



**ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

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

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER

AGENDA

**PARTICIPATION BY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PURSUANT TO
AMENDMENT 28 TO HB29 (SECTION 4-0.01(G), CHAPTER 1283,
VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY (2020), SECTION 2.2-3708.2 (A),
CODE OF VIRGINIA (1950), AS AMENDED, AND OTHER APPLICABLE
LAWS AND ORDINANCES.**

*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.
2. Roll Call. **Council Member Osborne was absent.**

NOTICE:

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

3. Statement of Purpose. Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.

4. A Resolution establishing a meeting schedule for City Council commencing July 1, 2020, and terminating December 31, 2020.
Adopted Resolution No. 41772-070620. (6-0, Council Member Osborne was absent)
5. Adjourned – **2:06 p.m.**



**ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

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**1. Call to Order--Roll Call. Council Member Osborne was
absent.**

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.

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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 Number Fifty-One, issued by Governor Northam on March 12, 2020, Amended Executive Order Number Fifty-Three on April 15, 2020, Amendment 28 to HB29 (adopted April 22, 2020) (Section 4-0.01(g), Chapter 1283, Virginia Acts of Assembly (2020), Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2 (A), and other applicable Executive Orders, laws, and ordinances, 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 July 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.

Ed Sparrow, 2537 Weaver Road, S. W., addressed the Council on rethinking/reinstating Parks and Recreation funding to youth athletics.

Whitney Leeson, 212 North Broad Street, Salem, Virginia, addressed the Council in regards to National Trust for Historic Preservation recommendations for confederate memorial removal.

John Woolwine, 4825 Hickory Hill Drive, addressed the Council in opposition of removal of Lee Monument for at least six months to allow the public time to reflect on the issue.

Freeda Cathcart, 2516 Sweetbriar Avenue, S. W., addressed the Council in support of removal of the Lee Monument and renaming the plaza to honor peace.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA:
(APPROVED 6-0)**

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 meetings of City Council held on Monday, May 18, 2020; recessed until Thursday, May 28, 2020; and on Monday, June 1, 2020.

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

C-2 A communication from Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr., requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting by electric communication means 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. A list of current vacancies is included with the agenda for this meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurred in the request.

C-3 A communication from the City Manager requesting that Council schedule a public hearing to be held on Monday, July 20, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, or such later date and time as the City Manager may determine, in his discretion, to consider a request of Local Environmental Agriculture Project (LEAP), for tax exemption of real property located at 0 Salem Avenue, S. W., 1718 Salem Avenue, S. W., 0 Campbell Avenue, S. W., and 712 Patterson Avenue, S. W.
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurred in the request.

C-4 Annual Report of the City Treasurer's Office for Calendar Year 2019.
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Received and filed.

C-5 Reports of qualification of the following individuals:

Stephen D. Poff as a City representative (Chief Magistrate) of the Court Community Corrections Program Regional Community Criminal Justice Board for a three-year term of office commencing July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2023;

Meighan Sharp as a member of the Roanoke Arts Commission for a three-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2023;

Annette Lewis as a City representative of the Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge, Board of Directors for a one-year term of office commencing July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021;

Robert Ledger as a City representative of the Virginia's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority for a term of office ending June 30, 2022; and

Christopher Vail as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals for a three-year term of office commencing January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2023.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Received and filed.

REGULAR AGENDA:

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. A communication from the Commonwealth's Attorney recommending acceptance of the Victim/Witness Program Grant from the Department of Criminal Justice Services in accordance with the Virginia Crime Victim and Witness Rights Act; and a communication from the City Manager concurring in the recommendation.
Adopted Resolution No. 41773-070620 and Budget Ordinance No. 41774-070620. (6-0, Council Member Osborne was absent)
- b. 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.
Adopted Budget Ordinance No. 41775-070620. (6-0, Council Member Osborne was absent)
- c. Presentation by Tatiana Durant, representing, NO Justice, NO Peace, to share information with regard to D.A.R.E. Officers in schools.
Received and filed.

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

- a. CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS:

- Bus Transit Facility Briefing - 20 minutes
Received and filed.

At 3:20 p.m., the Mayor left the meeting and relinquished the chair to the Vice-Mayor.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

1. Acceptance of the Southwest Virginia Regional Employment Coalition Grant from the Virginia Department of Social Services to maintain existing services to the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families population.
Adopted Resolution No. 41776-070620 and Budget Ordinance No. 41777-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)

2. Acceptance of the Fiscal Year 2020 Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Title II Grant from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services for the Creative Opportunities for Restorative Education (CORE) Project.
Adopted Resolution No. 41778-070620 and Budget Ordinance No. 41779-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)
3. Acceptance of the Fiscal Year 2021 Virginia Domestic Violence Victim Fund Grant from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services.
Adopted Resolution No. 41780-070620 and Budget Ordinance No. 41781-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)
4. Acceptance of the Virginia Department of Social Services Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Program Grant.
Adopted Resolution No. 41782-070620 and Budget Ordinance No. 41783-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)
5. Acceptance of the Fiscal Year 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act – Coronavirus Relief Funds allocated to state and local governments based on population proportions.
Adopted Resolution No. 41784-070620 and Budget Ordinance No. 41785-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)
6. Acceptance of the Fiscal Year 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act – Provider Relief Funds allocated for eligible providers who bill for Medicare fee-for-service.
Adopted Resolution No. 41786-070620 and Budget Ordinance No. 41787-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)
7. Approval of Human Services Advisory Board allocation of funding to various non-profit agencies for Fiscal Year 2020 - 2021; and execution of a Contract with the Council of Community Services to conduct performance audits.
Adopted Resolution No. 41788-070620 and Budget Ordinance No. 41789-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)

8. Approval of Roanoke Arts Commission allocation of funding to specific arts and culture agencies for Fiscal Year 2020 — 2021.
Adopted Resolution No. 41790-070620 and Budget Ordinance No. 41791-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)
9. Acquisition of real property rights in connection with the Wasena Bridge Replacement Project.
Adopted Ordinance No. 41792-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)
10. Execution of Amendment No. 7 to the contract between the City of Roanoke and Intrado Life and Safety Solutions Corporation f/k/a West Safety Solutions Corporation to provide services in connection with the City's E-911 operations.
Adopted Resolution No. 41793-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)
11. Adoption of a resolution expressing intent to remove the Lee Monument; and authorization to schedule a public hearing on August 16, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., to hear the views of citizens.
Adopted Resolution No. 41794-070620. (5-0, as amended, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)
12. Authorization to enter into an Amended and Restated Joint Intergovernmental Agreement with the Counties of Roanoke, Franklin, Botetourt and the Cities of Roanoke and Salem for the Roanoke Valley Juvenile Detention Commission.
Adopted Ordinance No. 41795-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER.

The City Manager offered the following comments:

Re-opening of City Facilities

- Today the City continued its limited, phased re-opening of municipal facilities to the general public. The Municipal Building is now open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- Citizens who need to visit offices in person—other than the Treasurer’s Office and Commissioner of the Revenue’s Office—are strongly encouraged to contact the office in advance and make an appointment, to minimize delays and frustrations.
- Citizens will be required to social distance and wear a face covering while inside the building.
- While some employees will continue to telework, during the next few weeks we will use a measured approach to gradually bring more of them back into the workplace.
- It is important to note – some City offices and facilities are still not accessible to the public in person.
 - The Permit Center is not open to walk-in customers. Staff will continue to perform the majority of customer interactions remotely.
 - Library branches now offer curbside pickup. Citizens may also return books at any of the branches via the drop boxes.
 - Citizens are encouraged to continue to access Social Services by phone, email and online. However, Social Services offices have re-opened to the public from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- More detailed information is available on our website at roanokeva.gov/starcitystrong.
- I want to thank citizens for their patience with the implementation of temporary changes to our operations and services.

Star City Strong Recovery Fund Task Force

- The Task Force began meeting on June 26 to review the funding resources made available by Council to support the recovery efforts, and the various guidelines and restrictions that accompany those resources, and align them with priorities for recovery.
- Following a set of discussions and series of meetings, the Task Force will identify recommendations to Council on the types of programs and initiatives for which the funds should be used.
- The Task Force will meet weekly in July, with its recommendations provided to Council at their meeting on July 20.
- There will be opportunities for the community to become further engaged in this effort later in July.

Changing of the Guard

- With the departure of Public Works Director Bob Bengston on June 30, staff in the department have taken on new roles effective July 1:
 - Mark Jamison was selected as Roanoke’s new Public Works Director.
 - Dwayne D’ardenne has been chosen to fill Mark’s position as Transportation Manager.

- With Dwayne's departure as Stormwater Manager, each of the four section heads within the Stormwater Division has graciously agreed to assume additional leadership responsibilities by serving in an acting role within that division for two months at a time, until the position can be filled.
 - Marcus Aguilar, Senior Stormwater Research Engineer, will assume the role initially, effective today (July 6). Marcus will be followed by Joseph Arthur, CIP Program Manager; Michael Venable, Stormwater Field Operations Manager; and Leigh Anne Weitzenfeld, Water Quality Administrator.

Roanoke is so fortunate to have outstanding City employees who know their jobs well, and can step into new roles as appropriate.

b. CITY ATTORNEY:

1. Readoption and reenactment of the Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended.
Adopted Ordinance No. 41796-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)
2. Approval to reinstate, reordain and reaffirm Ordinance No. 41703-032720, as supplemented by Ordinance No.41709-040620.
Adopted Ordinance No. 41797-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)

8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: NONE.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.

10. INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

- a. An ordinance ratifying the declaration of June 19, 2020 as a City holiday in celebration of Juneteenth.
Adopted Ordinance No. 41798-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)

- b. An ordinance creating the Equity and Empowerment Advisory Board.
Adopted Ordinance No. 41799-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)
- c. A resolution appointing Dr. Brenda L. Hale as a member of the Star City Strong Recovery Fund task force.
Adopted Resolution No. 41800-070620. (5-0, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent). Waived residency requirement.
- d. A resolution appointing Cecelia T. Webb as Deputy City Clerk.
Adopted Resolution No. 41801-070620. (5-0, as amended, Mayor Lea was not present when vote was recorded; Council Member Osborne was absent)

11. MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

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

Council Member Bestpitch advised that Mayor Lea and Roanoke Valley Sister City President Mary Jo Fassiè drafted a letter of congratulations to Emmanuelle Lejeune who was elected the first female mayor of the city of Saint-Lô, France. He also announced that July 30 is the International Day of Friendship celebrated annually in hopes to foster friendship amongst people, cultures and countries and inspire peace throughout the world; and asked citizens to reach others who live abroad to share the value of their friendship.

Council Member Price proclaimed that the City would continue fight the battle against the Coronavirus pandemic; encouraged all to wear masks and follow the CDC and VDH safety precautions and guidelines and to be mindful of the health of all citizens.

Council Member White-Boyd expressed condolences to the family of Ms. Evelyn Bethel and acknowledged her as an icon and advocate who worked very hard to preserve the history of the Gainsboro neighborhood and championed several causes in the community.

Council Member Davis expressed gratitude to all who participated in the Boys and Girls Club 4th of July virtual race. The running and walking, event usually held in downtown Roanoke, was held in a virtual format; sign ups exceeded all expectations.

Vice-Mayor Cobb encouraged parents and/or guardians in the Roanoke City Schools district to complete the online survey requested by the Transition and Restoration Task Force, charged to provide plans and policy recommendations to guide Roanoke City Public Schools through transition for the 2020-2021 school year; encouraged parents to participate in the walking tour to meet the newly appointed Superintendent Verletta White (schedule is posted on the website); extended condolences to the family of Louis Tudor, a community icon and owner of the former Tudor Biscuits in downtown Roanoke; and announced the 100th birthday of the beloved artist Dorothy Gillespie, a Roanoke native, and encouraged the community to visit her exhibitions at the Taubman Museum of Art.

- b. Vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by Council. **See below.**

At 5:34 p.m., Vice-Mayor Cobb declared the Council Meeting in recess for a Closed Meeting through electronic communication means. At 5:43 p.m., Mayor Lea entered the Closed Meeting.

At 6:15 p.m., the Council Meeting reconvened with Mayor Lea presiding and all Members of the Council in attendance, with the exception of Council Member Osborne.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING. (6-0, Council Member Osborne was absent)

Reappointed Drew Kepley as a member of the Architectural Review Board for a four-year term of office commencing October 2, 2020 and ending October 1, 2024; and appointed Husain B. Alam to replace John Fulton (Architect) for a four-year term of office ending October 1, 2024.

Appointed Marc Nelson (City employee) to replace R. B. Lawhorn as a member of the Board of Trustees, City of Roanoke Pension Plan for a two-year term of office ending June 30, 2022; and appointed David Jeavons (Roanoke Regional Airport Commission representative) to fill the unexpired term of Alan Hullette for a term of office ending June 30, 2022.

Appointed India Miller to replace Dan Brokaw (Builder) as a member of the Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals for a three-year term of office ending June 30, 2023.

Reappointed Jeffrey Todd as a member of the Mill Mountain Advisory Board for a three-year term of office ending June 30, 2023.

Reappointed Auraliz Quintana as a member of the Roanoke Public Library Board for a three-year term of office ending June 30, 2023.

Appointed Council Member Djuna Osborne as an Elected Official representative of the Virginia's First Regional Industrial Facilities Authority for a four-year term of office ending June 30, 2024.

12. ADJOURNED – 6:20 P.M.