

## COMMITTEE OF 100 MINUTES

**DATE:** October 11, 2018

Meeting called to order: The October 11, 2018 meeting of the Committee of 100 was called to order at 12:00pm by President Ron Jordan at The Venue at Lenoir City. Lunch was provided by Lenoir City KFC.

Invocation: Ty Brewster gave the prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Doug Davis.

There were 75 members and guests standing. Several prospects members/guests introduced themselves.

**MINUTES APPROVED:** Motion was made by Mark Hackney to approve the September 2018 minutes. Second by Jeffery Feike. Motion passed.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Presented by John Evans. Year to date Summary Balance \$20,008.46, Deposits: (Dues) \$1,340.00, Expenses: (Lunch) \$550.00, (Meeting Rental) \$272.82. Bridge Project Balance \$1725.06. No deposit or expenses. Jeffrey Feike made a motion to except the treasurer's report. Second by Shauna Oden. Motion passed.

### COMMUNITY UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Loudon County Mayor- Buddy Bradshaw: In the past five (5) years, Loudon County's population has grown to greater than 52,000 and has had an increase of 1455 jobs. It is expected to have a growth in crease of greater than an additional 2000 residents and 1500 jobs within the next five (5) years.
- Loudon County Chamber of Commerce- Clayton Pangle: The Market Place Expo on October 5 at the Tellico Village Yacht Club was a success. The Annual Business After Hours on October 9 had 100 members in attendance by 5:10pm. The Annual Gala is on October 25, 2018. Tickets are \$30.
- Downtown Merchants- Mary Bright: Many events are coming up in Downtown Lenoir City. Visit [www.lenoircitymerchants.com](http://www.lenoircitymerchants.com) for information.
- Visitor's Bureau- Sarah Linginfelter: Rachel Baker is hosting the travel writers whom are in town visiting Loudon County. Deadman's Farm is celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> year as a Haunted House attraction. This year they are featuring a "Lights on/Non-Scare" tour October 24 for "scardy-cats".
- The Venue- Alison Sousa: The Venue is hosting the Second Annual Fireside Festival on Dec 4<sup>th</sup> from 630p-9p. All proceeds to benefit IVA's place. For information email [info@VenueLC.com](mailto:info@VenueLC.com) or call 865-986-8340.
- Guest- Tim Burchett: States he believes the Federal Government should stay out of local school safety plans because they want to compare local small town schools to larger districts such as LA and DC. Tim also states he sees an importance in bringing back family values; school teachers are not social workers. Values of morals and character should be taught at home by the parents. Children should know how to

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behave and be respectful when they go to school. The public school system started breaking down when prayer and God was pulled out of schools.

**SPECIAL FEATURE:**

Public Safety & School Security:

- Don White, Lenoir City Police, Public Safety Director: A challenge to public safety is to focus on mental illness. Can you tell on the looks or behavior of a person who will be a shooter? The LCPD and schools have outdated video surveillance systems. The Police Department's Tasers are no longer supported by the manufacturer; therefore, the department is forced to purchase new ones at \$1000 apiece. The one-half of 1% (.05%) of a tax rate increase on the November 6<sup>th</sup> ballot will help raise the funds needed to purchase the necessary equipment.
- Dr. Jeanne Barker, Director of Schools Lenoir City: Believes in being proactive in school and student safety. States teachers are not social workers, psychologists or behaviorists. The schools need improvements in the facilities and equipment such as surveillance systems, bus safety, and perimeter security to be proactive in keeping the students safe. Additional personnel are needed. Currently there are two (2) school counselors who are funded through a state grant. Each year it is unknown if they will be employed until the grant is processed. The tax increase will allow having at least one on-staff counselor who is clinical social workers with a minor in psychology or behavior therapy to assist or spot the students with psychotic tendencies. An article in Oct 7, 2018 Knoxville News Sentinel reported guns in school; however, statistics show most are not lethal or intentional. Lenoir City currently has the lowest city tax in the area compares to the other cities within a 20 mile radius. One-half of 1% (.05%) of a tax rate increase will make Lenoir City's city tax rate equal to that of Loudon's at 2.5%.
- Jason Vance, Director of Schools Loudon County: Loudon County and Lenoir City school districts have worked closely together to be proactive in protecting the students. Loudon County School District worked with the TN FBI to put into place emergency evacuation drills for scenarios of situations "we hope to never have to face" such as a shooter. Together with Lenoir City, check points have been implemented in all of the schools wherever possible so that a guest has to check in with authorized personnel before being able to gain access to the students. There is also an SRO on site at each school in the county.
- Q&A: Attending members had the opportunity to ask questions. Don White, Dr. Barker, and Jason Vance invited the members to have the public contact them directly if the members are asked questions about the tax increase in conversation.

Motion to adjourn by Buddy Bradshaw. Second by members standing.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** by President Ron Jordan 1pm.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Heather Phillips, Secretary