



**ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL
INFORMAL SESSION**

**APRIL 6, 2020
9:00 A.M.**

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

AGENDA

**INASMUCH AS THERE WERE NO ITEMS OR
BRIEFINGS FOR DISCUSSION BY THE COUNCIL, THE
9:00 A.M. SESSION WAS CANCELLED.**



**ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION**

**APRIL 6, 2020
2:00 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER

AGENDA

**PARTICIPATION BY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PURSUANT TO
SECTION 2.2-3708.2 (A)(3),
CODE OF VIRGINIA (1950), AS AMENDED,
ORDINANCE NO. 41703-032720; AND
RESOLUTION NO. 41704-032720.**

*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 Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.

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

Welcome. Mayor Lea.

NOTICE:

Today's Council meeting will be televised live and replayed on RVTV Channel 3 on Thursday, April 9 at 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, April 11 at 4:00 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 hearing impaired.

2. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: NONE.

3. HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS:

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.

Based upon Executive Order Fifty-One, issued by Governor Northam on March 12, 2020, Executive Order Fifty-Five, issued by Governor Northam on March 30, 2020, Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3), Virginia Code Section 15.2-1413, Ordinance No. 41703-032720, and Resolution No. 41704-032720, City Council will be conducting this regular session of City Council by electronic communication means without a quorum of City Council physically present in Council Chamber and without the presence of members of the public in the City Council Chamber.

In order to afford citizens an opportunity to provide comments to City Council during the COVID-19 pandemic disaster, citizens wishing to address the Council during this regular session of City Council conducted by electronic communication means were instructed to sign-up by emailing or by calling the City Clerk's Office at clerk@roanokeva.gov and (540) 853-2541, by 12:00 p.m., on April 6.

Those citizens, who have signed up to speak before the Council, have been provided the Zoom meeting information and will be allowed to join the meeting and address City Council by electronic communication means.

Maston McCorkle, 3215 Avendale Street, S. W., addressed the Council regarding Greenway closures.

Barbara Duerk, 2607 Rosalind Avenue, S. W., emailed statement was read in its entirety before the Council with regard to the closure of the Greenways.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA: NONE.**

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:

- Budget/Financial Planning FY 2020 - 2021 - 60 minutes
Received and filed.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

1. Authorization to establish the Percentage Reduction for Personal Property Tax Relief for the 2020 Tax Year.
Adopted Resolution No. 41706-040620. (7-0)
2. Execution of Amendment No. 5 to the City's contract with Motorola Solutions, Inc., to provide necessary maintenance and support for the newly implemented systems.
Adopted Resolution No. 41707-040620. (7-0)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER.

8. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: NONE.**

9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.**

10. **INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

- a. An ordinance to approve a revised budget schedule.
Adopted Ordinance No. 41708-040620. (7-0)

- b. **An ordinance to temporary change the deadlines for responding to requests for records under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Adopted Ordinance No. 41709-040620. (7-0)**

- c. **An ordinance amending and reordaining the Code of the City of Roanoke, (1979), as amended, by amending Section 32-105, When due and payable, Article III, Tax on Tangible Personal Property Taxes Generally, Chapter 32, Taxation, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979) as amended. Adopted Ordinance No. 41710-040620. (7-0)**

11. MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

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

Council Member Bestpitch asked for Council to consider allowing four members to convene in the City Council Chamber and three members to attend by electronic means for the upcoming City Council meetings; and also expressed concern with regard to retailers experiencing large crowds; whereupon, the City Manager replied he received very few complaints regarding commercial business, but would investigate.

Vice-Mayor Cobb encouraged all to view an hour long, live panel discussion hosted by local health officials titled “Coronavirus: A Community Conversation” to air on April 6 at 7:00 p.m. on WDBJ, WFXR, WSET, and WSLR, as well as WFIR-AM/FM and WVTF-FM. .

Council Member Davis commented that the Council was struggling to make sound, strong decisions; aimed to relieve pressure on all citizens; stated her upset with the closing of the greenways, but prayed that all citizens take the situation very seriously.

Council Member Osborne expressed appreciation with regard to the personal property tax discussion prompted by Council Member Davis and the City Treasurer; and asked the community to stay encouraged because everyone was in this together.

Council Member Price expressed gratitude with regard to the extension of the due date for personal property taxes; thanked her neighbors for checking on each other and City staff for work behind the scenes and small acts of kindness.

Council Member White-Boyd offered thanks to all essential services and asked for prayer for citizens of New York and their essential workers in food service and healthcare.

Council Member White-Boyd commented with regard to a request for assistance from Stephanie Landes, Director of Marketing, Friendship Living; added that if citizens would like to help Friendship Living call (540) 777-2399; and asked all citizens to contribute to the Roanoke Valley Virtual Tip Jar, an online conduit to channel donations from grateful customers to the servers, cooks, bartenders, brewers and others whose livelihoods suffered due to restrictions imposed to battle the pandemic.

Mayor Lea implored citizens to remain disciplined and stated social distancing was working.

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

12. ADJOURNED – 4:47 P.M