



**WHITE-BOYD  
41999-031521**

**ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION**

**MARCH 15, 2021  
2:00 P.M.**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER**

**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 Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.

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

Welcome. Mayor Lea.

**NOTICE:**

Today's Council meeting will be televised live and replayed on RVTV Channel 3  
on Thursday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, March 20 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.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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

Economic Development Authority – one vacancy  
Fair Housing Board – one vacancy  
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – one vacancy  
Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority – one vacancy  
Towing Advisory Board – one vacancy (Citizen at-large)  
Youth Services Citizen Board – one vacancy

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

## **2. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

A proclamation declaring March 2021 as American Red Cross Month. **Vice-Mayor White-Boyd presented the proclamation to Tiffany Bradbury, Board Member, American Red Cross.**

A proclamation declaring March 2021 as Developmental Disability Awareness Month. **Council Member Cobb presented the proclamation to Karen Michalski-Karney, Executive Director, Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare, by electronic communication means.**

## **3. HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS: NONE.**

## **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 meetings of City Council held on Tuesday, January 19, 2021; and on Monday, February 1, 2021.  
**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 to appointments of three Trustees to serve on the Roanoke City School Board, for three-year terms, each, commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurred in the request.**

C-3 A communication from the City Attorney requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss the disposition of City-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.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurred in the request.**

C-4 Minutes of the Audit Committee held on December 21, 2020.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Received and filed.**

C-5 Reports of qualification of the following individuals:

Valeria Alphin 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;

Stephen Terry McGuire as a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for a three-year term of office, commencing April 1, 2021 and ending March 31, 2024; and

Paul Workman as a member (Deputy City Manager Designee) of the Defined Contribution Board to fill the unexpired term of office of R.B. Lawhorn ending June 30, 2021; and a four-year term of office commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2025.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Received and filed.**

## **REGULAR AGENDA:**

### **5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.**

### **6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

- a. Annual update on activities of the Roanoke Regional Partnership. John Hull, Executive Director, Spokesperson. (Sponsored by the City Manager)  
**Received and filed.**

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

a. CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS: NONE.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

1. Acceptance of the Virginia Brownfields Assistance Fund Grant from the Virginia Economic Development Partnership and the Department of Environmental Quality for continued brownfield remediation at the multi-parcel site of the former Walker Machine and Foundry Corporation.  
**Adopted Resolution No. 41999-031521 and Ordinance No. 42000-031521. (7-0).**
2. Acceptance of a donation from Spikes K9 Fund in support of the Police Department.  
**Adopted Resolution No. 42001-031521. (7-0).**
3. Acceptance of the Virginia Department of Transportation, Transportation Alternatives Set Aside funding and execution of a Standard Project Administration Agreement for the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Multimodal Improvements Project.  
**Adopted Resolution No. 42002-031521 and Ordinance No. 42003-031521. (7-0).**
4. Amendment of the City Code to ensure proper code enforcement by PARK Roanoke.  
**Adopted Ordinance No. 42004-031521. (7-0).**
5. Approval and authorization of an encroachment permit for Mountain View Neighborhood Association for a bus shelter located at 1525 Salem Avenue, S. W., at the intersection of Salem Avenue and 16 Street, S. W.  
**Adopted Ordinance No. 42005-031521. (7-0).**
6. Approval and authorization of an encroachment permit to construct a retaining wall within the right-of-way located at 810 and 814 Hamilton Avenue, S. W.  
**Adopted Ordinance No. 42006-031521. (7-0).**

7. Authorization to establish the percentage reduction for personal property tax relief for the 2021 tax year.  
**Adopted Resolution No. 42007-031521. (7-0).**
8. Authorization for issuance and sale of General Obligation Public Improvement Refunding Bonds.  
**Adopted Resolution No. 42008-031521. (7-0).**
9. Execution of a Deed of Easement to Appalachian Power Company for a ten foot underground utility easement located at Patrick Henry High School.  
**Adopted Ordinance No. 42009-031521. (7-0).**
10. Execution of a Support Agreement for financing by the Roanoke Valley Resource Authority.  
**Adopted Resolution No. 42010-031521, as amended. (7-0).**

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

The City Manager offered the following comments:

##### **March Budget Development Webinar**

- Citizens are invited to view the March budget development webinar, focusing on the Capital Budget and Outside Agency Funding process, at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16.
- Anyone interested in participating in the webinar must register by 5 p.m. today (March 15) to be provided the Zoom connection information.
- Please contact Tiffany Bradbury in the Office of Community Engagement at 853-6428 or [tiffany.bradbury@roanokeva.gov](mailto:tiffany.bradbury@roanokeva.gov)
- The webinar will also be broadcast live on the City of Roanoke's Facebook Page at [Facebook.com/RoanokeVa](https://www.facebook.com/RoanokeVa).
- The last webinar will be conducted in April.

##### **Melrose-Orange Bus Shelters**

- The City is seeking artists to provide permanent works of art to be incorporated into four new bus shelters in the Melrose-Orange Target Area.
- An engaged group of residents and stakeholders have expressed a desire for the shelters to incorporate color, educational themes, and a celebration of the diversity of the neighborhood.
- Proposals are due by 2 p.m. on April 12, 2021.

- Information about the project, as well as the Request for Proposals, is available at [roanokeva.gov](http://roanokeva.gov), under “Government” click on Arts and Culture.

### **Story Walk Events**

- Our Public Libraries and Parks and Recreation Department are bringing traveling Story Walks to citizens.
- Pages from a children's picture book are inserted in metal frames attached to posts, which are installed at regular intervals along an outdoor path. As a family walks down the path, they are directed to the next page in the story.
- On March 8, the Main Library featured the first traveling Story Walk with the bilingual “Roanoke Baby Book.”
- A list of future events for City library branch locations and in City parks is available on our homepage at [roanokeva.gov](http://roanokeva.gov), under “Read About Roanoke.”

### **Campaign to Address Traffic Speed**

- This spring, the City’s Transportation Division will launch a second Citywide Pedestrian Safety Campaign, this time focusing on traffic speed.
- Citizens can help make the campaign a success by taking a quick, five-minute survey to give feedback on speeding concerns and input on the campaign design. The deadline to take the survey is March 22.
- In thanks for their time, participants can enter to win one of 20 Community Inn \$10 gift cards, or one of 10 Chocolate Paper \$10 gift cards.

The survey is available online at [planroanoke.org/pedestriansafety](http://planroanoke.org/pedestriansafety), and posted on the City’s Facebook page at [Facebook.com/RoanokeVa](https://www.facebook.com/RoanokeVa)

## **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 Ordinance No. 42011-031521. (7-0).**

- b. A report of certain Authorities, Boards, Committees and Commissions in which City Council serve as liaisons or appointees.

**Council Member Moon Reynolds, Liaison, Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority, advised that Michael’s Pharmacy, Abingdon, Virginia provided COVID-19 vaccines to the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority for approximately 140**

residents and employees.

Council Member Bestpitch suggested that Council begin the legislative process earlier by approaching Legislators with regard to the 2021 legislative priorities and asked that recommendations be sent as soon as possible and provide him with any additional items to be included to the 2021 Legislative Priorities agenda, in hopes to finalize the program earlier.

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd provided an update on the Equity and Empowerment Advisory Board who met virtually on March 4; advised that the Board had appointed members to sub-committees; discussed the renaming of the Lee Plaza located adjacent to the Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building; and announced the next meeting would be held on Monday, April 12.

The City Manager thanked members of Council for their participation in the recent online “Vaccinate Roanoke” event held especially for the Latino citizens and advised there will be additional neighborhood clinics in northwest Roanoke and the Williamson Road area.

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

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

- a. Amendment of the City Code to establish the Gun Violence Prevention Commission.  
**Adopted Ordinance No. 42012-031521, as amended and Resolution No. 42013-031521. (7-0).**
- b. Authorization to reduce the number of members on the Towing Advisory Board from nine to seven.  
**Adopted Ordinance No. 42014-031521. (7-0).**

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

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

**Mayor Lea informed the citizens that on Friday, March 5, 2021, he, Council Member Sanchez-Jones, along with representatives from the City of Roanoke, the Roanoke City and Alleghany Health Districts, and Roanoke City Public Schools met with leaders in the Hispanic community to continue COVID-19 vaccine outreach for Spanish-speaking residents.**

**Tiffany Bradbury, Community Engagement Manager, attended the virtual meeting and offered that the meeting was very informative, spoke highly of Council Member Sanchez-Jones who facilitated the meeting that included the Chief of Consular Section for the Embassy of Mexico, Consul General of Honduras, Consulate General of Colombia, Deputy Consul, Consular Section for the Embassy of Mexico, Consul General of Guatemala, and Consul General of El Salvador. The group reportedly discussed opportunities to ensure Spanish-speaking residents living within the Roanoke City and Alleghany Health Districts were aware of the vaccination process, as well as ways the Consuls can help answer questions about the vaccine.**

**Mayor Lea thanked the Council Members and City Manager who attended the Compassionate Roanoke virtual meeting on Wednesday, March 10.**

**Vice-Mayor White-Boyd announced the City of Roanoke and partners at the Virginia Department of Health, Roanoke City and Alleghany Health Districts will host COVID-19 vaccination clinics on Wednesday, March 17. The City Manager added that vaccination clinics would also be held at Breckinridge Middle School and Salvation Army for those who need assistance and to visit [www.roanokeva.gov/vaccinateroanoke](http://www.roanokeva.gov/vaccinateroanoke) or [www.vaccinatevirginia.gov](http://www.vaccinatevirginia.gov) for more information.**



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

## **12. RECESS.**

**AT 4:03 P.M., THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS DECLARED IN RECESS FOR A CLOSED MEETING IN THE COUNCIL'S CONFERENCE ROOM, ROOM 450, FOURTH FLOOR, NOEL C. TAYLOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING; AND THEREAFTER RECONVENED AT 7:00 P.M., IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER.**



**ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION**

**MARCH 15, 2021  
7:00 P.M.**

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

**AGENDA**

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

The Invocation was delivered by Council Member Joseph L. Cobb.

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

Welcome. Mayor Lea.

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING. (7-0)**

**NOTICE:**

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**A. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

1. Request of Charles Kostelni representing Walker Machine and Foundry Co., to vacate a portion of a 20 foot wide alley that extends southwest from Russell Avenue, S. W. Charles Kostelni, Controller, Spokesperson.  
**Adopted Ordinance No. 42015-031521. (7-0).**

2. Request of the City of Roanoke to amend the City Plan 2040, the City's Comprehensive Plan, to include the Oak Grove Center Plan. Wayne Leftwich, Planning Commission Agent, Spokesperson.  
**Adopted Ordinance No. 42016-031521. (7-0).**
3. Request of the City of Roanoke to amend the City Plan 2040, the City's Comprehensive Plan, to include the Welcoming Roanoke Plan. Wayne Leftwich, Planning Commission Agent, Spokesperson.  
**Adopted Ordinance No. 42017-031521. (7-0).**
4. Proposal of the City of Roanoke to expand the boundary of the Williamson Road Area Service District to include 135 properties comprising 209 acres, with an assessed value of \$156.5 million. Robert S. Cowell, Jr., City Manager.  
**Adopted Ordinance No. 42018-031521. (7-0).**
5. Proposal of the City of Roanoke to convey 119 and 117 Norfolk Avenue, S. W., and two adjacent parcels situated at 0 Railside Avenue, S.W., known as Warehouse Row, to JRM Real Estate Ventures, LLC. Robert S. Cowell, Jr., City Manager.  
**Adopted Ordinance No. 42019-031521. (7-0).**
6. Proposal of the City of Roanoke to add a new Section 24-2.1, Prohibition of Firearms on City Property, to Chapter 24, Public Buildings and Property Generally, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended; to prohibit the possession, carrying or transportation of firearms in certain municipal facilities. Timothy R. Spencer, City Attorney.  
**Adopted Ordinance No. 42020-031521. (6-1).**

**B. HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS:  
NONE.**

**On April 5, at 4:00 p.m., Roanoke City Council will conduct five virtual interviews to select three candidates to serve as Roanoke City School Board Trustees for three-year terms of office, each, commencing July 1, 2021. The five candidates are Mark K. Cathey, Diane M. Casola, Michael L. Cherry, II, Byron L. Hamlar and Jennifer Owen-O'Quill.**

Mark K. Cathey	-	4:00 p.m.
Diane M. Casola	-	4:30 p.m.
Michael L. Cherry, II,	-	5:00 p.m.
Byron L. Hamlar	-	5:30 p.m.
Jennifer Owen-O'Quill	-	6:00 p.m.

**A public hearing will be held on April 19 at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, to receive citizen comments on the selection of the three successful candidates to serve as Roanoke City School Board Trustees.**

**C. ADJOURNED – 9:50 P.M.**