

**LENOIR CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Joe Gibbons presiding. Councilmembers present Mayor Pro-Tem David Stevens, Ike Perkins, Todd Perdue, Ralph Prestwood, Kimmie Rogers, Crissy Thomas, City Manager Scott Hildebran, City Clerk Shirley Cannon and City Attorney Timothy Rohr.

ABSENT: Councilmember Jonathan Beal.

STAFF

PRESENT: Finance Director Donna Bean, Fire Chief Norman Staines, Assistant Fire Chief Kenny Nelson, Economic Development Director, Kaylynn Horn, Chief of Police Brent Phelps, Planning Director Hannah Williams, Public Services Director Radford Thomas, Public Works Operations Manager Jon Hogan, Public Utilities Director Jeff Church, 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.

CONDOLENCES; WAYNE

KELLER FAMILY:

- B. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons extended condolences to the family of Wayne Keller and asked everyone to keep this family in their thoughts and prayers. Mr. Keller worked for Blue Ridge Energies for thirty years and was a well-respected member of the community.

PRESENTATION; DOWNTOWN

MASTER PLAN: C. Andrew Gale, DLR Group along with Caroline Thompson on Zoom presented an overview of the Downtown Master Plan to City Council. (A copy of the Plan is available for review on the City's website at www.cityoflenoir.com.)

Mr. Gale highlighted the City's goals and stated the Plan would serve as a guiding document over the next ten years. However, he pointed out the Plan may change as Council and Staff decide on which projects to implement first and available funding. He stated the Plan needs to have achievable goals and pointed out a vital downtown plays an important part in the process. Mr. Gale stated DLR held workshops, interviewed City Council, Staff, held community engagement meetings plus received over 800 responses from citizens and business owners to a survey seeking their input on what they would like to have in downtown Lenoir.

Mr. Gale stated they have identified open spaces such as the J.E. Broyhill Park along with areas for pocket parks including benches plus space for food trucks. He also showed an aerial view which illustrated recommendations for the four (4) downtown unique districts as listed below.

1. West District (which includes The Campus)
2. North District
3. Downtown District
4. Mulberry Street Mixed-Use District (South District)

Mr. Gale discussed parking and connectivity and noted that changing the traffic flow from one way streets to two way streets is critical to our gateways into downtown. He remarked Lenoir should experience a lot of growth over the next several years.

Mr. Gale stated The Campus (former LHS High School) would also create a number of opportunities and noted the goal is to have something people will slow down for in order to see it. In addition, Mr. Gale shared a slide featuring the LHS former band building design which will feature several levels. Mr. Gale stated they have done case studies inside and outside of our region and reiterated the Plan will be implemented in phases.

Further, Mr. Gale explained the opportunities and constraints for the Plan and reiterated the City needs open space along with activities for families. He reiterated The Plan will be implemented in phases over a ten-year period and include mixed use featuring arts, culture and programming. Also, the City will review its funding strategies.

Mr. Gale commended Main Street & Economic Development Director Kaylynn Horn and Downtown Event Coordinator Matthew Anthony for all of their hard work in the development of the Plan.

11. MATTERS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS

111. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- IV. Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the City Council Meeting of Tuesday, January 16, 2024 as submitted.
- V. Minutes; Closed Session: Approval of the closed session minutes of the City Council meeting of Tuesday, January 16 as reviewed by the City Council, City Manager and the City Attorney.
- VI. Bid Award; Old Lenoir High School Roof Replacement Project, Gymnasium & Band Building: Staff recommends City Council award the low bid of \$233,375.00 to Barger-Ashe Roofing as the lowest responsible bidder for the Old Lenoir High School Roof Replacement Project which includes the gymnasium and band building. (A copy of the bid tab is hereby incorporated into these minutes reference. Refer to pages 29.)
- VII. Resolution; BRIC Grant: Staff recommends approval by resolution to designate agents to seek funding for the BRIC grant for the City of Lenoir Resilient Wastewater Treatment Infrastructure project match as recommended by Staff. (A copy of the resolution is hereby incorporated into these minutes as reference. Refer to page 30.)

Upon a motion by Councilmember Thomas, 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

HOMELESS ISSUE:

- A. Patrick Ariztia and Alice Fueston addressed City Council and asked what the City's plans were to help the homeless population in Lenoir. Mr. Ariztia said he works with His Glory-Search, Rescue & Aid Team (STRAT) to help the homeless.

Ms. Fueston shared Yokefellow receives donations of blankets, food, and clothing, but emphasized these items were not being given to the homeless when they asked for them. Mr. Ariztia said his wife was licensed in North Carolina to work in shelters and commented he previously was arrested for buying food for the homeless.

Councilmember Perdue stated Yokefellow is a private entity and not owned by the City. He asked Mr. Ariztia what he would have the City to do regarding this issue. Mr. Ariztia said he didn't know with Councilmember Perdue asking him to bring his suggestions back to City Council.

As information, Mayor Gibbons stated several churches have recently opened warming stations since the weather has turned cold. In addition, Mayor Gibbons explained the Western Piedmont Council of Governments created a Homeless Response Team to gather data about the homeless population in order to better direct them to the places that can provide the services they may need.

Mayor Gibbons thanked Mr. Ariztia and Ms. Fueston for coming to the Council meeting.

MURAL; HARAMBEE EVENT:

- B. Parks and Recreation Director Phil Harper informed City Council he supports Lester Whittington's proposal 100% that he is going to share with Council.

Lester Whittington, Manager, Martin Luther King, Jr. Center addressed City Council regarding the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the City's Harambee Festival, which is the City's oldest festival. He stated he wrote a grant for a mural and shared a sketch of the mural designed by Hickory artist Charles Kimso. He said following approval by Council, the mural would be painted on the left hand side of the recreation center as you enter the facility. Mr. Whittington said the size of the mural will be 6' x 12' and include pictures of Dwight Perkins and Sylvia Greene, the individuals who actually started the Harambee Festival along with several other individuals. The mural will be completed by the first week of August 2024 when the festival is held and it is in honor of Mr. Perkins and Mrs. Greene. Mr. Whittington shared both of their families are planning to visit Lenoir to view the mural when it is finished.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Councilmember Rogers, City Council voted 6 to 0 to endorse the concept of the mural in celebration of Harambee's 50th Anniversary. The final concept for the mural will be presented to City Council at a later date for their consideration of approval.

V. REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

VI. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

A. Items of Information

ABC

BOARD: 1. The ABC Board will meet on Thursday, February 8 at 2:00 p.m.

LENOIR BUSINESS

ADV. BOARD: 2. The Lenoir Business Advisory Board will meet on Thursday, February 8 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, Third Floor.

CITY/COUNTY SERVICES

COMMITTEE:

3. The City/County Services Committee will meet on Monday, February 12 at noon at the J. E. Broyhill Civic Center.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

4. The Economic Development Advisory Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 13 at 8:15 a.m. at the J. E. Broyhill Civic Center.

PARKS & RECREATION

ADVISORY BOARD:

5. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee will meet on Monday, February 19 at 6:00 p.m. at Mulberry Recreation Center.

BUDGET RETREAT:

6. City Council will conduct a Budget Retreat on Friday, February 23 at 8:00 a.m. at the J. E. Broyhill Civic Center, Room 215.

BLACK HISTORY

MONTH:

7. February is Black History Month and events are scheduled throughout the month at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center to celebrate this notable occasion.

B. Items for Council Action

RESOLUTION; 2024 DOWNTOWN

MASTER PLAN: 1. City Staff recommends approval of a resolution to adopt the 2024 Downtown Master Plan with DLR Group/McGill Associates as submitted.

A copy of the resolution is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference. (Refer to page 31.)

As background information, City Council previously requested that a Downtown Master Plan featuring The Campus be prepared by the DLR Group, who engaged services from McGill Associates and Design Local. Mr. Hildebran stated City Council and Staff reviewed the Downtown Master Plan on January 23, 2024 to confirm the Plan's consistency with all other City initiatives and future projects.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Perdue, City Council voted 6 to 0 to approve the

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Minutes-City of Lenoir Council Meeting

resolution to adopt the Downtown Master Plan Update with the DLR Group/McGill as submitted and as recommended by City Manager Hildebran.

VII. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

VIII. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MAYOR

IX. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF COUNCILMEMBERS

X. ADJOURNMENT

A. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Shirley M. Cannon, City Clerk

Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

Tuesday, February 6, 2024
Minutes-City of Lenoir Council Meeting

CITY OF LENOIR
COUNCIL ACTION FORM

I. Agenda Item:

Project Bid Award: Old Lenoir High School Roof Replacement Project

II. Background Information:

Due to the current condition of the roof systems on the Gymnasium/Utility Room and Band Building/Workshop facility at the Lenoir High School Campus, staff feels that utilizing current CDBG funds to replace these roof systems is the next best step in the improvement plan at the Lenoir High School Campus.

This Project was let and advertised for Public Bid on Friday January 19th with a public bid opening date of Friday January 26th at 2:00pm.

Bids:	Barger-Ashe Roofing	\$233,375.00
	Tecta America Carolinas LLC	\$620,305.00
	Trivette's Roofing and Guttering, LLC	\$114,980.00
	<i>(This bid was considered non-responsive and non-compliant)</i>	

III. Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends awarding the bid to Barger-Ashe Roofing Company as the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder.

IV. Reviewed By:

City Attorney:

Public Works/Public Utilities Director: JH

City Manager:

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Minutes-City of Lenoir Council Meeting

RESOLUTION**DESIGNATION OF APPLICANT'S AGENT**

North Carolina Division of Emergency Management

Organization Name (hereafter named Organization) **CITY OF LENOIR** Disaster Number:

Applicant's State Cognizant Agency for Single Audit purposes (If Cognizant Agency is not assigned, please indicate):

Applicant's Fiscal Year (FY) Start

Month: **JULY** Day: **1ST**

Applicant's Federal Employer's Identification Number

56 - 6001265

Applicant's Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Number

37 - 377 - 60

PRIMARY AGENT**SECONDARY AGENT**

Agent's Name **SCOTT HILDEBRAN**

Agent's Name **DONNA BEAN**

Organization **CITY OF LENOIR**

Organization **CITY OF LENOIR**

Official Position **CITY MANAGER**

Official Position **FINANCE DIRECTOR**

Mailing Address **801 WEST AVE**

Mailing Address **801 WEST AVE**

City, State, Zip **LENOIR, NC 28645**

City, State, Zip **LENOIR, NC 28645**

Daytime Telephone **(828) 757-2200**

Daytime Telephone **(828) 757-2200**

Facsimile Number

Facsimile Number

Pager or Cellular Number

Pager or Cellular Number

BE IT RESOLVED BY the governing body of the Organization (a public entity duly organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina) that the above-named Primary and Secondary Agents are hereby authorized to execute and file applications for federal and/or state assistance on behalf of the Organization for the purpose of obtaining certain state and federal financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief & Emergency Assistance Act, (Public Law 93-288 as amended) or as otherwise available. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above-named agents are authorized to represent and act for the Organization in all dealings with the State of North Carolina and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for all matters pertaining to such disaster assistance required by the grant agreements and the assurances printed on the reverse side hereof. BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT the above-named agents are authorized to act severally. PASSED AND APPROVED this 20 day of February, 2024.

GOVERNING BODY**CERTIFYING OFFICIAL**

Name and Title

Name

Name and Title

Official Position

Name and Title

Daytime Telephone

CERTIFICATION

I, Shirley M. Cannon, (Name) duly appointed and City Clerk (Title) of the Governing Body, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed and approved by the Governing Body of the Lenoir City Council (Organization) on the 6th day of February, 2024.

Date: 2-7-2024

Signature: Shirley M. Cannon

Rev. 06/02

Tuesday, February 6, 2024
Minutes-City of Lenoir Council Meeting

CITY OF LENOIR
RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE
DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN FEATURING THE CAMPUS

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Lenoir previously requested that a Downtown Master Plan featuring The Campus be prepared by the DLR Group, who engaged services from McGill Associates and Design Local ; and,

WHEREAS, during the process, the DLR Group conducted considerable community and stakeholder engagement sessions which were included in each of the following phases of the plan: Phase 1: Project Initiation, Existing Conditions and Future Plan Analysis; Phase 2: Visioning and Initial Options Evaluation; Phase 3: Plan Development; Phase 4: Draft & Final Master Plan with Recommendations; and,

WHEREAS, a draft Downtown Master Plan was prepared based on analysis, evaluation and extensive citizen input obtained by conducting Advisory and Steering Committee Meetings; Stakeholder interviews (up to 10, including focus groups); Goals and Objectives Surveys (in person, online and bilingual); Numerous Community Meetings and Workshops held city-wide to present existing conditions and determine initial goals and aspirations (SWOT Analysis); and the Development of a micro-site for the project (bilingual); and

WHEREAS, City Council and City staff reviewed the Downtown Master Plan on January 23, 2024, to confirm the Plan's consistency with all other City initiatives and future projects; and,

WHEREAS, City Council, having thoroughly reviewed the draft Downtown Master Plan, has determined that it is in the public interest to approve this Downtown Master Plan for the City of Lenoir;

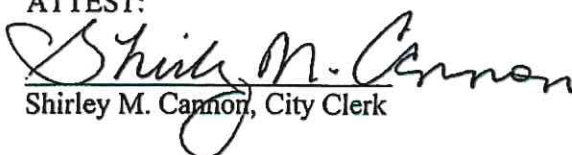
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 2024 Downtown Master Plan featuring The Campus, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and dated January 2024, is hereby approved and adopted as the official Downtown Master Plan for the City of Lenoir.

Adopted this 6th day of February, 2024.

SEAL


Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor, City of Lenoir

ATTEST:


Shirley M. Cannon, City Clerk