The Lincolnton City Council met in Regular Session on Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 114 West Sycamore Street, Lincolnton, NC.

Mayor Ed Hatley opened the meeting with a moment of silence and leading the pledge of allegiance. The following Council members were present and accounted for:

DEMENY POINSETTE TIPTON

NOTE: Councilmember Roby Jetton was not in attendance.

Councilmember Jill Tipton made a motion to approve the Regular Agenda as amended, to include item #4d, Insurance Pool Safety Grant. Mayor Hatley also asked for a motion to appoint four at-large members to the Lincolnton Student Advisory Council. Councilmember Christine Poinsette made the motion. Members voted 3-0 in favor.

Councilmember Christine Poinsette made a motion to approve items listed under the *CONSENT AGENDA* as follows:

- August 1, 2024 – Regular Meeting Minutes
- Lincoln County Tax Department – City Releases July 16th to August 15th, 2024
- Planning Board Appointment – Jerry Hoffman (to fill and unexpired term)
- R-10-24 – Resolution to Authorize and Direct City Attorney to petition for court order directing compliance with order from code enforcement officer regarding the health and sanitation ordinance for 769 Brady Branch Trail.

Members voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Hatley opened the floor for the public comment. Mr. Trent Mason, 207 Mockingbird Lane, addressed council during the public comment position of the meeting. Mr. Mason gave an update on the Young Adults Committee and where they are in planning for the Apple Drop. He also spoke to the success of several of the events recently held in the downtown, he mentioned a few of the new businesses opening and he, once again, asked for more soccer balls.

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PROCLAMATION PRESENTATION:

Mayor Ed Hatley presented the following proclamation in recognition of Constitution Week 2024 to Ms. Fran Goins, representing the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)

WHEREAS: September 17, 2024, marks the two hundred and thirty-seventh anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS: It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and its memorable anniversary; and to the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate the occasion; and

WHEREAS: The Constitution of the United States of America, the guardian of our liberties, embodies the principles of the limited government in a Republic dedicated to rule by law; and

WHEREAS: Public law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17th through 23rd as Constitution Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ed Hatley, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Lincolnton do hereby proclaim the week of September 17th through 23rd as

CONSTITUTION WEEK

and urge all citizens to study the Constitution and reflect on the privilege of being an American with all the rights and responsibilities which that privilege involves.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Lincolnton to be affixed this 5th day of September of the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-four.

Mayor Hatley spoke to the importance and significance of the constitution and of this annual presentation. Ms. Goins expressed her appreciation to the Mayor and council for taking the time to recognize Constitution Week.

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SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Ed Hatley called both Chief Ryan Heavner and Chief Brain Greene, forward to present several individuals with life-saving certificates for their combined efforts and assistance during a medical emergency on the Lincolnton Rail Trail in June. Randy Carrol, Hunter White, Cody Smith, Lee Hansen and Mitchell Higdon, were all recognized and applauded for a job well done. A friend of the family spoke on behalf of the family to express their sincere thanks and gratitude to those that helped in any way.

REGULAR AGENDA:

C-16-24
Consideration/Approval of Contract with Withers Ravenel for Task Order No. #1 for Professional Services, Financial Analysis, CIP and Rate Study 2024

Business Services Director David Ramsey addressed council to request approval of a contract with Withers's Ravenel, an on-call architectural and engineering firm. Mr. Ramsey explained the company's expertise in water and sewer infrastructure. He also spoke to the key role they can play in assisting with creating the City's next Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), and conducting a rate study.

Councilmember Christine Poinsette made a motion to approve the contract. Members voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

R-11-24
Resolution of Tentative Award – Rehabilitation Clarifiers and RAS Pumps

Finance Director Pamela McBryde spoke to this item, requesting approval of a resolution regarding a state emergency loan. Ms. McBryde explained that the resolution was the last requirement needed to officially get the bid approved from Charles Underwood to refurbish the clarifiers at the wastewater treatment plant.

Councilmember Kevin Demeny made a motion to approve. Members voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

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R-12-24
Resolution Authorizing the Application for the 2024-2025 North Carolina League of Municipalities Safety Grant Funds

Fire Chief Ryan Heavner appeared before the council to request permission to move forward and apply for 2024-2025 safety grant funds through the NC League of Municipalities. Chief Heavner explained that the grant funds will be used to purchase fifty (50) pedestrian blockades(with carriers), which will be used for special events. He also informed that it is a 50/50 matching grant, with the city having about $4,800.00 invested. Resolution is as follow:

WHEREAS, the Lincolnton Fire Department is requesting to submit an application for a matching grant to the NC League of Municipalities Safety Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina League of Municipalities is currently accepting grant request, which must be submitted by November 30, 2024 close date; and

WHEREAS, the Safety Grant Program has allotted $100,000 in each pool to help members purchase equipment and services that will significantly reduce the potential for future workers' compensation, property/casualty, or liability insurance claims.; and

WHEREAS, members are eligible for up to $5,000 in matching grants for each pool in which they participate; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Lincolnton that the Lincolnton Fire Department has permission to apply for grant funds to the NC League of Municipalities Safety Grant Program; and that upon receiving said grant funds, the City will provide a 50/50 match as required.

Adopted this the 5th day of September 2024

Councilmember Jill Tipton made a motion to pursue submitting grant application. Members voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

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2024-2025
Student Advisory Council Appointments

Mayor Ed Hatley directed councils' attention to the list of names of students to be appointed to the 2024-2025 Lincolnton Student Advisory Council. Mayor Hatley reminded members of the earlier motion and approved to appoint four (4) at-large members to this year's council as follows:

Councilmember Demeny nominated Abigail Barkley
Councilmember Poinsette nominated Rhyan Ingram
Councilmember Tipton nominated Hallie Black
Mayor Hatley nominated Jack Unrath

Nominated students as follows:

Lucas Moretz	Seraphina Shutt	Adleigh Sutton	Cooper Boyles
Aynsley Howard	Luke Haynes	Grant Mullen	Peyton Schmidt
Estrella Nieto	Harold Garcia	Ryan Walsh	Bailey Farabaugh
Mabel Clark	Kyrsten Castilloux Turner		Caitlin Kane
Campbell Barker	Kendria Bynum	Jake Tweed	Emily Morris
Sarah Rhyne	Rohit Cala	Cheyenne Barbato	

Councilmember Kevin Demeny made a motion to approve the four (4) at large, as well as the entire list (of nominees). Members voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Manager's Activity Report / Update

Mayor Ed Hatley recognized City Manager Ritchie Haynes who gave members a brief update on the activities and projects currently underway. Mr. Haynes recognized Pamela McBryde for graduating from the Public Executive Leadership Academy and Denise Coltrane for completing the Cash Management and Investment of Public Funds course. He also acknowledged Bryson Caldwell, Chad Hatmaker, Clayton Hunsucker, Caleb Little, Jack Bennis and Daniel Perry for their respective promotions/certifications recently attained.

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News Media

Mayor Ed Hatley opened the floor to questions from the media that were in attendance. In response to a question from Mike Powell, staff writer for the Lincoln Times News, City Manager Ritchie Haynes explained the purpose of the special meeting held at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Haynes stated that the meeting was basically to introduce department heads and city council to process and getting their feedback.

Adjournment

Councilmember Christine Poinsette made motion to adjourn. Members voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

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

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