CITY OF LENOIR
COUNCIL ACTION FORM

I. Agenda Item: Authorizing Resolution for NC Department of Commerce Building Reuse Grant Submission for "Project Pillar"

II. Background Information: The Building Reuse Program under the Rural Grants/Programs Section of the North Carolina Department of Commerce provides grants to local governments to support the following activities that will spur economic activity that will create jobs:

- The renovation of vacant buildings
- The renovation or expansion of a building occupied by an existing North Carolina company wishing to expand in their current location
- The renovation, expansion or construction of health care entities that will lead to the creation of new, full-time jobs.

The City is currently working with Caldwell County Economic Development (CCED) to apply for a Building Reuse Grant to provide funds to assist in the development and implementation of "Project Pillar" in support of the company's planned consolidation and expansion of manufacturing operations at its existing facility in Lenoir. The grant request will be for $165,000. The local government 5% ($8,250) grant match requirement will be provided through the Caldwell County Sales Tax Reinvestment Fund for the project

As part of this project, Project Pillar will consolidate operations from its Massachusetts facility into its Lenoir location. This consolidation will expand production capacity and operating activity at the Lenoir plant while improving facility utilization across the company's manufacturing footprint.

The project is expected to increase the Lenoir workforce from approximately 90 employees to about 130 employees and support annual sales growth from approximately $40 million to $75 million.

The company expects to create 37 new full-time jobs in Lenoir as a result of the project. These positions will support expanded manufacturing, logistics, materials handling, supervision, and quality-control activities required to absorb the additional production work being transferred to Lenoir from out of state. The average salary for these positions is projected at $55,727.

The resolution confirms the City's support for the project, authorizes the City Manager to execute and file the application with the NC Department of Commerce, and confirms the City's commitment to meet the required 5% local government match.

III. Staff Recommendation: City Council consider and adopt the Authorizing Resolution for NC Department of Commerce Building Reuse Grant Submission for "Project Pillar" with the City of Lenoir serving as the formal applicant, as required by grant regulations. The local government 5% ($8,250) grant match requirement provided through the Caldwell County Sales Tax Reinvestment Fund for the project.

IV. Reviewed by:

City Attorney:
City Manager:

Project Pillar Building Reuse Project
Authorizing Resolution

Whereas, Ashley Bolick, Director of Caldwell County Economic Development, has been working with a local manufacturing company to relocate certain assets and expand manufacturing operations at its existing facility in Lenoir; and

Whereas, the North Carolina Department of Commerce Building Reuse Grant requires a local government to serve as the formal applicant for State grant funds on behalf of the Company; and

Whereas, this project will result in the creation of new jobs and private investment at the Company's Lenoir facility; and

Whereas, the City of Lenoir wishes to assist with this project by serving as the local government applicant for a Rural Building Reuse Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Lenoir that the City Council supports Project Pillar; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Lenoir will meet the local government 5% match requirement, in the amount of $8,250, through the Caldwell County Sales Tax Reinvestment Fund for the project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Scott Hildebran, City Manager, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the City of Lenoir with the North Carolina Department of Commerce for grant assistance in support of the project described above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Lenoir has substantially complied with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and the grants pertaining thereto.

Adopted this the _____ day of June, 2026 in Lenoir, North Carolina.

Seal:

Attest:

_____ _____

Lauren Hartley, City Clerk Joseph L. Gibbons, Mayor