



City of Roanoke, Virginia

CITY COUNCIL

April 17, 2023

2:00 PM

City Council Chamber
215 Church Avenue, S.W.

AGENDA

The City of Roanoke is a safe, caring and economically vibrant community in which to live, learn, work, play and prosper.

A vibrant urban center with strong neighborhoods set amongst the spectacular beauty of Virginia's Blue Ridge.

NOTICE:

Council meetings will be televised live and replayed on RVTV Channel 3 on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and video streamed through Facebook Live at facebook.com/RoanokeVa. Council meetings are offered with closed captioning for the deaf or hard of hearing.

1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL. All Present.

The Invocation was delivered by The Reverend Susan E. Bentley, Rector, St. James Episcopal Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.

Welcome.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

2. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Recognized Steve Martin, Director, Human/Social Services and thanked him for all his hard work and commitment to the citizens of Roanoke.

3. HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS:

City Council sets this time as a priority for citizens to be heard. All matters will be referred to the City Manager for response, recommendation or report to Council, as he may deem appropriate.

Anthony Ferguson, 1647 Center Hill Drive, S. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to an expanded parking plan for Edinburgh Street, to positively impact the River's Edge Park patrons.

Freeda Cathcart, 2516 Sweetbrier Avenue, S. W., appeared before the

Council and announced an Earth Day event on Saturday, April 22, from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., at 1707 Cove Road. She also spoke with regard to climate change, endangered species, and protecting water streams.

John Lugar, 102 Edinburgh Street, S. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to limited parking at Varsity Park and asked Council to add additional parking on Edinburgh Street.

Paul Kelly, 515 8th Street, S. W., appeared before the Council and spoke in support of new parking spaces at River's Edge.

Elizabeth Vail, 2840 Longview Avenue, appeared before the Council to request additional parking on Edinburgh Street and suggested parking on the grassy area at the old Ramada hotel site.

Barbara Duerk, 2607 Rosalind Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and announced the "Love Thy Neighbor Prayer Walker" would be held on Saturday, April 29, at 9:30 a.m., departing from Loudon Avenue Christian Church.

4. CONSENT AGENDA: APPROVED, AS AMENDED. (7-0, Item C-1 was considered separately.)

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Members of City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of the items. If discussion is desired, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

- C-1.** Minutes of the regular meetings of City Council held on Monday, February 6, 2023 and on Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Dispensed with the reading of the minutes and approved as recorded.

- C-2.** A communication from the City Manager, requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss the disposition of publicly-owned property located at 339 Salem Avenue, S. W., where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, pursuant to 2.2-3711 (A)(3), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurred in the request.

- C-3.** A communication from the City Clerk advising of the resignation of Betsy Whitney as a member of the Roanoke Arts Commission, effective May 1, 2023.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Accepted the resignation and received and filed the communication.

- C-4.** Revision to the Adoption of Calendar of Events for Budget Development Activities for FY 2023-2024.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approved the attached revised Calendar of Events for Budget Development Activities for FY 2023-2024.

C-5. Reports of qualification of the following individuals:

Todd Putney as a member of the Virginia Western Community College Local Advisory Board for a four-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2027;

Marina Trejo Perez as a member of the Youth Services Citizen Board for term of office ending June 30, 2025;

Frank Rogan as a member of Personnel and Employment Practices Commission to replace Heather Davenport for a three-year term of office commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2026;

Yen Ha as a member of the Personnel and Employment Practices Commission to replace Donna St.Clair for a three-year term of office commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2026;

Michael Waldvogel as a member of the Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare, Board of Directors to fill the unexpired term of office of Lew Bishop ending December 31, 2024;

Phazon Nash as a member of the Equity and Empowerment Advisory Board for an initial term of office commencing March 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2025; and

John Hitchins, Jr., as a member of the Roanoke Arts Commission for a three-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2026.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Received and filed.

REGULAR AGENDA:

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Presentation of the Williamson Road Area Business Association "State of the Road" report. Valerie Brown, Executive Director, Spokesperson. (Sponsored by the City Manager)
Received and filed.

At 3:07 p.m., the Council meeting recessed for a brief break. The meeting reconvened at 3:43 p.m., with all Members of Council in attendance.

7. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS AND COMMENTS OF CITY MANAGER:

1. CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS:

Recommended Fiscal Year 2023 – 2024 Budget - 30 minutes

FY23 Budget - March Monthly Budget Report - 15 minutes

Received and filed.

HUD Community Resources PY 2023 Annual Action Plan

Received and filed.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

- A. Amendment of the City Code with regard to parking for persons with disabilities.

Adopted Ordinance No. 42632-041723. (7-0)

- B. Acquisition of Real Property Rights for Stormwater Drainage Improvement Project – FY23 Curb and Gutter Project.

Adopted Ordinance No. 42633-041723. (7-0)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER. NONE.

2. CITY ATTORNEY:

- A. Adoption of an Ordinance granting and extending the deadline for payment of real estate taxes through April 14, 2023 and waiving penalty and interest under City Code Section 32-19.

Adopted Ordinance No. 42634-041723. (7-0)

8. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

1. A report of the Roanoke City School Board requesting appropriation of funds for various educational programs; and a report of the City Manager recommending that Council concur in the request. Donna Caldwell, Director of Accounting, Spokesperson.

Adopted Budget Ordinance No. 42635-041723. (7-0)

2. A report of certain Authorities, Boards, Committees and Commissions in which City Council serve as liaisons or appointees.

Vice-Mayor Cobb advised that Greyhound will be providing onsite services at the new transfer facility on Campbell Avenue.

9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.**

10. **INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS: NONE.**

11. **MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

1. Inquiries and/or comments by the Mayor and Members of City Council.

Council Member Moon Reynolds asked that the Library of Virginia meet with Roanoke libraries and follow up meeting with Council to provide a review of the libraries' visit.

2. Vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by Council. NONE.

12. **SCHOOL BOARD INTERVIEWS:**

City Council conducted the following interviews in connection with Roanoke City School Board upcoming vacancies, effective July 1, 2023.

Elizabeth C.S. Jamison – 5:34 p.m. - 5:52 p.m.

Natasha N. Saunders – 5:53 p.m. - 6:09 p.m.

13. **RECESSED - 6:10 P.M.**

THE COUNCIL MEETING WILL STAND IN RECESS; AND THEREAFTER RECONVENE AT 7:00 PM, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 450, NOEL C. TAYLOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING.



City of Roanoke, Virginia

CITY COUNCIL

7:00 PM

City Council Chamber
215 Church Avenue, S.W.

14. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL. All Present.

The Invocation was delivered by Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mayor Lea.

Welcome.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING. (6-0, Council Member Priddy abstained from the vote, was not present at the Closed Meeting)

15. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Presentation of the Youth Services Citizen Board - "Update on Youth Activities and Youth Summit." Youth representatives of the Youth Services Citizen Board, Spokespeople. (Sponsored by the City Manager)

Received and filed.

16. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Request of Star City Real Properties, LLC, to rezone a portion of property located at 2733 and 2739 Orange Avenue, N. E., Official Tax Map Nos. 7070111 and 7070112, from MX, Mixed Use District, to CG, Commercial-General District, with conditions. Chris Burns, Balzer and Associates, Inc., Spokesperson.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42636-041723. (7-0)
2. Receive views of citizens regarding appointment of two Roanoke City School Board Trustees for three-year terms of office, each, commencing on July 1, 2023. The candidates are Elizabeth C.S. Jamison, Jacqueline W. Moon, Auraliz C. Quintana, Christopher T. Link and Natasha N. Saunders.
No action taken.

17. OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Petition for Appeal filed by Christina Skillin appealing a decision of the Architectural Review Board denying a request for approval of a historical style fence that was built prior, due to limited knowledge regarding the Architectural Review Board process for property located at 529 Day Avenue, S. W. Christina Skillin, Owner, Spokesperson.
City Council affirmed the decision of the Architectural Review Board that

no Certificate of Appropriateness be issued. (5-2, Vice-Mayor Cobb and Council Member Priddy voted no)

A report of the Architectural Review Board recommending that City Council affirm its decision to deny the request, which is not consistent with H-2 Guidelines. Bill Mason, Chairman, Spokesperson.

18. HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS:

City Council sets this time as a priority for citizens to be heard. If deemed appropriate, matters will be referred to the City Manager for response, recommendation or report to the Council.

Laura Hartman, 1209 Campbell Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council to request more bus service and City funding for Valley Metro.

Ashley Curtice, 4515 Rosecrest Road, S. W., appeared before the Council in support of public transportation.

Jamie Fain Brooks, 1680 Standiford Road, Union Hall, Virginia, appeared before the Council in support of Bus Riders of Roanoke Advocacy group and public transportation.

RECESSED - 8:54 P.M.

THE COUNCIL MEETING WILL STAND IN RECESS UNTIL THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE CITY OF ROANOKE RECOMMENDED FISCAL YEAR 2023 - 2024 BUDGET AT 7:00 P.M.; 2023 ANNUAL PLAN UPDATE TO THE 2020 - 2024 HUD CONSOLIDATED PLAN; AND PROPOSED REAL ESTATE TAX INCREASE AT 7:10 P.M.