



City of Roanoke, Virginia
ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL
ROANOKE CITY SCHOOL BOARD

October 6, 2025
9:00 AM
Community Empowerment Center
40 Douglass Avenue, NW
Roanoke, Virginia 24016

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:

City 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 YouTube Live at youtube.com/RoanokeVa. Council meetings are offered with closed captioning for the deaf or hard of hearing.

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL.

- City Council - **All present.**
- Roanoke City School Board - **All present.**

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/COMMENTS BY THE CITY COUNCIL/SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES.

- Superintendent White Report-Out:
 - RCPS Equity in Action Plan Wrap-up (Community Empowerment Center Overview)
 - RCPS Strategic Plan Revision Overview
- RCPS Budget Report (new per City Council Funding Formula policy amendment from May 2025)
- Joint City Council/School Board Funding Formula Committee Report Out
- Discussion of Enrollment Trends (including an update on Preston Park Elementary and potential new high school)

RECESSED/ADJOURNED - 10:45 AM.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED TO FOLLOW THE 9:00 A.M. JOINT MEETING OF COUNCIL AND THE ROANOKE CITY SCHOOL BOARD,

LOCATED AT THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT CENTER. (10:46 AM - 11:06 AM)

October 6, 2025 Legislative Committee Meeting Agenda.

AT 11:34 AM, THE COUNCIL MEETING WILL RECONVENE IN THE CHAMBER, TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR ACTION:

A communication from Mayor Joseph L. Cobb requesting that the Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by the Council, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended. **(7-0)**

- Architectural Review Board
- City Planning Commission
- Roanoke Arts Commission
- Board of Zoning Appeals
- Economic Development Authority
- Fair Housing Board
- Gun Violence Prevention Commission
- Human Services Advisory Board
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates
- Roanoke Public Library Board
- Towing Advisory Board

A communication from the City Attorney requesting that City Council convene in a closed meeting to consult with legal counsel regarding a certain legal matter requiring the provision of legal advice by the City Attorney concerning acquisition of City property in the Southeast part of the City of Roanoke, and disposition of City property in the County of Botetourt, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(3), Code of Virginia, (1950), as amended.

(7-0)

A communication from the City Attorney requesting that City Council convene in a closed meeting to consult with legal counsel regarding a certain legal matter requiring the provision of legal advice by the City Attorney concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the Central part of the City of Roanoke, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(5), Code of Virginia, (1950), as amended.

(7-0)

A communication from the City Attorney requesting that City Council convene in a closed meeting for the purpose of discussing possible disposal of publicly owned property in the Central part of the City, 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.

(7-0)

A communication from the City Attorney requesting that City Council convene in a closed meeting to consult with legal counsel regarding a certain legal matter requiring the provision of legal advice by the City Attorney concerning a prospective

business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in a regional park in which the City is a partner, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(5), Code of Virginia, (1950), as amended.

(7-0)

A communication from the City Attorney requesting that Council convene in a closed meeting to consult with legal counsel on personnel matters concerning council-appointed officers, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

(7-0)

A communication from the City Attorney requesting that City Council convene in a closed meeting to consult with legal counsel regarding a certain legal matter requiring the provision of legal advice by the City Attorney concerning contract obligations involving a City-owned facility in the Central part of the City of Roanoke, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(8), Code of Virginia, (1950), as amended.

(7-0)

Topics for discussion by the Mayor and Members of City Council. **None.**

Items listed on the 2:00 pm City Council docket requiring discussion/clarification and additions/deletions to the 2:00 pm agenda. **None.**

Briefings:

Code Amendment (Addition of New Section 2-206.1, Authority to refund taxes paid due to erroneous assessment) - 10 minutes

Code Amendment (Section 32-101.31, Definitions, and Section 32-101.33, Abatement terms) - 10 minutes

**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.**



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 Joanna Paysour, Pastor, Greene Memorial United Methodist Church.

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:

Mayor Cobb advised that, going forward, the 2:00 pm meeting would begin with the Council Members providing "shout-outs" or announcing community events recently attended. The Council Members made the following announcements:

Council Member Powers "shouted-out" Hispanic and Latin American Heritage Month and the annual Local Colors event in Elmwood Park.

Council Member Volosin also "shouted-out" Local Colors, the historic Hispanic Heritage Month event over the past weekend and Parks and Recreation staff for their hard during the fall season.

Council Member Nash "shouted-out" Champs Boxing Gym who hosted an event called "Return of the Mac" at the Berglund Center and expressed how great it was to see young talented boxers locally and from surrounding states.

Vice-Mayor McGuire advised that he and Council Member Nash attended the Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline Project Her Mental Health Summit and "shout-out" Bus Riders of Roanoke Advocacy Group, PedalSafe Roanoke and everyone who participated in the "Week Without Driving" event, which included Mayor Cobb who found alternative ways to get around such as public transit, cycling, walking and carpooling. He also congratulated the Old Southwest Neighborhood Association for a successful "Porch Fest" event and unveiling of the pocket park located at 8th Street and Day Avenue; and thanked Mayor Cobb and Council Member Hagen for attending.

Council Member Sanchez-Jones "shouted-out" Local Colors for a great celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month and the Roanoke Police Department Community Outreach Team for attending.

Council Member Hagen "shouted-out" the City Registrar for all his efforts to provide early voting and encouraged everyone to go vote.

Proclamation declaring September 15–October 15, 2025, as Hispanic Heritage Month.

Vice-Mayor McGuire and Council Member Sanchez-Jones read the proclamation in English and Spanish.

Proclamation declaring October 2025 as National Community Planning Month.

Mayor Cobb read and presented the proclamation to Jillian Papa, Director, Planning, Building and Development and staff.

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.

Sylvia King, appeared before the Council and spoke with concern about governmental cuts and budget cuts for the City and commended Mayor Cobb for participating in the Week Without Driving event.

Chris Craft, appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to misinformation about Berglund Center services, street painting, taxing vape shops and the completion of projects by the Virginia Department of Transportation.

4. CONSENT AGENDA: APPROVED (7-0)

- C-1.** Minutes of the regular meeting of City Council held on Monday, September 15, 2025; recessed until Tuesday, September 23, 2025 for a City Council Retreat.

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

- C-2.** Request to schedule a Public Hearing to be held on October 20, 2025, at 7:00 pm, or at such other date and time as determined by the City Manager, to receive comments prior to Council taking action to amend the boundaries of the City of Roanoke's Enterprise Zone.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurred in the request.

- C-3.** Authorization to establish a required public comment period on the Lead Safe Roanoke Tier 1 Environmental Review.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurred in the request.

- C-4.** A communication from the City Clerk advising of the resignation of Josh Orzel as a member of the Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare, Board of Directors, effective immediately.

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

- C-5.** Reports of qualification of the following individuals:

Jeffrey Robertson as a member of the Towing Advisory Board to replace Walter Hinkley for a three-year term of office commencing November 1, 2025, and ending October 31, 2028;

Rachel McKinley as a member of the Human Services Advisory Board to replace William Bestpitch for a four-year term of office commencing December 1, 2025, and ending November 30, 2029;

Sandra Vincent as a member of the Roanoke Civic Center Commission for a three-year term of office, commencing October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2028;

Kenneth Wilkerson as a member of the Towing Advisory Board to fill the unexpired term of office of Sergeant Ray Shanks ending October 31, 2026;

Jatniel Rodriguez as a member of the Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates to fill the unexpired term of office of David Parr ending September 30, 2027;

Bill Mason as a member of the Architectural Review Board for a four-year term of office, commencing October 2, 2025, and ending October 1, 2029;

Stephen Feather as a member of the Architectural Review Board for a four-year term of office, commencing October 2, 2025, and ending October 1, 2029;

Jane Coulter as a member of the Mill Mountain Advisory Board as the Garden Club representative to replace Whitney Feldmann for a three-year term of office commencing July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028; and

Dawn Mullins as a member of the Board of Trustees, City of Roanoke Pension Plan to fill the unexpired term of office of Jackie Clewis 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 THE CITY MANAGER:

1. City Manager:

BRIEFINGS:

Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge - Annual Marketing Plan - 20 minutes

Five-Year Update to the Master Plan Adoption - Parks and Recreation - 20 minutes.

August 2025 Budget and Finance Report - 15 minutes

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

- a.** Authorize the acquisition of real property rights at 2002 Blue Hills Circle NE, bearing Roanoke Official Tax Map No. 7270101.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43275-100625. (7-0)
- b.** Acceptance of Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (VDCR) Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF) Grant Funding and Acquisition of Real Property Located at 2034 Indian Village Lane, SE.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43276-100625. (7-0)
- c.** Acceptance of Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF) Grant Funding and Acquisition of Real Property at 1941 and 1953 Franklin Road, SW.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43277-100625. (7-0)
- d.** Acceptance of Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF) Grant Funding for Watershed Modeling for Trout Run and Hortons Branch watersheds.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43278-100625. (7-0)
- e.** Acceptance and Appropriation for the 2026 Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles Highway Safety Grant (Alcohol).
Adopted Ordinance No. 43279-100625. (7-0)
- f.** Acceptance and Appropriation of the 2026 Selective Enforcement Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles Grant.

Adopted Ordinance No. 43280-100625. (6-0, Council Member Volosin was not present when the vote was recorded.)

- g. Acceptance of State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) consent agreement for Vulnerability Management program for the City of Roanoke IT networks.

Adopted Ordinance No. 43281-100625. (7-0)

- h. Request for an encroachment permit for Charter Foods, Inc., for drive-through access improvements located adjacent to property at 2657 Peters Creek Road, N.W., Tax Map No. 6370101.

Adopted Ordinance No. 43282-100625. (7-0)

- i. Execution of an amendment to the contract with Stantec Consulting Services Inc., in connection with the Wasena In-River Park project.

Adopted Ordinance No. 43283-100625. (7-0)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER.

The City Manager shared the following comments:

Washington and McCadden Park Plan Meetings

The next round of community engagement for the Washington and McCadden Park Master Plans will occur next week at the RCPS Community Empowerment Center.

- McCadden Park meeting: Monday, October 6, 6–7:30 PM
- Washington Park meeting: Tuesday, October 7, 6–7:30 PM

The design team will present findings from summer outreach and introduce three conceptual plan options for each park. Attendees will participate in a design activity to select amenities and arrange park features within a set budget. Additional in-person and online outreach will continue throughout October before the final master plans are completed this winter.

Envision Williamson Road

The six-month Envision Williamson Road demonstration officially launched last week, on October 2. Staff are monitoring and making adjustments to traffic flow and signal timing. As of last Thursday morning's peak, no significant delays or backups were reported, and travel times have remained stable.

2. CITY ATTORNEY:

- a. Proposed City Code Amendment regarding Chapter 10 - Elections, Article I, In General, Section 10-52. Same – Polling place, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended.

Adopted Ordinance No. 43284-100625. (7-0)

3. DIRECTOR OF REAL ESTATE VALUATION: None.

8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

1. Comments on certain Authorities, Boards, Committees and Commissions in which City Council serve as liaisons or appointees.

Council Member Nash advised that the Gun Violence Prevention Commission will host a stakeholder meeting on October 21, at 5:30 pm, at the Hill Church on Lafayette Boulevard. A representative from the Commonwealth Attorney's Office will be present as an opportunity to have dialogue with the citizens and provide education on the City government process.

Mayor Cobb announced that the City of Roanoke will host the Virginia Municipal League Annual Mayor's Institute and Conference on Saturday, October 11 - Tuesday, October 14, 2025, and leaders have been working hard to make it a special, informative and fun conference with many local government leaders in attendance.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

10. INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

- 1. Repeal and replace Ordinance No. 43176-042125 accepting and appropriating FY25 HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Grant Award - Homeless Assistance Team, to correct a scriveners' error.**

Adopted Ordinance No. 43285-100625. (7-0)

- 2. Repeal and replace Ordinance No. 43210-061625 accepting and appropriating FY25 Acceptance and Appropriation of Funding for a Drug Prosecutor, to correct a scriveners' error.**

Adopted Ordinance No. 43286-100625. (7-0)

11. MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

- 1. Inquiries and/or comments by the Mayor and Members of City Council. None.**
- 2. Vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by Council. None.**

12. RECESSED FOR CONTINUATION OF CLOSED MEETING - 4:43 PM.

13. RECONVENED - 5:53 PM

Certification of Closed Meeting (7-0)

14. ADJOURNED - 5:57 PM.