basement rooms. These existing rooms don't have exhaust vents. Upon further investigation after the ceilings are removed, we can determine the option for new fans in these rooms.
6. All existing doors and hardware will remain. We will revise the door swing of Basement Women's Room. The existing windows and slate sills will remain in Women's room on 2nd and 3rd floors.
7. All material, labor, equipment, clean-up, supervision and complete insurance package. Work is based on regular weekday periods.

Total Cost of \$ 88,774.00

Exclusions: Cabinets, A/C work, work only inside toilet rooms.

Alternate for Electric Heaters

1. These existing rooms have heaters: 1st Floor Men and Women have one each, 2nd and 3rd Floor Women have two each. We have discussed the need of these heaters in new rooms. For your review, the cost of each new semi-recessed heater is \$1,108.00 each.

Thank you for the opportunity of this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Gray", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

David Gray



Quote

Swanson Construction Services L.L.C.

Daily quote: Jesus said, Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust in me. JOHN14:1

DATE:10/10/2023

4323 Leger Rd, Valdese NC 28690
 Phone 828 851.6489
 SwansonConstructionService@gmail.com
 Licensed General Contractor # 80859

City of Lenoir
 801 West Ave. NW
 Lenoir NC 28645
 Duke Moore - contact

SALESPERSON	JOB	PAYMENT TERMS	DUE DATE
West Swanson	801 west avenue Lenoir	MATERIAL DEPOSIT, REMAINDER DUE AT INVOICE	N/A

QTY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	LINE TOTAL
8	Restroom renovation / 6 will be ADA Accessible basement and first floor will have two ADA compliant unisex	20,262.48	162,099.84
	New restroom fixtures include ADA height toilets, sinks with touchless faucet, grab bars, touchless paper towel dispensers, LED lighting, new drywall, 2 coats satin finish wall latex paint, use of existing doors with privacy signage locks per restroom, accoustical		
	Allowance of \$5.01 sq ft for floor tile and 4' of wall tile in each bathroom		
SUBTOTAL			
SALES TAX			
TOTAL			\$162,099.84

Quotation prepared by: (West) Shannon Swanson

This is a quotation on the goods named, subject to the conditions noted below: Describe any conditions pertaining to these prices and any additional terms of the agreement. You may want to include contingencies that will affect the quotation.

To accept this quotation, sign here and return: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

To: Moore, Duke <dmooore@CI.LENOIR.NC.US>

Subject: Bathrooms Remodel

Duke and City Members of Lenoir

Due to the rising cost of building materials and plumbing supplies there is not a true estimate, that anyone could quote. The cost continues to change, sometimes weekly or even monthly. However, this also doesn't cover what could be hidden behind the walls and floors. There are so many variables that cannot be seen, for this reason, you can't give a true estimate.

Just want to be up front with you.

And for all the reasons above I cannot give a bid on this job.

Thank you to the town for considering me for the job.

Thank you,

Mike Simmons Construction, LLC



МЕМОРАНДУМ ПРО СПІВПРАЦЮ МІЖ МІСТОМ ЛЕНУАР (штат ПІВНІЧНА КАРОЛІНА, США) ТА МІЖГІРСЬКАОЮ СЕЛИЩНОЮ РАДОЮ ЗАКАРПАТСЬКОЇ ОБЛАСТІ, УКРАЇНА

Сторони. Місто Ленуар, знаходиться за адресою: Ленуар Сіті Холл, вулиця Західна, 801, штат Північна Кароліна, США в особі мера Джозефа Гіббонса, та Міжгірська селищна рада Закарпатської області, знаходиться за адресою: вулиця Шевченка 77, Міжгір'я, Закарпатська область, Україна в особі селищного голови Василя Щура (далі - **Сторони**) уклали цей меморандум про співпрацю (далі – **Меморандум**).

ПРЕДМЕТ МЕМОРАНДУМУ

Сторони погоджуються розвивати економічне, культурне та туристичне співробітництво, обмін досвідом, зміцнювати дружні зв'язки та, у разі необхідності, допомагати одна одній шляхом надання фінансової, благодійної та гуманітарної допомоги.

СФЕРИ МЕМОРАНДУМУ

Напрямки співпраці: економіка, муніципальні послуги, енергетика, освіта, культура, соціальна сфера, розвиток медицини, гуманітарна допомога.



COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LENOIR, NORTH CAROLINA, UNITED STATES AND MIZHHIRIA SETTLEMENT COUNCIL OF ZAKARPATTIA OBLAST, UKRAINE

Parties. City of Lenoir, located at Lenoir City Hall, 801 West Ave. NW, Lenoir NC, represented by its Mayor Joseph L. Gibbons, and Mizhhiria Settlement Council of Zakarpattia Oblast (Ukraine), located at Mizhhiria Settlement Council, 77 Shevchenko Str, Mizhhiria, Zakarpattia Oblast, represented by its Mayor Vasyl Schur (hereinafter referred to as the **Parties**) have entered into the following cooperation agreement (hereinafter referred to as the **Agreement**).

SUBJECT OF THE AGREEMENT

The Parties agree to develop economic, cultural and tourism cooperation, to strengthen friendly relations and, where appropriate, to assist each other through mutually beneficial support and charitable/humanitarian assistance in accordance with their mutual interests.

AREAS OF THE AGREEMENT

Areas of cooperation: economy, public services, energy, education, culture, social services, medical and healthcare, and humanitarian aid.

ЗОБОВ'ЯЗАННЯ СТОРІН

Сторони зобов'язуються у співпраці з місцевими органами влади створити сприятливі умови для:

1. Розробці спільних проектів та обміну кращими практиками у сферах, що охоплюються **Меморандумом**;
2. Організації спільних заходів та робочих зустрічей;
3. Обміну делегаціями відповідних муніципалітетів, неурядових організацій та ділових людей;
4. Розвитку дружніх зв'язків між громадянами двох муніципалітетів, зокрема між делегаціями в галузі мистецтва і культури, а також обміну учнями, студентами, спортсменами та іншими делегаціями;
5. Обміну інформацією про історію та життя громад (наприклад, фотографіями, аудіо та відео матеріалами) та промоцією в місцевих медіа;
6. Підтримці на міжнародних конкурсах;
7. Надання підтримки у вигляді гуманітарної допомоги в складний період. Допомога повинна використовуватись тільки в благодійних цілях;
8. Співпраця в рамках проведення загальноміських заходів; фестивалів; конкурсів та інше;
9. Кожна Сторона утримується від будь-яких дій, які можуть завдати шкоди іншій Стороні.

ТЕРМІН ДІЇ МЕМОРАНДУМУ

Цей меморандум набирає чинності з дати його підписання.

Меморандум розрахований на необмежений термін. Сторони можуть за взаємною згодою, змінювати сфери

OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES

Parties undertake to create favorable conditions through the cooperation of local authorities:

1. For the development of joint projects and the exchange of best practices in the areas covered by the **Agreement**;
2. For organizing joint events and working meetings;
3. Via exchanges of delegations of relevant public authorities, non-governmental organizations and business community;
4. For the development of friendly relations between the inhabitants of the two municipalities, in particular between delegations in the fields of art and culture, as well as exchanges of pupils, students, athletes and other delegations;
5. For exchanging information on the history and life of the Parties (e.g. pictures, audio-visual material) and advertising in the local media;
6. For providing support for international competitions;
7. For providing full support during a difficult period for one of the Parties. The aid received shall be used only for charitable purposes.
8. Knowledge exchange in organizing citywide events, festivals, competitions, etc.
9. Each Party shall refrain from any action that may be detrimental to the other Party.

VALIDITY OF THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature. The Agreement is for an unlimited period.

The Parties may from time to time, by mutual agreement, modify the areas of further cooperation, the terms of the Agreement, etc.