


MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council
Bonnie Svrcek, City Manager
Charles Hartgrove, Deputy City Manager
John Hughes, IV, Assistant City Manager

FROM: Donna Witt, Director of Financial Services 

SUBJECT: Responses to Questions Raised at the March 20, 2018 Budget Work Session

DATE: March 27, 2018

At the March 20th Work Session on the FY 2019 Proposed Budget, Council members raised the questions listed below, which required staff follow-up.

- 1. *Answers to Schools questions.***
Please see Attachment A.
- 2. *Provide the number of people utilizing the DMV Select and list of services. (Foster)***
Please see Attachment B.
- 3. *Provide the flow of work for the DMV Select by the Treasurer and the Commissioner of Revenue. (Tweedy)***
Please see Attachment C.
- 4. *What services does Animal Control provide and the frequency? (Tweedy)***
Please see Attachment D.
- 5. *Additional information previously requested regarding coyote and fox hunting.***
Please see Attachment E.
- 6. *The non-emergency number for Emergency Services.***
Please see attached.

7. Can the Hopper extend to the roundabout at Fifth and Federal now that businesses are opening along Fifth Street, particularly given the construction that will begin between Jackson and Taylor Streets? (Nelson)

At the public meetings we had in December to discuss moving the hours to the evening, it was discussed about incorporating 5th Street up to the traffic circle into the route. We decided against it at that time due to the fact of the time it would take to do so. The key points received from the people attending the public meeting were that the route needed to be short and service frequent (ideally less than 10 minutes) in the downtown area. Going to the traffic circle would have put us back to having service approximately every 20 minutes in downtown.

The ridership through this past weekend is below, please note the numbers on March 14 are from an event the Business Alliance was conducting and the numbers on March 16 and 17 were from participants attending the State Rodeo we hosted.

Hopper Ridership January			Hopper Ridership February			Hopper Ridership March		
1/22/2018	Monday	0	2/1/2018	Thursday	10	3/1/2018	Thursday	1
1/23/2018	Tuesday	0	2/2/2018	Friday	6	3/2/2018	Friday	18
1/24/2018	Wednesday	2	2/3/2018	Saturday	3	3/3/2018	Saturday	6
1/25/2018	Thursday	2	2/5/2018	Monday	0	3/5/2018	Monday	0
1/26/2018	Friday	1	2/6/2018	Tuesday	4	3/6/2018	Tuesday	1
1/27/2018	Saturday	10	2/7/2018	Wednesday	2	3/7/2018	Wednesday	1
1/29/2018	Monday	0	2/8/2018	Thursday	1	3/8/2018	Thursday	3
1/30/2018	Tuesday	2	2/9/2018	Friday	0	3/9/2018	Friday	3
1/31/2018	Wednesday	0	2/10/2018	Saturday	3	3/10/2018	Saturday	19
January Total		17	2/12/2018	Monday	2	3/12/2018	Monday	3
			2/13/2018	Tuesday	0	3/13/2018	Tuesday	2
			2/14/2018	Wednesday	1	3/14/2018	Wednesday	34
			2/15/2018	Thursday	0	3/15/2018	Thursday	7
			2/16/2018	Friday	18	3/16/2018	Friday	33
			2/17/2018	Saturday	3	3/17/2018	Saturday	57
			2/19/2018	Monday	0			
			2/20/2018	Tuesday	1			
			2/21/2018	Wednesday	3			
			2/22/2018	Thursday	5			
			2/23/2018	Friday	3			
			2/24/2018	Saturday	2			
			2/26/2018	Monday	0			
			2/27/2018	Tuesday	3			
			2/28/2018	Wednesday	0			
			February Total		70	March Total		188

c: Valeria Chambers

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE FOR ALL



LYNCHBURG CITY SCHOOLS

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

915 Court Street
Post Office Box 2497
Lynchburg, VA 24505-2497
www.lcsedu.net

TO: Members, Lynchburg City Council
FROM: Larry A. Massie, Acting Superintendent
DATE: March 27, 2018
SUBJECT: Responses to Questions

I am attaching the answers to the questions posed by you following the presentation given by me on March 20, 2018.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

LAM/wls

cc: Members, Lynchburg City School Board
Bonnie Svrcek, City Manager, City of Lynchburg

Responses to Lynchburg City Council Budget Questions

- Question #1: How many children receive special education in LCS?**
Question #2: What types of needs and disabilities do the children have that are receiving special education in LCS?

As of December 1, 2017, there were 1,283 students receiving special education services in Lynchburg City Schools. This represents approximately 15 percent of the student population. The numbers for the current and previous years, including the breakdown by type of disability, are provided in the attached Students with Disabilities chart.

In addition to the services students receive through the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (the act most frequently associated with special education), there are also students who receive accommodations through Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act. These students are not included in the number above or the attached chart because they are provided accommodations and do not have an IEP. There are an additional 263 students this year who qualify for accommodations through Section 504.

- Question #3: What percentage of children receive free or reduced lunch at each school?**

Since the introduction of the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) in the schools, the calculation of the poverty rate has changed. See the attached chart for the percentage of children directly certified at each school.

Historically, the percentage of students receiving free and reduced meals (lunch and breakfast) was determined by the number of students coming from families meeting certain income requirements. Eligibility was assessed through a Free and Reduced Meals Application. It was determined that many children who may qualify were not benefiting from free or reduced meals at school due to missing or incomplete applications.

Through the Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) was introduced which allows high poverty schools to apply for free meals for all students without the collection of meal applications. Schools participating in CEP are able to provide meals to all enrolled students at no cost to families. In April 2015, school divisions in Virginia were invited to complete the CEP application for schools with at least 40 percent of students identified as economically disadvantaged. Identified students are defined as the number of students approved for free meals through means other than a meal application. This includes students who are directly certified based on their participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Medicaid, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). It

also includes homeless students, runaways, migrant youth, Head Start, Even Start, and foster children.

For the 2017-18 school year, Lynchburg City Schools has 10 elementary schools and three middle schools participating in the CEP program. See the attached 2017-18 School Level National School Lunch Program Free & Reduced Price Eligibility Report for information on the percentage of students on free or reduced lunch, understanding that CEP participation affects the data among those participating schools.

Attached is a chart that details the percentage of students receiving free or reduced lunch by school based on direct certification.

Question #4: What percent of the LCS budget is contributed to poverty?

We are unable to quantify what percent of our budget is contributed to poverty because we provide services to all students regardless of their economic status. Poverty impacts students in many ways, as it also does the educational services that we provide to them and the budget to support those services. Most typically, the additional services linked to poverty are ones that reduce class size or add staff. For example, the state provides additional funding for classrooms at kindergarten through third grade to ensure no class is larger than a specified cap, which is calculated for each school based on their poverty level. Other budget items are tied to supporting students to reach grade level, such as the intervention and at-risk funds. Poverty is a significant contributing factor in these cases but not the only factor. We also have a number of grants that are influenced by poverty in the criteria to qualify for the grants on the amount of funds available.

Question #5: How many children in private schools are receiving special education services provided by LCS?

Currently, there are 109 students in private schools or homeschooled who are eligible for special education services. We utilize \$183,000 in federal funds designated for this specific purpose to serve approximately 50 of these students. We do not use local funds beyond a nominal amount to serve these students – those beyond the number we can serve with the federal funding are placed on a wait list.

However, we also are required to provide eligibility meetings and evaluations for private and homeschooled students. These are estimated at \$1,000 per evaluation/meeting and we have about 60 of these meetings on average per year (\$60,000).

Question #6: What amount of the LCS budget is for unfunded mandates?

We understand an unfunded mandate to be a statute or regulation that requires a state or local government to perform certain actions, with no money provided for fulfilling the requirements.

The federal special education laws would be a clear example of a mandate only partially funded. The most recent figures for LCS with special education are that we spend nearly \$17 million per year for special education services of which the state and federal funds only support a little over \$6 million, resulting in nearly \$11 million of the mandate to be funded locally.

We are required by law to fund education expenses for foster care students who are designated to attend LCS but are in the custody of another locality's Department of Social Services. We currently have 36 such students (11 of them in special education). This far exceeds the \$190,250 in funding we receive from the state for foster care.

We must provide necessary medical support for students in our schools who have significant medical needs. This includes students who need personal health assistants (currently we have four), ensuring nurses (as compared to assistants) at schools, and more. It is difficult to quantify the exact expense of this impact but it would be reasonable to estimate it at over \$300,000.

When the state provides for increased salaries for teachers, it only does so for those that are considered as positions in the Standards of Quality. For us to provide that same increase for all other employees, we typically need to pay nearly the same amount out of local funds as is provided from the state increase.

These are a few of the more significant examples of mandates that are unfunded or partially funded.

Question #7: What are the alternative programs at each level (elementary, middle, high school) and the cost of each?

Our alternative education programs consist of offsite learning centers, homebound instruction, Transition Classrooms at Sheffield Elementary School, Fort Hill Community School, Empowerment Academy and Rodeo.

Our offsite alternative education programs are offered through partnerships with external agencies. The external agency programs are funded through Medicaid and they absorb the majority of the costs. However, there is a cost for three full time teachers and some hourly instructional time for teachers to rotate among these programs to support students.

LCS also provides homebound instruction to student unable to attend classes at a school or at an offsite location. The LCS sites are funded from our Operating and Grant budgets in the amount of \$2,301,091 and \$317,053 respectively.

The attached Budget for LCS Alternative Settings details each program at the three levels.

Question #8: How much is spent on parent engagement?

There are multiple ways that parent engagement occurs and in some of these the funding and expenditures are more clearly distinguished than others.

The federal Title I program identifies a percentage of the total allocation of federal dollars that should be dedicated to parent engagement. This year that amount is \$40,341.

Within federal 21st Century grants (we currently have eight of them), parent engagement activities are required as part of the plan for the grants. We estimate that across the eight grants the total amount that comprises parent engagement is \$136,000.

In our office of Equity, Engagement, and Opportunity, we estimate that approximately \$70,000 is comprised of staff time and events related to parent engagement.

Lynchburg City Schools
Students with Disabilities
Child Count Disability Information by Year

March 19, 2018	2017		2016		2015		2014		2013		2012		2011	
Disability	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Intellectual Disability	48	3.74%	45	3.66%	41	3.50%	51	4.33%	40	3.44%	48	3.94%	50	4.22%
Multiple Disability	44	3.43%	46	3.74%	44	3.75%	49	4.16%	55	4.73%	49	4.03%	58	4.89%
Visual Impairment	6	0.47%	7	0.57%	4	0.34%	5	0.42%	8	0.69%	9	0.74%	10	0.84%
Orthopedic Impairment	4	0.31%	5	0.41%	3	0.26%	3	0.25%	3	0.26%	2	0.16%	2	0.17%
Hearing Impairment	8	0.62%	13	1.06%	12	1.02%	12	1.02%	10	0.86%	6	0.49%	8	0.68%
Specific Learning Disability	275	21.43%	261	21.20%	243	20.72%	252	21.39%	260	22.36%	297	24.40%	315	26.58%
Emotional Disability	113	8.81%	103	8.37%	102	8.70%	112	9.51%	99	8.51%	108	8.87%	89	7.51%
Speech / Language Impaired	192	14.96%	186	15.11%	207	17.65%	196	16.64%	211	18.14%	203	16.68%	186	15.70%
Other Health Impaired	256	19.95%	246	19.98%	224	19.10%	221	18.76%	214	18.40%	228	18.73%	227	19.16%
Autism	167	13.02%	162	13.16%	154	13.13%	138	11.71%	121	10.40%	116	9.53%	106	8.95%
Traumatic Brain Injury	3	0.23%	4	0.32%	4	0.34%	2	0.17%	2	0.17%	2	0.16%	3	0.25%
Deaf / Blind	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Developmental Delay	167	13.02%	153	12.43%	135	11.51%	137	11.63%	140	12.04%	149	12.24%	131	11.05%
Total # of Students with Disabilities	1283		1231		1173		1178		1163		1217		1185	
Increase / Decrease	+52		+58		-5		+15		-54		+32		+18	
Total Division Enrollment (9/30 count)	8352		8456		8587		8577		8583		8576		8334	
Division Special Education Percentage	15.36%		14.56%		13.66%		13.73%		13.55%		14.19%		14.22%	

Free or Reduced Lunch

Preliminary Child Count Data for 2018-2019			
School	Public Membership	Direct Certify	Percentage
BASS	220	166	75.45%
DESI	171	128	74.85%
RSP	473	329	69.56%
PES	375	241	64.27%
HES	456	292	64.04%
TCM	238	145	60.92%
LES	437	252	57.67%
SMS	553	306	55.33%
SHEF	390	203	52.05%
DMS	647	328	50.70%
PMUN	270	134	49.63%
LMS	598	283	47.32%
HHS	1042	490	47.02%
SES	335	149	44.48%
BHILLS	443	178	40.18%
ECG	1345	537	39.93%
	7993	4161	

Budget for LCS Alternative Settings

Alternative Program	Population Served/ Grade Levels	Funded By	Total Budget
Transition Classrooms at Sheffield	Students having difficulty maintaining in the base school/classroom Grades K – 5	LCS	\$245,908.49
Phoenix/Strategic Therapy	Students having difficulty maintaining in the base school/classroom, more aggressive behaviors and identified mental health issues Grades K – 5	Medicaid Funded Agency Program	\$0
OFR/Horizon	Students having difficulty maintaining in the base school/classroom, more aggressive behaviors and identified mental health issues Grades K - 5	Medicaid Funded Agency Program	\$0
Fort Hill Community School	Students having difficulty maintaining in the base school/classroom Grades 6 – 12	LCS	\$1,216,073 Grant funding \$317,053
OFR/Horizon	Students having difficulty maintaining in the base school/classroom, more aggressive behaviors and identified mental health issues Grades 6 – 8	Medicaid Funded Agency Program	\$0
Empowerment Academy	Students in need of credit recovery and/or SOL remediation Grades 10 - 12	LCS	\$577,828.30
Anderson	Students having difficulty maintaining in the base school/classroom, more aggressive behaviors and identified mental health issues Grades 9 – 12	Medicaid Funded Agency Program	\$0
Rodeo	Students who do not have the necessary credits to graduate with their peers and are in danger of dropping out of school Ages 16 – 18	LCS	\$261,281.66

City of Lynchburg

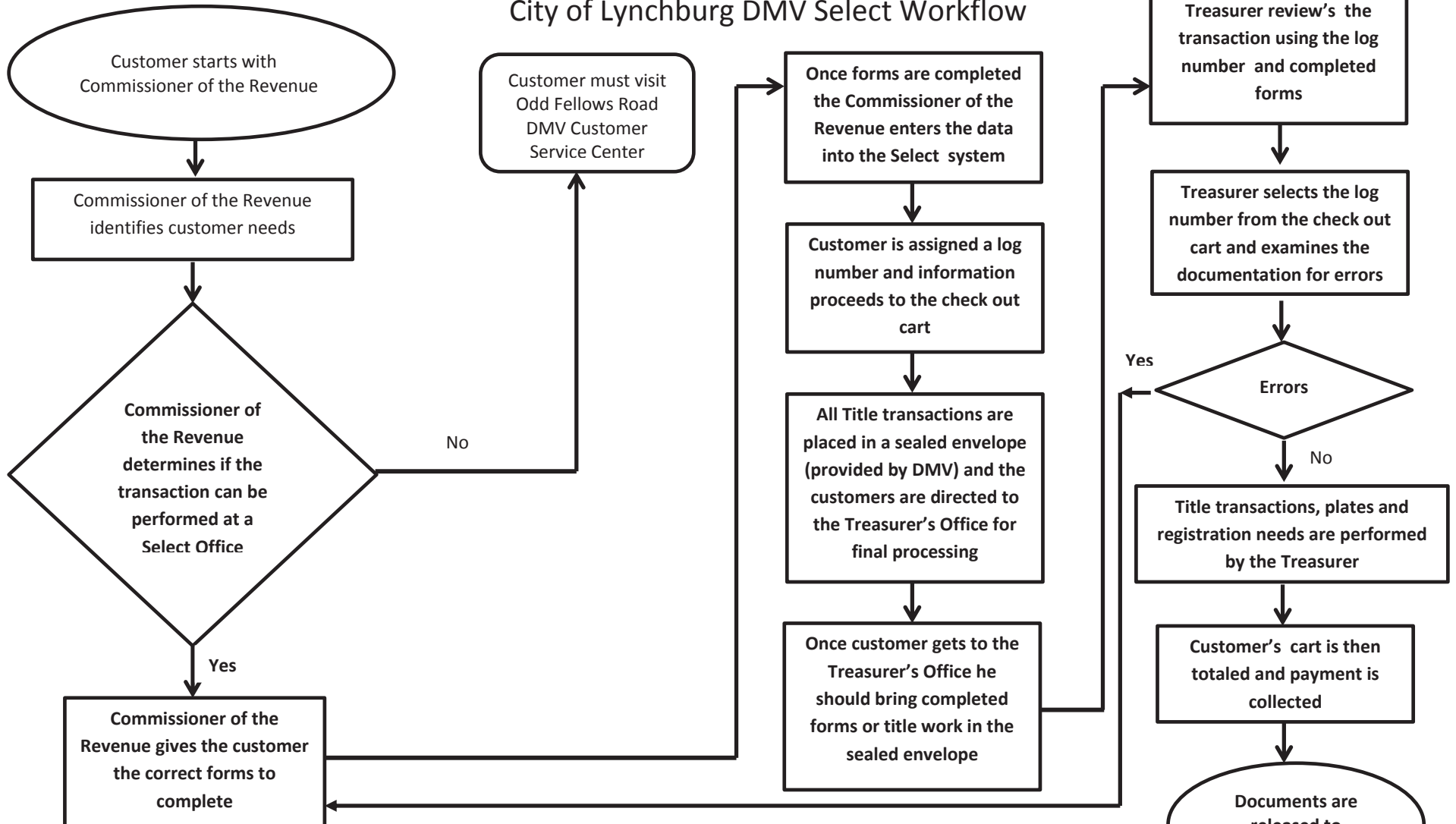
DMV Select Transaction Comparison for CY 2016 and CY 2017

	CY 2016	CY 2017	% Change
Returned-Checks	0	1	N/A
Title-Original	244	394	61.5%
Title-Transfer	1,547	1,845	19.3%
Additional-Sales/Use Tax	0	2	N/A
Supplemental-Lien	257	265	3.1%
Replacement-Title	182	259	42.3%
Substitute-Title	141	126	-10.6%
Registration-Original	1,920	2,275	18.5%
Registration-Renewal	7,541	7,777	3.1%
Registration-Transfer	382	498	30.4%
Registration-Reissue	293	326	11.3%
Registration- Miscellaneous	2	1	-50.0%
Registration-Card Print	153	174	13.7%
Registration-Surrender	1,000	1,148	14.8%
Overload-Permit-Issue	0	1	N/A
Overload-Permit-Renewal	0	1	N/A
Trip-Permit-Issue	32	40	25.0%
Transcripts	285	348	22.1%
PPI-Transcripts	2	1	-50.0%
Handicap-Placards	270	284	5.2%
Misc-Rev-Collection	1	2	100.0%
Personalized Plates ISS	153	156	2.0%
Vehicles Marked Sold	70	104	48.6%
Total Transactions	14,475	16,028	10.7%

DMV Select Vehicle Sales Tax Collected Comparison for CY 2016 and CY 2017

	CY 2016	CY 2017	% Change
Sales Tax Collected	\$207,343.01	\$270,009.39	30.2%

City of Lynchburg DMV Select Workflow



- I. Commissioner of the Revenue and Treasurer are required to review and make corrections to all Titles from previous day before mailing them to DMV for final review. (at DMV cost)
- II. Dual office prepares order forms for DMV supplies
- III. Treasurer is responsible for maintaining audit documents for DMV Audit
- IV. Treasurer maintains all petty cash and DMV deposits, along with cash drawer audit procedures
- V. Treasurer maintains supply and inventory for plates and decals

Roles and Responsibilities of Animal Control and Wildlife Specialists

Animal Control:

- Currently, we have one Chief Animal Warden, two full-time animal wardens, and one part-time (32 hours/week) animal warden. We also have a vacant full-time position yet to be filled.
- The Chief Animal Warden generally works 7AM-3PM Monday through Friday and fills in for the Wildlife Specialists when needed.
- Our animal wardens work Monday-Friday, with one full-time and the part-time animal warden working 7AM-3PM. The second full-time warden works 10AM-6PM. Once the vacant full-time position is filled, they would work 1PM-9PM or 2PM-10PM.
- State law requires that all localities appoint at least one animal warden.
- Animal Wardens enforce all state and local comprehensive animal laws.
- Our most common calls to service are: dog(s) at large, injured dogs or cats, injured deer or other wildlife, animal bites, bat exposure calls, animal checks (potential cruelty to animals), and bear calls.
- One of our most important functions is to take bite reports which are forwarded to the Health Department due to the risk of rabies. Our animal wardens follow up with the offending animal after 10 days to make sure they are acting normally and healthy to clear them from a rabies quarantine. Bat exposures are similar rabies exposure threats where we take the bat to the health department to be tested for rabies.
- Another crucially important function we perform is an “animal check” which sometimes leads to animal cruelty charges and the seizure of a neglected/abused animal; or the prevention of an animal becoming neglected by education.
- Responding to dog at large complaints is also an important function that reduces animal bites to citizens from dogs running at large.
- On every citizen encounter with an animal, we always check for a rabies vaccination (dogs and cats) and a city license (dogs only). This helps ensure rabies vaccines are taking place which lessens the chance of a rabies risk after animal bites.
- Perform yearly checks of all animal shops in the city.
- Perform yearly checks for all dogs on the State Dangerous Dog Registry living in the city.

Chief Animal Warden:

- Supervise animal wardens and wildlife specialists.
- Generate monthly and yearly reports for Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for Wildlife Management Program.
- Generate monthly and yearly reports for Lynchburg Police Department.
- Send every animal bite, bite quarantine, and bat exposure report to the Health Department daily.
- Maintain the Dangerous Dog Registry for the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- Submit a yearly report to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for Animal Dispositions in regards to injured animals that are euthanized.
- Inspect properties, issue permits, and maintain database for citizen bow hunting in the city.
- Issue deer "Kill Permits" for the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for properties with evidence of heavy deer damage or risk to planes. (I.E. Falwell Airport)
- Work with Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to solve wildlife related issues in the community.
- Respond to injured deer complaints while in service to help alleviate patrol officers from having to respond to these calls.
- Speak with animal rights groups and hunting groups on issues pertaining to their causes.

Wildlife Specialists:

- We currently have two wildlife specialists that work two days a week on ten hour shifts. They work two days between Monday-Thursday depending on their schedule for each month.
- They cull deer on approved city properties and approved citizen properties to help reduce the deer-related vehicle crashes.
- Take the culled deer to a cooler on Concord Turnpike. The deer meat is picked up by Hunters for the Hungry (Non Profit) every Friday. This meat helps feed the hungry in our area. I recently spoke to Mike Davidson, Chief Operating Officer at Roads to Recovery in Lynchburg, who stated that he gets a lot of deer meat for his residents in addiction recovery from our local Hunters for the Hungry every year.
- Respond to injured deer complaints while in service which helps relieve field units from having to take these calls.
- Culled 416 deer in 2016 and 345 deer in 2017.

**Statistics for Animal-Related Calls
Handled by Animal Control**

	CY 2016	CY 2017
Assigned Calls to Service	3,124	3,134
Animal Checks	427	360
Dog at Large	674	576
Miscellaneous Animal ¹	1,181	1,242
Injured Animals	223	165
Animal Bites	116	113
Bat Exposures	18	14
Cruelty to Animal Charges	17	17
Unvaccinated Dog Charges	59	37
Dangerous Dog Charges	3	3
Dog at Large Charges	37	27
Unlicensed Dog Charges	53	48
Care of Companion Animal Charges	9	2
Total Animal-Related Charges	178	134

**Statistics for Animal-Related Calls
Handled by Police Patrol**

	CY 2016	CY 2017
Assigned Calls to Service	824	1,365
Animal Checks	216	330
Dog at Large	194	377
Miscellaneous Animal ¹	120	140
Injured Animals	208	344
Animal Bites	46	107
Bat Exposures	10	13
Cruelty to Animal Charges	25	20
Unvaccinated Dog Charges	14	14
Dangerous Dog Charges	2	8
Dog at Large Charges	4	11
Unlicensed Dog Charges	19	16
Care of Companion Animal Charges	1	0
Total Animal-Related Charges	65	69

¹ Miscellaneous Animal calls can be citizen questions about animal laws, advice on wildlife related issues, and varying animal-related issues.

**Combined Total Statistics for Animal-Related Calls
(Animal Control and Police Patrol)**

	CY 2016	CY 2017
Assigned Calls to Service	3,948	4,499
Animal Checks	643	690
Dog at Large	868	953
Miscellaneous Animal ¹	1,301	1,382
Injured Animals	431	509
Animal Bites	162	220
Bat Exposures	28	27
Cruelty to Animal Charges	42	37
Unvaccinated Dog Charges	73	51
Dangerous Dog Charges	5	11
Dog at Large Charges	41	38
Unlicensed Dog Charges	72	64
Care of Companion Animal Charges	10	2
Total Animal-Related Charges	243	203

¹ Miscellaneous Animal calls can be citizen questions about animal laws, advice on wildlife related issues, and varying animal-related issues.

Important to Note

- LPD Patrol serves the majority of our animal cruelty warrants as they are either class 1 misdemeanors or felonies.
- **LPD Patrol responded to 65.7% more animal-related calls to service in 2017 than in 2016.**
- **Total animal-related calls to service went up nearly 14.0% in 2017 from 2016.**

Request for Coyote and Fox Hunting 2/14/2018

- Lynchburg City Code 27-67.3 (Bow Hunting) only refers to the legal bow hunting of deer. If City Council decided to allow for the hunting of coyotes and foxes, the city code and our bow permits would need to be amended.
- Nelson Lafon, Certified Wildlife Biologist with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, stated that towns and cities can allow the hunting of any game species they want to, as long as the animals are taken within the seasons for that area and with lawful means (e.g. bag limits, weapons, etc.)
- Mike Fies, Furbearer Project Leader for the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, stated that an injured coyote or fox would not be a significant public health/safety threat. He stated it could pose some potential public relation problems with people observing injured wildlife.
- When Mike Fies was asked about a minimum 5 acreage requirement for hunting foxes and coyotes, he stated he did not see the need for a higher acreage requirement than that of deer (no official minimum requirement as long as deemed safe). Fies felt in his professional opinion that injured coyotes and foxes would likely retreat further into the woods and “go underground” as opposed to interacting with other animals.
- Mike Fies also reported that allowing bow hunting of foxes and coyotes would likely yield no impact on the population of both species.

Sec. 27-67.3. Bow Hunting.

(a) The provisions of Section 27-67 shall not apply when discharging an arrow from a bow for the purposes of deer hunting within the city limits during the Early Special Urban Archery Season, the Early Special Archery Season, the Full General Firearms Deer Season or the Late Special Archery Season, as designated in regulations promulgated by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, under the following conditions:

(1) The landowner has applied for an annual permit from the chief of police to use his property for this purpose. The permit shall be granted by the chief of police or his designee if the application meets the requirements of this section, and

(2) The landowner has agreed to allow the city's wildlife management specialists on his property to cull deer under the conditions set forth in a memorandum of understanding with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. A copy of the memorandum of understanding between the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and the city shall be kept in the police department and shall be available for review upon request. It shall be the responsibility of any landowner applying for a permit to review the memorandum of understanding and become familiar with its requirements.

(3) Any person discharging a bow as set forth above shall, at all times, while engaged in such activity, have in his possession written permission from the landowner to discharge such a weapon on his premises, and

(4) All hunting must be done in compliance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the rules and regulations of the board of game and inland fisheries, and

(b) Discharge of a bow will be from an elevated position located at least twelve (12) feet above the ground.

(c) No person shall discharge a bow from, over or across any street, sidewalk, alley, roadway or public land or public place within the city limits or toward any building or dwelling in such a manner that an arrow may strike it.

(d) No person shall hunt deer in the city by use of dog or dogs.

(e) Any person engaging in deer hunting must comply with any conditions and restrictions imposed by the chief of police as part of the permit. (Ord. No. O-02-124, 6-25-02; Ord. No. O-02-126, 7-9-02; Ord. No. O-02-157, 8-13-02; Ord. No. O-02-162, 9-10-02; Ord. No. O-10-107, 9-14-10)

Last updated date: 9/17/2010 9:33:56 AM

Feasibility and Legality of Hunting Foxes and Coyotes in the City of Lynchburg

8/29/2017 – Written by Chief Animal Warden Ryan Ball

2/26/2018: Edited by Captain Nick Léger

In the past 6-12 month period, Lynchburg Animal Control received an increase in complaints of the number of foxes and coyotes in the area. Several city bow hunters have asked whether we could amend the city bow hunting to include coyotes and foxes. I have consulted with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) for their expertise as well as the Town of Altavista as they currently allow hunting for deer, turkey, coyotes, and foxes. The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries advised that localities can allow the hunting of any game species they want to, as long as the animals are within the seasons for that area and with lawful means (e.g., bag limits, weapons used, etc.). They further stated they would encourage this to the extent that it doesn't generate bad press or other concerns that could jeopardize the deer management program. When asked about concerns of a coyote being shot with a bow and arrow and being injured, DGIF officials advised it would more likely result in an injured coyote retreating and going "underground" to hide rather than to cause conflict. Altavista advised they have not had any complaints for allowing the bow hunting of coyotes or foxes and have not had any safety issues concerning this either. In response to the rising number of complaints against increased populations of foxes and coyotes in our city, City Council could amend the Lynchburg City Code (Sec. 27-67.3. - Bow hunting) to allow the hunting of foxes and coyotes during the deer archery seasons: Early and Late Archery Seasons, and Urban Archery Deer Seasons. The Game Department has stated that they do not believe bow hunting foxes and coyotes in the city will lead to a sharp decline in population of the two species, however, it could give citizens in our community a sense that proactive steps are being taken to address the problem.

The hunting of coyotes, while open year-round, could be limited by City Council to the same time period as archery season for deer. Fox hunting is already restricted to specific dates as required by the DGIF. In order to limit the areas in which coyote and fox hunting is allowed, City Council could require a minimum of 5-acre parcels – or contiguous parcels totaling 5 or more acres – on which hunters would be allowed to bow hunt coyotes and foxes on permitted properties. There is no DGIF regulation that requires the city to do so, however.

DGIF coyote hunting regulations: Nuisance species – continuous open season (Council could restrict this in the city to only during Virginia deer archery seasons.)

DGIF fox hunting regulations: Can bow hunt during fox hunting seasons – November 1 – February 28.