



**ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION**

**JUNE 21, 2022
2:00 P.M.**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER
215 CHURCH AVENUE, S. W.**

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.

1. Call to Order--Roll Call. All Present.

The Invocation was delivered by The Reverend Serenus T. Churn, Jr., Pastor, High Street Baptist Church.

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

Welcome. Mayor Lea.

NOTICE:

Council meetings will be televised live and replayed on RVTV Channel 3 on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and video streamed through Facebook Live at [facebook.com/RoanokeVa](https://www.facebook.com/RoanokeVa). Council meetings are offered with closed captioning for the deaf or hard of hearing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Council of the City of Roanoke is seeking applications for the following current vacancies and/or upcoming expirations of terms of office:

Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals – one vacancy (Architect)
City of Roanoke Finance Board – one vacancy (Citizen-at-Large)
Roanoke Public Library Board – two vacancies

Access the City's homepage to complete an online application for the abovementioned vacancies.

2. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Recognition of the City's Swiftwater Rescue Team.

Mayor Lea with Chief David Hoback recognized the Swiftwater Rescue Team and Fire-EMS Department who rescued a citizen who was trapped in a flooding vehicle.

3. HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS:

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 Council.

Shawn Ayers, 1228 Hamilton Terrace, S. W., appeared before the Council to complain about the mismanagement of the City's Streets and Maintenance Department.

Barbara Duerk, 2607 Rosalind Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council to speak on the All America City and encouraged the hiring of diverse citizens that practice equity and empowerment of those less able because of mental, physical, and economic limitations. She provided keys for each Council Member and administrators symbolizing the City's position of "holding the key" to equity and empowerment.

4.

CONSENT AGENDA:
(APPROVED 7-0)

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Members of City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of the items. If discussion is desired, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

C-1 Minutes of the regular meeting of City Council held on Monday, May 16, 2022.

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

C-2 Reports of qualification of the following individuals:

Whitney Feldmann as a member of the Mill Mountain Advisory Board for a three-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2025;

Malcolm Quigley as a member of the Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge, Board of Directors to replace Ssunny Shah for a one-year term of office commencing July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023;

James Davis as a member of the Mill Mountain Advisory Board to replace David Perry for a three-year term of office commencing July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2025;

Adam Puckett as a member of the Court Community Corrections Program Regional Community Criminal Justice Board to replace Deputy Chief Eric Charles for a three-year term of office commencing July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2025; and

Eric Anderson as a member of the Gun Violence Prevention Commission to fill the unexpired term of office of Angela Williams ending March 31, 2025.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Received and filed.

REGULAR AGENDA:

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: NONE.

7. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS AND COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER:

a. CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS:

- Orange Avenue Improvements - 30 minutes
 - Star City Strong Recovery and Resiliency - American Rescue Plan Act Funds Update - 30 minutes
- Received and filed.**

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

1. Amendment of the City Code to allow reinstatement of the real property rehabilitation exemption for commercial and mixed-use real property lost due to nonpayment of real estate taxes.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42373-062122. (7-0)
2. De-appropriation of VDOT Revenue Sharing Funds for the Graybill Road/Gilford Avenue Drainage Improvement Project.
Adopted Budget Ordinance No. 42374-062122. (7-0)
3. Execution of a proposed Joint Use Agreement between the City of Roanoke and the Roanoke City School Board.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42375-062122. (7-0)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER. NONE.

b. CITY ATTORNEY:

1. Amendment of the City Code to update Article IV, Personnel Management and Practices and Article III, Officers and Employees.
Adopted Ordinance Nos. 42376-021622 and 42377-062122. (7-0)
2. Amendment of the City Code to update Chapter 12, Fire Prevention and Protection.
Adopted Ordinance Nos. 42378-021622 and 42379-062122. (7-0)

3. Amendment of the City Code to update Section 24-2.1, Prohibition of Firearms on City Property.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42380-062122. (7-0)
4. Amendment of the City Code to update Chapter 23, Police, Article III, Security Alarms.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42381-062122. (7-0)

8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

- a. A report of the Roanoke City School Board requesting appropriation of funds for various educational programs; and a report of the City Manager recommending that Council concur in the request. Donna Caldwell, Director of Accounting, Spokesperson.
Adopted Budget Ordinance No. 42382-062122. (7-0)
- b. A report of 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:

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

Council Member Price reminded everyone about the upcoming Roanoke Youth Summit on Saturday, June 25, at 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. in Washington Park. The event is free, and transportation will be available at Fishwick Middle School, Patrick Henry High School, Melrose Library and William Fleming High School.

Council Member Bestpitch commented that he would continue to Chair the Legislative Committee through December and advised that the legislative lobbyist would be present at the July 5 Council Meeting.

Council Member Moon Reynolds stated she attended a neighborhood meeting at the Williamson Road Library on June 20 regarding business and neighborhood concerns about projects coordinated by the Williamson Road Area Business Association.

Council Member Cobb announced a gun buyback event would be held on Saturday, June 25, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Melrose Community Center (1427 Melrose Avenue, N. W.). Citizens can receive a \$250 grocery gift card for a semi-automatic handgun or \$150 grocery gift card for a shotgun, rifle, or revolver.

Council Member Moon Reynolds inquired about a joint meeting with the Roanoke Regional Airport Commission. The City Manager advised no meeting date had been set.

Mayor announced the Miss Virginia 2022 schedule of events from June 23 – 25, beginning with the Four Points Premiere Celebration at the Hotel Roanoke Grand Ball Room held June 23, 10:00 p.m. – 1:30 a.m.; Miss Virginia Purse-a-nality and Basket Auction held Wednesday, June 22 at 7:30 p.m., and Miss Virginia “Show Us Your Shoes” Parade held Saturday, June 25 at 11:00 a.m.; and informed citizens of an upcoming free Youth Football Clinic (ages 7-13) sponsored by the CIAA on Tuesday, July 19 at Salem Football Stadium (1008 Texas Street, Salem). This event will feature community service engagement as the CIAA, its head football coaches, and student athletes. Those interested in participating in the clinic will need to register no later than Monday, July 11th.

- b. Vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by Council. **NONE.**

12. RECESS – 4:43 P.M.

THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS DECLARED IN RECESS; AND THEREAFTER RECONVENED AT 7:00 P.M., IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 450, NOEL C. TAYLOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING.



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Call to Order--Roll Call. All Present.

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A. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Request of Zachary Toth to vacate an approximately 12 foot wide alley running east from 4th Street, S. W., approximately 75 feet to a dead end, with an approximate total area of 910 +/- square feet, adjacent to property located at 210 4th Street, S. W. Zachary Toth, Owner, Spokesperson.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42383-062122. (7-0)
2. Proposal of the City of Roanoke to repeal the current Fee Compendium and readopt a new Electronic Fee Compendium and to receive the views of citizens with regard to the fees set forth in the Fee Compendium involving the City's Planning Department. Timothy R. Spencer, City Attorney.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42384-062122. (7-0)
3. Proposal of the City of Roanoke for authorization of General Obligation Public Improvement Bonds in the principal amount of not to exceed \$48,120,000.00 and appropriation of funds for capital projects. Robert S. Cowell, Jr., City Manager.
No action taken.
4. Proposal of the City of Roanoke to consider an amendment to the aggregate amount of the Fiscal Year 2021 – 2022 annual budget in connection with appropriation of funds for the General Fund and appropriation of funding from additional local taxes and other revenue estimates in the amount of \$18,111,000.00. Robert S. Cowell, Jr., City Manager.
Adopted Budget Ordinance No. 42385-062122. (7-0)

At 8:21 p.m., the Mayor declared the meeting in recess.

At 8:36 p.m., the meeting reconvened, with all Members of Council in attendance.

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consideration of action to be taken with regard to anticipated surplus in connection with 2022 personal property revenue.
Adopted Ordinance No. 42386-062122. (5-2, Council Members Bestpitch and Cobb voted no)

C. HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS:

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Ronnie Blankenship, 513 Lester Avenue, N. E., appeared before Council, spoke with regard to conflicts and disorder at 502 Mapleton Avenue, N. E., and advised that neighbors desired to feel safe in their community.

D. ADJOURNED – 9:02 P.M.