



**ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL  
INFORMAL SESSION**

**MAY 4, 2020  
9:00 A.M.**

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

**AGENDA**

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



**ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION**

**MAY 4, 2020  
2:00 P.M.**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER**

**AGENDA**

**PARTICIPATION BY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PURSUANT TO  
AMENDMENT 28 TO HB29, SECTION 2.2-3708.2,  
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, May 7 at 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, May 9 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, Amended Executive Order Fifty-Three on April 15, 2020, Executive Order Fifty-Five, issued by Governor Northam on March 30, 2020, Amendment 28 to HB29 (adopted April 22, 2020), Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2, 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](mailto:clerk@roanokeva.gov) and (540) 853-2541, by 12:00 p.m., on May 4.**

**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.**

**Cesar Alberto, 1502 Rorer Avenue, S. W., addressed the Council with regard to the Governor's order concerning the Democratic Committee process.**

Ken McLeod, 506 6<sup>th</sup> Street, S. W., addressed the Council with regard to the Garden City Greenway.

Stephen Ambruzs, 416 Campbell Avenue, S. W., addressed the Council with regard to plans to reopen the City's greenways.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA: NONE.**

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.**

**6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

- a. Request of the Roanoke Regional Airport Commission to present its proposed 2020 - 2021 Operating Budget and Proposed Capital Expenditures. Timothy Bradshaw, AAE, Executive Director, Spokesperson. (Sponsored by the City Manager)  
**Adopted Resolution No. 41720-050420. (7-0)**

**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. Acceptance of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management Heavy Technical Rescue Grant.  
**Adopted Resolution No. 41721-050420 and Budget Ordinance No. 41722-050420. (7-0)**
2. Appropriation of Federal Asset Forfeiture funds for use by the Roanoke City Police Department.  
**Adopted Budget Ordinance No. 41723-050420. (7-0)**

3. Appropriation of State Asset Forfeiture funds for use by the Roanoke City Police Department.

**Adopted Budget Ordinance No. 41724-050420. (7-0)**

## **COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER.**

The City Manager offered the following comments:

### Great Roanoke Camp-In

- This month, Roanoke Parks & Recreation will host a virtual camping adventure called “The Great Roanoke Camp-In.”
- This event will be accessible to the public on the PLAY Roanoke Facebook page, with participants invited to camp in their yards or within their homes.
- Because the event is weather dependent, a definite date has not been set, other than to say it will be in May. Staff will monitor the 10-day forecast and watch for a day where the overnight temps are reasonable for the event.
- The week leading up to the event, PLAY Roanoke will release a series of videos to help prepare campers. More info is on [PLAYRoanoke.com](http://PLAYRoanoke.com).

### Star City Shout-Out

- Our Community Engagement Office is looking for ways to engage the community during the COVID-19 health crisis.
- To recognize and celebrate local people who are doing extraordinary things during this time, staff has launched “Star City Shout-Out” on the City’s Facebook page.
- Each Thursday, they will post a Star City Shout-Out for someone who has done something amazing to help the community.
- To nominate someone, send an email to [starcityshoutout@roanokeva.gov](mailto:starcityshoutout@roanokeva.gov).

### Recognizing Citizen Birthdays

- The Roanoke Fire-EMS Department has started a special community engagement program: They are sending Birthday Shout-Outs to people in the community upon request.
- Citizens may contact Fire-EMS to ask this for themselves, a friend, or a family member, and a Shout-Out will be sent to their email address.
- This is a great way to build the relationship between our Fire-EMS personnel and the community, letting the people we serve know we care about them.

- To request a Shout-Out, go to [roanokeva.gov/Fire-EMS](http://roanokeva.gov/Fire-EMS), find “Quick Links” at the bottom of the page, and click on “Request a Birthday Shout-Out.”

#### RVRA Reopens Transfer Stations

- Citizens will be glad to know that effective last Friday, May 1, the Roanoke Valley Resource Authority reopened the Tinker Creek Transfer Station and the Salem Transfer Station.
- RVRA had previously suspended this service on March 23 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- These stations have resumed accepting waste from residential customers residing in the City of Roanoke, County of Roanoke, City of Salem, and Town of Vinton.
- Anyone exiting their vehicle while utilizing this service is asked to wear a face mask.

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

### **9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.**

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

- a. An ordinance to ratify and approve the extension of the suspension of fares for transit services provided by Greater Roanoke Transit Company (GRTC), d/b/a Valley Metro.  
**Adopted Ordinance No. 41725-050420, as amended. (7-0)**

### **11. MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

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

**Council Member Davis announced a community project and fundraiser, “Takeout Hunger” spearheaded by Community Foundation Serving Southwest Virginia; with a goal of raising \$100,000.00, 100 percent of funds raised are for the purchase of food to distribute to vulnerable families and put in place the necessary restaurant relationships to access the needed prepared food.**

Council Member Osborne thanked all non-profits providing exceptional services to families during the COVID-19 pandemic and highlighted the Council of Community Services; commented that donations of cloth masks, baby articles, and other essential supplies are greatly needed; and asked community members, local businesses, and philanthropic groups to provide necessary essential services to those in need across the region.

Council Member Osborne also shared the sad news of the unexpected death of Patrick Shaw Cable, Chief Curator and Educator, Taubman Museum of Art; offered condolences to his family and friends; and encouraged citizens to complete the 2020 Census.

Mayor Lea congratulated Council Member White-Boyd for receiving a nomination to run on the Roanoke City Democratic Ticket for elections to be held November 2020.

Council Member White-Boyd thanked the Mayor and City Manager for hosting the weekly Virtual Press Conference and advised that conferences air live on Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m. on the City's FaceBook page, broadcast live on Radio at 102.5, The Mountain, re-broadcast on RVTV, Channel 3, on Thursdays and Fridays, and posted on the City's YouTube Channel.

Vice-Mayor Cobb moved that City Council meet in Closed Meeting by electronic communication means for the purpose of considering and discussing appointments of Roanoke City School Board Trustees, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended. The motion seconded by Council Member White-Boyd. (7-0)

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

**At 4:48 p.m., Mayor Lea declared the Council Meeting in recess for a closed meeting through electronic communication means.**

**At 6:02 p.m., the Council Meeting reconvened with Vice-Mayor Cobb presiding and all Members of the Council in attendance, with the exception of Mayor Lea.**

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING. (6-0, Mayor Lea left during the Closed Session)**

**Vice-Mayor Cobb announced that City Council will interview seven (7) candidates for School Board Trustee through a Candidates' Forum to be held on Monday, May 18, 2020, commencing at 5:00 p.m. and ending not later than 6:30 p.m. The forum will be conducted through electronic communication means and the public will be able to view via FaceBook Live and RVTV live broadcast.**

**A Public Hearing to hear the views of citizens with regard to the candidates for School Board Trustee will be held on Monday, May 18, at 7:00 p.m. Citizens wishing to comment on the School Board candidates can sign-up by emailing or calling the City Clerk's Office at [clerk@roanokeva.gov](mailto:clerk@roanokeva.gov), 540-853-2541 by 4:00 p.m., on Monday, May 18, 2020.**

**12. ADJOURNED - 6:05 P.M.**