REGULAR MEETING – May 1, 2025

The Lincolnton City Council met in Regular Session on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 114 West Sycamore Street, Lincolnton, NC.

The following Council members were present and accounted for:

DEMENY JOHNSON TIPTON JETTON

Mayor Ed Hatley called the April 3rd City County meeting to order. He asked Luke Haynes, Chair of the Student Advisory Committee, to come forward and lead the pledge of allegiance.

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

Councilmember Roby Jetton made a motion to approve the CONSENT AGENDA items as follows:

- April 3, 2025 – Regular Meeting Minutes
- Lincoln County Tax Department – Request for Release for March 16, 2025 to April 15, 2025
- C-09-25 – Consideration of Contract with Downtown Development Association for the 2025 Alive After Five Series
- C-10-25 – Consideration of Display proposal and Contract for Pyro Shows from East Coast Pyrotechnics for July 4th, 2025 Fireworks Show
- Proclamation – Firefighter Appreciation Day – May 4, 2025
- Proclamation – Professional Municipal Clerks Week – May 4th – 10, 2025
- Proclamation – National Skilled Nursing Care Week – May 11t – 17th, 2025
- Proclamation – National Police Week May 11th – 17th, 2005
- Proclamation – National Public Works Week – May 24, 2025

Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Members of the 2024-2025 Lincolnton Student Advisory Council were in attendance and were recognized. Advisor Jill Eaddy thanked Council for allowing the students to share the various things they were involved in this year. She explained the purpose of the council and spoke to the excellence of the group as a whole. Mrs. Eaddy introduced each of the students by school. She asked the students parents to stand as

well. Members were given a city lapel pen and each of the seniors announced the college selected to attend and their future plans. Mayor Hatley expressed words of encouragement. As they displayed a slideshow created by one of the members, Students described the many projects, activities and events they worked on and spoke to the positive impact that came from their involvement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Ed Hatley opened the floor for public comments. Frank Keenan, Trent Mason and Alan "Gunny" Hoyle signed up to speak. Individuals were given three (3) minutes to express their views and opinions on a variety of issues.

PUBLIC HEARING

CZ-3-22025
Application from Greenway Residential Development LLC, requesting a Conditional District Rezoning of approximately 8.7 acres of land from the Planned Business (PB) District to the Planned Residential Development (PRD) District for the purpose of constructing a 60 unit Multi-Family Development. The subject properties are located on the east side of South Generals Blvd and the west side of Jerry Crump Road, approximately 150 feet south of the intersection of Jerry Crump Road and Country Club Road (Parcel ID 55188, 18143, 18170 and a portion of 55187)

Mayor Ed Hatley opened up the Public Hearing recognizing Zoning Administrator Ashley Jones who announced that the applicant has fully withdrawn his request for the Conditional District Rezoning for the apartment complex. Due to the application being withdrawn, Ms. Jones explained that there was no need for a public hearing on this item.

ZTA-2-2025
Zoning Text Amendments to Chapter 153 Unified Development Ordinance

Zoning Administrator Ashley Jones presented a number of proposed text amendments in an attempt to clean up Code of Ordinance. She explained that these amendments will simplify and make the Code of Ordinances more user friendly and easier to read. Ms. Jones addressed each section and the proposed changes and offered to answer any questions from members of the governing body.

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

Councilmember Jill Tipton made a motion to approve the text amendment changes as outlined. Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

REGULAR AGENDA

Update on Current LEDA Activities

Mr. Cliff Brumfield, LEDA Director, provided the Mayor and City Councilmembers with an update on recent business activity in Lincolnton. Mr. Brumfield highlighted various new small businesses that have come to the downtown. He spoke to the continued partnership with education, the recent round of Lincoln County School student tours, the recent expansion of Spankek. Mr. Brumfield concluded his report offering to answer any questions.

BA-05-25
Budget Amendment to the Annual Budget Ordinance
For the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2025

In the absence of Finance Director Pamela McBryde, City Manager Ritchie Haynes presented an amendment to the annual budget ordinance for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 for Council's approval.

Mr. Haynes reported for the General Fund, five lease vehicles were added to the City's capital assets in the amount of $196,051.00. A cyber security grant in the amount of $110,000, investment interest in the amount of $50,484 and an interlocal safety grant for the Fire Department in the amount of $4,568.91.

He continued requested that $63,649 be added to the Water and Sewer Fund, as well as $29,190 be added to the Electric Fund

Councilmember Roby Jetton made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment as presented. Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion

P-05-25
Consideration of Approval of Amendments to Shelter Rental Policies and Procedures

Public Services Director Nathan Eurey presented several proposed amendments to the policies and procedures currently being used as guidance for renting the City's park shelters. Mr. Eurey identified the proposed verbiage to be added, which was indicated in red, and explained the reasons for these suggested changes. He offered to answer any questions from the governing body. There was some discussion.

Councilmember Kevin Demeny made a motion to approve the amendments to the Shelter Rental Policies and Procedures. Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS

Official Presentation of the 2025-2026 Budget, Proposed Fee Schedule and Budget Message

City Manager Ritchie Haynes presented the proposed 2025-2026 budget, totaling $39,186,525.00, to the governing body. Mr. Haynes read the statutorily required statement, after which he spoke to each of the major funds. Mr. Haynes is proposing a General Fund budget of $19,665,458 and that there will be no tax rate increase. He reminded Council that the Boger City Fire District revenue received is included in that amount. He also reported a proposed Water & Sewer Fund budget of $10,258,200, an Electric Fund budget of $8,872,867 and a Powell Bill budget of $390,000.

Mr. Haynes mentioned scheduling an additional work session to iron out several items prior to the approval of the budget. There was a consensus among council members to schedule another work session on Friday, May 23rd @ 10:00 a.m.

City Manager Ritchie Haynes took this time to commend city officials for making the hard decisions, and city staff for a job well done in the area of budgeting city funds. He also stated that a copy of the budget will be available in the clerk's office for public inspection.

City Manager's Update / Activity Report

City Manager Ritchie Haynes gave a brief report to members, highlighting dates and individuals featured in the City Page. Mr. Haynes announced a planned Movie In the

Park summer series, which will be sponsored by the Lincolnton Recreation Department as well as the upcoming Alive After Five concert series. He also announced two new employees featured in the City Page newsletter and several promotions and certifications.

City Attorney's Report

City Attorney John Friguglietti presented his first City Attorney's report, with the intention of providing a report every month going forward. Mr. Friguglietti began by explaining why he felt this needed to become a part of the monthly meeting agenda. He stated his desire to clean up several items in the litigation section, as well as his desire to point out some important tax issues and other things that need to be addressed. Mr. Friguglietti gave detailed information on each of the issues and spoke to his position and stance as the City Attorney. He also spoke to the upcoming cruise-in, noting that funds go to support drug court participants.

NEWS MEDIA

Mayor Ed Hatley recognized all news media that were in attendance. Staff addressed and answered several questions from Mike Powell with the Lincoln Times News.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss, Mayor Ed Hatley asked for a motion to adjourn. **Councilmember Jill Tipton made the motion. Members voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.**

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DAPHNE INGRAM, CMC **ED HATLEY**
CITY CLERK **MAYOR**