

ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL-REGULAR SESSION

February 7, 2022

9:00 a.m.

The Council of the City of Roanoke met in joint session with the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority (participated by electronic communication means) on Monday, February 7, 2022 at 9:00 a.m., in the Council Chamber, Room 450, fourth floor, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, with Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr., presiding, pursuant to Chapter 2, Administration, Article II, City Council, Section 2-15, Rules of Procedure, Rule 1, Regular Meetings, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, and pursuant to Resolution No. 42245-010322 adopted by the Council on Monday, January 3, 2022.

PRESENT: Council Members Stephanie Moon Reynolds, Vivian Sanchez-Jones, Patricia White-Boyd, William D. Bestpitch, Joseph L. Cobb, Robert L. Jeffrey, Jr., and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Robert S. Cowell, Jr., City Manager; Timothy R. Spencer, City Attorney; and Cecelia F. McCoy, City Clerk.

Mayor Lea called for a Moment of Silence in memory of Estelle McCadden, longtime neighborhood advocate, founder of the Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference and 2008 Citizen of Year, who passed away on Monday, January 31, 2022; and Rebecca Gail Burruss who passed on January 21, 2022 who was served as a Commissioner on the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority since 2006.

ROANOKE REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S PRESENT: Andrew J. Anguiano, Karen Walker, Edward Garner, Peg McGuire, Duane Smith, and Chair Drew H. Kepley-6.

ROANOKE REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENT: None-0.

Representing Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority: David Bustamante, Executive Director and staff.

Mayor Lea welcomed everyone to the joint meeting of City Council and the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority and called upon Chairman Kepley for remarks; whereupon, Chairman Kepley welcomed everyone to the meeting and proceeded with overview of the following:

Overview of RRHA programs, services and accomplishments:

Chairman Kepley provided information with regard to the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority programs, services and accomplishments. He highlighted the goal of the Housing Authority was to provide housing and homeownership opportunities and to accomplish neighborhood revitalization; to take a leadership role in providing programs and resources for residents that promote and encourage self-sufficiency, self-esteem, and self-determination; and to maintain a leadership role in fostering economic development and job opportunities through redevelopment.

Following Chairman Kepley's remarks, David Bustamante, Executive Director, addressed concerns of City Council as follows:

Update on the EnVision Center Relocation:

Council Member Cobb inquired about the progress of the EnVision Center's anticipated opening in late Spring and asked who was the contact person for the Center; wherein, Mr. Bustamante identified Greg Goodman, FSS Coordinator and EnVision Center Manager.

Mayor Lea asked Mr. Bustamante to give details about the EnVision Center; wherein, he replied the Center was a one-stop employment and training center located in the former Melrose Library. The Center would provide assistance and referrals to citizens in need of services and hopes to become a self-sufficient service center. He also confirmed employment training would be available. The Center would also provide a community garden for youth.

Council Member Moon Reynolds inquired regarding safety concerns in the area; wherein, Mr. Bustamante replied Tsunami camera surveillance systems were mounted at public housing facilities for security.

Various Strategies to Ensure Safety in the Public Housing Developments:

Council Member Cobb expressed concerned about the wooded area near the EnVision Center; wherein, Mr. Bustamante answered there had been discussion with regarding to removal of the wooded area and understood the option may be more costly than anticipated.

Various concerns with regard to the Melrose Towers, Hunt Manor, Morningside Manor and Lansdowne Housing Communities:

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd inquired about maintenance and updating of the Melrose Towers, Hunt Manor, Morningside Manor and Lansdowne Housing communities; whereupon, Mr. Bustamante replied the Housing Authority received HUD funding to repair essential heating and cooling systems, electrical systems, and funding for the normal wear and tear on essential equipment. However, minimal funds were slated for needed remodeling and building updates.

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd also inquired about the wait list for seniors and citizens in need of public housing. Mr. Bustamante replied most facilities have a waitlist of approximately four to six months with approximately 2,000 requests and the Morningside and Melrose Towers sites may take several years to be filled.

Council Member Moon Reynolds asked Mr. Bustamante about the Authority providing storm doors at housing facilities that currently do not have storm doors; Mr. Bustamante replied the Hurt Park site does not receive sufficient funding to provide doors for each residence and would be too costly. Any additional amenity, such as storm doors, would be difficult to provide and residents were not allowed to purchase them because of uniformity across units.

Council Member Moon Reynolds inquired about plans to build additional housing in the City; whereby, Mr. Bustamante said there were no plans to build; however, the Roanoke apartment complex formerly known as Old Spanish Trace located at the corner of Peters Creek Road and Shenandoah Ave has been considered.

Current collaborations with community partners in supporting RRHA programming:

Council Member Cobb inquired whether there were any collaborations on additional partnership in the city; whereby, Mr. Bustamante expressed interest in expanding programs for the youth and collaboration with other organizations to build partnerships with those who provide youth programming.

Update on Redevelopment Strategic Plan and new Rental Assistance Demonstration:

Council Member Cobb inquired at the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program. Mr. Bustamante explained RAD was a voluntary program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development to preserve public housing by providing Public Housing Agencies with access to more stable funding to make needed improvements to properties; and stated that the Housing Authority was currently seeking avenues in which they could receive funding from the program.

There being no further business, Chairman Kepley thanked the Council for their continued support and declared the Commissioner's meeting adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

There being no further business, Mayor Lea thanked the Commissioner's and Mr. Bustamante for the informative meeting and declared the Council meeting in recess at 10:11 a.m.

At 10:25 a.m., the Council Meeting reconvened in the Council Chamber, Room 450, fourth floor, Noel C. Taylor Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., to consider the following agenda items:

VACANCIES ON CERTAIN AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES APPOINTED BY COUNCIL: 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.

(See communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved that Council concur in the request of the Mayor as above mentioned. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-6.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Member Cobb was not present when vote was recorded.)

CITY-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT COUNTRYSIDE: A communication from the City Manager requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss the disposition of City-owned property containing 67 acres located Countryside, 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.

(See communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved that Council concur in the request of the City Manager as above mentioned. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

NAYS: None-0.

CITY-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 197 BULLITT AVENUE AND 502 WILLIAMSON ROAD: A communication from the City Manager requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss the disposition of City-owned property containing 0.88 acres located at 197 Bullitt Avenue, S. E., and 502 Williamson Road, S. E., 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.

(See communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved that Council concur in the request of the City Manager as above mentioned. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

NAYS: None-0.

PROSPECTIVE BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY: A communication from the City Manager requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting for the purpose of discussion 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 location or expanding its facilities in the community, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(5), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

(See communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved that Council concur in the request of the City Manager as above mentioned. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

NAYS: None-0.

ACTUAL LITIGATION: A communication from the City Manager requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting with legal counsel pertaining to actual litigation where such consultation and briefing in an 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.

(See communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved that Council concur in the request of the City Manager as above mentioned. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

NAYS: None-0.

ITEMS LISTED ON THE 2:00 P.M. COUNCIL DOCKET REQUIRING DISCUSSION/CLARIFICATION AND ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE 2:00 P.M. AGENDA: NONE.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL: NONE.

BRIEFINGS:

Budget/Financial Planning FY 23

Amelia C. Merchant, Director of Finance and Paul W. Workman, Budget Manager, briefed the Council on the development of the FY 2022 - 2023 budget process.

Council Member Jeffrey commented that he would prefer to receive the budget briefing documents prior to the day of the meeting, for an opportunity to review the information and pose questions for staff; whereupon, the City Manager advised that the purpose of the briefings were to introduce the information to the Council not asking for responses and a lot of information in the briefing would not be understood without an explanation. The City Manager further advised that often the staff worked through the weekend to ensure the most accurate information was included in the briefing documents.

Following further discussion the matter, the City Manager replied that going forward he would certainly try to get information to the Council prior to the meeting date.

Ms. Merchant highlighted the following information:

- FY 2022 Overview
- FY 2023 Development
- Capital Improvement Program (CIP)
- Next Steps

(See presentation on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

She advised that the FY22 adopted budget was \$307.6 million and local taxes comprised approximately 68.3 percent of all revenue; and through December FY 22 local taxes increased approximately \$7.1 million or 9.9 percent compared to the same period in FY 21; and total FY 22 revenues increased approximately \$5.8 million or 5.5 percent compared to the same period of FY 21 largely due to increases in Real Estate, Sales, Transient Occupancy, Prepared Food and Beverage taxes.

She continued stating that expenditures through December increased approximately \$7.2 million or 5.3 percent compared to the same period last year, mainly due to the timing of transfers to GRTC, RCPS, Capital Projects and the Grant Fund.

Ms. Merchant shared that potential FY 2023 General Assembly revenue impacts included reduction in local share of sales tax on groceries, transient occupancy tax restriction, tax relief on automobile values, which would ultimately affect the 40 percent share of local taxes with Roanoke City Public Schools.

She also highlighted the preliminary FY 2023 expenditure priorities, noting that organizational cost increases of \$1,463,000.00 included reserves at \$250,000.00, debt service at \$963,000.00 and worker compensation at \$250,000.00 with medical, dental and Virginia Retirement System remaining at zero increase because the current budgeted amounts were sufficient for anticipated calendar year 2023 expenditure growth.

She provided the next steps in the FY 2023 budget development process pointing out that reviews were taking place for departmental offers by staff and budget committee, external agency requests, General Fund recommendation development, budget committee review of fee adjustment requests and preparation for the March 7 budget briefing.

Ms. Merchant continued with the presentation by reviewing the Capital Improvement Program stating that the desired characteristics were to maintain a transparent process, awareness of the full scope of large investments regardless of funding, tool to implement the master and comprehensive plans, responsible and strategic use of resources through planning and priority setting.

She reviewed the FY22 to FY26 capital improvement program projects highlighting a few such as the replacement of fire apparatus and solid waste vehicles, rehabilitating and/or replacing amenities identified upgrades of many school buildings, and upgrades to the Advantage financial system and jail management system; and the total CIP was approximately \$112 million. She touched on the FY 2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Program, noting that in FY 2027 the school improvements, Berglund Center improvements, stormwater improvements, Curb, Gutter and Sidewalk and streetscape improvements would require continuation of funding.

She also highlighted existing projects requiring additional funding naming a few such as the 13th Street SW over NSRW bridge renovation, curbs, gutter and sidewalk maintenance, an earlier timeline for Advantage system upgrades and Land and A&E for the Fire Facility Master Plan Station No. 2 renovation.

Lastly, Ms. Merchant reviewed the projects that were not currently programmed or funded in the FY 2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Program such as renovation of the Melrose over Peters Creek Bridge, Fire Station No. 6 expansion, Public Works Service Center - women's locker room, wash house/refueling Station, new employee parking lot, Magistrate Office renovation and conversion of former Law Library.

Ms. Merchant concluded the presentation by noting that the next briefing would be on March 7 to include FY 2023 - 2027 priority projects, capital funding strategies and an update from the City's financial advisor.

Following brief comments by several Council Members with regard to bridge renovations, Mayor Lea thanked the City Manager and Director of Finance for the informative presentation; and received and filed the budget briefing.

At 12:09 p.m., the Mayor declared the Council meeting in recess for a Closed meeting in the Council's Conference Room, and thereafter to be reconvened at 2:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber.

At 2:00 p.m., the Council meeting reconvened in the Council Chamber, with Mayor Lea presiding.

PRESENT: Council Members Stephanie Moon Reynolds, Vivian Sanchez-Jones, Patricia White-Boyd, William D. Bestpitch, Joseph L. Cobb, Robert L. Jeffrey, Jr., and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

ABSENT: None-0.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Robert S. Cowell, Jr., City Manager; Timothy R. Spencer, City Attorney; and Cecelia F. McCoy, City Clerk.

The Invocation was delivered by Elder Milton Hardy, Jr., Associate Pastor, Greater Prayer Temple.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.

Mayor Lea called for a Moment of Silence in memory of Estelle McCadden, longtime neighborhood advocate, founder of the Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference and 2008 Citizen of Year, who passed away on Monday, January 31, 2022; and Rebecca Gail Burruss who passed on January 21, 2022 who was served as a Commissioner on the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority since 2006.

PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

RECOGNITION OF CITY EMPLOYEES WITH 30, 35, 40 AND 45 YEARS OF SERVICE IN CALENDAR YEAR 2021. Mayor Lea presented gifts and recognized the service of employees with 30 - 45 years of service with the City of Roanoke.

ITEMS FOR ACTION:

HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS: NONE.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Mayor advised that all matters listed under the Consent Agenda were considered to be routine by the Members of Council and would be enacted by one motion in the form, or forms, listed on the Consent Agenda, and if discussion were desired, the item would be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately. He called attention to a request convene in a Closed Meeting.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL: Minutes of the regular meetings of City Council held on Monday, January 3, 2022; was before the body.

(See Minutes on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with and approved as recorded. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7

NAYS: None-0.

ROANOKE ARTS COMMISSION: A communication from the City Clerk advising of the resignation of Tranay Wilson as a member of the Roanoke Arts Commission, effectively immediately, was before the Council.

(See communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved that the resignation be accepted and the communication be received and filed. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

NAYS: None-0.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS: A communication from the City Clerk advising of the resignation of Valeria Alphin as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals, effective immediately, was before the Council.

(See communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved that the resignation be accepted and the communication be received and filed. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

NAYS: None-0.

EQUITY AND EMPOWERMENT ADVISORY BOARD-VISIT VIRGINIA'S BLUE RIDGE-ROANOKE VALLEY-ALLEGHANY REGIONAL COMMISSION: A communication from the City Clerk advising of the resignations of Dr. Elda Stanco Downey as a member of the Equity and Empowerment Advisory Board, Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge, Board of Directors and Roanoke Valley-Allegheny Regional Commission, effective immediately, was before the Council.

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved that the resignations be accepted and the communication received and filed. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

NAYS: None-0.

OATHS OF OFFICE-FAIR HOUSING BOARD-PERSONNEL AND EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES COMMISSION-MILL MOUNTAIN ADVISORY BOARD: Reports of qualification of the following individuals were before the Council:

Amazetta Anderson as a member of the Fair Housing Board for a three-year term of office ending March 31, 2025;

Donna St.Clair as a member (Classified Service/City Employee) of the Personnel and Employment Practices Commission to fill the unexpired term of office of Jackie Clewis ending June 30, 2023; and

Terry McGuire as a member of the Mill Mountain Advisory Board to replace J. Matthew Bullington for a three-year term of office commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024.

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved that the reports of qualification be received and filed. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

NAYS: None-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: NONE.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS AND COMMENTS OF CITY MANAGER:

CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS:

Roanoke Prevention Alliance – Roanoke City 2021 Youth Risk Behavior Study

Christine Gist, Director, and Mackenzie Chitwood, Roanoke Youth Leadership Alliance Coordinator briefed the Council on results of the Youth Risk Behavior Study that surveyed Grades 6 and 8, 10 and 12 in Roanoke City Public Schools. The total number of students surveyed was 1,616: 1,009 in 6th and 8th, and 707 students in grades 10th and 12th. The following areas were highlighted:

(See copy of presentation on file in the City Clerk's Office).

- Middle School 30-Day Substance Use
 - ◆ Tobacco
 - ◆ Vape
 - ◆ Alcohol
 - ◆ Alcohol Binge
 - ◆ Marijuana
 - ◆ Prescription
 - ◆ Heroin
- High School 30-Day Substance Use
 - ◆ Tobacco
 - ◆ Vape
 - ◆ Alcohol
 - ◆ Alcohol Binge

- ◆ Marijuana
- ◆ Prescription
- ◆ Heroin

In summary, Ms. Gist reported:

- 30-day use of tobacco, vape products, and alcohol have decreased for Middle School and High School youth
 - Vape products are being used more than traditional tobacco products
 - 30-day use of marijuana decreased
 - 30-day marijuana and alcohol use for High School are at 15 percent and 16 percent
 - Prescription abuse and heroin use has decreased.
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Results
 - Protective Factor Results
 - ACEs Further Analysis
 - Middle School Depression/Suicide

In Summary, Ms. Gist reported:

- 36.3 percent of Middle School and 52.1 percent of High School age youth felt depressed in the past 12 months
- 17.7 percent of Middle School and 19.6 percent of High School age youth made a plan on how they would attempt suicide
- 10.3 percent of Middle School and 10.7 percent of High School age youth reported attempting suicide
- 4.1 percent of Middle School and 3.8 percent of High School age youth that reported attempting suicide reported they needed medical care

Following inquiries from Council Members Cobb, Bestpitch and Jeffrey, Mayor Lea thanked Ms. Gist and Ms. Chitwood for the informative report and advised that the Youth Risk Behavior Study would be received and filed.

Roanoke Youth and Gang Violence Community Assessment

Necole Holton Jacobs, Program Manager, along with Sharon Moore, Assessment Team Member and Alexa Pupillo, Lead Analyst, briefed the City Council on the Roanoke Youth and Gang Violence Community Assessment that completed through direct interviews with community members and Youth Serving Agencies along with surveys that were created and disseminated through a variety of methods. She stated interviews and surveys consisted of multiple choice and open-ended questions aimed at soliciting feed from Community Leaders, Residents, Youth Service Providers, and Youth and Students on the effects gang violence is having on the community.

(See presentation on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Ms. Jacobs underscored the following:

- Assessment Methodology
- Survey Completion Final Numbers
- Assessment Findings
 - Youth and Student Survey
 - Community Resident
 - Community Leaders
 - Youth Serving Agencies
 - Assessment Team
 - The Human Element

Following the presentation, Mayor Lea inquired whether Elite Business Strategies had recommendations for the Youth and Gang Taskforce Committee; whereupon, Ms. Jacobs replied transportation of youth seemed to be an issue. Council Member Cobb stated communication was a problem and needed to be more effective. Mayor Lea interjected that there needed to be something done immediately to remedy the issues and more aggressive measures needed to be put into action to save lives. The City Manager commented about the institution of job programs and the City's current apprentice program.

There being no additional comments, Mayor Lea thanked Ms. Jacobs, Ms. Moore and Ms. Pupillo for the enlightening presentation, and advised that the report would be received and filed.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

FIREHOUSE SUBS PUBLIC SAFETY FOUNDATION GRANT: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance of the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Grant to support the purchase of an all-terrain vehicle for specialty team responses and special events.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Jeffrey offered the following resolution:

(#42268-020722) A RESOLUTION authorizing the acceptance of Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Grant ("Grant") for the purchase of an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) by the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department, and authorizing execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 275.)

Council Member Jeffrey moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42268-020722. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

Council Member Sanchez-Jones offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42269-020722) AN ORDINANCE appropriating funding from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation to support the purchase of an all-terrain Vehicle (ATV). Emergency Medical Services (EMS), amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2021 - 2022 Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of budget ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 82, page 276.)

Council Member Sanchez-Jones moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 42269-020722. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

SHUTTERED VENUES OPERATORS GRANT: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance of the Shuttered Venues Operators Grant from the Small Business Administration Office of Disaster Assistance to provide support to live venue operators in response to the impacts of COVID-19.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following resolution:

(#42270-020722) A RESOLUTION authorizing the acceptance of the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (“Grant”) established by the Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits, and Venues Act and amended by the American Rescue Plan Act made to the City of Roanoke by the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Office of Disaster Assistance; and authorizing execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 276.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42270-020722. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42271-020722) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Business, Nonprofits, and Venues Act amended by the American Rescue Plan Act, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2022 - 2023 Civic Facilities Fund —Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of budget ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 82, page 277.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 42271-020722. The motion seconded by Vice-Mayor White-Boyd and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Jeffrey, Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT AND HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance of the Virginia Department of Transportation's Surface Transportation Block Grant and Highway Infrastructure Program funds for the Roanoke River Greenway East design.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd offered the following resolution:

(#42272-020722) A RESOLUTION authorizing the acceptance of Surface Transportation Block and Highway Infrastructure Program Grant ("Grant") established by the Virginia Department of Transportation ("VDOT") for the Roanoke River Greenway East Design; and authorizing execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 278.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42272-020722. The motion seconded by Council Member Sanchez-Jones and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon-Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42273-020722) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the Virginia Department of Transportation and Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2022 - 2023 Capital Projects Fund Appropriations.

(For full text of budget ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 82, page 279.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 42273-020722. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM, REGIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT, AND SMARTSCALE FUNDS FOR THE AVIATION DRIVE/VALLEY VIEW BOULEVARD PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance of the Virginia Department of Transportation's Highway Infrastructure Program, Regional Surface Transportation Block Grant and SmartSCALE funds for the Aviation Drive/Valley View Boulevard Pedestrian Improvements.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd offered the following resolution:

(#42274-020722) A RESOLUTION authorizing the acceptance of Regional Surface Transportation Grant, a Highway Improvement Grant, and SmartSCALE Grant ("Grant") established by the Virginia Department of Transportation ("VDOT") for the Aviation Drive/Valley View Boulevard Pedestrian Improvements design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction; and authorizing execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 280.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42274-020722. The motion seconded by Council Member Bestpitch and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

Council Member Jeffrey offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42275-020722) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the Virginia Department of Transportation and Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2022 - 2023 Capital Projects Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 82, page 281.)

Council Member Jeffrey moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 42275-020722. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL DISASTER FUNDING GRANT: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance of the Section 106 Supplement Disaster Funding Grant from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to support the purchase of a new street sweeper.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd offered the following resolution:

(#42276-020722) A RESOLUTION authorizing the acceptance of Section 106 Supplemental Disaster Funding Grant ("Grant") established by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality ("VDEQ") for the purchase of a new street sweeper; and authorizing execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 282.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42276-020722. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42277-020722) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the Department of Environmental Equality Section 106 Supplemental Disaster Fund, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2022 - 2023 Stormwater Utility Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 82, page 283.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 42277-020722. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

DE-APPROPRIATION OF THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REGIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FUNDS: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending de-appropriation of the Virginia Department of Transportation Regional Surface Transportation Program funds for the Roanoke River Greenway Barnhardt Creek Bridge crossing.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42278-020722) AN ORDINANCE to unappropriate funding from the Virginia Department of Transportation for the Roanoke River Greenway – Barnhardt Creek Bridge, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2022 - 2023 Capital Projects Fund Appropriations and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of budget ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 82, page 284.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 42278-020722. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN FOR THE CITY OF ROANOKE: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending adoption of the Emergency Operations Plan for the City of Roanoke.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following resolution:

(#42279-020722) A RESOLUTION readopting an Emergency Operations Plan for the City of Roanoke.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 285.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42279-020722. The motion seconded by Council Member Bestpitch and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY RIGHTS IN FEE SIMPLE, IN CONNECTION WITH THE CITY OF ROANOKE FLOODPLAIN MITIGATION: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending the acquisition of real property rights in fee simple, in connection with the City of Roanoke Floodplain Mitigation project.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following ordinance:

(#42280-020722) A ORDINANCE providing for the acquisition of real property identified as 1903 Meadowbrook Road, N. W., Tax Map No. 6140707, needed by the City in connection with a floodplain mitigation project; authorizing City staff to acquire such property rights by negotiation for the City; authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute appropriate acquisition documents; and dispensing with the second reading of this Ordinance by title.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 82, page 287.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 42280-020722. The motion seconded by Council Member Bestpitch and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

COMMENTS OF CITY MANAGER: NONE.

The City Manager provided draft copy of the Strategic Plan – Star City Strong 2022 – 2023 to the Council.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.

INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS: NONE.

MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

INQUIRIES AND/OR COMMENTS BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

Council Member Cobb shared he recently conversed with a local storeowner who expressed concern with an uptick of shoplifting at his establishment; encouraged further education for local convenience stores with regard to the Plastic Bag Tax and use of reusable bags; and recommended review of the City Ordinance regarding snow removal on sidewalks in front of properties prior to 9:00 a.m., as it may be updated due to unreasonable requirements.

VACANCIES ON CERTAIN AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES APPOINTED BY COUNCIL:

LOCAL OFFICE ON AGING ADVISORY BOARD: The Mayor called attention to the upcoming expiration of the one-year term of office of Cindy McFall as a City representative of the Local Office on Aging Advisory Board ending February 28, 2022; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations.

Council Member Bestpitch placed in the nomination the name of Jennifer Oakes.

There being no further nominations, Ms. Oakes was appointed to replace Cindy McFall as a City representative of the Local Office on Aging Advisory Board for a one-year term of office commencing March 1, 2022 and ending February 28, 2023, by the following vote:

FOR MS. OAKES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD: The Mayor called attention to the expiration of the three-year terms of office of Jared Rigby, Luke Priddy, Pete Eshelman and William Modica as members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board ending March 31, 2022. Inasmuch as Mr. Eshelman and Mr. Modica have served three consecutive terms of office, each, they are ineligible to serve another term of office; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations.

Council Member Bestpitch placed in the nomination the names of Jared Rigby, Luke Priddy, Ralpher Lee and Tim Pohlada-Thomas.

There being no further nominations, Messrs. Rigby and Priddy were reappointed; Mr. Lee was appointed to replace Pete Eshelman and Mr. Pohlada-Thomas was appointed to replace William Modica as members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for three-year terms of office, each, commencing April 1, 2022 and ending March 31, 2025, by the following vote:

FOR MESSRS. RIGBY, PRIDDY, LEE AND POHLADA-THOMAS: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

ROANOKE ARTS COMMISSION: The Mayor called attention to a vacancy created by the resignation of Tranay Wilson as a member of the Roanoke Arts Commission ending June 30, 2022; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations.

Council Member Bestpitch placed in nomination the name of Donna Davis.

There being no further nominations, Ms. Davis was appointed to fill the unexpired term of office of Tranay Wilson as a member of the Roanoke Arts Commission ending June 30, 2022, by the following vote:

FOR MS. DAVIS: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

ROANOKE NEIGHBORHOOD ADVOCATES: The Mayor called attention to a vacancy created by the resignation of Brian Bennett as a member of the Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates ending September 30, 2022; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations.

Council Member Bestpitch placed in nomination the name of Rachel Hale.

There being no further nominations, Ms. Hale was appointed to fill the unexpired term of office of Brian Bennett as a member of the Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates ending September 30, 2022, by the following vote:

FOR MS. HALE: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

ROANOKE REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY: The Mayor called attention to a vacancy created by the unexpected death of R. Gail Burruss as a Commissioner of the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority ending August 31, 2022; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations.

Council Member Bestpitch placed in nomination the name of Karen Michalski-Karney.

There being no further nominations, Ms. Michalski-Karney was appointed to fill the unexpired term of office of R. Gail Burruss as a Commissioner of the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority ending August 31, 2022, by the following vote:

FOR MS. MICHALSKI-KARNEY: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

TOWING ADVISORY BOARD: The Mayor called attention to the expiration of the term of office of Chris Craft as a member of the Towing Advisory Board ended October 31, 2020; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations.

Council Member Bestpitch placed in the nomination the name of Manuel Dotson.

There being no further nominations, Mr. Dotson was appointed to replace Chris Craft as a member of the Towing Advisory Board for a term of office ending October 31, 2023, by the following vote:

FOR MR. DOTSON: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

WESTERN VIRGINIA'S REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL FACILITY AUTHORITY: The Mayor called attention to the expiration of the four-year terms of office of Granger MacFarlane and W. Brent Robertson as City representatives of the Western Virginia's Regional Industrial Facility Authority ended February 3, 2022; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations.

Council Member Bestpitch placed in the nomination the names of Tomas Reyes and W. Brent Robertson.

There being no further nominations, Mr. Reyes was appointed to replace Granger MacFarlane and W. Brent Robertson was reappointed as City representatives of the Western Virginia's Regional Industrial Facility Authority for four-year terms of office, each, commencing February 4, 2022 and ending February 3, 2026, by the following vote:

FOR MESSRS. REYES AND ROBERTSON: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING: With respect to the Closed Meeting just concluded, Council Member Cobb moved that each Member of City Council certify to the best of his or her knowledge that: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in any motion by which any Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by City Council. The motion seconded by Vice-Mayor White-Boyd and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea, Sr.-7.

NAYS: None-0.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Lea declared the regular meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

A P P R O V E D

ATTEST:

Cecelia F. McCoy, CMC
City Clerk

Sherman P. Lea, Sr.
Mayor
