



City of Roanoke, Virginia

CITY COUNCIL

June 15, 2026

2:00 PM

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:

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.

1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL. Council Member Powers was absent.

The Invocation was delivered by Reverend Rhonda Thorne, Pastor, Metropolitan Community Church of the Blue Ridge.

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 advised that he attended a play in Vinton put on by Bear Theater titled Land and Liberty and "shouted out" his wife as the lead actress in the play. He expressed that it was great and encouraged everyone to check it out.

Council Member Sanchez-Jones advised that she had the pleasure of delivering the welcome to the Virginia Secretary of Labor, Jessica Looman who visited Roanoke on June 10 and toured Melrose Plaza and The Excel Center operated by Goodwill Industries of the Valleys, Inc. She also "shouted-

out" the City Manager and staff who contribute to the Council's weekly report. She asked if the reports could be made public for the citizens.

Vice-Mayor McGuire "shouted out" the Southeast Plawkers and noted that more neighborhoods were plawking, which is picking up trash while walking.

Council Member Nash "shouted out" the Parks and Recreation staff and the Eureka Park Recreation Center reopening event; and the Roanoke Police Department for Operation Combined Resolve Roanoke Valley an event from May 1 to May 31 working with federal and regional law enforcement which resulted in 302 arrest warrants executed, 150 fugitives arrested, approximately \$2 million in drugs seized, and 302 grams of Fentanyl, enough to kill everyone in the Roanoke Valley.

Council Member Volosin "shouted-out" the Fire-EMS Department on their recruit graduation last week and congratulated the 11 new members of the team ready to serve the community. He also "shouted-out" the Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport on their direct flight from Roanoke to Dallas, Texas and encouraged everyone to FlyROA when traveling.

Mayor Cobb advised that he was honored as both Clergy and Mayor of the City to attend the consecration of the 7th Bishop of the Southwestern Diocese of the Episcopal Church, The Reverend Karin MacPhail of Roanoke, also the first female bishop in the 107-year history of the diocese. He further advised that he and Council Member Nash attended the meet-and-greet for the new Landsdowne Park Resident Council; and lastly, several Council Members of Council were present for a press conference announcing the courses for the USA Endurance Mountain Bike National Championships to be held in Roanoke on July 12 -19, 2026.

Proclamation declaring June 2026 as Alzheimer's and Brain Health Awareness Month.

Mayor Cobb read and presented the proclamation to Margie Shaver, Board Chair, Central and Western VA Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association and Aaron Rice, Executive Director, Brookdale Senior Living and Executive Chair of the Executive Leadership Team for the Roanoke Walk to End Alzheimer's.

Proclamation declaring June 14–21, 2026 as Waste and Recycling Workers Week. Council Member Volosin read and presented the proclamation to Ross Campbell, Director, Public Works; Jeff Hardin, Interim Solid Waste Manager; Cheryl Dent, Supervisor and Jennifer Bowers, Account Technician in attendance.

Proclamation declaring Friday, June 19, 2026, as Juneteenth.

Council Member Nash read and presented the proclamation to Robyn Mitchell and Amanda Spivey. Ms. Spivey invited everyone to attend the Juneteenth Family Reunion event to be held on Saturday, June 20, at 12:00 noon, in Eureka Park.

Recognition of the City of Roanoke as a Certified Crime Prevention Community. Tina Sumpter, Law Enforcement Accreditation Coordinator, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, presented a certificate to the City

Manager and Police Chief Scott Booth in recognition of the City of Roanoke as a Certified Crime Prevention Community.

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 she may deem appropriate.

Barbara Duerk, appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to celebrating the 250th birthday of the United States of America and pointed out that there were 50 revolutionary flags in the upper lobby area of the Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport and the Mill Mountain Star was red, white and blue. She "shouted-out" several events and invited the Council to attend as many events connected with the bicentennial.

4. CONSENT AGENDA: (APPROVED 5-0, AS AMENDED)(Council Member Sanchez-Jones was not present when the vote was recorded)

- C-1.** 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 of Roanoke, 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.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurred in the request.

- C-2.** 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.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurred in the request.

- C-3.** A communication from the City Clerk advising of the resignation of Dawn Erdman as a member of the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission, effective May 27, 2026.

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

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

The Honorable Hillary Griffith as a member of the Court Community Corrections Program Regional Community Criminal Justice Board for a three-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2029;

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;

Adam Puckett as a member of the Regional Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program Policy Board for a three-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2029;

John Black as a member of the Roanoke Arts Commission for a three-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2029;

James Pickens as a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for a three-year term of office, commencing April 1, 2026, and ending March 31, 2029;

Boreham Johnson as a member of the Western Virginia's Regional Industrial Facility Authority to replace Herbert Berding for a term of office ending February 3, 2030; and

Trinity Kaseke as a member of the Personnel and Employment Practices Commission to replace Luke Pugh for a three-year term of office commencing July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2029.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: **Received and filed.**

- C-5. 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 an existing City contract, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(8), 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 THE CITY MANAGER:

1. City Manager:

BRIEFINGS: None.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

- a. Acceptance and Appropriation of Funds from the Western Virginia Water Authority for Utility Work associated with the Wasena Bridge Replacement.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43406-061526. (5-0, Council Member Sanchez-Jones was not present when the vote was recorded)**
- b. Acceptance and Appropriation of the Combatting Hate Crimes Grant.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43407-061526. (5-0, Council Member Sanchez-Jones was not present when the vote was recorded)**
- c. Acceptance and Appropriation of the Bulletproof Vest Program Grant.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43408-061526. (5-0, Council Member Sanchez-Jones was not present when the vote was recorded)**
- d. Acceptance and Appropriation of FY27 "Four-For-Life" Grant Funding.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43409-061526. (6-0)**

- e. Acceptance and Appropriation of Funding from the Virginia Department of Social Services.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43410-061526. (6-0)
- f. Recommendations of the Roanoke Arts Commission for Funding of Qualified Agencies for Fiscal Year 2026-27.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43411-061526. (6-0)
- g. Recommendations of the Roanoke Arts Commission for Reallocation of FY 2026 Arts and Cultural Grant Funds.
Adopted Budget Ordinance No. 43412-061526. (6-0)
- h. Recommendations of the Human Services Advisory Board for Funding of Qualified Agencies for Fiscal Year 2027.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43413-061526. (6-0)
- i. Recommendations for External Agency Funding for Fiscal Year 2027.
Adopted Resolution No. 43414-061526. (6-0) The attachment to the Council Agenda Report was updated to correct a scrivener's error.
- j. Approval of the Downtown Service District Services Agreement between the City of Roanoke and Downtown Roanoke Incorporated.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43415-061526. (6-0)
- k. Approval of the Williamson Road Area Service District Agreement between the City of Roanoke and Greater Williamson Road Area Business Association.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43416-061526. (6-0)
- l. Approval of the Issuance of Bonds by Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority to Assist in the Financing of a Multifamily Apartment Complex — Westwood Village Apartments.
Adopted Resolution No. 43417-061526. (6-0)
- m. Approval of the Issuance of Bonds by Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority to Assist in the Financing of a Multifamily Apartment Complex — Ferncliff South Apartments.
Adopted Resolution No. 43418-061526. (6-0)
- n. Approval of a Temporary Lighting Request for the Roanoke Star.
Adopted Resolution No. 43419-061526, as amended. (6-0)
- o. Acceptance and Appropriation of Commonwealth of Virginia Compensation Board bonus funds.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43420-061526. (5-0, Vice-Mayor McGuire was not present when the vote was recorded)
- p. Execution of a Performance Agreement regarding the Commonwealth Opportunity Fund Grant among the City of Roanoke, the Economic Development Authority of the City of Roanoke, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP), RINGANA USA HOLDING, INC., RINGANA USA, LLC, and RINGANA REAL ESTATE, LLC, for the construction and operation of a cosmetics manufacturing facility.
Adopted Ordinance Nos. 43421-061526 and 43422-061526. (6-0)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER.

The City Manager shared the following comments:

Juneteenth

The Roanoke Cultural Collective will host its annual Juneteenth Family Reunion at Eureka Park on Saturday, June 20, 2026. This free community festival brings families and neighbors together for a day of celebration, connection and remembrance. Activities include live music, soul food, children's zone, local vendor marketplace and programs designed for all generations. The event honors the African American families whose contribution help shape northwest Roanoke and continues the tradition of community gathering and cultural celebration. Throughout the day, faith leaders, civic organizations and local musicians will help lead the festivities and share in the spirit of Juneteenth. Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy this day of heritage, fellowship and community pride.

Freedom Festival

Celebrating 250 years of liberty, this will be a large-scale community event designed to celebrate the nation's 250th anniversary with family-friendly programming including live music, food vendors, recreational activities, and educational engagement. The event will conclude with a fifteen-to-twenty-minute professional fireworks display provided by Master Displays as the signature finale. The program is being coordinated with community partners, including Five Points Music Foundation for live entertainment and Roanoke Public Libraries for interactive literacy and history-based activities. Along with a wide range of free family attractions and community engagement features throughout the event. The Roanoke Police Department will also be onsite supporting public safety and community engagement activities. Overall, the Freedom Festival is designed as an inclusive city-wide celebration that brings together entertainment, education, and community connection.

Virginia Sunbucks Program

Launch for 2026, providing a one-time \$120.00 summer food benefit to eligible school-age children. Eligibility includes children in foster care, or those enrolled in SNAP, TANF, income-based Medicaid or free and reduced-priced meal programs. Most eligible participants will be automatically enrolled with additional application options available online or by phone or via paper forms. Outreach efforts are underway to ensure community awareness.

PUBLIC MATTERS FOLLOW-UP

Katie Hedrick, Inclusive Services Manager, reported on the following matters from the May 18, 2026, meeting:

Evans Spring Presentation

Following the May 18 Council meeting, Community Engagement reached out to the two residents who shared concerns about Evans Spring preservation and proposed zoning text amendment language. Neither speaker responded with additional needs or concerns.

Mill Mountain Tourism

The resident who shared ideas for generating Mill Mountain tourism revenue did not provide contact information, but his ideas were shared with the Parks and Recreation Department.

No residents spoke at the June 1 Hearing of Citizens Upon Public Matters.

2. CITY ATTORNEY:

- a. Amendment of subsection (a) of Section 2-321, Towing Advisory Board, Code of the City of Roanoke, to amend the number of members and the makeup of the Towing Advisory Board.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43423-061526. (6-0)
- b. Amendment of Section 17-31, Created; composition; appointment, terms of members; restriction on membership; filling of vacancies, and Section 17-32. Qualification of members, Article III, Youth Services Citizen Board, Chapter 17, Human Resources, Code of the City of Roanoke to change the number of members appointed and the composition of the Youth Services Citizen Board.
Adopted Ordinance No. 43424-061526. (6-0)

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. **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.
Council Member Volosin commented that he submitted a Council Member Initiative today for the pedestrianization of Market Street and Wall Street in the downtown area. He hopes to review it at the next Council meeting in July, to get that process going with the administration and thinks that it would be great for the downtown businesses. The CMI was developed in cooperation with Downtown Roanoke Incorporated, Park Roanoke and information from different vendors, restaurateurs and others in the downtown area to be sure that negative impacts are mitigated.

Mayor Cobb thanked Vice-Mayor McGuire and the City Manager for the conversations about concerns related to the drought. He encouraged the Council to work with Community Engagement or direct the City Manager to do educational messaging associated with the drought. Vice-Mayor McGuire advised that he asked what triggers were in place to constitute voluntary or mandatory water conservation measures. He further advised that people don't like to be told to restrict water usage, but the City should begin talking about what voluntary measures could be taken before it is a mandatory measure. Council Member Volosin added that it is incumbent

upon the Western Virginia Water Authority to determine these things and didn't want the City to duplicate what the Authority may be doing.

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

12. RECESSED - 3:48 pm.

The City Council Meeting will stand in recess; and thereafter reconvene at 7:00 pm, in the City Council Chamber, Room 450, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building.



City of Roanoke, Virginia
CITY COUNCIL

7:00 pm
City Council Chamber
215 Church Avenue, SW

13. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL. Council Member Powers was absent.

The Invocation was delivered by The Reverend Jerome Bonds, Pastor, Rising Mount Zion Baptist Church.

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

Welcome

Certification of Closed Meeting. (6-0)

14. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Proclamation declaring Friday, June 19, 2026, as Juneteenth.

Council Member Nash read and presented the proclamation to Jordan Bell and Zariyah Bell.

Recognition of Miss Virginia 2025 Madison Whitbeck.

Mayor Cobb recognized Ms. Whitbeck, who spoke about the role and the highlights of serving as Miss Virginia 2025.

Youth Services Citizen Board Presentation.

Former Council Member Anita Price introduced students Lilly Quintana and Zariyah Bell who presented information outlining a recent college tour.

15. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Request of Cross Creek Development Corporation to rezone the property located at 0 Westside Boulevard NW and 0 Shenandoah Avenue NW; bearing Official Tax Map Nos. 2720601 and 2720602, respectively, from R-5, Residential District, to RMF, Residential District with conditions. Chris Burns, Agent, Spokesperson.

Adopted Ordinance No. 43425-061526. (6-0)

2. Request of the City of Roanoke to rezone the property located at 2202, 2302, and 2326 Williamson Road NE and 0, 112, and 116 Forest Hill Avenue NE;

bearing Official Tax Map Nos. 3090218, 3090234, 3090237, 3090215, 3090216, and 3090217 (respectively), from CN, Commercial-Neighborhood District; CG, Commercial-General District; and RM-1, Residential District to INPUD, Institutional Planned Unit Development District. Luke Pugh, City Engineer, Spokesperson.

Adopted Ordinance No. 43426-061526. (6-0)

16. HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS:

The 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 City Council.

Barbara Duerk, appeared before the Council and spoke with regard to the 250th anniversary of the United States and invited the Council to attend the events and requested that the Roanoke Star be lit red, white and blue for Constitution Week in September.

ADJOURNED - 7:42 pm.