



City of Roanoke, Virginia

CITY COUNCIL

May 20, 2024

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.**

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

2. **PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

A proclamation declaring the week of May 19 - 25, 2024 as National Public Works Week.

Council Member White-Boyd read and presented the proclamation to Ross Campbell, Director, Public Works and staff in attendance.

A proclamation declaring May 2024 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month.

Council Member Sanchez-Jones read and presented the proclamation to Mark Kary, ALS Survivor.

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.

Liza Bance, 405 Allison Avenue, S. W., Apt.9, appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to the law enforcement presence downtown and hoped to increase the number of police officers on active duty in the City and their salaries.

Anthony Perterson, 2750 Florida Avenue, N. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to the applicants to serve on the Roanoke City School Board and expressed concern about questioning the role of the candidates.

4. CONSENT AGENDA: APPROVED, AS AMENDED. (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 meetings of Council held on Monday, April 1, 2024; Monday, April 15, 2024; recessed until Thursday, April 25, 2024; Monday, May 6, 2024; recessed until Monday, May 13, 2024; and a special meeting of City Council held on Thursday, April 25, 2024.

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

- C-2.** A communication from Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr., requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss the appointment of three Trustees to serve on the Roanoke City School Board, for three-year terms, each, commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2027, 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 Council Member Luke W. Priddy tendering his resignation as a Member of Roanoke City Council, effective June 30, 2024. **Item was removed and considered separately. (6-0, Council Member Priddy abstained from the vote.)**

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Accepted resignation with regret; and received and filed the communication.

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

Allison Oakey as a member of the Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge, Board of Directors to replace Anita Price for a one-year term of office commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025;

Jeffrey Powell as a member (Public/Private) of the Youth Services Citizen Board for a three-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2027;

Robert Fralin as a member of the Roanoke Regional Airport Commission for a four-year term of office, commencing March 10, 2024 and ending March 9, 2028;

Kathy Cohen as a member of the Gun Violence Prevention Commission for a three-year term of office , commencing April 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2027;

Anita Price as a Citizen-at-Large member of the Youth Services Citizen Board for a three-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2027; and

Niki Voudren as a member of the Mill Mountain Advisory Board for a three-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2027.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: **Received and filed.**

- C-5. 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, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.**

RECOMMENDED ACTION: **Concurred in the request.**

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:

FY24 Budget - April Monthly Budget Report - 15 minutes

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

- A. Approval of the 2024 Annual Plan Update to the 2020 - 2024 HUD Consolidated Plan.
Adopted Resolution No. 42933-052024. (7-0)**
- B. Adoption of a resolution for the City of Roanoke Main Street designation.
Adopted Resolution No. 42934-052024. (7-0)**
- C. Acquisition of Real Property Rights for Stormwater Drainage Improvement Project – 3600 Block Peakwood Drive.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42935-052024. (7-0)**
- D. Acceptance of FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant funds for acquisition, demolition and site restoration of one floodprone structure and adjacent vacant lot.
Adopted Resolution No. 42936-052024 and Budget Ordinance No. 42937-052024. (7-0)**

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. 42938-052024. (6-0, Council Member Sanchez-Jones abstained from the vote due to a Conflict of Interest.)

2. A report of certain Authorities, Boards, Committees and Commissions in which City Council serve as liaisons or appointees.
Council Member Priddy commented that the General Assembly voted on their budget to be effective on July 1, 2024 and noted that it included an item for Roanoke from the Office of Safer Communities Program, which would bring \$2.5 million in funds each year for two years to help the Police Department and school to address what is happening in the community holistically.

Vice-Mayor Cobb commented that GRTC was continuing to make progress related to the finance audit corrective actions; Metroflex ridership was up 12 percent per month; and the pay scale is to be reviewed for more competitive salaries; and the stakeholders meeting would be held on June 17 at 1:30 p.m. in the City Council Chamber.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.

10. INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. Adoption of a resolution directing the City Attorney to petition the Circuit Court to issue an order confirming that the remaining members of City Council for the City of Roanoke are authorized to appoint a qualified voter from the City at large within 45 days of the office becoming vacant to fill the council seat vacated by Luke W. Priddy for the remaining portion of his unexpired term through December 31, 2024.

Adopted Resolution No. 42939-052024. (7-0)

11. MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

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

Council Member Sanchez-Jones announced May 19 - 25, 2024 as EMS Week and expressed appreciation to all Fire-EMS staff.

Council Member White-Boyd reminded everyone about the PedalSafe ROA Ride of Silence event on May 21 at 6:30 p.m., to honor bike riders who have been killed or injured.

Council Member Volosin announced that the Virginia Recreation and Park Society featured Roanoke's PLAY PRIDE Program on the cover of a recent issue of their magazine.

Council Member Moon Reynolds advised of the recent deaths of Mrs. Altha Dowe, former school teacher and The Reverend Pusha, Pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church.

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

12. RECESSED - 3:09 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. All Present.

The Invocation was delivered by Council Member Stephanie Moon Reynolds.

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. (7-0)

14. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Recognition of the City of Roanoke 2024 Leadership College Graduates.

Council Member White-Boyd and Molly Hunter, Neighborhood Services Coordinator, presented certificates to the graduates.

Presentation by PedalSafe ROA to share information with regard to its activities and initiatives. (Sponsored by Mayor Lea and Vice-Mayor Cobb)

Ken McLeod, Board Chair, PedalSafe ROA, presented information. Received and filed.

15. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Request of JNO M Oakey Incorporated to amend a condition proffered as part of a previous rezoning on property located at 5416 Airport Road, N. W., Official Tax Map No. 6640108, enacted through Ordinance No. 38365-021709 relating to substantial conformity with a development plan that specifies location of buildings and infrastructure, site access, and building design. Ben Crew, Agent, Spokesperson.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42940-052024. (7-0)
2. Request of Qattam Properties, LLC, to rezone a property located at 3906 Thirlane Road, N. W., Official Tax Map No. 6520104, from RA, Agriculture District, to I-1, Light Industrial District, with a condition. Ben Crew, Agent, Spokesperson.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42941-052024. (7-0)
3. Shentel Easement Request to Cross City-Owned Property Located at 710 Williamson Road, N. E., Also Known as Tax Map No. 3024004 to Provide

Service for Carilion Health System.

Adopted Ordinance No. 42942-052024. (7-0)

4. Receive views of citizens with regard to the proposed update to the Architectural Review Board, H-2 Design Guidelines.
No action taken.
5. Receive views of citizens regarding appointment of three Roanoke City School Board Trustees for three-year terms of office, each, commencing on July 1, 2024. The candidates are Michael L. Cherry, II, Keri Garnett, David Howell, Auraliz Quintana, and Deidre Trigg.
No action taken.

16. 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.

Dana Pannell, 1015 Staunton Avenue, N. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to the opening of Four Truth's Recovery House in her neighborhood and expressed concerns about increased drug activity in the area.

Delvis (Mac) McCadden, 2018 Carroll Avenue, N. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to community relations and protocol and expressed concern about the lack of notification of the opening of the Four Truth's Recovery House in the neighborhood.

James McMahan, 1306 Patterson Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to the positive effects of a recovery house in the community.

Alton Akin, 1607 Red Oak Lane, S. W., appeared before the Council and expressed concern about the City's current leadership.

Mary Frazier, 405 King George Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and requested that Council adopt a ceasefire resolution for Palestine.

Rafeeq McNamara, 1105 Patterson Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and requested that Council adopt a ceasefire resolution for Palestine.

Tiffany Sandifer, 5327 Cooper Street, S. W., appeared before the Council and requested that Council adopt a ceasefire resolution for Palestine.

Lianna King, 623 Elm Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and requested that Council adopt a ceasefire resolution for Palestine.

Emily Kate Copenhaver, 2218 Windsor Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and requested that Council adopt a ceasefire resolution for Palestine.

Debra Carter, 3038 Melrose Avenue, N. W., appeared before the Council and shared information with regard to a collaboration of the Roanoke Coalition for Environmental Justice.

Marissa Yi, (did not submit a sign-up form) appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to servitude, community, and how the Council shows up for the community.

17. OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1. Adopted Resolution No. 42943-052024 accepting the resignation of Robert S. Cowell, Jr., as City Manager for the City of Roanoke effective June 7, 2024, and authorizing the Chair of the Personnel Committee, Trish White-Boyd, and Vice-Mayor, Joseph L. Cobb, to execute any and all documents necessary to accept and finalize such resignation. (7-0)**
- 2. Adopted Resolution No. 42944-052024 electing and appointing Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr. to serve as Acting City Manager for the City of Roanoke until such time as Council may appoint another interim City Manager so that City Council is able to elect and appoint a permanent City Manager; and ratifying the terms and conditions of Mayor Lea's temporary appointment. (7-0)**

ADJOURN.