

**LENOIR CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2025
6:00 P.M.**

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

CITY STAFF: In attendance was Finance Director Donna Bean, Fire Chief Norman Staines, Police Chief Brent Phelps, Police Major Andy Wilson, Planning Director Hannah Williams, Parks & Recreation Director Phil Harper, Public Services & Public Works Director Jon Hogan, Public Services Public Utilities Director Jeff Church, Economic Development Main Street Director Brenda Floyd, Director of Special Projects & Grants Jared Wright, and Public Information/Communication Director Joshua Harris.

I. CALL TO ORDER

COMMENTS: A. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons asked everyone to keep Dr. Dana Clark in their thoughts and prayers as he recovers from recent surgery. Mayor Gibbons also asked everyone to continue to keep Councilman Todd Perdue and wife Kathryn in their thoughts and prayers.

Mayor Gibbons also congratulated Representative Destin Hall and wife Madison upon the birth of their son, Henry Reese Hall and wished them all the best.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

A. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons read and presented a proclamation to Police Chief Brent Phelps proclaiming the month of May as “Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month” throughout the City of Lenoir.

Mayor Gibbons thanked the Police Department for all they do each day to keep citizens safe.

Chief Phelps thanked City Council for their support and stated the Department’s goal is to promote safety and awareness of motorcycle riders on our highways.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

B. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons read and presented a proclamation to Fire Chief Norman Staines proclaiming Sunday, May 4 as “International Firefighters Day” throughout the City of Lenoir.

Chief Staines thanked City Council, Mayor Gibbons and staff for the recognition. He stated that Fire Department personnel received 3,454 calls last year and completed 4,813 training hours.

Mayor Gibbons thanked Chief Staines along with staff for all they do daily for the community.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

- C. On behalf of City Council, Mayor Gibbons read and presented a proclamation to Public Services Public Utilities Director Jeff Church proclaiming the week of May 4 through May 10 as “Celebrate Drinking Water Week.”

Director Church commended all Public Utilities employees and recognized those present. He explained that everyone in Public Utilities has the opportunity to earn different levels of certifications and read a list of names by Departments along with their grade of certification. Director Church further expressed appreciation to Staff and said they continue to better themselves and the community in addition to providing good service.

II. MATTERS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of Tuesday, April 1, 2025 as submitted.
- B. Resolution; 2024 Lenoir Local Water Supply Plan: Staff recommends approval of the 2024 Lenoir Local Water Supply Plan and following approval, the Plan shall be submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources as required by N.C.G.S 143-355(I) as presented. (A copy of the resolution is attached to these minutes as information.)
- C. Resolution; Lenoir Fire Department Truck Acquisition/BRE REDLG: Staff recommends approval of the Resolution authorizing staff to pursue United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) loan funding administered through Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation (BREMCO) for the purchase of a new 107-foot Ladder Fire Truck. Additionally, the Resolution authorizes the City Manager to act on behalf of the City of Lenoir to execute documents related to the loan application, agreement, or other related items as necessary. Should the loan request be approved by USDA to BREMCO, the City would then execute a funding agreement with BREMCO in the amount of \$1,180,000.00 at 0% interest for a seven-year term. (A copy of the resolution is attached to these minutes as information.)
- D. Resolution - Waiving formal bid/Authorizing Cooperative Purchasing Fire Truck: Pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-129(e)(3), Staff recommends adoption of the Resolution waiving formal bidding procedures and authorizing use of cooperative purchasing agreement H-GAC, Contract No. FS12-23, for the purchase of a new Ladder Fire Truck. (A copy of the resolution is attached to these minutes as information.)
- E. Proclamation: Approval of the proclamation proclaiming the month of May as “Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month” as submitted. (A copy of the proclamation is attached to these minutes as information.)
- F. Proclamation: Approval of a proclamation proclaiming Sunday, May 4 as “International Firefighters’ Day” throughout the City of Lenoir as submitted. (A copy of the proclamation is attached to these minutes as information.)
- G. Proclamation: Approval of a proclamation proclaiming week of May 4 through May 10 as “Celebrate Drinking Water Week” throughout the City of Lenoir as submitted. (A copy of the proclamation is attached to these minutes as information.)

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

IV. REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

REQUEST; SOCIAL DISTRICT:

- A. Ms. Joy Armatuccio, 626 Harper Avenue addressed City Council and said she was a local artist. Ms. Armatuccio requested City Council consider expanding the Social District to include her business and others that are located in the Jesse Plaster building across from the former Walgreens which is just beyond the Social District. Mayor Gibbons directed her to contact Brenda Floyd, Main Street and Economic Development or Ashley Smith, Downtown Event Coordinator to find out more regarding this process.

V. REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

VI. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

- A. Items of Information

NCDOT'S SPRING LITTER SWEEP:

1. NCDOT's Spring Litter Sweep began on Saturday, April 12 and ends on Saturday, April 26.

HOLIDAY

- CLOSING:** 2. City offices will be closed on Friday, April 18 in observance of Good Friday.

EARTH DAY & ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION:

3. An Earth Day and Arbor Day Celebration will be held on Saturday, April 19 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at Unity Park & Community Gardens for all ages.

BOOTLEGGER 100 BICYCLE RACE:

4. The Bootlegger 100 Bicycle Race will be held on Saturday, April 19 from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

PARKS & RECREATION

ADV. BOARD:

5. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will meet on Monday, April 21 at 6:00 p.m. at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

6. The Committee of the Whole will meet on Tuesday, April 22 at 8:30 a.m. at City Hall, Third Floor.

ANNUAL BICYCLE

- RACE:** 7. The annual Bicycle Festival will be held on Saturday, April 26 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. in downtown Lenoir.

PLANNING

- BOARD:** 8. The Planning Board will meet on Monday, April 28 at 5:30 p.m. at the City/County Chambers.

NCLM CITY VISION**CONFERENCE:**

9. The North Carolina League of Municipalities (NCLM) City Vision Conference will be held on April 29 through May 1 in Greenville.

FOOTHILLS REGIONAL**AIRPORT AUTHORITY:**

10. The Foothills Regional Airport Authority will meet on Wednesday, April 23 at noon at the airport facility.

- B. Items for Council Action

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 6:30 p.m.

Shirley M. Cannon, City Clerk

Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF LENOIR
APPROVING THE 2024
LENOIR LOCAL WATER SUPPLY PLAN**

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute 143-355 (l) requires that each unit of local government that provides public water service or that plans to provide public water service and each large community water system shall, either individually or together with other units of local government and large community water systems, prepare and submit a Local Water Supply Plan; and

WHEREAS, as required by the statute and in the interests of sound local planning, a Local Water Supply Plan for the City of Lenoir, Water System NC01-14-010, has been developed and submitted to the Lenoir City Council for approval; and

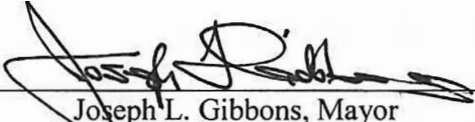
WHEREAS, the City has been approved to receive funding through Session Law 2023-134, House Bill 259, Section 12.2.(e) to construct a water interconnection between the City of Lenoir and the Town of Valdese to better facilitate redundancy and integrity of the water supply.

WHEREAS, the Lenoir City Council finds that the Local Water Supply Plan is in accordance with the provisions of North Carolina General Statute 143-355 (l) and that it will provide appropriate guidance for the future management of water supplies for the City of Lenoir, as well as useful information to the Department of Environmental Quality for the development of a state water supply plan as required by statute;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lenoir City Council of the City of Lenoir, NC, that the Local Water Supply Plan entitled, 2024 Lenoir Local Water Supply Plan, dated April 15, 2025 is hereby approved and shall be submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources; and

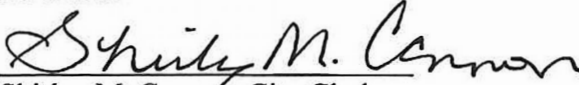
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lenoir City Council intends that this plan shall be revised to reflect changes in relevant data and projections at least once every five years or as otherwise requested by the Department, in accordance with the statute and sound planning practice.

Adopted this 15th day of April, 2025.



Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor
Lenoir City Council

ATTEST:



Shirley M. Cannon, City Clerk

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF A FINANCING AGREEMENT AUTHORIZED BY NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE 160A-20

WHEREAS, the City of Lenoir, North Carolina desires to purchase a new 107-foot Ladder Fire Truck (the "Project") to replace an existing 75-foot Ladder Fire Truck in order to better serve the citizens of Lenoir; and

WHEREAS, The City of Lenoir desires to finance the Project by the use of an installment contract authorized under North Carolina General Statute 160A, Article 3, Section 20; and

WHEREAS, Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation (BREMCO) administers loan funding from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) through the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lenoir intends to seek loan funding in the amount of \$1,180,000.00 from USDA and BREMCO for the purchase of a new 107-foot Ladder Fire Truck; and

WHEREAS, said loan funding will include installment payments over a 7-year term, with 0% interest accrued over the entire loan term.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Lenoir, North Carolina, in a regular meeting on the 15th day of April, 2025, agree to request loan funding through USDA and BREMCO, through the REDLG program, for the purchase of a new 107-foot Ladder Fire Truck.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized to act on behalf of the City of Lenoir in filing an application with BREMCO for the proposed financing contract, execution of said contract should the loan be approved, and other actions not inconsistent with this resolution.

Adopted this the 15th day of April, 2025.

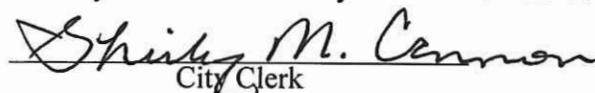
SEAL


Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shirley M. Cannon
City Clerk

This is to certify that this is a true and accurate copy of Resolution No. n/a, adopted by the City Council of the City of Lenoir on the 15th day of April, 2025.


Shirley M. Cannon
City Clerk

4-16-2025
Date

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION WAIVING FORMAL BIDDING PROCEDURES AND AUTHORIZING USE OF AN EXISTING COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF A NEW LADDER FIRE TRUCK

WHEREAS, the City of Lenoir, North Carolina, desires to purchase a new 107-foot Ladder Fire Truck to replace an existing 75-foot Ladder Fire Truck in order to better serve the citizens of Lenoir; and

WHEREAS, The City of Lenoir desires to pursue USDA loan funding administered through Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation to purchase the new Ladder Fire Truck; and

WHEREAS, the cost of said Ladder Fire Truck requires adherence to formal bidding procedures in accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-129; and

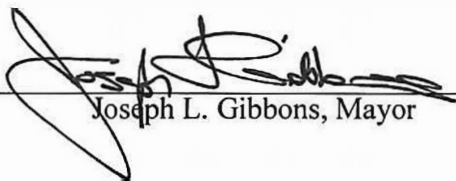
WHEREAS, in accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-129(e)(3), the City may waive formal bidding procedures and utilize an existing cooperative purchasing agreement for procurement of the new Ladder Fire Truck.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Lenoir, North Carolina, in a regular meeting on the 15th day of April, 2025, does hereby waive formal bidding procedures for procurement of a new Ladder Fire Truck.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Lenoir intends to utilize cooperative purchasing agreement Contract No. FS12-23 to establish base pricing and specifications for the new Ladder Fire Truck.

Adopted this the 15th day of April, 2025.

SEAL


Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

ATTEST:


Shirley M. Cannon
City Clerk

This is to certify that this is a true and accurate copy of Resolution No. n/a, adopted by the City Council of the City of Lenoir on the 15th day of April, 2025.


Shirley M. Cannon
City Clerk

4-16-2025
Date



PROCLAMATION

Motorcycle Safety & Awareness Month

May 2025



WHEREAS, the growth in popularity of motorcycle riding and touring, combined with the many scenic destinations in our state and the year-long riding season, have led to North Carolina having one of the largest populations of motorcycle enthusiasts in the nation; and

WHEREAS, more and more residents of the City of Lenoir are taking up this mode of transportation to commute to and from their places of employment; and

WHEREAS, many motorcyclists undergo specialized training by attending professionally taught motorcycle operator training courses with emphasis on skills, traffic laws, and proper safety equipment; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of all motorists to be aware of motorcyclists and extend to them the same courtesy as any other vehicles on our roadways.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor of the City of Lenoir, and on behalf of the Lenoir City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of May as "Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month" throughout the City of Lenoir.

WITNESS, my hand and seal this the 15th day of April, 2025.

SEAL


Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

ATTEST:



Shirley M. Cannon, City Clerk



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
K. R. ROGERS
D. F. STEVENS
C. D. THOMAS

PROCLAMATION
IN HONOR OF
INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS' DAY

WHEREAS, International Firefighters' Day is observed each year on May 4th to honor and remember past firefighters who have lost their lives while serving their communities, to express gratitude to those that have served in this line of work and to show support and appreciation for those who presently serve; and

WHEREAS, regardless of the language a firefighter speaks, or the country in which he or she works and resides, all firefighters fight against the same enemy - fire; and

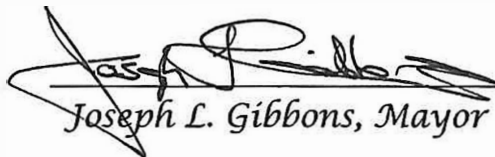
WHEREAS, firefighters follow a long line of tradition and honor that inspires them to help colleagues, neighbors and strangers alike; and

WHEREAS, the demands of firefighting are accompanied by both personal and physical tolls that all firefighters knowingly accept while risking their lives to protect the lives of others.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that by the virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of City of Lenoir, North Carolina, and on behalf of the Lenoir City Council, I do hereby proclaim Sunday, May 4th, 2025, as "*International Firefighters' Day*" throughout the City of Lenoir and encourage all citizens to show support and appreciation to our City, County, and State firefighters who protect our lives and property so diligently throughout the year and by remembering past firefighters who dedicated their lives to preserve our safety.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Lenoir to be affixed this the 15th day of April, 2025.

SEAL


Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

ATTEST:


Shirley M. Cannon, City Clerk





CITY MANAGER
SCOTT E. HILDEBRAN

CITY OF LENOIR
NORTH CAROLINA

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PROCLAMATION

IN CELEBRATION OF DRINKING WATER WEEK

WHEREAS, water is our most valuable natural resource; and

WHEREAS, drinking water serves a vital role in daily life, serving an essential purpose to health protection, fire protection, support for our economy and the quality of life our citizens enjoy; and

WHEREAS, any measure of a successful society - low mortality rates, economic growth and diversity, productivity, and public safety are in some way related to access to safe water; and

WHEREAS, we are all stewards of the water infrastructure upon which future generations depend; and

WHEREAS, each citizen of the City of Lenoir is called upon to help protect our source waters from pollution, to practice water conservation, and to get involved in local water issues by getting to know their water;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Lenoir, North Carolina, and on behalf of the Lenoir City Council, I do hereby proclaim the week of May 4 – 10, 2025 as *“Celebrate Drinking Water Week”* throughout the City of Lenoir.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Lenoir to be affixed this the 15th day of April, 2025.

SEAL


Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor

ATTEST:


Shirley M. Cannon, City Clerk