



# City of Roanoke, Virginia

## CITY COUNCIL

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December 18, 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](https://facebook.com/RoanokeVa). Council meetings are offered with closed captioning for the deaf or hard of hearing.

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL.**

**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, Sr.

Welcome.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

#### **2. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: NONE.**

#### **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.

**Brian McConnell, 32 Elm Avenue, S. W., Apt. #392, appeared before the Council to follow up on Anathema on mental health in Roanoke City Schools.**

#### **4. CONSENT AGENDA: APPROVED (7-0)**

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, November 6, 2023.

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

- C-2.** A communication from the City Clerk advising of the resignation of Ilsa Saavedra-Rogan as a member of the Roanoke Arts Commission ending June 30, 2026, effective immediately.

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

- C-3.** Adoption of the Calendar of Events for Budget Development Activities for FY 2024 - 2025.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approved the attached Calendar of Events for Budget Development Activities for FY 2024 - 2025.**

- C-4.** Report of qualification of Sharon Toliver-Hardy as a member of the Human Services Advisory Board to fill the unexpired term of office of LaKeevia Sinkford ending November 30, 2026.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Received and filed.**

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.**

**6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

- 1.** Land Bank Progress Report. Angela S. Penn, Senior Vice-President, Real Estate Development and Energy Conservation and Housing Rehabilitation, Total Action for Progress. (Sponsored by Vice-Mayor Cobb and Council Member Moon Reynolds) **Received and filed.**

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

**1. CITY MANAGER:**

**BRIEFINGS:**

FY24 Budget - November Monthly Budget Report - 15 minutes

**Received and filed.**

**ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:**

- A.** Acceptance of the VTC Grant Funds for the GO Outside Festival.  
**Adopted Resolution No. 42835-121823 and Budget Ordinance No. 42836-121823. (7-0)**
- B.** Acceptance of the FY 2023 - 2024 United Way funding for the Bank On Roanoke Valley Program.  
**Adopted Resolution No. 42837-121823 and Budget Ordinance No. 42838-121823. (7-0)**
- C.** Authorization for an Encroachment Permit for Greater Roanoke Transit Company t/a Valley Metro for a Bus Shelter Located at Blue Hills Drive at Blue Hills Circle in the Right of Way adjacent to property located at

1935 Blue Hills Drive, N. E.

**Adopted Ordinance No. 42839-121823. (7-0)**

- D. Authorization for an Encroachment Permit for Greater Roanoke Transit Company t/a Valley Metro for a Bus Shelter Located at Blue Hills Drive at Blue Hills Circle in the Right of Way adjacent to property located at 1751 Blue Hills Drive, N. E., approximately 111 feet east of Blue Hills Circle.

**Adopted Ordinance No. 42840-121823. (7-0)**

#### **COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER.**

The City Manager recognized Matthew Crookshank and staff for their efforts to provide approximately 203 citizens with housing and stabilization; and recognized United Way Roanoke Valley for their efforts in making 7,254 contacts with individuals in the community over the course of a year.

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. 42841-121823. (7-0)**

2. Presentation of the Equity and Empowerment Advisory Board Annual Report. Angela S. Penn, Chair, Equity and Empowerment Advisory Board.  
**Received and filed.**

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

**Vice-Mayor Cobb updated the Council on GRTC and advised that the Transit Customer Service Center is now open; metroflex was coming soon; and Sunday bus service would operate from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

#### **9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.**

#### **10. INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

1. A resolution renaming the Gainsboro Library Community Room.

**Adopted Resolution No. 42842-121823. (7-0)**

2. A resolution approving a half day on December 22, 2023 as additional holiday leave for all City employees in recognition of outstanding service throughout the year.

**Adopted Resolution No. 42843-121823. (7-0)**

#### **11. MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

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

**Vice-Mayor Cobb announced that on Thursday, December 21, at 11:00 a.m., Greene Memorial United Methodist Church would host a Homeless Memorial Service.**

**Council Member Priddy inquired about the budget meeting schedules, and thanked the Council-Appointed Officers and administration for their assistance during his first year as a Council Member and looked forward to serving in 2024.**

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

**12. RECESSED - 3:50 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**

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7:00 PM  
City Council Chamber  
215 Church Avenue, S.W.

**13. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL. All Present.**

The Invocation was delivered by The Reverend Amy Hodge, Pastor, Mt. Zion AME Church.

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

Welcome.

**14. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

Presentation of the 2023 Neighborhood Partnership Awards.

**The Members of Council recognized and presented trophies to the winners.**

Recognition of the 2023 Citizen of the Year.

**Adopted Resolution No. 42844-121823. (7-0)**

**The Mayor recognized Dr. M. Rupert Cutler as the 2023 Citizen of the Year and presented him with a ceremonial copy of the Resolution, Key to the City and personal plaque.**

Kiwanis Nature Park Presentation.

**Dr. Cutler reported on the status of the Kiwanis Nature Park and thanked the City for the ARPA funds for the project.**

**15. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

1. Request of Restoration Housing to rezone property located at 305 Mountain Avenue, S. W., 809 3rd Street, S. W., from IN, Institutional District, to MXPUD, Mixed Use Planned United Development District, subject to the development plan that specifies location of buildings, infrastructure, site access, and building design. Mike Woolwine, Hughes Associates Architects and Engineers,

Spokesperson.

**Adopted Ordinance No. 42845-121823. (7-0)**

2. Request of James Cromwell representing Trustees of Christ Episcopal Church to vacate an approximately 15 foot wide portion of right-of-way extending south from Official Tax Map No. 1022616, approximately 54 feet and bounded by Official Tax Map Nos. 1022616 and 1022617. James Cromwell, Applicant, Spokesperson.

**Adopted Ordinance No. 42846-121823. (7-0)**

3. Request of Dolly-Davis Dollberg representing Peter J. Apel to vacate a variable width portion of right-of-way located adjacent to 3149, 3155, and 3161 Stoneridge Road, S. W., bearing Official Tax Map Nos. 1080718, 1080717, and 1080716, respectively. Dolly-Davis Dollberg, Applicant, Spokesperson.

**Adopted Ordinance No. 42847-121823. (7-0)**

4. Request of the City of Roanoke to consider an amendment to the City Plan 2040, the City's Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2020, to add the Climate Action Plan. Katharine Gray, Agent, Spokesperson.

**Adopted Ordinance No. 42848-121823. (7-0)**

5. Proposal of the City of Roanoke to lease City-owned property to the Blue Ridge Zoological Society of Virginia, Inc., to operate and maintain the Mill Mountain Zoo.

**Adopted Ordinance No. 42849-121823. (7-0)**

**16. HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS:**

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**Russell Potter, 2755 Brandon Avenue, S. W., Apt. 114, appeared before the Council and acknowledged the celebration of the 75th Diamond Jubilee of the Roanoke Valley Chess Club.**

**Debra Carter, 3038 Melrose Avenue, N. W., Apt. 811, appeared before the Council and expressed concern about the officer involved shooting at Melrose Towers and how the deceased remained uncovered for hours.**

**Mayor Lea wished everyone a happy holiday season and a very prosperous New Year and announced that there would not be a 9:00 a.m. session on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.**

**ADJOURNED - 9:07 P.M.**