



City of Roanoke, Virginia

CITY COUNCIL

July 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. Council Member Sanchez-Jones was absent.

The Invocation was delivered by Bishop Frank Baylor, Associate Pastor, Greater Prayer Temple.

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:

Recognition of the Parks and Recreation 10U Little League All-Star Team.
Withdrawn.

A resolution honoring Neil Holland upon his retirement after 39 years of service with the City of Roanoke.

Adopted Resolution No. 42701-071723. (6-0), Mayor Lea presented a ceremonial copy of the Resolution to Chris Chittum, Executive Director, Community Development and Placemaking; and Jillian Papa Moore, Acting Director, Department of Planning and Building Development.

A proclamation declaring Wednesday, July 26, 2023 as Americans with Disabilities Act Awareness Day.

Vice-Mayor Cobb declared Wednesday, July 26, 2023 as Americans with Disabilities Act Awareness Day and presented the proclamation to Karen

Michalski-Karney, Executive Director, Blue Ridge Independent Living Center.

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.

Owen McGuire, 2514 Brambleton Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council with regard to the rezoning of Fishburn Park and expressed he did not support the decision of City Council.

Dr. Carl Bentley, 3409 Overview Drive, Fredericksburg, Virginia, appeared before the Council with regard to property damage at 101 Fairfax Street, N. W., and advised the property had been struck by motorists several times.

Sharon Fritz, 3780 Stratford Park Drive, #221, appeared before the Council to invite Council to an event sponsored by People with Disabilities on July 28, 12:00 noon and expressed concern about the bus stop at Valley View Mall.

4. CONSENT AGENDA: APPROVED (6-0)

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.** A communication from Council Member Patricia White-Boyd, Chair, City Council Personnel Committee, requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss a personnel matter, being the annual performances of the Council-Appointed Officers, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurred in the request.

- 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 644 Westside Blvd, N. 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 Manager, requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss the disposition of publicly-owned property located at 1 S. Jefferson Street, 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-4.** FY2023 City Manager Transfer Report.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Received and filed the attached City Manager Transfer report for the 4th quarter ended June 30, 2023.

- C-5.** Report of qualification of Cassy Ammen as a member of the Roanoke Public Library Board 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. Acceptance of the Victim Witness Program Grant.
Adopted Resolution No. 42702-071723 and Budget Ordinance No. 42703-071723. (6-0)

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

1. CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS:

Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge Update - 30 minutes

Received and filed.

FY23 Budget - June Monthly Budget Report - 15 minutes

Received and filed.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

- A.** Amendment of the City Code with regard to parking for garages, surface lots and mobile pay.
Adopted Resolution No. 42704-071723. (6-0)
- B.** Execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Roanoke and other jurisdictions to implement the Mental Health Awareness Response and Community Understanding Services (MARCUS) Alert Program.
Adopted Resolution No. 42705-071723. (6-0)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER. NONE.

2. CITY ATTORNEY: NONE.

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. 42706-071723. (6-0)
2. A report of certain Authorities, Boards, Committees and Commissions in which City Council serve as liaisons or appointees.
Vice-Mayor Cobb, as President of Greater Roanoke Transit Company, Board of Directors, offered comments with regard to the soft opening of the Greyhound Bus Station, strategic planning, and micro transit.

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.

Mayor Lea asked Acting Police Chief Stokes to investigate the issue of panhandlers in the City and expressed the situation was out of hand.

Council Member Moon Reynolds commented she traveled to Washington D.C., to attend a summit titled "Raise the Bar" sponsored by the United States Department of Education and recommended the summit to the Youth Services Citizen Board. She also thanked the City for sponsoring six youth to attend the National League of Cities summit to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, November 16 -18, 2023.

Council Member Priddy commented with regard to a post about PRIDE and expressed concern that someone removed LGBTQ flags from a citizens' property, stating it was unacceptable.

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

12. RECESSED - 4:40 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.

13. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL. Council Member Sanchez-Jones was absent.

The Invocation was delivered by Vice-Mayor Joseph L. Cobb.

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

Welcome.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING. (6-0)

14. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Presentation with regard to the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Vice-Mayor Cobb introduced Stephen Grammer, who presented a video

titled "A Life Like Yours" highlighting a day in the life of a person with disabilities.

JOINT MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL AND THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD.

Call to Order - Roll Call.

City Council - Council Member Sanchez-Jones was absent.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - Elvir Berbic, Ralphel Lee, Tim Pohlada-Thomas, Diane Simmons and Vice-Chair Jerome Stephens were absent.

Welcome.

Items for Discussion:

- Update on current Parks and Recreation Projects/Initiatives **(Michael Clark)**
- PRAB structure and composition **(PRAB Chair and Board Members)**
- Recommendations and Communications to/from PRAB and Council – Protocol, Handling, etc. **(PRAB Chair, Board Members and City Council)**
- Park Property and Structures – Use, disposition, role of PRAB, etc. **(PRAB Chair, Board Members and City Council)**
- Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update – Process, timing, equitable facilities and services, funding, etc. **(Michael Clark, PRAB Chair and Board Members)**
- Other Items **(Mayor and Council, PRAB Chair, Board Members)**

Recessed/Adjourned - 8:05 p.m.

The Council meeting reconvened at 8:16 p.m., to consider the following agenda items:

15. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Request of the Roanoke City School Board to rezone a portion of property located at 3142 Preston Avenue, N. W., Official Tax Map No. 2100501, from IN, Institutional District, to INPUD, Institutional Planned Unit Development District, subject to the Development Plan. Chris Phillips, Agent, Spokesperson. **Matter was continued until the August 14, 2023 City Planning Commission Meeting.**
2. Proposal of the City of Roanoke to vacate a drainage easement located across Official Tax Map No. 6021103; and authorize the Acceptance of a Variable Width Storm Drain Easement.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42707-071723. (6-0)
3. Proposal of the City of Roanoke to vacate a public utility easement located across Official Tax Map No. 7110128.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42708-071723. (6-0)
4. Authorization of FY 2024 Bond Issuance and Appropriation of Funds for Capital Projects.
Adopted Resolution No. 72709-071723 and Budget Ordinance No. 42710-071723. (6-0)

16. OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Adoption of the Historic Gainsboro Community Hub Concept Plan.
Adopted Resolution No. 42711-071723. (6-0)

17. 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.

Dr. Brenda Hale, appeared before the Council and spoke about Tom Cain who worked on the Evans Spring Project and asked the Council to review the plan and learn more about the botanical gardens located there.

Richard Normand, 535 Mountain Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council in support of preserving the Evans Spring property.

Richard Fife, 2515 Wycliffe Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and expressed concern about the Evans Spring development process and asked that the plan be suspended.

Theresa Gill-Walker, 2807 Ordway Drive, N. W., appeared before the Council in support of preserving the Evans Spring property and expressed concern about the northwest Roanoke community.

Stephen Niamke, 1711 Franwill Avenue, N. W., appeared before the Council in support of preserving the Evans Spring property and asked the Council to reconsider the plan.

W. Hunter Hartley, 1213 12th Street, N. W., appeared before the Council in support of preserving the Evans Spring property.

Freeda Cathcart, 2516 Sweetbrier Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and requested improved communication with neighborhoods and City staff.

ADJOURNED - 9:27 P.M.