



COUNCIL

Communicates

July 6, 2021

Highlights from City Council Meeting

City Council Members

Ward 1

Treska Wilson-Smith

treskawilsonsmith@petersburg-va.org

Ward 2

Darrin Hill

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Ward 3

Samuel Parham

Mayor

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Ward 4

Charles Cuthbert

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Ward 5

W. Howard Myers

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Ward 6

Anette Smith-Lee

Vice Mayor

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Ward 7

John Hart, Sr.

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Clerk of Council

Nykesha Jackson

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804-733-2323

Please Note:

These are not the official minutes of the City Council meeting.

The official minutes and agendas can be accessed on the city website:

www.petersburg-va.org

Please note that official minutes are not posted until approved by City Council.

Special Closed Session Meeting/11:30am (Virtual)

1. Roll Call

Councilman John Hart, Sr. not present

2. Closed Session:

a. The purpose of this meeting is to convene in the closed session pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(7) and (8) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of receiving legal advice and status update from the City Attorney and legal consultation regarding the subject of specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by the City Attorney specifically including but not limited to matters requiring advice from the City Attorney concerning Petersburg Circuit Court Case No.:CL21-000495-00 and CL20-0000800-00; and other legal matters requiring the legal advice of the City Attorney; and pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussion pertaining to performance, assignment and appointment of specific public employees of the City of Petersburg specifically including but not limited to discussion of recommendations from the Interim Manager and current status regarding personnel assignments and appointments; and pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussion or consideration of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

No action taken following closed session.

3. Adjournment

1. Roll Call

Councilman John Hart, Sr. not present.

2. Prayer

Councilman Darrin Hill.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Mayor Sam Parham.

4. Determination of the Presence of a Quorum

Quorum present.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda (to include minutes of previous meeting)

Approved, no changes/additions.

a. Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth Grant \$30,000.00 1st Reading

b. Request to hold a public hearing on July 20, 2021 to consider an ordinance reapproving the Purchase Agreement with the requested amendment between the City of Petersburg and PB Petersburg towards the sale of 1000 Diamond St, 612 Pegram St, 151 St Mark St, 521 St Mark St, 709 Ann St, 735 Halifax St, 808 Halifax St, 811 Halifax St, 334 Harrison St, 803 Jones St S, 83941 Jones St S, 829 Jones St S, 804 Jones St S, 809 Jones St S, 604 Shore St, 408 Shore St, 328 Shore St, 425 West St S, 715 West St S, 731 West St S, 716 Harding St, 627 Harding St, 517 St. Matthew St, 415 St Matthew St, 70810 Kirkham St, 712714 Kirkham St, 716 Kirkham St, 249 North Carolina Ave, 742 Mount Airy St, 742 Blick St, 135 Kentucky Ave, 204 Kentucky Ave, 202 Kentucky Ave, 1004 Farmer St, 852 Rome St, 725 Sterling St, 919 Wythe St W, 151 Virginia Ave.

c. A request to schedule a Public Hearing and consideration of an Ordinance to amend the City's Comprehensive Plan regarding the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act.

d. A request to schedule a public hearing on the consideration of the Housekeeping Ordinance Revision to Correct Typographical Omission.

e. A request to schedule a public hearing for consideration of the Housekeeping Ordinance Revision to the New Residential Tax Credit Exemption.

f. Consideration of an ordinance for Virginia Department of Emergency Management Emergency Management Performance Grant from FY20 1st Reading.

g. Request to hold a Public Hearing on July 20, 2021, regarding a proposal to purchase City owned property located at 857 Bank Street, 741 Blick Street, 1411 Farmer Street, 10 Foley Street North, 1111 Halifax Street, 1115 Halifax Street, 1611 Hare Street, 1230 High Street, 1206 Hinton Street, 751 Jones Street, 205 Maple Street, 1011 Mckenzie Street, 921 Priam Street, 110 Richland Street, 35123 University Boulevard, 201 Virginia Avenue, 710 Wesley Street, 118 West Street South, 323 West Street South, and 1114 Wythe Street, and consideration of an Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute a purchase agreement between the City of Petersburg and PB Petersburg towards the sale of City owned property.

h. A request to schedule a public hearing for July 20, 2021, for consideration of an ordinance to authorize the acquisition of property in association with southeast Petersburg water infrastructure upgrades.

i. Request to hold a Public Hearing on July 20, 2021 for the purpose of considering a Resolution Offering City Council Concurrence of a Proposed Detour into the City of Petersburg for Construction of a Roundabout in Dinwiddie County.

- j. Request to hold a Public Hearing on July 20, 2021 for the purpose of considering Resolution offering City Council concurrence of a proposed detour for I95 bridge work over South Crater Road.
- k. Request to hold a Public Hearing on July 20, 2021 to consideration a Resolution Offering City Council Concurrence of Proposed Detour on I95 for the South Sycamore Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project.
- l. Request to hold a Public Hearing on July 20, 2021 for the purpose of considering a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager Authority to Accept Fee Simple Conveyances of Real Property on Behalf of the City of Petersburg for the S. Crater Road Signal Improvements Project.
- m. A request to schedule a public hearing for July 20, 2021, for the consideration to amend and readopt ordinance 14ORD24 regarding the procedure for citizens desiring to change the name of public and private streets in the City of Petersburg.
- n. Minutes of June 1, 2021, Closed Session Minutes; June 1, 2021, Work Session Minutes; June 15, 2021, Closed Session Minutes and June 15, 2021, Special Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

Consent agenda approved.

Mayor Parham welcomed back Councilman Cuthbert. Councilman Cuthbert made motion for Council to consider an ordinance prohibiting firearms on City property (to the extent allowed by law) at the next meeting. Motion approved.

6. Special Reports

- a. Presentation Updating the Status of the Renovations of Properties Owned by Petersburg Revival LLC.
Kate Sangregorio (Preservation Planning & Neighborhood Services) presented an update on properties owned by Petersburg Revival LLC (Dr. Fitzhugh).
- b. An update on activities in the Lakemont Community.
Jaelyn Munson with VA Tech presented on the many activities in Lakemont including Healthy Nutrition, Storm Sewer Extension, Environmental Education, School Garden, Trail sign leading to National Park, POP Market, Community Survey.
- c. A report on Historic Preservation and the designation process focusing on City of Petersburg African American Resources
Kate Sangregorio (Preservation Planning & Neighborhood Services) presented. Exchange Building is only city property on the National Register of Historic Places. Discussion included the process for submitting documentation to be considered for the National Register.
- d. Presentation on Parks by Council Member Treska Wilson-Smith.
Discussion regarding plan/funding (possible use of Recovery Act funding) to repair city parks and maintain. Further discussion included a study on number of parks and locations, and city events.

7. Monthly Reports

No items.

8. Finance and Budget Report

No items.

9. Capital Projects Update

No items.

10. Utilities

No items.

11. Streets

- a. Report on a Proposed Detour into the City of Petersburg for Construction of a Roundabout in Dinwiddie County.
Presentation by Scott Chapman, VDOT – detour (10.5 miles) will come through city.
- b. Report on a proposed detour for I95 bridge work over South Crater Road.
Presentation by Scott Chapman, VDOT. Bridge has deficiency rating and deck replacement needed. I-85/I-95 detours. VDOT will work on weekends.
Discussion included the safety of I-85/I-95 merge point to the exit onto Graham Road. VDOT rep stated that no work is planned for that area at this time. City will look at past requests for improvements, and studies of this area by VDOT.
- c. Report on a Proposed Detour on I95 for the South Sycamore Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project.
Project removed from agenda per VDOT request.
- d. Report on Fee Simple Conveyances of Real Property on Behalf of the City of Petersburg for the S. Crater Road Signal Improvements Project.
Andrew Barnes presented. \$6,000 cost to City for easements and rights-of-ways. City Attorney explained that fee action had been approved.
- e. Brief update on the reopening of Sycamore St Old Towne Square.
Tangela Innis (Director of Public Works & Utilities) presented. Street closed in May 2020 to accommodate outside dining due to COVID State of Emergency. No action taken, pending further study.

12. Facilities

No updates.

13. Economic Development

- a. A report regarding a proposed Revolving Loan Fund.
Jeff Sadler presented. Following the presentation, Mayor Parham asked the City Manager to explore the EDA Revolving Loan Fund and bring recommendations to Council. Asked that EDA also present to Council.

14. City Manager's Agenda

City Manager Turille stated he was excited to be in Petersburg and is committed to advancing the City. He has his office set and is meeting with department leaders. The police chief has given him a tour of the city. Mr. Turille said he will present a needs assessment in September.

The police chief was commended for community-based policing that contributed to no shootings or injuries during the July 4 holiday weekend.

a. COVID19 Update

Presentation by Chief Michalek (Emergency Management). COVID cases are trending down in Petersburg. No hospitalizations or deaths related to COVID during the past couple of weeks. 45% of Petersburg adult citizens have been fully vaccinated. Homebound vaccinations still available. The City's Call Center wrapped on June 30. All calls now go the Crater Health District. Petersburg is #2 in the Crater Health District for adult vaccinations.

b. Report on Finance and Collections

Stacey Jordon (Director of Finance) presenter. 60% increase in cash flow over past year due to timely processing, monitoring cash flow, receiving grant payments on time and better collections. Reported that overall collection rate for utilities is 88.6% (commercial, industrial & residential). A monthly collections report will be presented to Council.

15. Business or reports from the Clerk

No items.

16. Business or reports from the City Attorney

Kenneth Miller is now in the role of consultant. No action required; consultant included in his contract. Street naming amendments are needed, Ms. Innis will address. Reported that City Charter would need to be changed, with amended ordinance going to the General Assembly for approval for citizens to elect mayor. Rental housing policy has existed since 2007, City did not have adequate staff to enforce in 2007 – staff will restart the program, no policy changes needed.

Justice Housing will now operate the Freedom Support Center. The City has approved Freedom Support Center funding. No additional action needed.

17. Public Comments

JaVonni Brustow

Question regarding city monies in Utah Bank. Mr. Brustow stated he had discussed with the City Treasurer. Welcomed new city manager.

Marcus Squires

Asked for a report on South Side Depot – An update is not available at this time.

Asked that former Titmus and Peabody buildings be secured – Public Works will place No Trespassing signs on the following city-owned properties within the next few weeks:

Former Titmus Building
Peabody Complex
Virginia Ave. School
South Side Depot

PLEASE NOTE: PUBLIC WORKS HAS POSTED NO TRESPASSING SIGNS AT THESE SITES MANY TIMES AND THE SIGNS WERE REMOVED BY OTHERS WITHIN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. PUBLIC WORKS WILL ALSO BE REPLACING BOARDS TO SECURE THE PROPERTIES AS IN THE PAST.

Mr. Squires also inquired about a dog park and walking trails. There is no update on a dog park. The Friends of the Lower Appomattox River (FOLAR) refurbishing the trail that begins near Campbell's bridge.

Barb Rudolph

Asked that citizens be allowed to participate in how City uses Recovery funds.

No other comments.

18. Adjournment – 3:29pm