

**CITY OF LYNDON
CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024**

Mayor Brent Hagan called the Caucus Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Those present: Susan Barto, Mardy Sidebottom, Jenny Benner, Carla Nalley, Becky Ricketts, Vicki Stanley, Amy Stuber and Attorney John Singler. Guests were also present.

Mayor Hagan allowed Councilmember Vicki Stanley to start off meeting by giving a Police Headquarters Building Committee report with findings from the three meetings held. In summary, after meeting with LMH with their recommendations on reducing scope of work to save money, Ms. Stanley reported the architects submitted an alternative scope, estimating cost savings of \$608,400. The fee to redesign the plan is \$24,000. She also listed the amount of savings for major changes. Discussion was held. Councilmember Amy Stuber made it clear this is just an estimate and the project will need to be re-bid. Ms. Stanley added original bids will need to be rejected. Ms. Stuber stated if this was Metro they would have thrown out the approved bid from Schafer because initial requirements weren't met. Discussion was held about project management.

The Mayor went through the list of changes and costs. Finishing part of the basement for the gym is one of the areas the committee looked at omitting. The Mayor gave his opinion on the need to provide a gym and would like to focus on health and wellness of the officer. Ms. Stuber believes their presence in the community at other gyms would be beneficial. Chief Schroeder who was in attendance was asked his opinion and he believes most officers do not use the free memberships provided to them, they would use one closer to home if the gym is not provided at the department. He also stated, fitness is a big aspect of being on the force. The Mayor asked why the need to wait to only add these areas later when costs will go up and we spend more money. Ms. Stuber wants to be responsible with tax payers money now and believes we need to have a vision on where this department is going. She asked the Mayor if the townhall meeting with businesses was conducted as stated and he replied it was not. The Mayor made it clear that she has a vote and does not have to approve anything she does not see fit.

Councilmember Mardy Sidebottom asked if the committee feels like the savings from the alternate plan is not as much as they hoped for. Ms. Stuber stated she feels that \$600,000 is a lot of money. Ms. Sidebottom clarified that to a project of this size, it seems much is being lost in the revisions for that amount of money. Discussion was held. It was confirmed after committee members made comments about the changes, that LMH is bringing alternates bids with and without revisions so council can decide what they want to save on.

Mayor Hagan asked City Attorney, John Singler if council should take action on anything Monday night. Mr. Singler stated he will draft up a municipal order that is very specific and will send to council with attachments from LMH. It will also include a recommendation by the committee to the council for the redesign. Ms. Stuber asked if initial bid will be thrown out and Mr. Singler said it will be a part of the municipal order to do so and approve the revision cost of

\$24,000. Councilmember Susan Barto asked if the city has considered loans for the project. Mr. Singler explained the KLC bond program they release each year. He stated it is a simple and cost effective program to get a loan for the full project that is payable over a time period. He also mentioned conventional financing and suggested the council to compare the terms and interest and decide which is best. Ms. Stanley asked the Mayor if the basement plan was added back in, if he is in agreeance with the façade change. Mayor Hagan stated he never intended any of renderings to be permanent and the council has the ultimate decision. He does think most of the basement should be usable to some degree.

Ms. Ricketts stated she agrees with Ms. Stuber to have a plan for the Police Department. Council member, Carla Nalley asked to define “plan”. Ms. Stuber referenced ideas from the International Association of Chief of Police regarding a mission statements and strategies for growth so that we can budget appropriately. Ms. Nalley stated her opinion that she believed the city does predict what is needed for the budget already, every year. Discussion was held. The Mayor reiterated they desire a plan, their plan is to identify the budget needed for the police and the decisions made on how to spend that budget is the administrative responsibility within reason. He also stated there is a mission statement for the police department that hasn’t been officially posted. He also stated a preliminary draft of the budget will be sent to them soon for review. The recommendation comes from the committee but the council will approve that recommendation. Councilmember Jenny Benner pointed out there is a timeline set forth by LMH on the drawings they will prepare and re-bidding specifications. The municipal order will be on the agenda for Monday’s Council Meeting for action.

Mayor Hagan informed council there may be a first reading of an ordinance on the agenda to amend the occupational tax penalty section to be consistent with KRS for the percentage of interest on late payments. Mayor told council to look for a draft of that ordinance on email.

A few announcements were made. The Mayor mentioned Lyndon was awarded the Tree City USA for a 22nd year and the Easter event is March 30th from 12-3pm.

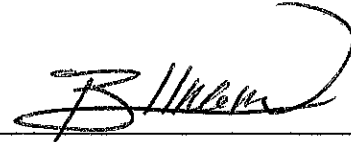
Ms. Stuber noticed on Ordinance 6-27-22A Repealing and Replacing City Ordinance Relating to the Establishment of the Police Department in Lyndon – Section 36.05 mentions a Safety Director and asked if that was in the plan. Mr. Singler informed her the idea was taken from the transition from Graymoor-Devondale to Lyndon. He explained the council may want to consider having a Police Steering Committee instead and to research both methods and decide which is best.

Ms. Benner inquired about video recording the meetings and adding them to the website. She feels information is lost in the minutes and feels it would protect the council if there were ever questions. Mr. Singler said he represents other cities that have live-streams and it can be done. Costs and equipment will be researched.

Ms. Ricketts and Ms. Stanley asked for explanation on several payments on the check register list that is provided each month. Mayor answered all her questions.

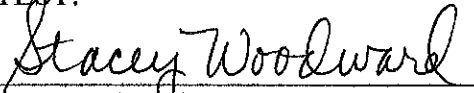
Mayor Hagan opened the floor up for public to speak. A guest, Christine Poema, who lives in Graymoor-Devondale, but works at UPS attended to voice concerns about the occupational tax. She explained her hardships with caring for her ailing husband and expenses and ask the council to consider lowering it in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.



Brent Hagan, Mayor

ATTEST:



Stacey Woodward, City Clerk