



City of Roanoke, Virginia

CITY COUNCIL ROANOKE REGIONAL AIRPORT COMMISSION

December 1, 2025

9:00 AM

Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport
5202 Aviation Drive, NW
Roanoke, Virginia 24012

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. All present.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS:

Mayor Joseph L. Cobb

Amanda Marko, Chair, Roanoke Regional Airport Commission

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/COMMENTS BY CITY COUNCIL/ROANOKE REGIONAL AIRPORT COMMISSION:

Review of current Airport activities:

- a. Air service recruitment: Executive Director
- b. Fly for the Future campaign: Director of Public & Media Relations
- c. Terminal improvements: General Counsel
- d. Runway extension: Executive Director

Tour of Blacksburg-Roanoke Regional Airport Terminal and Airfield

RECESS/ADJOURN - 10:04 AM

AT 11:19 AM, THE COUNCIL MEETING RECONVENED 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
- Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates
- Roanoke Public Library Board
- Towing Advisory Board

A communication from Mayor Joseph L. Cobb requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss the 2025 Citizen of the Year Award, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(10), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

(7-0)

A communication from the City Attorney requesting that City Council convene in a Closed Meeting on personnel matters requiring the discussion involving the annual performance evaluations of 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 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 Northwest 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 to consult with legal counsel regarding a certain legal matter requiring the provision of legal advice by outside legal counsel involving the legal standards for financing of the schools, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(8), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

(7-0)

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

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

BRIEFINGS: None.

THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS DECLARED IN RECESS FOR A CLOSED MEETING; AND THEREAFTER RECONVENE AT 2:00 pm, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 450, NOEL C. TAYLOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING. (11:23 AM)

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 Elizabeth N.H. Link, Executive Pastor, Second Presbyterian 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 Hagen "shouted-out" the Roanoke Rescue Mission Drumstick Dash held on Thanksgiving morning which had 8,000 participants and acknowledged himself as a participant.

Council Member Sanchez-Jones "shouted-out" the National League of Cities Conference held in Salt Lake City, Utah and advised that she attended a session on the homeless population and noted that the City of Roanoke was not alone in dealing with homelessness and the solution offered was more affordable housing.

Vice-Mayor McGuire thanked all first responders who had to work over the Thanksgiving holiday and hoped everyone had a nice Thanksgiving.

Council Member Nash "shouted-out" the Fire-EMS and Human Services Departments who responded to a situation in which citizens were displaced because of sewage backup into their apartments.

Council Member Volosin "shouted-out" the City staff that decorated for the Christmas holiday and reminded everyone about the Dickens of a Christmas celebration to begin on Friday, December 5 in downtown Roanoke.

Council Member Powers "shouted-out" the Roanoke City Public Libraries and the many programs that the libraries host and advised that her grandchildren love going to the library.

Mayor Cobb commented about the 50th Anniversary celebration of Valley

Metro, the wide streets of Salt Lake City, Utah and its great infrastructure, and highlighted the Drumstick Dash event and his participation.

Proclamation declaring Monday, November 10, 2025, as the 250th birthday celebration of the United States Marine Corps.

Mayor Cobb read and presented the proclamation to First Sergeant Tony Baudanza and the United States Marine Corps, Company B.

Recognition of the Police Department's iSTAR unit.

The City Manager and Police Chief Booth recognized the Police Department's iSTAR unit, which was recently named the Virginia Crime Analysis Team of the Year.

Recognition of Sheila Umberger, City Librarian, commending the services rendered to the City of Roanoke on the occasion of her retirement.

Mayor Cobb read and presented a proclamation and Key to the City to Sheila Umberger, City Librarian.

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.

Bryan Smith, appeared before the Council and spoke in opposition to a casino in the City of Roanoke, provided statistics and urged the Council to rescind the casino proposal.

4. CONSENT AGENDA: (APPROVED 7-0)

C-1. Minutes of the regular meeting of City Council held on Monday, November 3, 2025; and the recessed meeting of City Council on Saturday, November 8, 2025.

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

C-2. Request for a public hearing to be scheduled and advertised on Monday, December 15, 2025, at 7:00 pm, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, or such later date and time as the City Manager may determine, for consideration of a request for tax exemption for parcels of real property located at 5732 Airport Road, NW, owned by HeartCry Missionary Society, Inc.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurred in the request.

C-3. Reports of qualification of Elizabeth Hale as a member of the Human Services Advisory Board to fill the unexpired term of office of Susan Reese ending November 30, 2027; and Ollie Howie as a member of the Economic Development Authority for a four-year term of office, commencing October 21, 2025, and ending October 20, 2029.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Received and filed.

REGULAR AGENDA:

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Hope and Home Taskforce Update.

Received and filed.

7. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS AND THE CITY MANAGER

1. City Manager:

BRIEFINGS:

October Monthly Budget Report - 15 minutes.

Received and filed.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

- a. Acceptance of State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) consent agreement for an Asset Inventory System for the City of Roanoke Technologies.
Adopted Resolution No. 43320-120125. (7-0)
- b. Appropriation of the Disposable Plastic Bag Tax Revenue.
Adopted Budget Ordinance No. 43321-120125. (7-0)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER.

The City Manager offered the following comments:

Athletic Field Maintenance crews installed turf blankets at Rivers Edge North to support winter protection of warm-season soccer fields and encourage quicker recovery from winter dormancy in the spring. The blankets also discourage winter play, which typically causes significant surface damage and extends recovery periods, often delaying field reopening.

The weekend of November 21st and 22nd, 2025, Teen Apprentice Cohort #10 participated in a 12-hour leadership challenge. Before the training, the students completed the Student LPI 360 assessment, based on Kouzes and Posner's The Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership®, to assess their leadership competencies. This provided valuable insights into their strengths and areas for growth. The weekend was packed with an intensive curriculum focused on leadership effectiveness, critical skills for success, and building confidence. Thirteen high school students engaged in this challenge, facilitated by Paradigm 360 Enterprise Solutions. They learned the importance of values, how to dream big through vision boards, and how to model leadership in any position. This program comes to an end on Thursday, December 4, 2025, at a graduation ceremony at the Berglund Center.

2. CITY ATTORNEY: None.

3. DIRECTOR OF REAL ESTATE VALUATION: None.

8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

1. Presentation of the Proposed 2026 City of Roanoke Legislative Program and Proposed 2026 Roanoke City Public Schools Legislative Program. Vice-Mayor McGuire, Chair, Legislative Committee.
Adopted Resolution No. 43322-120125. (6-1, Council Member Hagen voted no)
Adopted Resolution No. 43323-120125. (4-1, Vice-Mayor McGuire and

Council Member Sanchez-Jones abstained from the vote. Council Member Hagen voted no)

2. Comments on certain Authorities, Boards, Committees and Commissions in which City Council serve as liaisons or appointees. **None.**

9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.**

10. **INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS: None.**

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.

Appointed Yvonne Johnson as a member of the Architectural Review Board for a term of office ending October 1, 2029.

Reappointed Jason Varney as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals for a three-year term of office commencing January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2028.

Reappointed Christopher Miller as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals for a three-year term of office commencing January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2028.

Reappointed Juan Carlos Mejia as a member of the Equity and Empowerment Advisory Board for a three-year term of office commencing January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2028.

12. **RECESSED FOR CONTINUATION OF CLOSED MEETING - 3:38 PM.**

13. **RECONVENED - 5:17 PM.**

Certification of Closed Meeting. (7-0)

ADJOURNED - 5:19 PM.