



City of Lowell
Council Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM
City Hall
101 W. First Street
Lowell, North Carolina 28098

1: General

- 1A. Call To Order
- 1B. Invocation / Pledge of Allegiance
- 1C. Adoption of Agenda for this Meeting
- 1D. Public Comments

2: Approval of Minutes

- 2A. Approval of Minutes 06-11-2024(p. 3-25)

3: Special Presentation

- 3A. P 05-2024 Designation of July as Parks and Recreation Month (p. 26-27)
- 3B. Special Recognition for Scott Attaway by John Torbett, North Carolina State Representative

4: Consent Agenda

- 4A. Planning Report (p. 28-29)
- 4B. Stormwater Report (p. 30)
- 4C. Finance Report (p. 31-33)
- 4D. Parks and Recreation Report (p. 34-35)
- 4E. Police Report (p. 36)
- 4F. Public Works Report (p. 37)
- 4G. Approval of Willow Creek Meadows Construction Administration Task Order (p. 38)
- 4H. Approval of Spencer Ridge Construction Plan Review Task Order (p. 39)

5: Unfinished Business

6: New Business

- 6A. Consideration of MOU for Lowell Athletics to be Administered by the Gaston County Family YMCA (p. 40-44)
- 6B. Consideration of Personnel Position Update (p. 45-47)
- 6C. Consideration of Budget Amendment #25 FY 2023-2024 (p. 48-49)
- 6D. Consideration of Budget Amendment #26 FY 2023-2024 (p. 50-51)
- 6E. Consideration of Budget Amendment #1 FY 2024-2025 (p. 52-55)

7: Reports / Discussions

7A. City Manager Report

7B. City Attorney Report

7C. Mayor and City Council General Discussion

8: Adjournment

8A. Meeting Adjournment

Date Posted: July 3, 2024



City of Lowell
Regular City Council Meeting

Approval of Minutes 06-11-2024

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	Approval of Minutes Item: 2A
Reference File	Presented By

Approval of Minutes for Regular City Council Meeting held on 06-11-2024

Attachments

[Regular City Council Meeting-06-11-2024-minutesDraft.pdf](#)

Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting

101 W. First Street, Lowell, North Carolina 28098

June 11, 2024, 5:59 PM - June 12, 2024, 12:22 AM

Roll Call: *(The following members were in attendance)*

- **Larry Simonds**, Mayor
- **Scott Bates**, Mayor Pro Temp
- **Phil Bonham**, Councilmember
- **DeWayne Chitwood**, Councilmember
- **Shane Robinson**, Councilmember
- **Travis Smith**, Councilmember

1. General

1A. Call To Order- 5:59 PM

Mayor Simonds called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. City staff present were City Manager Scott Attaway, City Attorney John Russell, Police Chief Carl Moore, Police Captain Ross Hoffman, Planning Director Tyler Cobb, Interim Public Works Director Thad Buchanan, Finance Director Lisa Nolen, and City Clerk Cheryl Ramsey. A quorum was determined at the beginning of the meeting. The meeting was teleconferenced on YouTube for the public and the agenda and meeting materials were made public on the city's website as well as in person. Members of the public were also in attendance.

1B. Invocation / Pledge of Allegiance- 6:00 PM

The Invocation was by Reverend Sigmon of the Lowell Free Will Baptist Church. Mayor Simonds then led the audience with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Before the Adoption of the Minutes, Mayor Simonds said he wanted to apologize to all the citizens for his behavior at the last council meeting. He said "I said some things I shouldn't have said. But also the councilman to my left [Councilmember Bonham] said some things he shouldn't have said either. So I brought him a bottle of Scope (proceeds to pass the bottle of Scope down to Councilmember Bonham) because I understand that he likes Scope and I apologize and I'm sure you will too." Councilmember Bonham asked if he was talking to him. Mayor Simonds said "yes for our behavior of words, if you don't mind. I apologized and I apologize to you and everyone in this room." Councilmember Bonham said "if we are going to conduct business in a professional way, we're going to do it the right way and keep it professional at all times. So if this [holding the Scope bottle] is to cleanse me, that's fine, we're going to move forward in this meeting and the agenda and I hope that the Mayor will stick to the agenda and do the right thing." Mayor Simonds said "I think it's good we get off to a fresh start and have things done the right way. And I do sincerely apologize."

1C. Adoption of Agenda for this Meeting- 6:01 PM

The item was motioned To Approve by Scott Bates and seconded by DeWayne Chitwood with a passing result 5-0-0-0

1D. Public Comments- 6:03 PM

1. Bill Knox 5105 Meadow Woods Dr., Lowell, NC - Thanked the council for their hard work. He congratulated Scott Attaway on his award of being one of the Top 100 Leaders in the area. He then talked about the Sewer Regionalization plan and based on what he saw in the meetings, it seems the numbers are working right to do it. He said he knows there is some pride in owning our current plant but he'd like to see council move forward with the regionalization. He said it's a small amount of money to service that debt and thinks it will be a good thing instead of trying to rebuild the plant. He then thanked the mayor for his apology. He said a lot of people are frustrated and perhaps that this [the apology] may lead to another direction and that all of council will treat each other with respect.

2. Sandy Caudle 1108 N Main St, Lowell, NC - Complained of his water being turned off in error on May 28th but was paid on May 3. He said he understands human errors do happen but he gets a water bill this month where he was charged \$5 for being late and said maybe people have problems where they didn't get paid on time. He's asking council to get rid of the \$5 late fee until the end of the year to help citizens out with the inflation costs.

3. Norris Lamb 1130 Catawba Run Rd., Lowell, NC - thanked the mayor and Councilmember Bonham for apologizing. He thanked the Police Department, Water Department and everyone of the city employees for the hard work they do daily to make Lowell a safe and enjoyable place to live. He also congratulated Scott Attaway for being one of the top 100 influencers in our area and for working well with former and current council on what he believes will take place in the future. Some of those being because of cooperation in working with other locals, state representatives and getting grant money. He then asked council to keep the meetings orderly, respectful and productive whether that be by motions, censorship, or legal consultation. The citizens of Lowell expect that and deserve it.

4. Joe Wilson 2001 Alton Court, Lowell, NC - said Lowell is about change, even if that is hard for people to do. He said he lived here many years ago and moved back five years ago and it's a lot different than when he moved away in good and bad ways. He said council has talked about lowering taxes and he doesn't want to pay more money but at the same time, he doesn't want to risk people losing jobs and services. He said that is what ends up happening when you cut taxes too much. He is all for figuring out what is best for everyone but it should be done in a very calm and planned manner because not every tax dollar means the same thing to everyone. He then mentioned the Waste Water Treatment Plant and for the mayor and council to move forward with Two Rivers agreement because the plant is roughly 60 years old. His understanding is that 40-50 years is the lifespan and we are beyond that now even with repairs. A replacement cost of \$30 million is a lot of money and if you do the math, it comes out to about \$23,000 per household in Lowell. That's the number you should be worrying about, not the 9% increase coming from Two Rivers, which comes to about \$108 a year. He said people don't really have the money but if the difference is paying \$108 a year or \$23,000 per household to have to replace the plant, then the smart thing to do is to move onto regionalization. He then mentioned that a lot of things like projects and parks are getting cut from the budget or being stopped but the only constant is change and Lowell is going to grow, it has to grow. "If you keep the same number of people here, I believe that is 3700 people right now, over the next, say 10 years, it's inevitable that costs are going to raise. It doesn't matter if inflation is low

or high, cost are going to raise. If you keep the same amount of people, the tax burden remains on that same amount of people and continue to increase. You allow the growth, you bring new businesses in, you bring in new residential neighborhoods, which spreads the tax burden out with all the new people. This gives people a chance to maybe not have their taxes cut but maybe go three to five years without a tax increase. I don't know about anyone else in here, but I would love that. That is what you should be thinking. We need a forward thinking group. Lowell is not going to be 1980 or 1990 Lowell and that's a fact." He thanked council for letting him speak

5. Ed Jackson, owns property in Lowell, NC - thanked Mayor for his apology. He said in the "last month's meeting there was a lot of harassment about the [City] Manager. You lost a Public Works Director over that same sort of thing. You don't need to lose a lot of your key people. The Manager is not perfect but he is doing a lot of good, getting grants and programs and things that were needed here. He needed guidance and you council members have impressed me, in that each one of you have expressed an opinion and created a trend of sharing those opinions, comparing information, getting facts, and making reasonable decisions for the good of the whole town. Keep up the good work."

6. Sean Brafford 113 N. Pine St, Lowell, NC - He said "it seems like we have been talking taxes and water for years and thinks we all want lower taxes and now that we have the opportunity to do it, we're still talking about lower taxes and water rates. If there is any hesitation that this budget or this vote for the water [treatment plant] isn't necessarily what you want to do, or should do, or what's best for the people, then we shouldn't do it or find a better way to help the people of the city. Me and my wife were talking about this on the way up here. I think one of the biggest problems, and what people don't understand or realize, is that we keep talking about 1%, or 3%, or 9% or just a little bit. Well that little bit is what breaks the camel's back." He then talked about his tax increase amounts over the years with 133.54% between 2015-2023 and the water bill went up 87.5% or \$1537 on property tax and \$35-40 in water. He said he understands the budget is to cut taxes by 5% and things will be defunded which he thinks is great but thinks council can do better and decrease it further. He said we should fix the issues with the water as they arise.

7. Candy Funderburk 600 Rogosin Blvd, Lowell, NC stated when she was on City Council in the past, they started a tradition when Ricky Bush passed away, to provide a city flag to families when a former councilmember or mayor passes away. She said one was not provided for Doctor [Charles] Lowery when he passed away this year and she hopes the new council will continue that tradition because the family members have appreciated it in the past. She then asked about the bulk pickup being changed from quarterly to monthly. She said during her tenure, they changed it to quarterly because of the wear and tear on the vehicles and the Public Works employees as they were getting hurt and were worn out. She said she hopes they reconsider this as she doesn't know anyone that needs bulk pick up every month. She reminded the public that to rent the city dump truck is \$67.75 per use where the city will bring you the truck, you would fill it up and the city will pick back up and take the items to the landfill. She said she heard that the chipper and one or two trash trucks are down so she didn't know how we could do bulk pick up monthly without the current equipment being up to par. She then talked of the accomplishments of the prior council as she was hearing complaints on what the prior council did or did not do. She said the prior council did a lot of good for those persons who said they did nothing.

8. Wayne Buchanan 620 Geer St., Lowell, NC - spoke on Two Rivers. He said "we don't need it and there's nothing wrong with our sewer system. Why fix something that ain't broke. It's not at capacity. [If] you go with Two Rivers, you're going to be paying more than what your water bill is now." He said as far as the other council goes, they did some good and some bad stuff. He said the city didn't need to buy the Boys and Girls Club, the track of land from Mr. Trado [parking lot beside McCord Park] where the city was initially leasing it, and uncompleted work on the Community Center. He said people need to sit and think about the high water bills from Two Rivers.

9. Connie Burnett 6003 A Cloninger Ct, Lowell, NC had a water bill complaint and being charged a \$5 late fee. She thinks residents should get a one day grace period to pay the bills. Mayor Simonds agreed and said the council is going to have to revisit the whole water situation.

10. John Cato 109 Walnut Av, Lowell, NC - said there is no way in the world Lowell needs 200 houses in this community when our water lines are almost 100 years old that are continuously patched instead of replaced. He said it is costing the taxpayers because they patch it and tear the road up. He then said he'd give the council 6 months to get settled in before he spoke before them but the way they have been treating each other is disrespectful even to the public. He said they were voted in by the public and need to act that way.

2. Approval of Minutes

During the discussion of the motion, Mayor Pro Tem Bates addressed Mayor Simonds saying "this last month's meeting, Mayor, was, as far as I'm concerned, an embarrassment to this whole board by the way it was ran, the hollering at each other, the language that was used, even some explicit words were heard. We're supposed to be professional. During my career, I try to be courteous, respectful, polite throughout my whole career and i bring those same principles to this table. I think I can hold you all to the same standards. We're not here to call names, to call other cities 'suckers' or call the City Manager 'this cat over here', that's totally disrespectful. As far as I'm concerned, I won't tolerate it any further in any of the meetings. I hope everybody can get along and understand that. You may not see nothing wrong with the words that you use but it's just not professional and respectful and it needs to stop." Mayor Simonds said he agrees 100% and that was why he apologized. Mayor Pro Tem Bates said he appreciated the apology but needed to say how he felt. Mayor Simonds said "the words I used are mild compared to some of these people and that's why I apologized. We don't need to kick that old can down the road." Mayor Pro Tem Bates said "we are not here to decide who's language is worse than the other. Language is language and it needs to stop. This is a professional meeting, we've got an agenda that we go by, we have business on, and that's what we need to stick to, is the agenda. To the same point, if we get off track, we need to corral each other back in if we have to, to get back on track to finish the business at hand."

The item was motioned To Approve by DeWayne Chitwood and seconded by Travis Smith with a passing result 5-0-1-0 Abstained by Larry Simonds

2A. Approval of Minutes 05-14-2024- 6:29 PM

3. Special Presentation

3A. Annual Presentation by Lead for NC Fellow Emiyah Watkins- 6:32 PM

Ms. Emiyah Watkins gave some of the accomplishments as a fellow with the City of Lowell. She walked everyone through her experiences the last year, including organizing training sessions, conducting research, offering new perspectives, creating and administering surveys, planning events, develop training materials and much more. She also worked on the Utility Billing Analysis updating the Utility Billing policy, the Social Media policy, an evacuation plan for Lowell employees, AI phone line analysis, Telework/Work from home policy, Citizens Academy promotional video, assistance with Parks and Recreation events, and the City of Lowell job posting pamphlet, to name a few. She will attend Howard University Law School this fall to obtain her Juris Doctorate degree.

3B. Proclamation 04-2024 - Juneteenth 2024- 6:38 PM

Mayor Simonds read the Proclamation.

The item was motioned To Adopt by DeWayne Chitwood and seconded by Scott Bates with a passing result 5-0-0-0

4. Consent Agenda

The item was motioned To Adopt by Scott Bates and seconded by Travis Smith with a passing result 5-0-0-0

4A. Finance Update- 6:40 PM

4B. Geographic Information System (GIS) Report- 6:40 PM

4C. Stormwater Report- 6:40 PM

4D. public works update- 6:40 PM

4E. Police Report- 6:40 PM

4F. Planning Report- 6:40 PM

4G. Parks and Recreation Report- 6:40 PM

4H. Communications Report- 6:40 PM

5. Unfinished Business

5A. Public Hearing to Closeout the FY17 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Neighborhood Revitalization Program- 6:41 PM

Amanda Whitaker with Withers Ravenel stated that this is the closeout public hearing for the City of Lowell FY 2017 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Neighborhood Revitalization Program, grant number 17-C-2999. The purpose of this public hearing is to discuss the program performance, allow the citizens of the City of Lowell an opportunity to make any comments, and closeout the CDBG-NR project.

In February of 2019, the City received \$750,000.00 in U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) CDBG funding from the North Carolina Department of Commerce (DOC) for grant 17-C-2999.

Proposed project activities include rehabilitation repairs for ten (10) homes and rehabilitation repairs to one (1) neighborhood facility. The city was able to assist eight (8) households and complete repairs to one (1) neighborhood facility. All the housing and neighborhood facility activities benefited low- and moderate-income (LMI) households directly, for 100% benefit to LMI persons.

Program activities are complete and grant funds are 91% expended. Final requisitions for funds were submitted to DOC by the May 1, 2024, deadline (Expenditure of CDBG Funds). CDBG closeout documents will be submitted to DOC by the deadline of August 1, 2024.

This has been a successful project and remained in compliance with the required federal regulations associated with funding.

There was no discussion among council. The public was then allowed to make any comments.

Candy Funderburk thanked Ms. Whitaker for their work on the grant for the last seven years. There were no other public comments. No vote was needed to closeout the program.

The item was motioned To Open the Public Hearing by Travis Smith and seconded by Phil Bonham with a passing result 5-0-1-0 Abstained by Larry Simonds

The item was motioned To Close the Public Hearing by DeWayne Chitwood and seconded by Travis Smith with a passing result 5-0-1-0 Abstained by Larry Simonds

5B. Public Hearing Spencer Ridge Development Agreement- 6:47 PM

Tyler Cobb went over the agreement and negotiations with Lennar Homes. He stated the Planning Board voted unanimously for approval on April 2, 2024. He is asking council to approve as it is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and the Lowell LDO. Mr. Attaway brought to council's attention that on page 52, Section 7 of the agenda packet, towards the bottom, there is a spot that says 'blank months.' He said that should be 24 months. Mayor Simonds said "in the past, whenever we had a subdivision come in, they had to post money, like a security bond, and all things are going to be completion [sic]." Mr. Attaway said they will have to post a bond. Councilmember Chitwood said "Mr. Mayor, it's in the agreement." Mayor Simonds said he understands but you have to protect the citizens and also know that the citizens will be taken care of. If you look in there, it's like nine parcels of property and people haven't agreed to have them come in on the right-of-way." Mr. Cobb said "yes, like I've explained to you before when you called and asked about that, this can be passed with the easements not in place because that is a private matter between the developer and the owner of the property. This is on the bottom of page 5 [page 5 of the agreement and page 51 of the packet]."

Mayor Simonds asked what does it hurt to have a surety bond before council votes on it. He asked what would stop us from requiring that. He said he never heard of a development anywhere where they can come back in arrears saying they have to fix this later with a surety bond and once it's approved and ratified, they can't get a bond. John Russell said "the cost in bonds that are required is under Section 19 of the agreement, which is what Councilmember Chitwood was saying. We have the LDO policy that the developer will have to comply with it." Mayor Simonds asked Mr. Russell "how long have you been a municipal lawyer, I just want to know that?" Councilmember Chitwood called a Point of Order. Mayor Simonds continued talking. Mr. Russell reminded the Mayor that "when a Point of Order is raised by a councilmember it is a procedural motion that needs to be addressed immediately. If someone is saying stay on the agenda or the comments are disrespectful to other members or to the public...that is brought to the whole council, so if there is not disagreement with that, you need to move on." Mayor Simonds said "once this is voted on tonight, they [Developer] have an opportunity to come back and do what? Get a surety bond later on or should a surety bond be placed tonight?" Councilmember Bonham called a Point of Order again. Mayor Simonds said he was asking the lawyer a question. Mr. Russell said "the provision of

bonds is covered under Section 19. The Developer will have to post a bond, which is approved by the City Engineer. The City Engineer will price that out, the Developer will post that bond and that is what the Development Agreement requires." Mayor Simonds said "things have changed I guess. That's what I'm saying. Used to be when we had a subdivision or whatever..." Councilmember Chitwood interrupted and asked the Mayor how long ago was that? Councilmember Bonham said it doesn't matter. Councilmember Chitwood said he was asking because the reason being is that it is not 1980 or 1990 anymore. Mayor Pro Tem Bates asked to get back to the agenda please. A member of the public started talking and Councilmember Chitwood asked him to go to the podium.

Sean Brafford asked how the public hearing is supposed to work. He said he's "sat through many meetings where they ask if there are any questions from the public and 90% of the time us as the public have no idea what the [expletive] pardon my language, what is going on or what's being voted on or discussed in this public hearing other than what Mr. Cobb has explained just now, which was very little detail. Then the council has a packet and I believe the Mayor was poking at that and asking some questions."

Councilmember Chitwood said "I can comment on that. Mr. Mayor doesn't read his packet as he should and we read ours. Mr. Bates, Mr. Robinson, I can speak for us three, nothing against these two [Councilmembers Bonham and Smith] but we read and Mr. Mayor doesn't completely read or read to understand. That's why we ask him to move on because we have a long agenda every meeting. I understand the public has a right to speak but Mr. Mayor veers off track." Mr. Brafford said "I understand that but what I'm asking is the information that's given to the council on these topics and subjects of public hearing is that information available to the public prior to the public hearing is what I'm asking." A number of people said it is online. Mr. Brafford said "that's what I wanted to know because a lot of times in public hearings, I don't necessarily exactly know what we're discussing, it's just referencing a packet that the public doesn't have, or at least I didn't have." Councilmember Robinson told Mr. Brafford that everything they get, the public sees too.

Mayor Simonds said "in reference to Mr. Chitwood I read page 41 to 95, I studied it hard and what I don't like about this thing is this...if this is just a common citizen out here they get a zoning permit. You jump through hoops to get a zoning permit. This thing here is laid out by the Zoning Board, they've already approved it and I understand that but this council has the final say, final vote, once the public hearing is closed and I am a citizen and I have the right to ask questions too. I'm not referring to the attorney as not being up to date or whatever, I'm just asking a simple question. I know in the past, when I was on the board, you had to put up money, you didn't just walk into a city and tell them you're going to go out here and you're going to provide all these services knowingly. You have to fulfill that because all this money ultimately comes back to the city. If you get the permits for each property, we're going to get money. If they do what they say they are going to do, we're going to get tax money. All this stuff in this agreement has to be adhered to, correct? As far as all the right-of-ways, all the money put up to do the system, all the water lines, sewer lines." He mentioned the sewer line up Spencer Mountain and water lines. He then asked if they will incur all expenses towards the city? Councilmember Chitwood asked the mayor if that is what it said in the packet? Mayor Simonds said "yes, but here's the thing about it, who's going to do it if it doesn't get finished up? That's why you have a surety bond. Not later on, not 45 days down the road or six months or two years down the road. They have about two years to finish this project, am I right?"

Mayor Pro Tem Bates said "I believe if they don't complete the job or their responsibilities then it would make the contract, the agreement between Lowell and Lennar [Developer] possibly invalid? Mr. Russell said "if there is a default under the agreement and they are given notice that they have to comply with what's in here [agreement], if that doesn't happen, then Lowell will have the opportunity to exercise on the bond. The bond is approved by the City Engineer based on their cost estimates, so that is there to protect the city." Mayor Simonds said "in the very beginning, once this is passed, they can start work or whatever, but they can't really start working until all agreements are met, just like you said in 45 days correct? They have 45 days to get these easements is what's in here [pointing to the agreement], is that correct?" Mr. Russell said "the 45 days is for the easement for the water line. One of the provisions in the agreement provides for how they are going to do the water line and how they are going to get that easement (inaudible)." Mayor Simonds said if they don't get that easement, then it goes right back to null and void and that's why..." Mr. Russell said "no, that's not correct. If they don't get the easement, then they go through Poston Park, that's the plan B." Mr. Cobb said they have to just notify us [City of Lowell]. Mayor Simonds said all that has to be on the table including the back up plan and that's why you have a public hearing to find out this information and no one is blaming you for it [Mr. Cobb] or the manager or you [Mr. Russell]. Our responsibility is to this council and they make the final decision. Without all the information I don't see how you can make, well you can make a decision, but are you covering all the bases you should to benefit the citizens, just like the whole infrastructure of the water and the sewer...it's going to be very very expensive." He said we have to have a way to take care of the streets and roads and asked if they can go forward after this is passed. Mr. Russell said "they have the right to go forward now because the property has been rezoned for the site plan that they want to do. The purpose of the Development Agreement is required by the LDO and is to provide for what property it applies to, the timeframe that it's going to take, the period when all the public facilities are dedicated to the city for maintenance. So there are some additional conditions on top of their right but they have the right to move forward with the development as it stands."

Mayor Simonds asked if we needed the public hearing tonight. Mr. Russell said we need the public hearing because the LDO requires it. Mayor Simonds went on to talk about this and compared it to what happened to Magnolia Place. Councilmember Smith called for a Point of Order, seconded by Councilmember Bonham. Mayor Simonds continued talking. Mr. Russell interrupted and again stated what a Point of Order means and that it needs to be addressed immediately as it is a procedural motion. He said because the Point of Order is against the mayor, council has to address immediately. Mayor Simonds said "I understand that wholeheartedly, but understand this, this is a public hearing..." Mr. Russell said "no, there is a motion that is pending." Mayor Simonds asked if anyone else on council had any comments. Councilmember Robinson said "it [agreement] states that the bond shall be posted within the city within five business days of the date in which the first plat of the intended development is recorded." Mayor Simonds asked if they will have to have another meeting? Councilmember Robinson said no, they have to post a bond within five days." Mayor Simonds said ok and that there was a motion on the floor. It was then unanimously approved for the Point of Order. There was a brief confusion on the Point of Order and public hearing votes, then, Councilmember Chitwood made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilmember Smith. Councilmember Smith asked if there were any public comments. Tamika Hopper asked if they are "going to create a left hand signal at that light because of all the houses coming and you are turning left to go down McAdenville Road it's going to be crazy for people to turn left, because right now it's kind of hectic to turn

left to get to 85?" Mr. Attaway asked if she was referring to the 7 route that turns to 23. She said yes. Mr. Attaway said he thinks that's in the traffic impact study that's being done now. Mr. Cobb said they did [the study] in 2023 and he can provide that information to her. Mr. Attaway asked Jason Galloway, with the developer Lennar Carolinas, if he had anything to add. Mr. Galloway said the TIA (Traffic Impact Analysis) has been done and determined a light was not necessary. Councilmember Chitwood said we will need to petition the State for that and whatever we have to do [to get a light]. Mr. Attaway said we'll touch base again on that. The motion was then carried to close the Public Hearing. Councilmember Smith made a motion to adopt the Spencer Ridge Development Agreement, seconded by Councilmember Bonham. The vote was unanimously approved.

The item was motioned To Open the Public Hearing by DeWayne Chitwood and seconded by Scott Bates with a passing result 5-0-1-0 Abstained by Larry Simonds

The item was motioned Point of Order by Travis Smith and seconded by Phil Bonham with a passing result 5-0-1-0 Abstained by Larry Simonds

The item was motioned To Close the Public Hearing by DeWayne Chitwood and seconded by Travis Smith with a passing result 5-0-1-0 Abstained by Larry Simonds

The item was motioned To Approve by Travis Smith and seconded by Phil Bonham with a passing result 5-0-1-0 Abstained by Larry Simonds

5C. Consideration of Budget Amendment #13 - 7:06 PM

Mr. Attaway presented. He said this comes from the last council meeting in May where there was a typo noted. This is a corrected version to receive funds totaling \$67,521 from a FY21 Wastewater AIA Grant.

The item was motioned To Approve by Travis Smith and seconded by DeWayne Chitwood with a passing result 5-0-0-0

5D. Amended Grant Project Ordinance - Lowell WWTP Planning Grant (SRP-W-ARP-0301)- 7:06 PM

Mr. Attaway presented. He said this is also a continuation from the May meeting. He stated the city received a \$400,000 ARPA grant and have spent out \$343,432 of that grant to Withers Ravenel. The total to Withers Ravenel was \$588,000, leaving the balance of \$188,000 to come from city funds to complete the plans for the regionalization of the Waste Water Treatment Plant. These funds are available and there is a subsequent budget ordinance after this on the agenda if council is moving forward with the Amended Grant Project Ordinance. The budget amendment is to cover the \$188,000 system development fees. He said we have far surpassed the budgeted revenue for system development fees (SDF) this year. He said there are statutory requirements on how the city utilizes SDF funds. They are to be used for system wide expansion projects and this would fall into that category of adding capacity to the system. He said there were some other items discovered when on a call with DWI trying to answer the Mayor from last month on whether we could stop this grant or pay back the grant. He said it is unclear and there might be an avenue where we could stop the grant. Withers Ravenel has continued to work so the \$343,432 would be a higher amount by now. The city would have to submit to the state the amount that has been spent and that we would like to lessen the amount of the grant to that total spent amount. We would show all the work that has been done compared to the scope that they have already approved and see if they would then approve the lesser grant amount. He said the other issue would be regarding the signed contract with the City Manager, City Attorney, and the engineer, Withers Ravenel, for the total \$588,000.

Mr. Attaway said this engineering report that is produced out of this is going to get the city permit ready, bid packages ready, to go forward with that [regionalization] if the council sees fit. On the call with DWI, the City of Lowell was identified they received more grant funding with the SRF loan of \$7.9 million which brought the loan amount down to just shy of \$4.6 million. The city was also informed that the EPA has sent out a warning memo to the DWI saying that there will be no extensions on the funding. If they have people that have been awarded an SRF loan, like the City of Lowell, they will not extend. It has to be spent by September 2027. He then went over the timeline stating that we are submitting for permit approval this month [June], probably with permits in hand in September, three months of bidding with two rounds or so after the first of the year, council would select a contractor. Before a contractor is selected, a trip would have to be to Raleigh during the August-September time frame to start working with the Local Government Commission (LGC) to get approved for the debt. You can't just take \$4.6 million out without getting approved by the LGC. This needs to be worked on the end of this month and July to get ready. You would have bids in hand 2025 in selecting a contractor. Construction time frame would be about 15 months, completed in approximately May 2026 with the possibility for some delays.

Mr. Attaway said "this was all discussed with the Two Rivers joint meeting recently [May 30, 2024] where it was confirmed then that if the city were not talking about a regionalization project, likely the grant application wouldn't have scored as high as it did because you get extra points for that in the grant study and we wouldn't be sitting here with an SRF loan. If we switched and said we just want to rebuild the plant, because the engineers working on this are saying that it can NOT be expanded because of the age of it, then we will likely not be funded a SRF loan or any other type of funding from the Federal government, through DWI to build a new plant." Mayor Simonds said "as far as the plan itself goes, you are talking about borrowing this money and spending all the money to bring us up to date for Two Rivers. All this money falls on the back of the citizens of Lowell. They are going to come in, after we spent all this money, borrow the money, make these high payments. Have you done anything to see how much this is going to cost each citizen, each month?" Councilmember Bonham said "excuse me, Mr. Mayor, I think Mr. Attaway has provided that to everybody via email and I think you'll see that the cost difference is astronomical versus acting today versus acting 10 years from now. I would encourage you to read the information we got before your (inaudible) and move on." Councilmember Robinson said "well just to add to that, I'd like to say we do have cost for whether we build a plant or move to Two Rivers. What we've yet to see is what type of cost are we going to have for Two Rivers to treat that and I'm just curious why we didn't negotiate some of that up front (inaudible). The deeper we get into it, the less negotiating power I would think we would have as far as what Two Rivers could charge. The Fair St, we know already goes to Two Rivers. What does that cost as far as them treating it versus our current plant?" Mr. Attaway said "it is on the Two Rivers fee schedule for a wholesale customer. What we've been paying, I think this year, what we have approximately been budgeting \$70,000 for Fair St roughly in the Water/Sewer Department. We kind of talked about this in the work session but the contract, we're going to have a capacity request. If we need 600 or 700 gallons, we're going to have to have that 'ask' in there and we're going to have to start absorbing that at some point. There's other things in the contract like when you get the peak days from rain and you've got a big spike because of I & I, you're going to have to pay more. There are ways to work it in the contract to where for a certain amount of years at least, that there's a little bit of forgiveness on those peak days of weather events. They go back and look at the rain gauges and historical data and they'll work with the bill. I think the work session was the first of many. The City Manager [Gastonia] has

reached out since then saying he'd sit down with any of councilmember." Councilmember Robinson said he'd like to know what that charge is going to be, at least somewhat. Councilmember Bonham said he "would appreciate to know, maybe drill down to see. I continue with this, that this is much less than what it would be if we built a brand new plant in 15 years." Councilmember Robinson asked how do we know that because we don't know what the charges are? Councilmember Bonham said "if you look at construction cost today versus then." Councilmember Chitwood said "he's [Robinson] talking about the fees that are coming from Two Rivers, not the cost of what the bill is." Councilmember Bonham said "it's all built into the same fee." Mr. Attaway also said it was built into the fee analysis. There was some back and forth with Councilmembers Bonham and Robinson regarding the cost per 1000 gallons.

Councilmember Bonham asked "do we honestly think that not taking advantage of this low interest, basically no interest right now to rebuild a thing at \$8 million dollars versus waiting 10 years at \$30 million that the cost impact to the consumer is less today than it would be 10 years from now? Somebody explain to me how we are where we are." Councilmember Robinson said "I don't think Phil is answering quite what I'm looking for. [To Mr. Attaway] Is there a bulk rate, are they are a bulk contract that they set for that per 1000 gallons of treatment or the City of Lowell is going to have to negotiate that into this contract." Mr. Attaway said "the wholesale rate for Municipal customers, to my understanding, is that it's all the same across the board." Councilmember Robinson said "if that's the case, then we should be able to know what that bulk rate is." Mr. Attaway said "like it says, it's on the Two Rivers fee schedule." Councilmember Robinson said that was one of the things he asked during the work session but they didn't know what that was at the time. Mr. Attaway said that "maybe there was some thought of the differences because of the contract negotiations that could happen or what those minimum/maximum capacities they grant within the contract. Again, I think the Two Rivers work session was to get some of these questions to the surface. That was the first one I've got."

Councilmember Robinson said "as far as this [Planning Grant] goes, what would you say...that they've done 90% of the work?" Mr. Attaway said when they were on the call with them [Withers Ravenel] about two weeks ago, they stated they were at about 80%. Councilmember Robinson said "the previous council kind of agreed to it, and we almost have to pay them what they are due." Mayor Simonds said something inaudible regarding Withers, then said "here's the thing about it Shane [Robinson], you're on the right [track], we should know the exact truth and the way that things should be figured is how much, it's simple. How many water customers do we have, Mr. Attaway?" Mr. Attaway said "1730." Mayor Simonds said "you've estimated the total cost to Withers Ravenel is \$10.5 million, that citizens here are going to have to pay and send it back to them [Two Rivers] to take care of it." Councilmember Smith said "it was \$5million." Mr. Attaway said "it's \$4.6 million." Mayor Simonds said "you got borrowed money, you got grant money, you got the total, t-o-t-a-l." Mr. Attaway said "\$7.9 [million]. Mayor Simonds said "ok, you got interest on top of that, I think it's like 10.5 [percent]" Mr. Attaway said ".76 [percent]". Mayor Simonds continued "and then you gotta pay to administer the whole thing (inaudible) at \$1.5 million dollars. What folks don't understand, we own this system and that's a true statement and until we ever reach a need to where we need to look at something. Listen, sewer doesn't stay and just set there. Sewer moves. That's why it's called flow, f-l-o-w, sewer flow. It never sits there, it's going all the time back into the water system, that's how it works. As far as coming out here and telling folks that...what you're saying is this, you don't really know how much it's going to cost each citizen for their water bill." Mr. Attaway said "it was in the email."

Mayor Simonds continued "Cramerton and them didn't even have to give the money that we're having to give. Ranlo didn't give any money but they're eat up in bills and fees.

Councilmember Smith asked Mr. Attaway "keeping the plant was like what \$200 some dollars a month per certain amount of gallons redoing the plant?" Mr. Attaway said "a new plant?" Councilmember Smith said "yes." Mr. Attaway said "what I sent you all on that fee study, your water/sewer bill is about \$200 a month for a 4000 gallon customer, whereas I think it was like \$103 if you went the regionalization route. As far as spreading the debt across all the customer base, that you are going to have to do for all the users of the system." Councilmember Smith said "here's where I'm at and this came from our last meeting. We have three options, regionalize with Tru [Two Rivers] is 20 yr, .76% interest rate [equals] \$5 million, option 2 was regionalize with Tru, private financing with 5% rate at \$12.7 million, then Waste Water Treatment Plant replacement is \$48.2 million at 5% and that's now numbers, that's not wait a couple years down the road. I mean, to me, you're going to save the citizens of Lowell a lot of money with the regionalization." Mayor Simonds said "you look at the truth, and nothing but the truth, the minimum water bill right now id \$45 and that includes your water run off fee and your landfill fee. If you think that this rate is going to, these processes are going to stay that way, you're sadly mistaken. You're talking about a family of five, that pays right now close to \$200 on a regular low bill, to where they are going to pay a minimum, if it goes up 25%, you're talking about \$300 and that's just one family of five." Ed Jackson from the crowd said that doesn't add to \$300. Mayor Simonds said that's exactly what it is.

Councilmember Bonham said "if you don't buy into the regionalization, I don't care if you do or don't, then what is your solution. Something has to be done. What is the least (inaudible) here? How does it affect the citizens the least? If you can come up with a different scenario, that would be great, but there is not anything here. You're just cursing what is the best scenario. You're not offering an alternative other than kick the can down the road and cost the people more money." Mayor Simonds said to Councilmember Bonham "you said a while ago it was simple. You talk to people and Cramerton and Ranlo about their water bill, and listen they didn't have to put up any money. We're having to. Why are we having to put up all this money to benefit someone that says they're helping us. That's what isn't making sense. I wouldn't want them to be my retirement people. I want someone that's going to take care of me not cost me more money. We have an easier way of doing things. Our sewer plant is at 50% and less because our sewer doesn't stay there, it continues to flow and thank God it flows. If it didn't, our biggest concern is to get a generator down there that works so we wouldn't have to borrow one from another town." Councilmember Bonham asked "so how do you fund that?" Mayor Simonds said "you go to a place and buy a generator." Councilmember Bonham said "and how do you do that?" Mayor Simonds said "you write a check." Councilmember Bonham said "from where?" Sean Brafford hollered something from the audience.

Mayor Pro Tem Bates said "if we keep our treatment plant, with intentions of replacing..." Mayor Simonds said "or repairing." Mayor Pro Tem Bates said "it can't be repaired, it has to be replaced. It is grandfathered in and it can't be repaired. You're looking at \$30million today to build one. How much are you going to have to go up on the citizens to pay for that? I get what Shane said, I would like to know too, what that cost is going to be, but at the same time when you are looking at building one or consolidating with Two Rivers, I mean. \$30 million to rebuild and by the time you make the payments back, you're looking at \$48 million or you're looking at \$7 or \$8 million going with Two Rivers." Mayor Simonds said "we're nowhere near capacity, we're less than have capacity." Councilmember Smith said we have to prepare for the

future. Mayor Pro Tem Bates said "according to Withers Ravenel, we are at 60% right now." Mr. Attaway said "we're at 60% when all of the permitted flows start flushing. So we permit it out or we have zoning permit approvals to get us to the 60% mark. Then what we talked about at the work session was with that map of those five parcels that we know of, and some things we are not hearing about that are popping up here on the Boulevard with a large retailer, that's going to take up more flow. I think we are around like 78% from the last meeting (slight pause for the train going by).

Councilmember Bonham said "we've had multiple people tell us that we are the point where we need to start looking at this where something has to be done. All these people have greater knowledge than I have. We have a way to fund a solution that has the least impact on every water payer in town versus waiting and kick it on down the road. Rather than 'I think' or 'I should' or 'I want', let's defer to those who know and look at that solution first that is also the least impact on everyone versus 'I want this' or 'I think this' or 'I read this 20 years ago'." Councilmember Chitwood said "Mr. Robinson, I understand what you are saying too on what people will be charged, so my question to Mr. Attaway is that what you sent out to us in the email, I was sitting over here trying to pull it up, but for instance, 1000 gallon minimum, is this just a guesstimation of what you think it might be?" Mr. Attaway said "it was not guessing but from an engineering firm. Withers crunched those numbers, looking at the different debt packages with the grant, without the grant and doing a \$30 million plant and what those numbers look like to the user. That's what I took away from the work session in that you all want to know how much it costs the citizens of Lowell and what their bills would look like. Year five or 2029, the 4000 gallon a month customer would go to \$105.22 and that has moved along in the four years prior. That's with the SRF loan grant. If you didn't do the loan grant, you'd have to go to a bank, just guessing on the 5% interest rate that we know today, your bill is going to go to about \$121.13 and if you rebuild the plant, a 4000 gallon a month customer would be \$197.27. I know what Shane is wanting, just the unit cost, wholesale rate of what they are charging Lowell, I understand that and will get that." Councilmember Chitwood asked if what he looked up is what Councilmember Robinson was asking. Councilmember Robinson said he "would think the engineering firm would have had to include it to generate that. What I'm saying is the deeper we get into it, then the less negotiating but he's saying now that that's a set wholesale rate." Councilmember Bonham said "my only thing to that is we can go deeper and we should go deeper and negotiate all you want to but at the end of the day, are we going to be any better with this low interest rate versus kicking it down the road."

Councilmember Chitwood said "my understanding, Mr. Attaway, is that this is a decision to pay that money tonight right?" Mr. Attaway said "this is to amend the Grant Project Ordinance to show the \$188,000 over on the grant project ordinance and the following agenda item is to do a budget amendment to use the system development fees, which are governed by Statute and we can't just charge what we want, we have to study it every five years and we did that a couple years ago and adjust the rate upward. That is just for new development, residential, commercial development that comes in the city paying the SDF for water and sewer. Mayor Simonds continued to talk about the rates to citizens for landfill and water run off fees. Councilmember Robinson asked if these fees will be negotiated in with the total rates. Mr. Attaway said yes. Mayor Simonds continued talking about not regionalizing and continuing to own the water treatment plant. There was a brief inaudible discussion among councilmembers. Councilmember Smith then made the motion to approve the Amended Grant Project Ordinance, seconded by Councilmember Chitwood. Under the discussion, Mayor Simonds asked "how much money will we have to pay for that right now?"

Councilmember Smith began to answer and Mayor Simonds said to "let him [Mr. Attaway] answer." Mr. Attaway said "\$188,000." Mayor Simonds said "plus what we've already given them, right?" Mr. Attaway said "they've received \$343,432 of the \$400,000 grant." Mayor Simonds said "so you'll be giving them \$520,000 as of tonight, right?" Mr. Attaway said "the total grant was \$400,000 and the total work is \$588,000, so we are paying the difference between the grant and the total contract with the engineer, totaling \$188,000. That's what the system development fees..." Mayor Simonds interrupted and asked if we've given them any money yet. Councilmember Bonham said there was a motion and second on the floor. Mayor Simonds said they were having a discussion. Councilmember Bonham said "you are not the decision maker." Mayor Simonds asked "what do you mean?" Councilmember Bonham said we need to move on. Mayor Simonds said they were having a discussion and he wants to know how much was already spent to Withers Ravenel. Councilmember Bonham called a Point of Order, seconded by Councilmember Smith. Mr. Russell said there is a Point of Order on the floor so it is now back to the Council to address the procedural motion. Mayor Simonds acknowledged and the vote to acknowledge the Point of Order was unanimously approved.

Council then voted to approve the Grant Project Ordinance (see the motion above). The vote was unanimously approved.

The item was motioned Point of Order by Phil Bonham and seconded by Travis Smith with a passing result 5-0-1-0 Abstained by Larry Simonds

The item was motioned To Approve by Travis Smith and seconded by DeWayne Chitwood with a passing result 5-0-1-0 Abstained by Larry Simonds

5E. Consideration of Budget Amendment #15- 7:37 PM

Mr. Attaway said this is the budget amendment to fund the extra \$188,000 (from agenda item 5D). He said there are budgeted funds available right now that he mentioned before coming from the System Development Fee revenue.

After the motion, Councilmember Robinson asked for the numbers he talked about earlier. Mr. Attaway said he would get that to everyone.

The item was motioned To Approve by DeWayne Chitwood and seconded by Travis Smith with a passing result 5-0-1-0 Abstained by Larry Simonds

5F. Public Hearing for Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Budget Ordinance- 7:38 PM

Mr. Attaway stated that he presented the budget draft, the City Manager's message, and Budget Ordinance and FY 24-25 Budget document at the May 14, 2024 Council meeting. He gave some highlights including decreasing the tax rate to \$.43.5 cents or a 5.5% decrease, \$2 increase in Stormwater fees per month per ERU, a 6% increase in water, 3% increase in sewer, and by the Resolution approved last month to remove the \$10 tag fee. Mayor Simonds asked what was sent to council today about? Mr. Attaway said he "received information that certain councilmembers would like to remove positions, a total of six positions. That is not my recommendation, but I produced a Budget Ordinance to that effect. If those positions were removed, then the savings to the tax rate will bring it to \$.35.5 cents. Councilmember Bonham made a motion for a five minute recess, seconded by Councilmember Smith. Mayor Pro Tem Bates, Councilmembers Chitwood, Bonham, and Smith voted yay, Councilmember Robinson voted nay stating he'd rather move on. The vote passed at 7:41pm. The meeting continued at 7:43pm.

Councilmember Chitwood asked to hear about option B of the Budget. Mr. Attaway discussed the positions that were asked to be removed: Communications Director, Planner, Police Administrative Assistant, Accounts Payable/Payroll Clerk, GIS Analyst, and the Utility Billing Clerk. He said that brings down the General Fund Revenue \$5,128,069. The salary and benefits related to those positions were subtracted and adjusted down. With that, the tax rate would then be \$.35.5 cents. He said nothing else much changes out of this budget versus his recommended budget other than the six positions. Councilmember Chitwood said "so that took it down to a \$531,000 difference?" Mr. Attaway said "yes approximately." Councilmember Chitwood said "I don't want to lose any positions, but if these developments were already here, I wouldn't have a problem keeping them. I know we need to plan for the future, but as of right now, when other revenue starts coming in, then yes, we can revisit that. That was my discussion on that."

Councilmember Smith said "I don't agree with getting rid of the positions, but I also respect where you [Councilmember Chitwood] and other councilmembers are coming from." Councilmember Robinson said "and on that, I'd just like to say, I don't want to see anyone lose their jobs either. If you look at these six positions, they were created in the 23-24 budget year. If you look back at the revenue for the 23-24 budget, in 23 it was \$1.5 million, in 24, it went to \$2.8 million because of reevaluations. That's a huge step and what we did was created positions to expense that money, in my mind, and not give [to] the citizens. The county reduced the rate by \$.20 cents, we didn't reduce it any. We just created the positions. Even still, with the five positions missing, we're still at \$2.3 million and we're still almost \$700,000 over the year prior to." Mr. Attaway said "there is also something to note that the EDA started. The EDA repayment to NorthPoint, half a million dollars, and also the new fee schedule for the additional professional services line item that's paying out approximately \$800 some thousand dollars this year in engineering from the new fee schedule from these new developments. So that was \$900 something [thousand] coming in revenue and \$800 [thousand] going out in the Admin budget." Councilmember Robinson said he was looking at the expenditures, not the revenue.

Mayor Simonds said "you're not even including the money that came for NorthPoint, taking it in to send it back out." Mr. Attaway said "we are, we have to because they pay taxes and there's a separate line item showing the EDA payment going out." Councilmember Bonham said "we all know what's coming in, we all know what's going out. It's do you want going out to reduce and if you want going out to reduce, then you have to accept that services are going to reduce or something is going to fall down at some point in time. I respect everyone's opinion here with what needs to be done. I believe that it is going to cost more to do business because we are a business here. I think it's too deep but you guys do what you gotta do. I think it (inaudible)." Mayor Simonds then opened the hearing to the public.

1. Candy Funderburk 600 Rogosin Blvd, Lowell, NC said she respects everyone up there and respects why they'd want to cut several positions. She said when she was on council, she didn't agree with all the positions but wish council would reconsider the second Utility Clerk position in the Water Department because of the workload. She said the former employee never took vacation because there was no one there to cover for her, came to work sick because she couldn't miss because she didn't want to get behind. She said maybe they could create a part time position because they get busy up front, which will put a lot more work on other individuals in every department if all of these jobs are cut. She said but wasn't sure that the Payroll shouldn't be done by the City Clerk and suggested they look into that one as well. She said what council does is going to affect the future and in a couple years, when things [developments] increase,

these people would have already been trained and moving forward but council will have to rehire people and who's going to want to work for Lowell. She mentioned the chaos the city has had in the last several months. She said with the \$.35.5 cent tax rate, the tax rate is going to have to be raised again in a couple years and if a new council comes in that may have to possibly raise it will make that council look bad. She asked them to rethink their position.

2. Sandy Caudle 1108 N Main St, Lowell, NC - said it's a tough decision on the sewer plant and council has to make the best decision they can to benefit the citizens all the way around. They won't make everyone happy. He thanked Mr. Attaway for all the hard work he has done and understands what he has to go through.

3. Bill Knox 5105 Meadow Woods Dr., Lowell, NC - he stated council "went through three days of budget meetings and he was there for every minute of it. He said they finished at a \$.5.5 cent tax cut, bulk every month, stormwater fee cut by \$2 but you really didn't cut it, you re-appropriated it and that was all Shane [Robinson] said he was going to do. He said 'hey look, I just want it down \$2' I think was his quote. We could all live with that, that is no big deal. The budget was presented on the 14th of May and now we are just hearing about this, right now. Larry [Simonds], this is the only time I've agreed with you. I stood here and watched you here and say every time for six years that we have to go through an intern budget and think about this. I'm saying that we have to do and intern budget and think about this. Might be a little bit of too bold of a description, but you guys have gotten us here. \$.14 cents? You cancelled the K-9 program, fine we all lived with that. Cost the city about \$10 grand, only to say you want to start it back up in a year or two with two dogs. You can't start and stop on a dime. You've already blown off a couple of pretty good people and I think you are doing too much, too fast. You say you want to cut wasteful spending but it's just a frivolous point now. Bulk pick up is going to cost in wear and tear and \$500 tip fees. This costs money. Who needs bulk pick up more than every three months." He mentioned the Stormwater fee cut and that it looks good but is still moving money to another budget line, that citizens will still pay. He last talked about the Fire Department and how council ran on bringing that back to Lowell. He asked them to level with the citizens and tell them the Fire Department is not coming back. He asked the mayor to stop using the excuse of the previous council being at fault but that they went on their own accord. He again stated council is moving too fast too soon and putting themselves in the corner for the next year or two.

4. Paul Williams 703 McAdenville Rd. Lowell, NC - said "if there are position's that are vacant right now, there's reason in not filling those, but to cut staff, I think, is risky. What are we going to lose by cutting staff? I see people online on Facebook all the time complain about paying their water bill, what's involved with paying their water bill, why is this, why is that. If we cut a Utility Billing Department in half, I can't fathom the chaos that's going to cause. In my opinion, that is going to add a lot of extra work and the good people we already have, they will feel the burnout." He said employees may settle for pay cuts to go to other cities for work and said Lowell needs to hang on to the talent they have to continue to function well. He also suggested to think about moving a position to part time to avoid cutting completely realizing the employees may not want to stay. He said he likes the idea of a tax cut, but not if it is going to cost the city a well operated place. He asked council to carefully reconsider how to cut the budget.

There were no other comments from the public. Councilmember Chitwood made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bates. The vote was unanimously in favor.

Councilmember Smith made a motion to adopt the original 2024-2025 budget with no cuts to employees, seconded by Councilmember Bonham. Councilmembers Bonham and Smith voted yay and Mayor Pro Tem Bates and Councilmembers Robinson and Chitwood vote nay and therefore the vote did not pass.

Councilmember Robinson made a motion to adopt the option B, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bates. Mayor Pro Tem Bates and Councilmembers Robinson and Chitwood vote yay and Councilmembers Bonham and Smith voted nay. The second budget option to cut employees passed.

The item was motioned To Open the Public Hearing by Scott Bates and seconded by DeWayne Chitwood with a passing result 5-0-1-0 Abstained by Larry Simonds

The item was motioned To Close the Public Hearing by DeWayne Chitwood and seconded by Scott Bates with a passing result 5-0-1-0 Abstained by Larry Simonds

The item was motioned To Approve by Travis Smith and seconded by Phil Bonham with a failed result 2-3-1-0 Opposed by Scott Bates, DeWayne Chitwood, Shane Robinson Abstained by Larry Simonds

To approve the original budget, without the employee cuts

The item was motioned To Approve by Shane Robinson and seconded by Scott Bates with a passed result 3-2-1-0 Opposed by Phil Bonham, Travis Smith Abstained by Larry Simonds

To approve option B

6. New Business

6A. Consideration to Approve the Audit Contract for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024- 8:02 PM

There was no discussion.

The item was motioned To Approve by Travis Smith and seconded by Phil Bonham with a passing result 5-0-0-0

6B. Consideration of Ordinance 2-2024 To Allow for a Reserve Police Officer/Auxiliary Police Officer Department- 8:03 PM

Mr. Attaway said this is a carry over from the previous month and the Police Chief has sent out the updated policy. This is an ordinance to adopt the position requested by the League of Municipalities.

The item was motioned To Approve by Phil Bonham and seconded by DeWayne Chitwood with a passing result 5-0-0-0

6C. Consideration of Adopting the Water and Sewer Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)- 8:03 PM

Mr. Attaway said this was discussed in previous meetings and this is the final version.

After the vote, Councilmember Bonham asked if the City Manager needed guidance going forward with this. Mr. Attaway said he did not.

The item was motioned To Adopt by Phil Bonham and seconded by DeWayne Chitwood with a passing result 5-0-0-0

6D. Consideration of Budget Amendment #16- 8:05 PM

Mr. Attaway went over the amount of the budget amended noted in the agenda packet.

The item was motioned To Approve by Travis Smith and seconded by DeWayne Chitwood with a failed result 0-0-0-0

6E. Consideration of Budget Amendment #17- 8:06 PM

Mr. Attaway went over the amount of the budget amended noted in the agenda packet.

The item was motioned To Amend by DeWayne Chitwood and seconded by Travis Smith with a passing result 5-0-0-0

6F. Consideration of Budget Amendment #18- 8:06 PM

Mr. Attaway went over the amount of the budget amended noted in the agenda packet.

He made note that a lot of the amendments coming up is the interest where we are receiving the revenue and appropriated the expenditure that is not to be spent in the next 20 days or the rest of the current fiscal year. At the end of the fiscal year, it will roll into the fund balance. There is a fund balance tool from the Budget Ordinance that says anything above 50% of your fund balance can automatically be transferred to the Community Investment Fund (CIF). Mayor Simonds said "the State requires you to put that in a savings of some type, according to what he got from the NC Department of State Treasury. Anytime you reach a certain point, it goes into a savings account." Mr. Attaway said yes.

The item was motioned To Approve by Travis Smith and seconded by Scott Bates with a passing result 5-0-0-0

6G. Consideration of Budget Amendment #19- 8:08 PM

Mr. Attaway went over the amount of the budget amended noted in the agenda packet.

Mayor Simonds asked if that money was coming into the city. Mr. Attaway said yes. Mayor Simonds asked what savings account that comes from. Mr. Attaway said he didn't have the account fund, but it's MRS and interest investments from the General Fund. Mayor Simonds asked if that was the MS Capital. Mr. Attaway said this isn't a capital account. Mayor Simonds asked if this was a Truist account or capital management account. Mr. Attaway said this is First Horizon. Mayor Simonds asked if the city is getting 5% interest? Mr. Attaway said "around that amount." Mayor Simonds said "good, anytime we can bring money in is good."

The item was motioned To Approve by Scott Bates and seconded by Phil Bonham with a passing result 5-0-0-0

6H. Consideration of Budget Amendment #20- 8:09 PM

Mr. Attaway went over the amount of the budget amended noted in the agenda packet.

The item was motioned To Approve by DeWayne Chitwood and seconded by Scott Bates with a passing result 5-0-0-0

6I. Consideration of Budget Amendment #21- 8:10 PM

Mr. Attaway went over the amount of the budget amended noted in the agenda packet.

The item was motioned To Approve by Scott Bates and seconded by DeWayne Chitwood with a passing result 1-0-0-0

6J. Consideration of Budget Amendment #22- 8:11 PM

Mr. Attaway went over the amount of the budget amended noted in the agenda packet.

Mayor Simonds asked if this was the DQ money or the direct funding from Representative Torbett. The motion was then made. During the discussion, Mayor Simonds said to Mr. Attaway that this fund was down

to about \$20k and has now gone up to about \$68k. Mr. Attaway said it was going to be down to more like a couple thousand and now we are sitting around \$50k. Mayor Simonds said I guess we can vote on this now. Councilmember Chitwood said we can. Mayor Simonds said he'd "like to see if we take bids to paint that old block building out there out of this money. I'm sure everyone seen it, it's pitiful. It would make a big improvement to get that graffiti painted over but that's for another time, unless yall wanted to vote on it tonight. We have the money to do it. That's up to yall." Councilmember Chitwood said that's for another time and asked to move on.

The item was motioned To Approve by DeWayne Chitwood and seconded by Scott Bates with a passing result 5-0-0-0

6K. Consideration of Budget Amendment #23- 8:12 PM

Mr. Attaway went over the amount of the budget amended noted in the agenda packet.

The item was motioned To Approve by Scott Bates and seconded by Travis Smith with a passing result 5-0-0-0

6L. Consideration of Budget Amendment #24- 8:13 PM

Mr. Attaway went over the amount of the budget amended noted in the agenda packet.

The item was motioned To Approve by Scott Bates and seconded by DeWayne Chitwood with a passing result 5-0-0-0

7. Reports / Discussions

7A. City Manager Report- 8:14 PM

1. Payment Inventory Analysis- This was sent to the council to see if they want to put on the July agenda to prioritize some projects or to give him direction to get some quotes on some of the highest ranking areas of the city. He wanted to see where they wanted to go on this project. Councilmember Smith said he thinks we should move forward on getting quotes for the higher priority areas. Mr. Attaway asked if it should go on the July agenda as that is how it was handled three years ago, the last time this was done.

Councilmember Chitwood agreed to put it on the July agenda.

2. Public Works Facility or the old chemical plant demolition which was funded through the CIF, which was discussed in the budget work sessions. He asked if he should start the process of getting a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the design of it to get the process moving. Mayor Simonds asked if there was a grant for it now or if it is projected to get a grant? Mr. Attaway said "that is why we are allocating a certain amount of every budget to the CIF so we can pay the debt payment for it." Mayor Simonds asked "So we're taking money out of the General Fund to do that, not grant money?" Mr. Attaway said "we do not have a grant to build a Public Works facility." Mayor Pro Tem Bates asked "just like we just the interest that we just got through all these budget amendments, is that something that can be used towards payment. Like can any interest that comes in, can that be used towards any payment toward Public Works?" Mr. Attaway said "I think any interest that, you could've done that in the Budget Ordinance, for example, that any interest above the budget amount automatically rolls to the CIF, to then fund the debt payments for it. It's kind of how it's set up roughly anyway with the 50% rule of the fund balance reserve. If we get 1 [percent] in there, we transfer that 1% to CIF fund and so it's happening anyway but there's certain rules and tools you can make up to make sure revenue funds go directly in there." Mayor Simonds asked if Mr. Attaway had an estimate on how much it's going to cost to build a Public Works building? Councilmember Bonham said "\$4 million, it's all in your stuff." Mr. Attaway said "that is what we've discussed during our work sessions,

Mayor." Mayor Simonds said "so a total of about \$4 million to build it and if you take this money, which is good that we are taking in in interest, but it goes back into the General Fund and can be used for anything pertaining to the General Fund. But that would have to be something that the council would have to vote on to use that money for wherever." Mr. Attaway asked if council "would like for me to work on RFQ's to bring to council for approval to get the process started to recruit a design firm to help get this moving. I know we had one firm come and speak to you all at the work session about the different traditional bids and the construction manager at risk and a design build. So there are different options that you all can do and we can work that out later but do we want to get the ball rolling on that facility because the need of the facility is still here and I wanted to get through the budget to see where we're at. Councilmember Smith said we absolutely need to move forward and get that ball rolling because it's a need for the city. Mr. Attaway said he did not need a motion just approval from council. Mayor Simonds asked again if it was \$4 million. Mr. Attaway said we do not know that for a fact but it is an estimate from the Master Plan.

Mayor Simonds said "I think the best thing for us to do is try to go back to Torbett [John Torbett, House of Representatives]" Councilmember Bonham interrupted and said "I think we are partitioning, we are making all the applications that we possibly can. I think that the more we resist and the more that we do as a city, collectively and bucking back on the way to do things makes are case harder, so I think right now what we've got is the best we're going to get based on our mayor and so forth. I would encourage you to move forward with that if the rest of council agrees on it." Councilmember Chitwood said regarding the Mayor bringing up John Torbett stating Mr. Attaway sent an email out that funds are starting to shrink and dry up and it will be harder to get extra funds and he would like to see something done to remedy the eyesore of the current Public Works building. Mr. Attaway said when he submitted the direct funding request this year, Public Works building was in there including the City Hall/Police building. He said this was asked in a previous meeting where he asked council if they wanted to do all these things or some of them and council wanted to do all. Mayor Simonds said "the citizens originally when this started taking place, we were going to build a park all kinds of stuff, Public Works and all that crap down there, there was going to be grant money. I don't think and I would never vote to spend a dime over there because of the way the property is, you know the chemicals. If you paint the building and get rid of the graffiti, that would be a step in the right direction. As far as taking tax payers money moving Public Works up there I don't see it in the near future, maybe down the road. Once things start to grow and you have more tax money coming in, then you do it in stages at a time, rather than just saying we can take \$25,000 and I don't think you can get the plans for that. Have you already got the plans for it [to Mr. Attaway]? Councilmember Chitwood said we're trying to give him a yes or no to do that. Councilmember Bonham said "we can't really nickel and dime it like you're suggesting that we do. We've been given an opportunity now to move forward and do some things with low interest loans and some funding that's available for us to use for this type of project and there is no question that it needs to be done. We have the dirt available to put it on, so now is the time to move. Outside of that, I don't think there really is more discussion. If we want to do it, yes. If you don't want to do, that's fine too but if you're going to move, now's the time to move or kick it down the road and we can do that too." Mr. Attaway said he got the direction he needed.

3. Update on Recreation Center (old Boys and Girls Club) - surveillance, secured access and burglar alarms to be installed this week. He is going to hand to them and will be on the July agenda, an MOU proposal from the Gaston County YMCA for youth athletics in Lowell. It is just for youth athletics in Lowell.

4. Meeting with the NC. Department of Public Safety (NCDPS) is this Thursday, June, 13, 2024 to assist with the damages from the tornado and the debris. Mayor Simonds asked if he knew of a website where citizens can get help if they had property damage and do not have insurance. Mr. Attaway said NCDPS and the County. Mayor Simonds asked if that can be put on the website. Mr. Attaway said yes.

7B. City Attorney Report- 8:30 PM

Nothing to report.

7C. Mayor and City Council General Discussion- 8:30 PM

1. Mayor Pro Tem Bates said there have been discussions on social media about ARPA money and asked Mr. Attaway if "ARPA money was used to buy the church property or was that allocated towards salaries. Were ARPA monies moved to pay salaries and then in return, the salaries is what paid for the property. I know it washes out but the ARPA money was used for salaries not to purchase the real property?" Mr. Attaway said "yes, that's how the US Treasury gave us the guidance that we could use if for revenue replacement. We opted to put it across different departments' salaries then you can...say you have a half a million dollars in this department, you put the ARPA money in, you pull out, the salary money." Mayor Pro Tem Bates said "I get it, it washes. I just want the citizens to realize that what they were being told was ARPA money bought the church property and the Salvation Boys and Girls Club, not correct is what I'm getting from you right?" Mr. Attaway said "it's kind of potato, patato." Mayor Pro Tem said "potato patato but you used ARPA money to pay the salaries." Councilmember Bonham said "did it come out of taxpayer dollars? No." Mayor Pro Tem Bates said "it all washes out, but salaries do come from taxpayer money." Councilmember Bonham agreed. Mayor Pro Tem Bates said "the money is there, nothing is missing and I'm not accusing that, just wanted to let the citizens know how it was actually done." He then thanked the citizens for coming out and watching. He said when he worked for the city before, very few people would come to the meetings and he thanked those for coming out, speaking and getting involved.

2. Councilmember Chitwood thanked everyone and said it [budget] was hard to make but "the decision made tonight was brought to Mr. Attaway several weeks ago for an option B so I want that to be known. Mr. Bates and Mr. Robinson brought it to him last month, so he said he was going to give an option A and option B. He gave the recommended budget that he wanted and I understand that but we wanted that [option B] because when the future growth comes, when we've got all these developments coming, close to an \$18 million dollar project that is coming up on Ash St in the near future according to developers that I spoke to personally. So when that comes in, that revenue tax comes in, I'm all for revisiting those jobs coming back. Thank you for all for coming out and like one person said a minute ago, you're not going to please everybody, we tried to please everybody, but you can't."

3. Councilmember Smith said "I just wanted everyone to know we don't agree on things but we do speak to each other. I've talked to Bates and Chitwood many times but haven't talked to Shane personally yet but overall we don't agree on things and we're not going to but we do have somewhat of a good communication with each other and know what's going on before these meetings. We don't just come in here with 177 page packet and just go at it. We study. We have respect for each other. We may not show it sometimes but we're working on that." He then said he's been asked about the clock out front and getting the time corrected. Mr. Attaway said there are still a few people that know how to work on that clock and Thad [Buchanan] has reached out to them to get them what they need to assist with repairs and if that

doesn't work, there is a retrofit that he will have to discuss with council later. Councilmember Smith then thanked the citizens for coming.

4. Councilmember Chitwood also reminded Mr. Attaway about the request he received from a citizen about a name on the memorial and to follow up with him,

5. Mayor Simonds said "I'm glad you all came out, love me or hate me, I love all of you. I feel so (inaudible) every time I leave here and what tears me out of the frame is how much I love our old soldiers and all the old people I was around all my life...and what tears me out of the frame is we don't even have a sign for D-Day and I'm going to buy one and put it out in the morning. I'm not bragging on myself but I don't want it taken down until after July 4th because I want to show appreciation for all our soldiers and people that died for us so we're not speaking German. Can you imagine if D-Day hadn't of happened. If we waited maybe a day, maybe a week later, who knows what would have happened. I'm just so proud of our military and so proud of our citizens."

He continued saying "no one knows how to run this town 100% and we have to depend on other people. Here's the bottom line, you have to be able to afford to live here and once the growth comes, I think you're going to see it to where these houses will be built if they do what they say they're going to do and bring revenue. We haven't even reaped the benefits of what's already been built. We don't see that in our budget but we will after October when we adopt the audit. I want to find out just one time how much money that the City of Lowell has. I tried to get it from the town hall but they said they're busy or whatever but I don't quit. I took my time and looked on the computer and found out today from the NC Department of Treasury that this town has a lot of money, a lot of funds. If people could come together and see the whole bottom line as to what we have and how we could utilize this. I don't mean to say it in the wrong way, but when you have a sewer system that's paid for and you don't even use half capacity. I understand that yall try to make it like things are going to be so rough down the road and we are going to have to do this, but as long as that plant is working and taxpayers, old people that live here pay it, it's on their backs. Now we are going to go in debt for a lot of money. I want us to make the right decisions. I'm not saying that I'm right either. Let's just do some figuring and see how these other towns look as far as Cramerton and Ranlo because they're on that Two Rivers program but they didn't have to give up this kind of money. I don't know why we're having to spend so much money to give our plant and stuff away. That's my question. If they would come in, like I said in that meeting, and pay for this and take over the plant and keep our fees where we could afford it, that's well and good. If they need us that bad and it's going to help them that bad, they ought to have to put something in it too and that's my opinion." He then thanked all the citizens at home for watching and coming out tonight.

8. Adjournment

8A. Meeting Adjournment- 8:34 PM

The item was motioned To Approve by Scott Bates and seconded by DeWayne Chitwood with a passing result 5-0-0-0



P 05-2024 Designation of July as Parks and Recreation Month

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	Special Presentation Item: 3A
Reference File	Presented By

To:

From:

Date:

Re:

placeholder for info here...

Attachments

[PR05-2024 -Designation of July as Park and Recreation Month.pdf](#)



PROCLAMATION #05-2024

WHEREAS Parks and Recreation is an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Lowell, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS Parks and Recreation promotes health and wellness, improving the physical and mental health of people who live near parks; and

WHEREAS Parks and Recreation promotes time spent in nature, which positively impacts mental health by increasing cognitive performance and well-being, and alleviating illnesses such as depression, attention deficit disorders, and Alzheimer's; and

WHEREAS Parks and Recreation encourages physical activities by providing space for popular sports, hiking trails, swimming pools and many other activities designed to promote active lifestyles; and

WHEREAS Park and Recreation programming and education activities, such as out-of-school time programming, youth sports and environmental education, are critical to childhood development; and

WHEREAS Parks and Recreation increases a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS Parks and Recreation is fundamental to the environmental well-being of our state; and

WHEREAS Parks and Recreation is essential and adaptable infrastructure that makes our communities resilient in the face of natural disasters; and

WHEREAS our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our state and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS the City of Lowell recognizes the benefits derived from parks and recreation resources.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY City of Lowell City Council that July is recognized as Park and Recreation Month in the city of Lowell, North Carolina.

THIS RESOLUTION, adopted on the 9th day of July, 2024.

Larry Simonds, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cheryl Ramsey, City Clerk #PR5-2024



Planning Report

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	Consent Agenda Item: 4A
Reference File	Presented By

To: Scott Attaway, City Manager

From: Tyler Cobb, Planning Director

Date: July 9th, 2024

Re: Planning Report

Code Enforcement:

Multiple nuisance violation letters issued.

Enforcement Action:

Corrected by Owner

Zoning:

Processed (13) zoning permits in June.

Permit count (77) for calendar year 2024 to-date.

Reviewed Site Plan for Lowery Oaks

Meeting regarding Lowell Woods Construction Inspection

Meeting for 4114 E. Franklin Blvd

Meeting for 4210 E. Franklin Blvd.

Meeting regarding Willow Creek 5th Review

Planning:

HWY 7 Project review

Attended Lowell City Council Meeting, 6/11/2024.

Meeting regarding River Heights Retaining Wall

Meeting regarding 830 Groves St.

Meeting regarding Willow Creek

Meeting Regarding 510 W. First

Other:

Attended monthly department head meeting.

Attended BPAC by laws meeting

Attended BPAC Meeting

Attended Planning Board

Attended LCC

Attended HeyCO groundbreaking

Attended River Heights Slope Review

Attended Natural Resources Meeting



Stormwater Report

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	Consent Agenda Item: 4B
Reference File	Presented By

To: Scott Attaway, City Manager

From: Jamie Watkins, Stormwater Administrator

Date: 7-1-2024

Re: June 2024 Stormwater Department Report

- Continued working on end of year self assessment
- Continued updating and streamlining processes
- Finalized close out of Yorkshire America site
- Began researching updates to NOAA flooding prediction tools
- Attended virtual training session
- Attended Department Head meeting
- Attended Quarterly DEQ meeting
- Met with new Public Works Director to go over GIS projects
- Met with out-going Communications Director to gain access to social media and website
- Met with Gaston County Technical Review Committee
- Met with Catawba Riverkeeper



Finance Report

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	Consent Agenda Item: 4C
Reference File	Presented By

To: Scott Attaway, City Manager

From: Lisa Nolen, Finance Director

Date: 07-02-2024

Re: Finance Report

Utility Billing:

- Answer questions from Utility Billing staff.
- Provide assistance as needed answering phones, troubleshooting technical issues, and reviewing documentation for staff.
- Verify deposit amount and audit cash drawer daily due to staff reduction.
- Provide back-up when staff is out of the office.

Finance:

- Issue purchase orders for staff.
- Provide assistance to other staff as needed.
- Process and pay bills.
- Ensure transactions are entered correctly and reconcile bank accounts.
- Complete agenda related tasks for Council meetings.
- Complete needed documentation and tasks for grants.
- Print checks and send positive pay to bank.
- Other tasks as needed.

Other:

- Attend meeting with City Manager.
- Attend meeting with City Manager and Council member.
- Attend Department Head meeting.
- Attend meeting with Polimorphic for instructions to upload Master Balance.
- Attend Capital Financing in Local Government class hosted by UNC School of Government.

Attachments

[04-30-2024 Dashboard.pdf](#)

City of Lowell, North Carolina
 FY 2024 Revenue Dashboard
 4/30/2024

Type	Budget	YTD thru 04/30/2024	Budget Remaining	Percent Remaining	Percent of FY24 Remaining
Funds					
General Fund	5,256,581.48	5,190,822.02	65,759.46	1%	17%
Water/Sewer Fund	2,538,292.24	2,043,386.24	494,906.00	19%	17%
Stormwater Fund	437,974.44	344,019.14	93,955.30	21%	17%
Total	8,232,848.16	7,578,227.40	654,620.76	8%	17%

Notes: Includes Budget Amendments through Budget Amendment #24.

City of Lowell, North Carolina
 FY 2024 Expenditure Dashboard
 4/30/2024

Department	Budget	YTD thru 04/30/2024	Budget Remaining	Percent Remaining	Percent of FY24 Remaining
General Fund					
Administration	2,686,389.60	1,919,330.10	767,059.50	29%	17%
Public Safety	1,370,034.02	1,060,293.27	309,740.75	23%	17%
Public Works-Streets	350,265.88	220,737.97	129,527.91	37%	17%
Sanitation	396,463.72	270,630.77	125,832.95	32%	17%
Parks & Rec	321,968.22	212,900.25	109,067.97	34%	17%
Powell Bill	131,460.04	44,857.74	86,602.30	66%	17%
Total	5,256,581.48	3,728,750.10	1,527,831.38	29%	17%
Water/Sewer Fund					
Water/Sewer	1,559,066.44	1,211,407.46	347,658.98	22%	17%
Wastewater Treatment	979,225.80	557,169.51	422,056.29	43%	17%
Total	2,538,292.24	1,768,576.97	769,715.27	30%	17%
Stormwater Fund					
Stormwater	437,974.44	299,098.42	138,876.02	32%	17%
Total	437,974.44	299,098.42	138,876.02	32%	17%

Notes: Includes Budget Amendments through Budget Amendment #24.



Parks and Recreation Report

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	Consent Agenda Item: 4D
Reference File	Presented By

To: Scott Attaway

From: Andrea Nixon, Parks and Recreation Director

Date: July 9, 2024

Re: Parks and Recreation Report

GENERAL

- Summer Lunch Program with Gaston County Schools-assistance and promotion of program
- Worked on Music in the Park series (Notice of Music in the Park/Fall Fest distributed to Downtown businesses, Banners/Signs, Train Slow Order Request, Bands, Set up, Vendors)
- Worked on Fall Festival, National Night Out-vendors, layout, entertainment
- Planned and created program calendar for July youth & adults and active adults 50 & up (ordered and purchased materials)
- Set up, prepared materials and break down of weekly programs
- Met with Contractors for bids on Lowell Community Center
- Communication with P&R Maintenance-cleaning, facilities and grounds, dog waste stations and general supplies
- Corresponded with Bands-available dates, contracts and deposits
- Communication with Public Works-needs for upcoming events, facilities and grounds
- Communication with HR Director-P&R Month Proclamation, new PT hire, interview, general questions
- Communications with Customer Service-Programs, Ball field and shelter rentals
- Communication with Communications Director- regarding programs/events, social media/website, CodeRed
- Communications with public-reservations for Community Center, Harold Rankin picnic shelter and ball field, recreational programs and general inquiries
- Scanned and submitted receipts and invoices
- Answered phone calls and returned voicemails
- General cleaning and picked up trash in park

MEETINGS

- Gaston County Safe Kids Meeting 6/13
- Safety Committee Meeting 6/13
- New Hire Interview 6/17
- Piedmont Security 6/17-6/18
- National Night Out Meeting with PD 6/24
- Lowell Community Committee (LCC) Meeting 6/24
- Department Head Meeting 6/27

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

- Summer Lunch Program-Program start 6/4 (avg 15 attendees)
- Paint & Slurp 6/6 (40 attendees)
- Pickleball 6/11 (2 attendees)
- Freeze Pops 6/12 (40 attendees)
- Pickleball 6/13 (6 attendees)
- Play-n-Roll 6/14 (2 attendees)
- Cornhole 6/17 (0 attendees)
- Bingo 4 Kids (rescheduled)
- Pickleball 6/18 (9 attendees)
- Class is in Session 6/20 (3 attendees)
- Pickleball 6/20 (3 attendees)
- Play-n-Roll 6/24 (4 attendees)
- Pickleball 6/25 (5 attendees)
- Open Soccer 6/26 (rescheduled)
- Ice Cream Social 6/26 (20 attendees)
- Pickleball 6/27 (6 attendees)

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Music in the Park
Saturday, June 8
McCord Family Park
(250+ attendees)

ATHLETICS

- Communicated with Gaston County Family YMCA-upcoming fall sports
- Communication with youth tee-ball-end of season party

placeholder for info here...



Police Report

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	Consent Agenda Item: 4E
Reference File	Presented By

To: Scott Attaway, City Manager

From: Jeff Harrison, Assistant Chief of Police

Date: July 3, 2024

Re: June Police Report

Lowell officers responded to 715 calls for service in June 2024 compared to 811 from June 2023. There were 95 traffic stops conducted. Officers logged 6 felony arrests and 11 were taken to jail on misdemeanor charges. Each of the two new Lowell Police Officers have been getting involved, each logging arrests and traffic stops.

Officers Farmer and Cruz were sworn for full duty in June. They each dove straight in getting involved and contributing to our agency. These two additions bring the Lowell Police Department to full roster. Officer Farmer is a seasoned veteran officer with many certifications. He is experienced and familiar with the City of Lowell and will be an asset to our agency. Officer Cruz comes to us from the City of Gastonia. He was looking for a culture change and felt he would fit in well with the Lowell Police Department. He will attend needed certification classes needed when they become available. Sergeant Bowen states he has done an excellent job on her shift so far and he will also be an asset for years to come for our agency.

Captain Hoffman took about 450 old evidence/ property orders to the Gaston County courthouse in June. Once returned the orders will instruct him on what to do with the property listed on each order. Some of the old evidence/ property on the orders dates to the 70s. Captain Hoffman has been working on getting the Lowell Police Department property and evidence cleaned out and he is well on the way to accomplishing that.

Design Tech has moved the existing network equipment from the front office to another location to prevent any interference with the City of Gastonia connection. The records management server at the police department has been virtualized and that data is now stored on the hardware at city hall. This was done because the server the PD was using for records management was very old and outdated, if problems were experienced with the old equipment, replacement would be costly. Furthermore, with the switch to New World programs for records management, the need for access to old records will significantly decrease. The City of Gastonia IT is putting the final touches on the new equipment for the Lowell Police Department and going live with New World is expected to take place before the end of July.



Public Works Report

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	Consent Agenda Item: 4F
Reference File	Presented By

To: Scott Attaway, City Manager

From: Justin Pearson, Public Works Director

Date: July 9th, 2024

Re: Public Works Report

1) *City crews repaired the following water leaks in June:*

- *Church St. 2" Main repair*
- *Lowell Rd. 1" Emergency main repair*

2) *Sewer stops in June:*

- *Lakeview Dr. Shot and cleaned the service line to remove the blockage.*
- *Crystal Lynn Dr. Shot and cleaned the service line to remove the blockage.*

3) *Water cut off / cut on.*

4) *Read meters.*

5) *City staff continues with the leak and copper evaluation.*

6) *Work orders.*

7) *Clean drying beds at waste water treatment plant.*

8) *Preventative maintenance and daily checks on the pump stations.*

9) *Mowed city properties and city right of ways.*

10) *2 water taps and 1 sewer tap on Seigle St.*

11) *Repaired the crosswalk sign several times.*

12) *Sanitation routes completed.*



Approval of Willow Creek Meadows Construction Administration Task Order

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	Consent Agenda Item: 4G
Reference File	Presented By

To: Scott Attaway, City Manager

From: Tyler Cobb, Planning Director

Date: July 9th, 2024

Re: Approval of Willow Creek Meadows Construction Administration Task Order

July 1, 2024

Lowell Mayor, Larry Simonds

Members of Lowell City Council

Re: Approval of Willow Creek Meadows Construction Administration Task Order

I am writing to recommend the selection of WithersRavenel as the on-call engineering firm for Willow Creek Meadows. This decision is based on their extensive experience and demonstrated expertise in projects like ours.

Per the Adopted Fee Schedule payment is due prior to the issuance of stamped/approved plans to the applicant. More than two (2) failed inspections will result in additional fees being charged to the developer as stated in the Failed Inspection Notice. Final plats will not be reviewed until all Failed Inspection fees have been paid to the City of Lowell. WithersRavenel has provided the City of Lowell with a proposal of Not to Exceed \$97,500. The City of Lowell will collect all fees to be paid by the developer Tru Homes.

Task No.	Task Name	Maximum Hours/Quantity	Rate (\$/hr)	Not to Exceed
1	Construction Administration	210	155	\$32,550
2	Construction Observation	520	125	\$65,000
TOTAL				\$97,550

WithersRavenel has successfully completed several projects like Willow Creek Meadows, demonstrating their ability to deliver high-quality results on time and within budget. Their experience with similar developments will be invaluable in anticipating potential challenges and implementing effective solutions.

In conclusion, WithersRavenel's extensive experience, comprehensive services, and proven track record make them the ideal choice as the on-call engineer for Willow Creek Meadows. Selecting WithersRavenel will ensure that our community benefits from top-tier engineering expertise and sustainable development practices.



Approval of Spencer Ridge Construction Plan Review Task Order

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	Consent Agenda Item: 4H
Reference File	Presented By

To: Scott Attaway, City Manager

From: Tyler Cobb, Planning Director

Date: July 9th, 2024

Re: Approval of Spencer Ridge Construction Plan Review Task Order

July 1, 2024

Lowell Mayor, Larry Simonds

Members of Lowell City Council

Re: Approval of Spencer Ridge Construction Plan Review Task Order

I am writing to recommend the selection of WithersRavenel as the on-call engineering firm for Spencer Ridge. This decision is based on their extensive experience and demonstrated expertise in projects like ours.

Per the Adopted Fee Schedule Plan Review and Construction Administration Fees apply to Subdivisions and Site Plans. If a fourth (4th) review is required, 75% of the initial Plan Review will be charged. WithersRavenel has provided the City of Lowell with a proposal of Not to Exceed \$33,300. The City of Lowell will collect all fees to be paid by the developer Lennar Homes.

Task No.	Task Name	Estimated Fee Not to Exceed
1	Construction Plan Review	\$25,900.00
2	Utility Allocation Review	\$7,400.00
TOTAL		\$33,300

WithersRavenel has successfully completed several projects like Spencer Ridge, demonstrating their ability to deliver high-quality results on time and within budget. Their experience with similar developments will be invaluable in anticipating potential challenges and implementing effective solutions.

In conclusion, WithersRavenel's extensive experience, comprehensive services, and proven track record make them the ideal choice as the on-call engineer for Spencer Ridge. Selecting WithersRavenel will ensure that our community benefits from top-tier engineering expertise and sustainable development practices.



Consideration of MOU for Lowell Athletics to be Administered by the Gaston County Family YMCA

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	New Business Item: 6A
Reference File	Presented By

To: Lowell Mayor and City Council

From: Scott Attaway, City Manager

Date: 7-2-2024

Re: Consideration of MOU for Lowell Athletics to be Administered by the Gaston County Family YMCA

Please see the attached memo for consideration of the YMCA taking over the youth sports leagues in the City of Lowell. The Parks and Recreation Director will maintain supervision of this agreement and the City's relationship. With the YMCA

Attachments

[Lowell_YMCA Memorandum of Understanding 2024 \(002\).pdf](#)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Agreement is made by and between the Gaston County Family YMCA and the City of Lowell hereafter referred to as YMCA and the City.

The YMCA is proud to have a working partnership with the City that enables the YMCA to extend its programs into neighborhoods served by the City. This partnership gives the YMCA the opportunity to enhance the lives of children and provide a much-needed service to the community. This agreement will serve as an outline of an understanding between these two organizations.

The City is also proud to participate in this partnership which will help toward our goal of providing needed recreation services for the Lowell community.

1. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE YMCA:

A. To organize and plan youth programs and leagues which includes organizing teams, securing volunteers, purchasing uniforms/supplies and collecting fees.

B. To manage the concession stand which includes purchasing products for resale, stocking the coolers and snack racks, and collecting fees for the sale of concessions.

C. To provide program opportunities to the residents of the City focused on youth sports/programs and open to expansion to adult and teen programming. YMCA agrees to provide adequate staff for these programs/events.

D. The YMCA agrees to maintain liability coverage for the times of operation of City property being used by YMCA in an amount not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) and a copy of the Certificate of Insurance will be furnished with this agreement listing the City as additional insured. The YMCA shall indemnify and hold harmless the City from any and all liability, suits, claims, demands, actions, costs and expenses of any kind or nature whatsoever, including attorney's fees, caused by or arising out of in any manner activities or functions by the YMCA's use or occupancy of City property by or as a result of the YMCA's use of occupancy of City property, or any injury to person or persons, including death, resulting at any time from the activities of the YMCA or occurring while any individual is on the property of the City for a YMCA purpose except and unless said injury or death is the

result of negligence on the part of the City or its agent.

K. The YMCA will conduct an orientation for all staff working at the City property and in programs to ensure that staff are properly certified/trained as needed.

L. The YMCA shall promptly report to the City (in writing) any unsafe condition that exists at the City property. The YMCA Executive Director of Programs will also advise the City Manager of this condition.

M. The YMCA will make all policy, personnel, and management decisions regarding the operation of the above mentioned programs.

N. The YMCA shall hold harmless and release and forever discharge the City, its agents, servants, successors, heirs, executors, administrators, and from any and all claims, actions, causes of action, demands, rights, damages, costs, expenses, loss of service and compensation whatsoever, including but not limited to personal injury or property damage, which may hereafter accrue on account of or in any way growing out of any and all known and unknown, foreseen and unforeseen consequences, pertaining to any actions of the YMCA and its agents in the execution of the terms of this agreement.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE City

A. To provide maintenance and landscaping of the property, buildings, and equipment.

B. To provide building keys and access to YMCA staff.

C. To provide water, sewer, and electric service at no cost to the YMCA for the operation of the outdoor complex.

D. To provide for the maintenance and repairs of the facilities.

E. To provide trash receptacles, trash bags and removal of debris for the facilities.

F. To provide fire extinguishers as required by the city fire codes.

G. To provide paper products for rest rooms (toilet paper and paper towels).

J. To communicate with the YMCA (Molly D'Avria Executive Director of Youth

Development or Kevin Wilson COO-CFO or Sharon Padgett CEO) any needs or concerns the City has regarding the management or operation of any areas under the control of the YMCA.

3. MUTUAL COVENANTS

A. The parties hereto, by agreeing to this Memorandum of Understanding, acknowledge and covenant each with the other that there may be from time to time matters of any operational nature which were not included in this Agreement. However, such matters will be subject of separate understandings between the YMCA and the City

B. Any changes to this Agreement, other than minor administrative matters not affecting income or expenses, must be made in writing and approved by both parties.

C. The term of this Agreement shall be for a period commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025. This Agreement shall automatically renew for additional one year periods, unless either party to this Agreement gives notice to terminate said Agreement no later than ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the current period.

D. Either party may terminate this Agreement upon ninety (90) days notice to the other party. In the event of a material breach by either party of the responsibilities and covenants herein, the other party may give notice to immediately terminate said Agreement.

E. Any notice required by this Agreement shall be provided by certified mail to the following persons:

Acknowledged, agreed and concurred on this __day of _____, 2024.

City of Lowell

City Manager

Date: _____

Date: _____

Gaston County Family YMCA

CEO

Date: _____



Consideration of Personnel Position Update

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	New Business Item: 6B
Reference File	Presented By

To: Lowell Mayor and City Council

From: Scott Attaway, City Manager

Date: 7-2-2024

Re: Consideration to Change the Title of the Public Works Supervisor to Assistant Public Works and Utilities Director

Currently, the position that functions as the second in command at the Public Works Department's, and the backup to the Public Works Director position, is titled as the Public Works Supervisor Position. Attached is a recommendation to change the title of the Public Works Supervisor Position to that of Assistant Public Works and Utilities Director.

This change ensures a more accurate depiction of the duties of this position and offers the department important succession planning for the future.

Fiscal Impact: Current Salary Grade 15 (\$47,521 to \$73,658) to Proposed Salary Grade 18 (\$55,012 to \$85,269)

Attachments

[Proposed Assistant Public Works Director.pdf](#)

ASSISTANT PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES DIRECTOR

General Statement of Duties

Performs responsible technical and administrative work supervising the work of employees engaged in repair, replacement and installation of water and sewer lines and appurtenances and other public works functions, including sanitation collection and streets and grounds maintenance.

Distinguishing Features of the Class

An employee in this class supervises crews engaged in a variety of work associated with providing water distribution and sewer collection services to citizens. Work includes supervising and assisting in the maintenance and repair of water and sewer lines, hydrants, meters, pump stations, rights of way and valves. Work also includes prioritizing work projects, assigning staff to projects; inspecting work; monitoring the work of contractors and answering and resolving public complaints. Work requires considerable interpersonal and technical skills and responsibility for crew safety. The employee is subject to working in inside and outside environments including extreme hot and cold weather; work hazards include exposure to loud noise, vibrations, moving mechanical parts, exposure to chemicals, fumes, odors, poor ventilation, and oils. The employee may work in small confined spaces while inspecting water and sewer line pipes, pump stations, or other small enclosed spaces. Work involves emergency call-back service and is also subject to the final OSHA standards on bloodborne pathogens and. Work is performed under the supervision of the Public Works and Utilities Director and is reviewed for conformance to established specifications and standards, safety, productivity of the unit and safety of work crews.

Duties and Responsibilities

Essential Duties and Tasks

Supervises and participates in the installation, maintenance and repair of water and sewer lines, hydrants, meters, and valves; supervises and participates in making water and sewer taps, repairing broken mains, flushing and cleaning sewer lines, maintaining and repairing lift stations, service connections and disconnections, exercising valves and other related activities.

Serves as the Director in the Director's absence; may serve as the Operator in Responsible Charge (ORC) or back-up ORC for the water distribution and/or wastewater collections systems.

Supervises employees performing residential trash and yard waste collection, facility and grounds maintenance, right of way mowing, debris removal, and street sign maintenance.

Receives work orders; establishes priorities and assigns projects to crews; reassigns employees and equipment to respond to emergencies.

Inspects installation and repair work in progress and completed projects for adherence to standards, specifications and plans; works with and monitors contractors on larger projects.

Operates back hoes, tractors, sewer jetter equipment, dump trucks, video camera and recording equipment, pumps, air compressors and other equipment.

Ensures the availability of equipment, materials and staff for assigned tasks; reviews inventory and notifies appropriate personnel of needed supplies and equipment; provides input on equipment and materials for budget purposes; ensures service and maintenance of equipment.

Instructs workers in the appropriate safety procedures and monitors work practices at work sites to ensure safety protocols are adhered to.

Responds to citizen requests, concerns, communicates with citizens about projects and impacts on service provision and timeframe for resolving service issues.

Keeps records; maintains log of work activities for state reporting; prepares reports; prepares material and supply requisitions; maintains adequate inventory and appropriate records.

Trains new and existing employees on methods, procedures and safety issues; provides employee performance coaching and conducts evaluations; maintains time and work records, participates with the director in hiring and disciplinary actions; approves leave.

Assists with compliance efforts related to the City's MS4 Stormwater permit.

Additional Job Duties

Performs related duties as assigned.

Recruitment and Selection Guidelines

Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities

Considerable knowledge of the principles, methods and standard practices of construction, repair, and maintenance of distribution and collection system lines, related structures and appurtenances.

Considerable knowledge of occupational hazards and safety precautions of distribution and collections system work, including trenching, shoring, confined space entry, work zone signing, blood borne pathogen standards and other regulations applicable to the work.

Considerable knowledge of the use of medium to heavy equipment, power and hand tools, and materials used in the work.

Knowledge of environmental laws and regulations, engineering specifications, and related standards applicable to distribution and collection system work.

Knowledge of the organization's water and sewer customer policies.

Working knowledge of effective supervisory principles and practices including communications, motivation, coaching, and of the organization's personnel policies and procedures for performance coaching and evaluation, effective discipline and other practices.

Working knowledge of the application of information technology to the work.

Skill in collaborative conflict resolution and effective customer contact.

Skill in the operation of heavy construction equipment.

Ability to read plans, maps, drawings, engineering specifications and other technical documents related to the work.

Ability to communicate effectively orally and in written form.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with supervisors, co-workers, employees and citizens.

Ability to establish effective work priorities and maintain necessary records and reports.

Physical Requirements

Must be able to perform the basic life functions of climbing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, crawling, reaching, standing, walking, lifting, grasping, feeling, talking, hearing, and repetitive motions.

Must be able to perform medium work exerting up to 50 pounds of force occasionally, and/or up to 20 pounds of force frequently, and/or up to 10 pounds of force constantly to move objects.

Must possess visual acuity necessary to read maps and diagrams, to operate a vehicle and equipment, work with data and figures, and to read and prepare reports.

Desirable Education and Experience

Graduation from high school supplemented by coursework in construction, engineering or related field and experience in water distribution and/or waste water collection system maintenance including some supervisory experience; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Special Requirements

Possession of Grade B Water Distribution Operator certification.

Possession of Grade III Wastewater Collection Operator certification.

Possession of a valid North Carolina Class B commercial driver's license.



Consideration of Budget Amendment #25 FY 2023-2024

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	New Business Item: 6C
Reference File	Presented By

To: Scott Attaway, City Manager

From: Lisa Nolen, Finance Director

Date: 07-02-2024

Re: Consideration of Budget Amendment #25 FY 2023-2024

The attached budget amendment is to receive funds received from Ford. Ford provided an Engine Horsepower Credit to us for our F-750 Dump Truck. This was due to the marketing material on this vehicle overstating the power ratings of the engine.

Attachments

[Budget Amendment #25 FY 2023-2024.pdf](#)

City Of Lowell
Budget Amendment #25
Budget Ordinance FY 23-24

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Lowell, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024:

Section 1: To amend the General Fund, estimated revenues are to be changed as follows:

General Fund:

Revenue:

	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
10-3350-0000 Miscellaneous Revenue		\$100.00

This will result in an increase of \$100.00 in the General Fund estimated revenues, bringing the revenues budgeted for FY 23-24 from \$5,256,581.48 to \$5,256,681.48.

Section 2: To amend the General Fund, the appropriations are to be changed as follows:

General Fund:

Expenses:

	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
10-5600-1700 Main. & Repairs - Trucks		\$100.00

This amendment will result in an increase of \$100.00 in the Streets appropriations for Main. & Repairs - Trucks in FY 23-24 from \$8,000.00 to \$8,100.00.

This amendment is to receive funds from Ford for an Engine Horsepower Credit.

Section 3: Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk of the City Council, and to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for their direction.

Adopted this _____ day of July, 2024.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk



Consideration of Budget Amendment #26 FY 2023-2024

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	New Business Item: 6D
Reference File	Presented By

To: Scott Attaway, City Manager

From: Lisa Nolen, Finance Director

Date: 07-02-2024

Re: Consideration of Budget Amendment #26 FY 2023-2024

This is to receive the Regional Economic Development Reserve - OSBM Grant #10252 in the amount of \$150,000.00. These grant funds are to be used for the purchase of land for downtown parking in the City of Lowell and for renovations to the Community Center.

Attachments

[Budget Amendment #26 FY 2023-2024.pdf](#)

**City Of Lowell
Budget Amendment #26
Budget Ordinance FY 23-24**

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Lowell, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024:

Section 1: To amend the General Fund, estimated revenues are to be changed as follows:

General Fund:

Revenue:

	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
10-3309-0000 Regional Economic Development Reserve Grant #10252		\$150,000.00

This will result in an increase of \$150,000.00 in the General Fund estimated revenues, bringing the revenues budgeted for FY 23-24 from \$5,256,681.48 to \$5,406,681.48.

Section 2: To amend the General Fund, the appropriations are to be changed as follows:

General Fund:

Expenses:

	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
10-4100-7500 Capital Outlay – Building/Land		\$79,631.50
10-6120-1501 CC-Maint. & Repair-Bldg./Grnd.		\$70,368.50

This amendment will result in an increase of \$79,631.50 in the Administration appropriations for Capital Outlay-Building/Land for FY 23-24 from \$0 to \$79,631.50. This amendment will result in an increase of \$70,368.50 in the Parks & Recreation appropriations for Community Center-Maint. & Repair-Bldg./Grnd. For FY 23-24 from \$36,000.00 to \$106,368.50.

This amendment is to receive funds from the Regional Economic Development Reserve Grant.

Section 3: Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk of the City Council, and to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for their direction.

Adopted this _____ day of July, 2024.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk



Consideration of Budget Amendment #1 FY 2024-2025

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 6:00 PM	New Business Item: 6E
Reference File	Presented By

To: Scott Attaway, City Manager

From: Lisa Nolen, Finance Director

Date: 07-03-2024

Re: Consideration of Budget Amendment #1 FY 2024-2025

The attached budget amendment is moving funds from Stormwater Fund Balance to pay for a stormwater repair project on E First Street.

Attachments

[Budget Amendment #1 FY 2024-2025.pdf](#)

**City Of Lowell
Budget Amendment #1
Budget Ordinance FY 24-25**

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Lowell, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

Section 1: To amend the Stormwater Fund, estimated revenues are to be changed as follows:

**Stormwater Fund:
Revenue:**

	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
90-3990-0000 Fund Bal. Appropriated		\$28,347.00

This will result in an increase of \$28,347.00 in the Stormwater Fund estimated revenues, bringing the revenues budgeted for FY 24-25 from \$287,320.00 to \$315,667.00.

Section 2: To amend the Stormwater Fund, the appropriations are to be changed as follows:

**Stormwater Fund:
Expenses:**

	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
90-9000-4500 Contracted Services		\$28,347.00

This amendment will result in an increase of \$28,347.00 in the Stormwater appropriations for Contracted Services in FY 24-25 from \$8,002.00 to \$36,349.00.

This amendment is to move funds from Fund Balance to cover stormwater repairs to E. First Street.

Section 3: Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk of the City Council, and to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for their direction.

Adopted this _____ day of July, 2024.

Attest:

Mayor

City Clerk