

ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL-REGULAR SESSION

August 1, 2022

9:00 a.m.

The Council of the City of Roanoke met in joint session with the Roanoke City School Board on Monday, August 1, 2022 at 9:00 a.m., at Westside Elementary School, 1441 Westside Boulevard, N. W., City of Roanoke, Virginia, 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 Anita J. Price, Vivian Sanchez-Jones, Patricia White-Boyd, Joseph L. Cobb, Stephanie Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-6.

ABSENT: Council Member William D. Bestpitch-1.

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.

SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES PRESENT: Mary F. Apel, Mark K. Cathey, Michael L. Cherry, II, Joyce W. Watkins, and Chairman Elizabeth C. S. Jamison-5.

SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES ABSENT: Diane M. Casola and Natasha N. Saunders-2.

Representing the City of Roanoke: Clarence G. Grier, Deputy City Manager; W. Brent Robertson, Assistant City Manager/Director of Finance; and Angie O'Brien, Chief Strategy Officer.

Representing Roanoke City Public Schools: Verletta White, Superintendent of Roanoke City Public Schools; Christopher Perkins, Chief Operations Officer; Kathleen Jackson, Chief Financial Officer; Hayley Poland, Assistant Superintendent for Equity and Student Services; and Rita Huffman, Clerk of the Roanoke City School Board.

SCHOOLS: Mayor Lea welcomed everyone to the joint meeting of City Council and the Roanoke City School Board and called upon the School Board Chairman for remarks; whereupon, Chairman Jamison welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that it was the first joint meeting for the newest School Board Trustee Mary "Fran" Apel.

Safety Update:

Verletta White, Superintendent; Christopher Perkins, Chief Operations Officer; and Hayley Poland, Assistant Superintendent for Equity and Student Services, reviewed the safety and security updates recently approved by the School Board. Ms. White pointed out that 25 safety and security enhancements were approved to compliment current policies, protocols, and practices throughout the School Division.

(See handout on file in the City Clerk’s Office.)

Brief questions were acknowledged from the Vice-Mayor and Council Members Cobb, Moon and Sanchez-Jones inquiring about camera placement, Student Resources Officer’s, social workers in schools and community partnerships.

Ms. White, Mr. Perkins and Ms. Poland indicated that cameras were placed in school common areas and perimeters, behavioral healthcare workers have been increased at the schools, hopefully 16 more Student Resource Officer’s would join the staff soon and the schools partnered with local agencies such as Total Action for Progress and Family Services of Roanoke Valley.

Equity in Action Update:

Ms. White reiterated the school division’s commitment to equity in the highest standard and advised that reconstruction on the new technical careers facility at the former William Ruffner Junior High School building would begin on September 19 with hopes to be open by August 2023.

Kathleen Jackson, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the pandemic relief and capital funding noting that the School’s Division established a capital projects fund in an effort not to rely on reserves.

(See handout on file in the City Clerk’s Office.)

Comments by City Council/School Board Trustees:

Council Member Price thanked the School Division for their support of the Annual Youth Summit which was a success.

Mayor Lea thanked the School Board for approving the enhanced safety standards.

Council Member Cobb commented that for future joint meetings more time be allotted for presentations and questions by both the Council and School Board. He reviewed a few points he hoped would be addressed later--access to funding for electric school buses, adding a public transit training course to ROTEC, update on gun lock distribution and collaboration on Youth and Gang Violence Community Assessment and the process of working with students with behavioral challenges and expelled students.

Council Member Moon Reynolds suggested that the first meeting in August of Council and the School Board be scheduled for two-hours to allow time for questions, etc. She welcomed Ms. Apel to her first joint meeting as a School Board Trustee.

There being no further business, Chairman Jamison thanked the Council for their continued support and declared the School Board meeting adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

There being no further business, Mayor Lea declared the Council meeting in recess at 10:11 a.m.

At 11:25 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 items for action, with Vice-Mayor White-Boyd presiding and all Member of the Council in attendance, with the exception of Council Members Bestpitch, Price, and Mayor Lea (arrived late).

ITEMS FOR ACTION:

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, was before the body.

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

Council Moon Reynolds moved that Council concur in the request of the Mayor as abovementioned. The motion seconded by Council Member Cobb and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Vice-Mayor White-Boyd-4.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent and Mayor Lea was not present when the vote was recorded.)

PERSONNEL MATTER: A communication from Vice-Mayor Patricia White-Boyd, Chair, City Council Personnel Committee, requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss a personnel matter, 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 Moon Reynolds moved that Council concur in the request of the Vice-Mayor as abovementioned. The motion seconded by Council Member Cobb and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Vice-Mayor White-Boyd-4.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent and Mayor Lea was not present when the vote was recorded.)

ACQUISITION OF PUBLICLY OWNED PROPERTY: A communication from the City Attorney requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss the acquisition of publicly owned property, 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 Moon Reynolds moved that Council concur in the request of the City Attorney as abovementioned. The motion seconded by Council Member Cobb and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Vice-Mayor White-Boyd-4.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent and Mayor Lea was not present when the vote was recorded.)

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:

Code Amendment (Section 32-124)

The City Attorney advised that a May 31 personal property tax payment due date for public service corporations requires the Commissioner of Revenue's Office to perform a true-up every April 5 in order to adjust the personal property taxes for the current year based on the assessment by the Virginia State Corporation of real property owned by public service corporations. He pointed out that it creates an administrative burden for that office, as the Commissioner of Revenue does not usually receive current year assessments of real estate and real estate improvements of public service corporations until late September of each year.

He concluded stating that the Commissioner of Revenue recommends that Section 32-124(a) of City Code be amended to change the due date of personal property taxes owed by a public service corporation from May 31 to December 5 of each year; allowing the Commissioner of Revenue to receive the assessment information from the Virginia State Corporation in time to prepare and bill for such tax.

There being no questions and/or comments by the Council Members, the City Attorney advised that he would prepare the proper measure to be considered at the August 15 Council Meeting.

Gun Violence Prevention Framework

Samuel Roman, Police Chief reported current crime statistics in Roanoke advising that 36 firearms were seized in the month of July for a grand total of over 204 firearms seized in 2022; and added that a total of 180 felony warrants and 402 misdemeanor warrants had been served year to date. The RESET Team consisting of four volunteers deployed three times in July, and spoke to approximately 26 residents in areas where gunshot victims and those impacted by gun violence were located geographically.

He concluded his remarks, highlighting the arrests and prosecution information for the month of July, pointing out that Richard Quarles was arrested and charged with murder, after officers responded to a homicide call in the 1000 block of Penmar Avenue, S. E.

In response to an inquiry from Council Member Moon Reynolds with regard to the motive of a homicide that occurred on July 30, involving two brothers and two dogs, Chief Roman advised that he was unable to speak on that homicide for everything said could impact the trial, but mentioned that it was extremely tough to intercept, a homicide that occurred with so much anger and violence that two animals were murdered along with a human being.

The Vice-Mayor commented that it was positive that the police have arrested individuals connected to incidents and received more cooperation overall to do so; and inquired as to what happens to juveniles that have been detained.

Chief Roman replied that it depended upon the severity of the individual circumstances and history of the juvenile, but most likely the juvenile would be processed through intake and transported to the Coyner Springs Juvenile Detention facility.

Angie O'Brien, Chief Strategy Officer, highlighted the summer activities of the Star City Safe Initiative noting that Washington Park Pool had served over 1,400 residents as of mid-July and will close on August 14 for renovations, a party will be held there that day with a DJ, giveaways, refreshments and \$1.00 admission.

She stated that Melrose Library continued to have extended hours averaging about 150 residents on dinner and a movie night and have given away over 125 literacy kits to residents. Human Resources teen apprenticeship third cohort graduation was on July 14 and seven youth were working in the Department of Technology, Fire-EMS, Hotel Roanoke, Libraries, Sheriff's Office and Parks and Recreation.

Ms. O'Brien concluded by outlining two major projects at the Berglund Center the "Stop the Violence" Project partnering with artists Jane Gabrielle and Bryan Hancock to create a giant vinyl mural for the coliseum to include gun violence survivor photographs, stories, victim names, dates of death under the tagline "stop the violence"; and the Empathy Project in which hollow-core doors will be painted featuring victim stories translated to canvas on the doors under the theme "in terms of lives affected by gunfire, opening and closing doors."

She commended Jeffrey Powell, Director, General Services, on receiving the Star City Cease Fire Award at the beatification day in Staunton Park and noted that he led an outstanding effort with passion.

Council Member Moon Reynolds asked if Washington Park Pool was to reopen after renovations; whereupon, the City Manager explained that the pool would be demolished and rebuilt to reopen in 2024.

At 11:41 a.m., Mayor Lea entered the meeting; and Vice-Mayor White-Boyd relinquished the Chair to Mayor Lea.

Council Member Cobb updated the Council on the efforts of the Gun Violence Prevention Commission. He pointed out that the Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Team hosts a monthly community circle to promote healing with the most recent topic of men's health with over 60 people in attendance; and noted that 13 young men graduated from the Rites of Passage Program encouraging them to change behaviors and seek out and mentor other at risk youth. The Commission will be out participating in the National Night Out festivities around the City on Tuesday, August 2 and distributing free gunlocks.

He mentioned that the Commission recently hosted the second Groceries not Guns event for the community to turn in guns and receive gift cards to local grocery stores and reported 151 guns were collected to be destroyed and nearly \$28,000 in grocery store gifts cards distributed, twice the amount from last year.

In response to an inquiry from the Mayor with regard to counseling women in jail program, Ms. O'Brien advised that Natalie Brown, Youth and Gang Violence Outreach Worker, instituted the program based on information shared when Sheriff Hash spoke to the Gun Violence Prevention Commission as the Williamson Road Area meeting. The program works with women in jail under the age of 25 and focuses on ways to reenter the community, strengthen relationships, make positive impacts and job skills.

There being no additional questions or comments by the Council Members, Mayor Lea thanked the presenters for the informative report and advised that the remarks would be received and filed.

At 12:26 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 Vivian Sanchez-Jones, Patricia White-Boyd, Joseph L. Cobb, Stephanie Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-5.

ABSENT: Council Members William D. Bestpitch and Anita J. Price-2.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Robert S. Cowell, Jr., City Manager; Timothy R. Spencer, City Attorney; and Cecelia T. Webb, Deputy City Clerk.

The Invocation was delivered by The Reverend Charles Wilson, Pastor, The Hill Church.

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

PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: Mayor Lea read and presented the proclamation to Aicha Grubb, Chair, Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates.

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

HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS: The Mayor advised that 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 Council, as he may deem appropriate.

Barbara Duerk, 2607 Rosalind Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council and explained the importance of knowing the people in the neighborhood and encouraged citizens to attend National Night Out events.

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.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL: Minutes of the regular meeting of City Council held on Monday, June 21, 2022; Tuesday, July 5, 2022; and Monday, July 18, 2022, were 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 Vice-Mayor White-Boyd and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

OATHS OF OFFICE-ROANOKE ARTS COMMISSION-ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD-TRUSTEES OF THE ROANOKE CITY SCHOOL BOARD-ROANOKE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD: Reports of qualification of the following individuals were before the Council:

Benjamin Bazak as a member of the Roanoke Arts Commission to fill the unexpired term of office of Timothy Martin ending June 30, 2024;

Toya Jones as a member of the Roanoke Arts Commission to replace Kevin Deck for a three-year term of office commencing July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2025;

Kathryn Kronau as a member of the Architectural Review Board to fill the unexpired term of office of Shawn Swain ending October 1, 2022;

Natasha N. Saunders and Elizabeth C.S. Jamison as Trustees of the Roanoke City School Board for three-year terms of office, each, ending June 30, 2023;

Clare Callaghan as a member of the Roanoke Public Library Board to replace Marianne Gandee for a three-year term of office commencing July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2025;

Donna Littlepage as a Citizen member of the City of Roanoke Finance Board to replace Laura Carini for a two-year term of office commencing July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2024; and

Stephen Niamke as a member of the Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates to fill the unexpired term of office of Jordan Bell ending September 30, 2022; and an additional three-year term of office September 30, 2025.

(See Oaths or Affirmations of Office on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved that the reports of qualification be received and filed. The motion seconded by Vice-Mayor White-Boyd and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION: Freeda Cathcart appeared before the Council and shared information with regard to soil and water conservation and protecting the urban forest.

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

Ms. Cathcart advised of the importance of the woodlands surrounding the areas of 0 Brandon Avenue and the Evans Spring property, as without it the areas would flood tremendously, she offered to answer any questions and be a point of contact going forward for concerns with regard to soil and water conservation issues.

There being no questions and/or comments from the Council Members, Mayor Lea advised the presentation would be received and filed.

REIMBURSEMENT AS A LICENSED AGENCY OF DMV: A communication from the City Treasurer recommending acceptance of the reimbursement as a Licensed Agency of DMV ("DMV Select"); and a communication from the City Manager concurring in the recommendation.

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42404-080122) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the U. S. Department of Transportation through the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles to be a License Agent called a DMV Select Office, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2022 - 2023 General Fund and Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of the budget ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 82, page 498.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 42404-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Cobb and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS AND COMMENTS OF CITY MANAGER:

CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS:

Playground and Court Renovation Video

The City Manager introduced Michael Clark, Director, Parks and Recreation and advised that the City has made many improvements to area parks and playgrounds, such as, Garden City Park, Washington Park, West End Park, River's Edge Park, Staunton Park, Raleigh Court Park and basketball courts, tennis courts, etc. Mr. Cowell noted that the next phase of improvements would include Belmont Park, East Gate Park, Strauss Park, Fishburn Park, greenways, Fallon Park, Wasena Park, Kennedy Park, Mountain View, Washington Park, Mill Mountain, Sunrise and Freedom Plaza varying from parking lot enhancements to additional playground equipment.

Mr. Clark played a video crafted by Roanoke Valley Television (RVTV) displaying the improvements made at each park and announced that the ribbon cutting for Garden City Park was at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 2.

Council Member Moon Reynolds inquired as to the process for the type of equipment placed at each park location; whereupon, Mr. Clark indicated that equipment was chosen based on what was previously in place and what the existing land could accommodate.

She further inquired about the status of the new basketball courts at Melrose Park. Mr. Clark replied that the courts were recently paved must cure and receive paint, hopefully to be open for use by September 4.

Mayor Lea asked about the lighting in Melrose Park and if it was addressed in the project; whereupon, Mr. Clark replied lighting was not addressed in this phase of the project, but perhaps at a later stage.

Council Member Sanchez-Jones asked about handicap accessibility at the newly improved park locations. Mr. Clark advised that not many of the City parks were fully handicap accessible, but the park amenities allowed for play by all children; and the City Manager added that Kiwanis Park and Countryside Park were universally accessible and Smith Park was close to 100 percent accessible as well.

There being no additional questions and/or comments by the Council Members, Mayor Lea advised that the remarks were received and filed.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

SMART SCALE APPLICATIONS: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending adoption of a resolution in support of the City's SMART SCALE applications.

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

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following resolution:

(#42405-080122) A RESOLUTION supporting eight applications and authorizing the City Manager or his designee to submit four applications to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for funds from the Smart Scale Program for certain projects; and authorizing the City Manager or his designee to take certain actions in connection with such projects.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 499.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42405-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Cobb.

In response to a request for clarification by the Vice-Mayor, the City Manager advised that street projects were funded by tax dollars and the Smart Scale funds from the State helped, but it was a competitive process close to a yearlong and funding could take even longer to receive.

Bill Tanger, representing Roanoke Business Group, appeared before the Council and advised that with the application due by 5:00 p.m., it did not allow for time to hear the views of citizens. He further advised that he assisted in designing the islands with trees on Williamson Road and suggested that perhaps an alternative or demonstration project could be considered and suggested that Council hold off on the project.

Valerie Brown, representing the Williamson Road Area Business Association, appeared before the Council in support of the project for the safety enhancements on Williamson Road was imperative. She highlighted statistics pointing out that there were approximately 100 vehicle crashes per year on Williamson Road and the lack of sidewalks was dire.

Council Member Moon Reynolds commented that she was uncomfortable with the details of the project concept outline in the City Manager's report and suggested that more dialogue take place and allow the demonstration to see what would work.

Council Member Cobb asked Dewayne D'Ardenne, Transportation Manager, to elaborate on alternatives from the community; whereupon, Mr. D'Ardenne advised that the Brandon Avenue project was successful and they hoped to do the same thing to make Williamson Road safer.

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd commented that the application for the Smart Scale funding was due and it was best to approve and work on design later because the funds could definitely help ensure a successful project.

Following extensive dialogue with regard to the project concept details, Resolution No. 42405-080122 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, and Mayor Lea-4.

NAYS: Council Member Moon Reynolds-1.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

CONTINUUM OF CARE GRANT: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance of the 2021 Continuum of Care Grant funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to support the Coordinated Assessment System.

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

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd offered the following resolution:

(#42406-080122) A RESOLUTION accepting the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Continuum of Care program competition Grant Funding to the City for the Coordinated Assessment System; and authorizing execution of any required documents on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 500.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42406-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds.

Council Member Moon Reynolds inquired about the schools and faith-based organizations partnership indicated in the City Manager's report.

Matthew R. Crookshank, Human Services Administrator, advised that the City collaborated with twelve local church congregations that provide monthly allotments on financial assistance and Malaura Horn, Director of Homeless Programs, Roanoke City Public Schools screened families of homeless students to identify need and facilitate assistance. Mr. Crookshank further advised that he would send Council the names of the church congregations later.

There being no additional questions and/or comments by the Council Members, Resolution No. 42406-080122 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42407-080122) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Continuum of Care (CoC) Coordinated Assessment System (CAS) Grant, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2022 - 2023 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 501.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 42407-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Cobb and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

CONTINUUM OF CARE PLANNING GRANT AWARD: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance of the 2021 Continuum of Care Planning Grant Award from the Department of Housing and Urban Development; and a Council of Community Services cash match to support continuum of care.

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

Council Member Cobb offered the following resolution:

(#42408-080122) A RESOLUTION accepting the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Planning Grant Funding for Continuum of Care; authorizing the City of Roanoke to serve as the fiscal agent for the distribution of such funds; and authorizing execution of any required documents on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 502.)

Council Member Cobb moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42408-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Sanchez-Jones and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

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

(#42409-080122) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Continuum of Care (CoC) Planning Grant, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2022 - 2023 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 503.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 42409-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Sanchez-Jones and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

VIRGINIA HOMELESS SOLUTIONS PROGRAM GRANT: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance of the Virginia Homeless Solutions Program Grant from the Department of Housing and Community Development.

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

Council Member Sanchez-Jones offered the following resolution:

(#42410-080122) A RESOLUTION accepting the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development Virginia Homeless Solutions Program Grant Funding to the City for Continuum of Care strategies and homeless services and prevention programs; and authorizing execution of any required documents on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 504.)

Council Member Sanchez-Jones moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42410-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

Council Member Sanchez-Jones offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42411-080122) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Community Development for the Virginia Homeless Solutions Program, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2022 - 2023 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 505.)

Council Member Sanchez-Jones moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 42411-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

VIRGINIA TOURISM CORPORATION GRANT: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance of the Virginia Tourism Corporation Grant awarded to the Department of Parks and Recreation for the GO Outside Festival.

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

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following resolution:

(#42412-080122) A RESOLUTION accepting the Marketing Leverage grant made to the City from the Virginia Tourism Corporation, and authorizing execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 506.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42412-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Sanchez-Jones and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42413-080122) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the Virginia Tourism Corporation, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2022 - 2023 Grant Funds Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of budget ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 82, page 507.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 42413-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Sanchez-Jones and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

SUPPLEMENT FOR BILINGUAL PAY: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending approval of an additional supplement for bilingual pay for inclusion in the Pay Ordinance; and authorization for the City Manager to approve participation by eligible employees who meet the program requirements.

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

Council Member Sanchez-Jones offered the following ordinance:

(#42414-080122) AN ORDINANCE amending the Pay Plan for officers, employees, Council appointed officers and Constitutional Officers of the City which became effective July 1, 2022, adopted by City Council by Ordinance No. 42355-050922, adopted May 9, 2022; providing for the addition of a Bilingual Employee Pay Incentive Program for qualifying employees; providing for an effective date; and dispensing with the second reading of this Ordinance by title.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 82, page 508.)

Council Member Sanchez-Jones moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 42414-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds.

The Vice-Mayor inquired if the bilingual pay incentive was available for any City employee to take advantage of; whereupon, the City Manager advised that there was criteria to receive the incentive, such as, said employee would have to be fluent in one or more of nine languages and engaged in using language for the job.

Council Member Sanchez-Jones commended the City Manager for the moral boost for employees that can be compensated for utilizing their language skills.

There being no additional questions and/or comments by the Council Members, Ordinance No. 42414-080122 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

ENCROACHMENT FOR A CANOPY AT 13 CHURCH AVENUE, S. E.: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending authorization of an encroachment in City's right-of-way located at 13 Church Avenue, S. E., for a canopy to be hung from the building at its north end.

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

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following ordinance:

(#42415-080122) AN ORDINANCE allowing an encroachment requested by Old School Partners II, LLC, to install a canopy that will be hung from the building located at 13 Church Avenue, S. E., (Tax Map No. 4011706) approximately 90 feet long and approximately 4 feet, six inches in width and will encroach approximately 3.2 feet from the property into the public right-of-way adjacent to Luck Avenue, upon certain terms and conditions, and dispensing with the second reading of this ordinance by title.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 82, page 509.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 42415-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Cobb and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

COMMENTS OF CITY MANAGER:

The City Manager offered the following comments:

National Night Out Activities

- On Tuesday, August 2, the City's neighborhood organizations and watch groups at approximately 17 locations throughout the City will hold events as part of the National Night Out annual celebration.
- Most events are held between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and include food, games and giveaways.
- Thanked the Police Department, Fire-EMS and City staff for their efforts on planning and attending the events.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

ISSUANCE OF REFUNDING BONDS: On behalf of the Economic Development Authority, Harwell M. Darby, Jr., Counsel, submitted a written report recommending issuance of tax-exempt refunding bonds, not to exceed \$13 million, for Virginia Lutheran Homes, Inc., in connection with various improvements to facilities located at 3804 and 3837 Brandon Avenue, S. W.

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

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following resolution:

(#42416-080122) A RESOLUTION approving, solely for the purposes of Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") and Section 15.2-4906 of the Industrial Development and Revenue Bond Act, Chapter 49, Title 15.2, Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended (the "Act"), the issuance of bonds in an amount up to \$13,000,000 by the Economic Development Authority of the City of Roanoke, Virginia (the "Authority") for the purpose of refinancing the costs of various projects that benefitted Virginia Lutheran Homes, Inc. (the "Organization"), a Virginia nonstock corporation and providing for an effective date.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 512.)

Council Member Cobb moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42416-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.

INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

STATUE OF HENRIETTA LACKS: Vice-Mayor White-Boyd offered the following resolution acknowledging a group of private individuals working through the Harrison Museum of African-American Culture to raise funds in connection with a statue of Henrietta Lacks to be donated to the City and placed in Henrietta Lacks Plaza:

(#42417-080122) A RESOLUTION acknowledging that a local group through the Harrison Museum of African-American Culture is raising money to hire an artist to sculpt a statue of Roanoke native Henrietta Lacks to be donated to the City upon completion and placed in Henrietta Lacks Plaza.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 514.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42417-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Cobb.

The Vice-Mayor provided background information about the project advising that the group raised approximately \$140,000.00 in an effort to reach the goal of \$160,000.00; and advised that citizens who desired to donate can do so by indicating the "Henrietta Lacks Project" on the check and send to P.O. Box 21054, Roanoke, Virginia 24018.

There being no additional questions and/or comments by the Council Members, Resolution No. 42417-080122 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER: Vice-Mayor White-Boyd offered the following resolution to change the title of the Assistant City Manager for Community Development to Assistant City Manager/Director of Finance for the City of Roanoke:

(#42418-080122) A RESOLUTION acknowledging the appointment of Brent Robertson to the position of Assistant City Manager/Director of Finance.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 82, page 515.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42418-080122. The motion seconded by Council Member Cobb.

The City Manager advised that Ms. Merchant would serve as the Deputy Director of Finance.

Council Member Moon Reynolds questioned the oversight of the community development sector, if Mr. Robertson would physically move to a different office and if his successor would serve in a dual role as well; whereupon, the City Manager advised that Mr. Robertson would physically remain in the City Manager's Office and that the successor may not serve in the dual role.

There being no additional questions and/or comments by the Council Members, Ordinance No. 42418-080122 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-4.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent and Council Member Sanchez-Jones was not present when the vote was recorded.)

MOTION AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

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

Council Member Moon Reynolds commented on Bipartisan infrastructure law calling attention to three grant opportunities to facilitate bridge replacement, rehabilitation and protection projects; pointed out that the request for a historical marker to honor Henrietta Lacks was approved; and requested that at the September 6, 9:00 a.m. Council meeting the City Manager provide a detailed briefing on the car tax rebate adopted at the June 18 Council meeting.

Mayor Lea reminded the Council of the School Division's Convocation on August 18 and the State of the City Address on August 25.

Council Member Sanchez-Jones announced that recently four benches have been installed on the City's Amtrak platform.

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

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING: With respect to the Closed Meeting just concluded, Vice-Mayor White-Boyd 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 Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

ROANOKE NEIGHBORHOOD ADVOCATES: The Mayor called attention to the upcoming expiration of the three-year terms of office of Rachel Hale and Jamaal Jackson as members of the Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates, each, ending September 30, 2022; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations.

Council Member Cobb placed in nomination the name of Rachel Hale and Jamaal Jackson.

There being no further nominations, Ms. Hale and Mr. Jackson were reappointed as members of the Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates for three-year terms of office, each, commencing October 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2025; by the following vote:

FOR MS. HALE AND MR. JACKSON: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

ROANOKE REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY: The Mayor called attention to the upcoming expiration of the four-year term of office of Karen Michalski-Karney as a member of the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority ending August 31, 2022; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations.

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

There being no further nominations, Ms. Michalski-Karney was reappointed as a member of the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority for a four-year term of office commencing September 1, 2022 and ending August 31, 2026; by the following vote:

FOR MS. MICHALSKI-KARNEY: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

Inasmuch as Ms. Michalski-Karney is not a City resident, Council Member Cobb moved that the City residency requirement be waived in this instance. The motion was seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Cobb, Moon Reynolds, and Mayor Lea-5.

NAYS: None-0.

(Council Members Bestpitch and Price were absent.)

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Lea declared the Council meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

A P P R O V E D

ATTEST:

Cecelia T. Webb, CMC
Deputy City Clerk

Sherman P. Lea, Sr.
Mayor
