



City of Roanoke, Virginia

CITY COUNCIL INFORMAL SESSION

February 3, 2025
9:00 AM
City Council Chamber
215 Church Avenue, SW

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 pm, and Saturdays from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm; 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. All Present.

Welcome

ITEMS FOR ACTION:

A communication from Mayor Joseph L. Cobb 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 Mayor Joseph L. Cobb requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss the selection of a candidate for the interim City Council Member position, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

(6-0)

A communication from the City Attorney requesting that the City Council convene in a Closed Meeting to consult with legal counsel regarding 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 Manager requesting that City Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss the disposition of City-owned property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(3), Code of Virginia (1950), as

amended.

(6-0)

ITEMS LISTED ON THE 2:00 pm COUNCIL DOCKET REQUIRING DISCUSSION/CLARIFICATION AND ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE 2:00 pm AGENDA. **None**

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

SUBMIT TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE JOINT MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL AND THE ROANOKE CITY SCHOOL BOARD TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2025, AT 9:00 AM, TO THE CITY CLERK BY FEBRUARY 14, 2025.

City Council accepted Statements of Intent for a vacancy on City Council, created by the resignation of Joseph L. Cobb, which term of office runs through December 31, 2026. City Council received eleven Statements of Intent from Manuel R. Dotson, James C. Martin, IV, Kathy S. Cohen, Cameron Chase, William Hunter Hartley, Gregory L. Hunt, Ollie Howie, Patrice M. Hampton, Patricia White-Boyd, Ryan Bell, and Evelyn W. Powers.

The Council will interview Kathy S. Cohen, Patricia White-Boyd and Evelyn W. Powers on Monday, February 3, following the 9am Informal Session, at 11:00 am, in the City Council Chamber.

BRIEFINGS:

Amendment of the City Code (Chapter 20, Article IV, Division 4, Section 20-93 and Section 20-94) - 10 minutes

Received and filed.

Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026 Budget Briefing - 15 minutes

Received and filed.

AT 9:29 AM, THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS DECLARED IN RECESS FOR A CLOSED MEETING; AND THEREAFTER RECONVENED AT 11:00 AM, FOR CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 450, NOEL C. TAYLOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

AT 12:23 PM, THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS DECLARED IN RECESS FOR A CLOSED MEETING; AND THEREAFTER RECONVENED AT 2:00 pm, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 450, NOEL C. TAYLOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING.



City of Roanoke, Virginia

CITY COUNCIL

2:00 pm

City Council Chamber
215 Church Avenue, SW

1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL. All Present.

The Invocation was delivered by The Reverend Susan Bentley, Chaplain, Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mayor Joseph L. Cobb.

Welcome

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

2. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Recognition of Battalion Chief Shannon and Lieutenant Thompson.

Mayor Cobb and the City Manager recognized Battalion Chief Shannon and Lieutenant Thompson.

3. HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS:

The 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 the Council, as he may deem appropriate.

Airke Ortiz Rofee, PO Box 8544, Roanoke, Virginia, appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to validation of civil rights in connection with a parking violation.

Barbara Duerk, 2607 Rosiland Avenue, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to voter integrity.

Karyn Farrell, 5217 Medmont Circle, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

David Harrison, 5305 meront Circle, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

David Howell, 2435 Stanley Avenue, SE, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Kathy Cohen to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Anthony Stavola, 1836 Greenwood Road, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Katie Clifton, 602 Walnut Avenue, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Patricia White-Boyd to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Marissa Yi, 2517 Richelieu Avenue, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Patricia White-Boyd to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Kristin Segelke, 1961 Belleview Road, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Bridget Kelley-Dearing, 1331 Hamilton Terrace, SE, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Patricia White-Boyd to fill the vacant seat

on the City Council.

Charlotte McCauley, 5105 Medmont Circle, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Dixie Huff, 5514 Medmont Circle, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

John Dilauro, 3137 Franklin Road, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

John Parker, 1547 Coral Ridge Road, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on City Council.

Elder Sylvia King, 3102 Willow Road, NW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Dr. Jeanette Delaney Manns, 1826 10th Street, NW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Leonita Cutright, 5527 Medmont Circle, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Adam Mastrangelo, 3528 Windsor Oaks Circle, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Sidney Fuchs, 4448 Pheasant Ridge, Road, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Morris Lusk, 2823 Colonial Avenue, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Duane Howard, 1221 6th Street, SE, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Bob Clement, 115 Mountain Avenue, SW, appeared before the Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Paulette Lawson, 2602 Laburnum Avenue, SW, appeared before the

Council and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

Jeff Cutright, 5527 Medmont Circle, SW, appeared before the Council commended the police department and spoke in support of Evelyn Powers to fill the vacant seat on the City Council.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by Members of the 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 scheduled on Monday, January 6, 2025, recessed until Tuesday, January 7, 2025, due to inclement weather.

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

- C-2.** Request a Public Hearing to be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 7:00 pm, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, to Consider Appalachian Power Company's Request for an Easement Across City-Owned Property Bearing Tax Map Nos. 1040302 and 1040401.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurred in the request.

- C-3.** A communication from the City Clerk advising of the resignation of Shakira Williams as a member of the Gun Violence Prevention Commission, effective January 21, 2025.

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

- C-4.** Report of qualification of Vanessa Bohr as a member of the Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority to fill the unexpired term of office of Robert Cowell, Jr., ending December 12, 2027.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Received and filed.

REGULAR AGENDA:

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Receive views of citizens regarding appointment of a Roanoke City School Board Trustee to an unexpired term of office ending June 30, 2026. The candidate is Christopher T. Link.

No action taken.

6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: NONE.

7. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS AND THE CITY MANAGER:

CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFING:

December, 2024 Monthly Financial and Budget Report - 15 minutes

Received and filed.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

- a. Acceptance and appropriation of the Technical Rescue Team Grant for the Department of Fire-EMS.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43133-020325. (6-0)
- b. Acceptance and appropriation of the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Grant Award – CoC Planning.
Adopted No. 43134-020325. (6-0)
- c. Acceptance and appropriation of the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Grant Award – Coordinated Assessment System (CAS).
Adopted Ordinance No. 43135-020325. (6-0)
- d. Acceptance and appropriation of the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Grant Award – Homeless Assistance Team (HAT).
Adopted Ordinance No. 43136-020325. (6-0)
- e. Acceptance and Appropriation of Kinship Support Funds from the Virginia Department of Social Services.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43137-020325. (6-0)
- f. Acceptance and Appropriation of grant funds from the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Historic Resources for the Virginia Museum of Transportation.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43138-020325. (6-0)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER.

The City Manager offered the following comments:

The Energy Team, in the Department of Social Services has assisted over 3,000 residents in the city and approved over \$1.4 million. The assistance has provided vulnerable residents with safety and well being.

Police Chief Booth and HAT Case Manager, Matt Crookshank, will participate in a panel discussion this Wednesday, February 5, 2025, in Richmond at the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police Conference. The topic of the panel will be HAT's partnership with the Police Department in homeless service outreach efforts. City Community Resource Officers Dickerson and Underwood will also be participating on the panel.

CITY ATTORNEY: None

8. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: NONE**

9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE**

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

1. **Adopted Resolution No. 43139-020325 appointing Christopher T. Link to fill the unexpired term of Natasha N. Saunders-Cotton as School Board Trustee on the Roanoke City School Board for a term commencing July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2026. (5-0, Council Member Sanchez-Jones abstained from the vote)**

11. **MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

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

Council Member Volosin announced the Lunar New Year Celebration hosted by Local Colors to be held at the Taubman Museum of Art on Tuesday, February 4,

from 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm; commented on the success of the Virginia Municipal League's Legislative Day in Richmond, Virginia, in which Council Members Nash, McGuire and Volosin attended; and announced new leadership at the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission with The Honorable Lori Smith from Franklin County as Chair and himself as Vice-Chair.

Vice-Mayor McGuire advised that he was the new Chair of the City's Legislative Committee and would soon begin work on next year's legislative priorities; and highlighted the housing development project in southeast Roanoke.

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

Appointed Valmarie H. Turner as a member (ex-officio) of the Board of Trustees, City of Roanoke Pension Plan, by position.

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

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

Appointed Valmarie H. Turner as a member of the Western Virginia Water Authority to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Lydia Pettis Patton ending June 30, 2027.

Appointed Ross Campbell as a non-voting member of the Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization for an unexpired term of office ending June 30, 2026.

Appointed Zariaya Bell as a member (youth) of the Youth Services Citizen Board for a term of office ending June 30, 2025.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING (6-0)

Mayor Cobb announced that on Tuesday, February 18, at 10:00 am, City Council will participate in an active shooter and security training, to be held in the Council Chamber.

AT 4:23 PM, THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS DECLARED IN RECESS FOR CONTINUATION OF CLOSED MEETING; AND AT 7:12 PM, THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS DECLARED IN RECESS TO BE RECONVENED ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025, AT 9:00 AM, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER FOR CONTINUATION OF CLOSED MEETING.