



City of Roanoke, Virginia

CITY COUNCIL INFORMAL SESSION

July 1, 2024
9:00 AM
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.

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL. Vice-Mayor Cobb was absent.

Welcome.

Mayor Lea welcomed and recognized Council Member Beverly Fitzpatrick, Jr., as the Interim Council Member to fill the unexpired term of office of Luke W. Priddy, resigned, ending June 30, 2024.

ITEMS FOR ACTION:

A communication from Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr., requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by Council, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

(6-0)

A communication from the City Attorney requesting that Council convene in Closed Meeting for consultation with legal counsel pertaining to actual 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.

(6-0)

A communication from the City Attorney requesting that Council convene in Closed Meeting for consultation with legal counsel regarding certain legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by the City Attorney, pursuant to

Section 2.2-3711 (A)(7), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

(6-0)

ITEMS LISTED ON THE 2:00 P.M. COUNCIL DOCKET REQUIRING DISCUSSION/CLARIFICATION AND ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE 2:00 P.M. AGENDA. **Council Member Moon Reynolds requested additional information on item 7.1.D., on the 2:00 p.m. agenda.**

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.
None.

BRIEFING:

Code Amendment (Section 32-283, Definitions, Chapter 32, Taxation) - 5 minutes

Received and filed.

THE COUNCIL MEETING WILL STAND IN RECESS FOR A CLOSED MEETING; AND THEREAFTER RECONVENE AT 2:00 P.M., IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 450, NOEL C. TAYLOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING. (9:18 A.M.)



City of Roanoke, Virginia
CITY COUNCIL

2:00 PM

City Council Chamber
215 Church Avenue, S.W.

1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL. Vice-Mayor Cobb was absent.

The Invocation was delivered by The Reverend Terry Kemp, Children's Pastor and Ministries Director, Fort Chiswell Church of God.

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)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

2. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Presentation of an Art Mural from Da Humble Bee art group.

Jane McCadden introduced Da Humble Bee art group and presented a mural created by the students to be housed at the Hope Center.

Presentation by Council Member Sanchez-Jones on an official trip to Sister City, St. Lo, France, from May 31 - June 7, 2024.

Withdrawn.

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., #302, appeared before the Council and expressed concern with City leadership, communication and citizenry; and advised that a previous presentation from the YMCA was of interest to him.

Thomas Lee Smith, 1120 Ferdinand Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to the alleyway behind his home and requested that rules be enforced to not allow fencing and blocking access to the alleyway.

Nick Hagen, 301 Campbell Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to the potential Council pay raise and how it could potentially affect candidates running for Council.

Warren Fry, 32 14th Street, S. W., appeared before the Council to request a ceasefire resolution in support of Gaza and follow the localities of Charlottesville and Harrisonburg.

Duane Howard, 1221 6th Street, S. E., appeared before the Council and spoke in opposition to the potential Council pay raise and advised that the timing was inappropriate and that the position was a public service job.

Mary Frazier, 405 King George Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council to request a ceasefire resolution in support of Gaza and referenced a resolution adopted in 2022 in support of Ukraine.

Keely Meadows, 5327 Cooper Street, S. W., appeared before the Council to request a ceasefire resolution in support of Gaza.

Siaman Manzoor, 109 Elm Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to a friend from the Gaza Strip and how the conflict has affected his family; and requested a ceasefire resolution.

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 the Deputy City Clerk advising of the resignation of Jessie Coffman as a member of the Fair Housing Board, effective immediately.

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

- C-2.** A communication from the Deputy City Clerk advising of the resignation of Auraliz Quintana as a member of the Roanoke Public Library Board, effective June 30, 2024.

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

- C-3.** A communication from the Deputy City Clerk advising of the resignation of Deidre Trigg as a member of the Youth Athletics Review Board, effective June 30, 2024.

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

- C-4.** A communication from the Deputy City Clerk advising of the resignation of Greg Feldmann as a member of the Board of Trustees, City of Roanoke Pension Plan, effective June 30, 2024.

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

- C-5.** Minutes of the Audit Committee held on Monday, December 18, 2023 and Wednesday, March 6, 2024.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: **Received and filed.**

- C-6.** Report of qualification of Laura Carini as a member of the City of Roanoke Finance Board for a two-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2026.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: **Received and filed.**

REGULAR AGENDA:

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: NONE.

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

1. INTERIM CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS: None.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

- A.** Roanoke Regional Fire-EMS Training Center Agreement with the County of Roanoke and the City of Salem.
Adopted Resolution No. 42961-070124. (6-0)
- B.** Donation of Fitness Equipment by Planet Fitness, Inc., to the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department.
Adopted Resolution No. 42962-070124. (6-0)
- C.** Request for Encroachment Permit for Greater Roanoke Transit Company t/a Valley Metro (GRTC) Bus Shelter Located at Orange Avenue WB at King Street in the Right of Way adjacent to property located at 3348 Orange Avenue, N. E., approximately 268 feet west of King Street.
Adopted Resolution No. 42963-070124. (6-0)
- D.** Amendment of the City Contract for Hazardous Materials and Biohazardous Waste.
Adopted Resolution No. 42964-070124. (6-0)

COMMENTS OF THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER.

Dr. Patton, Interim City Manager, reported on matters from the previous Council meeting, noting that the speakers and presenter had been contacted.

2. CITY ATTORNEY:

- A. Adoption of a resolution establishing a written policy for participation in City Council meetings through electronic communication.
Adopted Resolution No. 42965-070124. (6-0)**

8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: NONE.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1. Ordinance No. 42960, on second reading, increasing and establishing the annual salaries of the Mayor and City Council Members for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42960-070124, as amended. (4-2, Council Members Moon Reynolds and Fitzpatrick voted no)**

10. INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

- 1. Adopted Resolution No. 42966-070124 closing certain City offices on Friday, July 5, 2024, and providing for additional holiday leave to all City employees. (6-0)**

11. MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

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

Council Member Moon Reynolds requested an update on the funds administered by the Gun Violence Prevention Commission; nonprofit organizations to come and present information with regard to the use of funds; and information with regard to the process of the zoning reform public hearing.

Mayor Lea advised that the 2024 Miss Virginia Pageant was held over the past weekend and was a wonderful event which consisted of very spirited young ladies who made many positive comments about the City of Roanoke.

- 2. Vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by Council.**

Appointed Shenita Boukari as a member of the Fair Housing Board to fill the unexpired term of office of Jessie Coffman ending March 31, 2025.

Appointed Boreham Boyd Johnson as a member of the Roanoke Public Library Board to fill the unexpired term of office of Auraliz Quintana ending June 30, 2026.

Appointed Deputy Chief Andy Foley as a member of the Board of Trustees, City of Roanoke Pension Plan to replace David Morris for a two-year term of office commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026.

Appointed Nazier Jackson as a member of the Gun Violence Prevention Commission as a non-voting Youth Representative for a term of office ending March 31, 2027.

Appointed Tim Strawn as a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to replace Stephen Terry McGuire for a term of office ending March 31, 2027.

Appointed Paul Underwood as a member of the Personnel and Employment Practices Commission for a three-year term of office commencing July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2027.

Appointed Luke Pugh as a member of the Personnel and Employment Practices Commission to fill the unexpired term of office of Yen Ha ending June 30, 2026.

Appointed Andrew Graninger as a member of the Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission for a three-year term of office commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2027.

Appointed Dr. Lydia Pettis Patton as a member (ex-officio) of the Board of Trustees, City of Roanoke Pension Plan to fill the unexpired term of office of Robert Cowell, Jr. (ex-officio).

Appointed Dr. Lydia Pettis Patton as a member of the Hotel Roanoke Conference Center Commission to fill the unexpired term of office of Robert Cowell, Jr., ending April 12, 2025.

Appointed Dr. Lydia Pettis Patton as a member of the Western Virginia's Regional Industrial Facility Authority to fill the unexpired term of office of Robert Cowell, Jr., ending February 3, 2028.

RECESSED - 3:36 P.M.

THE COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE DECLARED IN RECESS UNTIL WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024, AT 9:00 A.M., IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 215 CHURCH AVENUE, S. W., ROOM 450, TO CONVENE IN A CLOSED MEETING ON A PERSONNEL MATTER.