The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 7:00 PM. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 114 West Sycamore Street, Lincolnton, North Carolina.

Mayor Ed Hatley called the meeting to order, asking everyone to stand for a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were in attendance:

DEMENY	POINSETTE	TIPTON	JETTON

Councilmember Christine Poinsette made a motion to approve the Regular Agenda as presented. Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

Councilmember Jill Tipton made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Minutes of the April 6, 2023 Regular Meeting
- C-03-23 - Lincolnton Food, Wine & Brew Fest Contract - September 23, 2023
- C-04-23 - Alive After Five Concert Series Contract -May 25th, June 22nd,, July 27th, August 24th & September 14th.
- Approval of Water Shortage Response Plan
- National Skilled Nursing Care Week Proclamation - May 14th - 20th, 2023
- National Public Works Week Proclamation - May 21st - 27th, 2023
-

Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Trent Mason signed to speak under the Public Comment section of the agenda. Mr. Mason addressed members regarding the City's Parks and Recreation Department. He thanked both City Council and the City Manger for providing the necessary funds to fund the department. He also thanked staff for the various programs and projects offered throughout the year.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ZMA-3-2023

Application requesting the rezoning of 1.6 acres of land from Residential-8 (R- 8) to General Manufacturing Commercial (GMC) District. The subject property is located on the north side of Industrial Park Road approximately 250 feet west of the intersection of Industrial Park Road and North Aspen Street (Portion of Parcel ID 21502)

Planning Director Jean Derby presented and reviewed the zoning request. Ms. Derby provided some background information regarding the application and explained the reason for the request. An aerial view and a street view of the proposed site was displayed, as well as views of surrounding properties. Ms. Derby informed that both Staff and Planning Board members recommend approval of the request to rezone the property from R-8 to GMC and approval of the statement of consistency for approval of the rezoning request. If rejoining is approved, the land use plan will be amended to show the property in the Industrial Planning Area.

Although the applicant, Mr. Jeff Fletcher, was in attendance, Mr. David Ledford addressed council regarding the request to rezone the property on his behalf. Mr. Ledford provided additional information, explaining what the applicant plans to do if the request is approved.

Councilmember Christine Poinsette made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion

Councilmember Kevin Demeny made a motion to approve the request. Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

REGULAR AGENDA

O-06-23
Request from Traffic Safety Committee to consider / approve Ordinance change - Addition of stop sign at the Sycamore and N. Oak intersection

City Manager Ritchie Haynes spoke to Council on behalf of the Traffic Safety Committee, requesting to amend the City of Lincolnton Code of Ordinances as follows:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINCOLNTON TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES AS FOLLOWS:

TITLE VII – Traffic Code – Chapter 74
Schedule 1: STOP INTERSECTIONS

ADD: E. Sycamore St. and N. Oak St.

This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Councilmember Jill Tipton made a motion to approve the request as submitted. Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion

Executive Summary/Overtime Report

City Manager Ritchie Haynes presented the Executive Summary/Overtime Report on behalf of Finance Director Pamela McBryde. Mr. Haynes reviewed the summarized report as follows:

Fund 10: General Fund –

Revenue:

- 13.77% increase from prior year
- Significant increases in part to
  - * GovDeals-capital assets
  - * Interest Income
  - * Local sales/use tax
  - * Recreational registrations

Expense:

- 13.16% decrease from prior year / but the majority of this is from the ARPA reimbursement of $2,387,143.
- Areas with either increases or decreases.
  - * Capital Expense if up "'278.19% (funding with ARPA)
  - * Supplies up "'52.46%
  - * Gas is up "'38.50%
  - * Dues/Subscriptions/User Fees up "'20.38%
  - * Enterprise Vehicles Leases up "' 20.63%
  - * Salaries & Benefits are up "' 4.35%
  - * Telephone is down "' 3.91% (due to efforts by Chris to consolidate services)

Fund 20: Boger City Fire District –

Revenue:

- 3.95% increase from prior year
- Significant increases in part to
  - * BC Fire tax
  - * Citizen donation
  - * GovDeals-capital assets

Expense:

- 50.62% decrease from prior year / but that is from the ARPA reimbursement of $397,563.
- Areas with either increases or decreases.
  - * Uniforms/PPE up "'91.45%
  - * Equipment repair and parts up "'35.16%

* Salaries & Benefits are up "2.07%
* Bldg/Ground maintenance is down "58.68% *

Capital Expense is down 100%

Fund 61: Water & Sewer Fund –

Revenue:

- 3.52% increase from prior year
- Significant increases in part to
  * Water/Sewer utility customers
  * Interest Income
  * GovDeals-capital assets
  * Late fee charges
  * Insurance settlements

Expense:

- 29.28% increase from prior year
- Areas with either increases or decreases.
  * Chemical expense is up "170.01%
  * Capital Expense is up "164.61% (funding with fund balance)
  * Credit Card expense is up "44.87%
  * Gas is up "34.50%
  * Salaries & Benefits are up " 12.64%
  * Equipment repairs are down "56.17% (must of this is due to increase in capital costs)
  * Telephone is down "18.96%
  * Water service contracts are down "1.14%

Fund 63: Electric Fund –

Revenue:

- 14.38% increase from prior year
- Significant increases in part to
  * Municipal Electric
  * Electric customers
  * Interest Income
  * Insurance settlements

Expense:

- 7.94% increase from prior year
- Areas with either increases or decreases.
  * Capital Expense is up "'2407.35% (funding with fund balance)
  * Supplies up "'84.65%
  * Gas & Oil up "'51.38%

* Credit Card expense is up ‴46.72%
* Uniforms/PPE up ‴32.44%
* Salaries & Benefits are up ‴13.22%
* Equipment repairs down ‴80.71%
* Bad Debt expense down ‴60.95%
* Electricity/Electricity Rep charges down ‴9.38%

*** Capital Expense charges in the Water & Sewer Fund and Electric Fund are related to the Public Service Center purchase, several lift station repairs, and Water & Sewer infrastructure/lines.

Overtime Report

Overtime continues to be an area of concern, but most of the costs is from departmental training and vacancies that have been hard to fill.

Special Events costs have also increased since Covid is not a major factor with our extra City-wide activities any longer. We also started capturing the special events costs from other departments besides the Police Department this FY.

C-04-23 Recommendations for Chemical Company Contracts

City Manager presented the following recommendations for Chemical Company Contracts:

Water Treatment Chemicals

Liquid Alum 8.23% - Univar USA, Inc. @ $1.2490 per liquid gallon

Caustic Soda 50% - Brenntag Southeast, Inc. @ $3.18 per liquid gallon

Chlorine – Brenntag Southeast, Inc. @ $2,371.00 per cylinder

Orthophosphate 33% - Brenntag Southeast, Inc. @ $6.4670 per liquid gallon

Liquid Sodium Bisulfite (55 gal. drums) – Univar USA, Inc. @ $254.00 per drum

Activated Carbon – Univar USA, Inc. @ $52.40 per 50 lb. bag

Wastewater Treatment Chemicals

Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite 10% - Univar USA, Inc. @ $1.84 per liquid gallon

Liquid Sodium Bisulfite 38% - JCI Jones Chemical @ $2.19 per liquid gallon

Staff recommended that City Council approve the companies to do business with the Water and Waste Water Treatment Plants for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024.

Councilmember Christine Poinsette made a motion to approve the recommendation as submitted. Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS

O-07-23
Consideration of amendment to the City of Lincolnton Code of Ordinances - Title IX - General Regulations - Chapter 93 - 93.045 Offensive Matter on Premises Generally

City Manager Ritchie Haynes presented a request to amend the City of Lincolnton Code of Ordinances as follows:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINCOLNTON TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES AS FOLLOWS:

TITLE IX – General Regulations – Chapter 93

§ 93.045 OFFENSIVE MATTER ON PREMISES GENERALLY

Add text in red:

No owner or occupant of any premises shall suffer to remain on premises owned or occupied by the person any decayed animal, vegetable matter, human waste or any other thing which may be offensive or injurious to the health of persons in the vicinity; nor shall any person place or throw offensive matter upon any street or alley or upon the premises of another person.

This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Councilmember Roby Jetton made a motion to approve the request. Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

Official presentation of the 2023-2024 Budget - Proposed Fee Schedule - Budget Message ***(NOTE: The Public Hearing will be held at the June 1, 2023 meeting where Council will consider adoption of the proposed budget, which will include the fee schedule)***

City Manager officially presented the Budget Message, the proposed 2023-2024 Operating Budget and 2023-2024 Fee Schedule. Mr. Haynes spoke to and reviewed the 2023/2024 CMO Recommendation/ Highlights as follows:

2023-24 CMO Recommendations/Highlights

General Fund S

- New Tax Rate - $.50
- Total General Fund Budget - $14,457,785
- Property Tax Revenue - $7,050,000
- Sales Tax Revenue - $4,700,000
- Pay Study Group C - $197,327 ***(Includes same from W&S and Electric)***
- Replace 13 vehicles- Enterprise
- Allot $55,000 to Police Department for Capital
- Allot $45,000 to Fire Department for Capital
- Allot $250,000 to City Hall for a New Roof
- Allot $100,000 toward the New PSC
- Allot $105,000 to Planning Department for Capital
- Allot $15,000 to Street Department for Capital
- Allot $10,000 to I.T. Department for Capital
- Allot $142,000 to Parks & Recreation for Capital
- Increased infrastructure funding by over $400,000
- Fund Balance Available $5.4M ***(per FY2022 financial statements)***

Water and Sewer Fund S

- No rate increase
- Allot $290,000 to Water Treatment Plant as follows:
- Allot $302,500 to Waste Water Treatment Plant as follows:
- Allot $351,000 to Distribution and Collection as follows:
- Fund Balance Available $5.5M ***(per FY2022 financial statements)***

Electric Fund S

- No rate increase
- Allot $460,000 to Electric Department for Capital as follows:
- System Maintenance - $300,000
- Fund Balance Available $6.3M ***(per FY2022 financial statements)***

CM0 Recommendations 2022-23

Powell Bill Fund $

- Paving of City Streets- $166,300
- Maintenance of City Streets- $120,000
- Debt Payment - $39,700
- Fund Balance Available $314,000 ***(per FY2022 financial statements)***

Boger City Fire District Fund $

- Total Budget - $1,483,000

- Capital- $45,000

Mr. Haynes offered to answer any question from Council regarding what as presented.

Councilmember Christine Poinsette made a motion to set a Public Hearing to be held on June 1, 2023, to take place prior to the adoption of the budget and fee schedule. Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

NEWS MEDIA

Floor was open for question for new media present.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Councilmember Roby Jetton made a motion to adjourn. Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

___________________________	___________________________
Daphne Ingram, City Clerk	Ed Hatley, Mayor

Executive Summary (March 2023 YTD -vs- March 2022 YTD):

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