



City of Roanoke, Virginia

CITY COUNCIL

August 21, 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 Moon Reynolds was absent.

The Invocation was delivered by Elder Samuel Thompson, Associate Minister, Spirit of Life Church International.

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:

A resolution honoring Susan Lower, Director, Real Estate Valuation upon her retirement after 37 years of service with the City of Roanoke.

Adopted Resolution No. 42721-082123. (6-0) Mayor Lea presented a ceremonial copy to Susan Lower, Director, Real Estate Valuation.

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.

Joseph Brozovsky, 2001 Centre Avenue, N. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to the Climate Action Plan.

Shelley Himel, 2236 Sewell Lane, S. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to Fishburn Park and the contract, and urged the Council to table the matter.

Wilby Cathcart, 2516 Sweetbrier Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to the Fishburn Park rezoning.

Owen McGuire, 2514 Brambleton Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to the Fishburn Park rezoning.

Freeda Cathcart, 2615 Sweetbrier Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to the Climate Action Plan, governance and grant funding.

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. Minutes of the regular meeting of City Council held on Monday, July 17, 2023.

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

C-2. 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-3. A communication from the City Attorney requesting that City Council convene in a Closed Meeting to consult with legal counsel regarding current litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(7), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurred in the request.

C-4. Reports of qualification of the following individuals:

Joshua Johnson as a member of the Youth Services Citizen Board to fill the unexpired term of office of Dina Hackley-Hunt ending June 30, 2024;

Anita Price as a member of Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge, Board of Directors to replace Annette Lewis for a one-year term of office commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024; and

Kaitlyn Johnson 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.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: **Received and filed.**

REGULAR AGENDA:

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.**

6. **PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: NONE.**

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

1. CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFING:

FY23 Budget - July Monthly Budget Report - 15 minutes

Received and filed.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

- A. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Roanoke and George Mason University for Funds to be used for the Roanoke Regional Small Business Development Center (SBDC); adopt a budget ordinance to appropriate the SBDC's remaining funds for this year; and adopt an ordinance amending Section 22.3-2 of the City Code defining that the director and all employees working for the SBDC are not eligible to participate in the City's retirement system.
Adopted Resolution No. 42722-082123, Ordinance No. 42723-082123 and Budget Ordinance No. 42724-082123. (6-0)
- B. Acceptance of FY23 - FY24 Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Highway Safety Improvement Program Funds.
Adopted Resolution No. 42725-082123 and Budget Ordinance No. 42726-082123. (6-0)
- C. Acceptance of the Safe Streets and Roads for All Discretionary Grant Program – Action Plan Grant from the United States Department of Transportation.
Adopted Resolution No. 42727-082123 and Budget Ordinance No. 42728-082123. (6-0)
- D. Request for Encroachment Permit for Greater Roanoke Transit Company t/a Valley Metro (GRTC) Bus Shelter Located at Blue Hills Drive at Blue Hills Circle in the Right of Way at 1935 Blue Hills Drive, N. E.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42729-082123. (6-0)
- E. Request for Encroachment Permit for Greater Roanoke Transit Company t/a Valley Metro (GRTC) Bus Shelter Located at Blue Hills Drive at Blue Hills Circle in the Right of Way adjacent to 1751 Blue Hills Drive, N. E., approximately 108 feet east of Blue Hills Circle.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42730-082123. (6-0)
- F. Execution of an agreement with Roanoke Emergency Medical Services, Inc.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42731-082123. (6-0)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER.

The City Manager recognized Jennifer Oakes, Family Services Supervisor,

Adult Protective Services, for receiving the 2023 National Adult Protective Services Collaboration Award, given in recognition of significant contribution to the growth and development of the field of abuse of elders and persons with disabilities or protective services through collaborative efforts.

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. 42732-082123. (6-0)

2. A report of certain Authorities, Boards, Committees and Commissions in which City Council serve as liaisons or appointees. **NONE.**

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. A resolution approving a revised City Council Travel Policy.

Adopted Resolution No. 42733-082123. (6-0)

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 Priddy inquired about the possibility of demolition of the Fishburn Caretaker Cottage.

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

12. RECESSED - 3:27 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 Moon Reynolds was absent.

The Invocation was delivered by The Reverend Michael Cherry, II, Pastor, Altha Grove Baptist Church.

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

Welcome.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING. (6-0)

14. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Recognition of the Parks and Recreation 10U and 11U Little League Baseball Teams.

Mayor Lea and Michael Clark, Director, Parks and Recreation, recognized the 10U and 11U Little League Baseball Teams.

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.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42734-082123. (6-0)
2. Request of Keri and Justin vanBlaricom to rezone a portion of property located at 2424 Brambleton Avenue, S. W., Official Tax Map No. 1470301, from ROS, Recreation and Open Space District, to MXPUD, Mixed Use Planned Unit Development District, subject to the Development Plan. Keri and Justin vanBlaricom, Petitioners, Spokespersons.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42735-082123. (6-0)
3. Request of the City of Roanoke to consider an amendment to City Plan 2040, the city's comprehensive plan, to vacate the public use of a portion of Fishburn Park and to release the public's right to use such portion of Fishburn Park, being an approximately 1.1 acre portion of City-owned property located at 2424 Brambleton Avenue, S. W., Official Tax Map No. 1470301, and re-adopting and ratifying previous amendments to City Plan 2040, the city's comprehensive plan. Katharine Gray, Agent, Spokesperson.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42736-082123. (6-0)
4. Proposal of the City of Roanoke to consider the sale of 339 Salem Avenue, S. W., Official Tax Map Number 1010107 – Former Homeless Assistance Team (HAT) Building.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42737-082123. (6-0)

16. OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Acceptance of Funds from Roanoke County for the Shared Installation Cost of Regional Gateway Signs.
Adopted Budget Ordinance No. 42738-082123. (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.

Chris Bryant, 1315 Sewell Lane, S. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to the City's tree canopy.

Laura Hartman, 1209 Campbell Avenue, S. W., appeared before the

Council and provided an update on the BRRAG bus riders' group.

Naomi Clements, 2723 Huntington Boulevard, N. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to preserving the Evans Spring property.

Debra Carter, 3038 Melrose Avenue, N. W., Apt. 811, appeared before the Council in support of the tree canopy and protecting Evans Spring.

Dan Crawford, 2311 Kepling Street, S. W., appeared before the Council in support of wetland and preserving the Evans Spring property.

ADJOURNED - 10:25 P.M.