



COUNCIL

Communicates

Highlights from City Council Meetings

October 3, 2023

Petersburg Public Library

City Council Members

Ward 1

Marlow Jones

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Ward 2

Darrin Hill

Vice Mayor

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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

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Ward 7

Arnold Westbrook

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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 the official minutes are not posted until approved by City Council.

City Council Closed Session

3:00 pm

1. Roll Call
All present. Councilman Westbrook absent.
2. Closed Session
 - a. The purpose of this meeting is to convene in the closed session pursuant to: (1)§2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and 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, specifically including but not limited to the acquisition and disposition of real property and (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 Petersburg Circuit Court Case CL22000681-00; City Code Section 2-5; Code of Virginia 15.2-958.3; and Chapter 6 and 10 of Title 36 of the Code of Virginia and other matters requiring the legal advice of the City Attorney.

Motion approved to conclude the closed session meeting.

Motion approved to add under the consent agenda an ordinance to authorize the city manager to execute the master development agreement between the city and Virginia Development Consortium for the North Adams and Sycamore Grove projects."

3. Discussion and/or Consideration
 - a. Consideration of an adoption of the City of Petersburg, Virginia 2023 Emergency Operations Plan - 2nd Reading
Approved.
4. Adjournment

October 3, 2023

5:00 pm

1. Roll Call
All present except Councilman Westbrook.
2. Prayer
Led by Vice Mayor Hill.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
Led by Mayor Parham.
4. Determination of the Presence of a Quorum
Quorum present.
5. Public Comments
William Jones
Why city does not have a new school? **The school system submitted a grant application to VDOE, providing 30% funding for a new school. The city is exploring other options for the funding required.**

Kelly Parker

Habitat for Humanity is asking that the organization be allowed to pay the city directly for taxes on completed Habitat houses instead of the tax bill being mailed directly to the occupant of the property. The non-profit is also requesting that a Habitat house, listed for auction for back taxes, be removed, and taxes/fees owed be removed.

Bobby Beverly

Stated that only a few locals know the African-American history of Petersburg and that the history is being destroyed by City Council, HBCUs, and the school system.

Barb Rudolph

Rule 3 – Public Hearings

Stated that the Council often forgets this rule and that Council is required to hold public hearings before taking action. She stated that she may start tossing something in the air to remind Council members that they need to do this during a meeting.

6. Approval of Consent Agenda (to include minutes of previous meetings):
 - a. Minutes:
 - September 19, 2023 - Closed Session Minutes
 - September 19, 2023 - Regular City Council Meeting
 - b. Request to schedule a public hearing for the consideration of an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute a Pilot Operating Agreement with Bird Rides, Inc. to establish a Stand-up Electric Scooter sharing system within the City of Petersburg - 1st Reading
 - c. A request to schedule a public hearing and consideration of an ordinance recommending approval of a petition for a special use permit at the property located at 2744 South Crater Road for a hand car wash and detailing use in B-2, General Commercial, District.
Approved.

7. Special Reports
 - a. Presentation for Petersburg Police Chief.
VA Association of the Chief of Police – Executive Certification Program presented to Chief Christian.

 - b. Presentation on Bird Scooters from Jeremy Lynch, Senior Government Partnerships Manager
No action taken. A public hearing will be held at the October 17 meeting.

 - c. Presentation from Crater Planning District Commission.
No action taken.

8. Monthly Reports
None.

9. Finance and Budget Report
 - a. Presentation and Update from Davenport on Bond Rating.
No action taken.

10. Capital Projects Update
City Manager and Council thanked Public Works for weekend work on the water line break on N. Sycamore Street.

11. Utilities
None.

12. Streets
None.

13. Facilities
None.

14. Economic Development
None.
15. City Manager's Agenda
 - a. Update and presentation from JMT.
Poor Creek water/wastewater upgrades are on schedule.

“ City Manager announced the upcoming Downtown Plan Community meeting and thanked all first responders and neighboring governments for assistance with the floor collapse in the Halifax Street house.
16. Business or reports from the Clerk
November 7 Work Session is on election day. Asked if the Council meeting could be moved to November 8.
Motion approved to suspend Rules of Council.
Motion approved to move the meeting to November 8.
17. Business or reports from the City Attorney
None.
18. Adjournment