

WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES



Council for the City of Waynesboro, Virginia held a Regular Business Meeting on Monday, February 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Charles T. Yancey Municipal Building, 503 West Main Street, Waynesboro, Virginia, with Mayor Williams presiding and calling the meeting to order.

- PRESENT: Council Members: Lana Williams, Mayor
Jim Wood, Vice Mayor
Terry Short, Jr., Council member
Kenny Lee, Council member
- City Staff: Michael Hamp, City Manager
Todd Wood, Assistant City Manager-Operations
Michael Wilhelm, Assistant City Manager-Public Safety
Cameron McCormick, Assistant City Manager-Finance
Julia Bortle, Clerk of the Council
David Shaw, Police Chief
- Guest: Mr. Adam Campbell, VDOT District Planner
- Counsel: Melisa Michelsen, Esq., Litten & Sipe LLC
- ABSENT: Bruce Allen, Council member

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The mayor opened the meeting and Council member Short lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. The mayor reviewed the procedure for the citizen comment period.

MEETING AGENDA

Council member Short moved to adopt the meeting agenda. Having been seconded and with no objections, the meeting agenda was adopted 4:0:

Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Allen	Absent
Vice Mayor Wood	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Lee	Aye

MATTERS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Williams traveled with the RISE scholars to the state capitol where they met with government officials. She also assisted with and praised the RISE scholars’ “One Night Cannot Hold Our History” event at the Waynesboro High School. She then made a statement condemning the Vice Mayor’s negative statement made on his podcast regarding the Secretary of Transportation.

MATTERS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council member Lee made a statement condemning Vice Mayor Wood’s disparaging comment regarding the Secretary of Transportation and asked him to step down as Vice Mayor.

Council member Short condemned Vice Mayor Wood’s comment and explained that the City Code limits the removal of a council member or removing their title. He asked for the vice mayor’s resignation. He has asked the City Manager and City Attorney to develop a Waynesboro City Council code of conduct for consideration within the next sixty days.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Short moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Having been seconded and with no objections, the consent agenda was adopted 4:0:

Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Allen	Absent
Vice Mayor Wood	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Lee	Aye

- a. Consider adopting the minutes from the February 13, 2023 Regular Business Meeting.

PRESENTATION - W. MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND VDOT FUNDED BROAD STREET CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS

Staff presented conceptual plans to Council and the public for the West Main Street and Broad Street Corridor Improvement projects prior to submitting them for state funding. The projects are now funded and are in the initial design phase.

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) District Planner made a presentation updating Council on the status of the projects and offered them an opportunity to provide feedback (*attachment 47-62*). With no questions or comments from Council, the meeting continued.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCES – FIRST CONSIDERATION

Council member Short moved to introduce the following appropriation ordinances. Having been seconded and with no objections, the ordinances were introduced and will be considered for adoption at the March 13, 2023 regular business meeting:

- a) Appropriating \$497,000 from the General Fund, to the School Funds, to provide a portion of the funding for renovations at Wenonah Elementary School and the Wayne Hills Pre-K Center.
- b) Appropriating \$66,954 from Restricted Fund Balance, to the General Fund, to replace and upgrade rescue tools used in Fire Department operations.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCES – ADOPTION

Council member Lee moved to adopt the following appropriation ordinances. Having been seconded and with no objections, the ordinances were adopted 4:0:

Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Allen	Absent
Vice Mayor Wood	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Lee	Aye

- a) Appropriating various revenue items totaling \$303,908 to the School Funds, to provide for various expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. **(2023-03)**
- b) Appropriating contributions from area localities totaling \$34,860 to the General Fund, to partially fund the SAW Regional CAD2CAD and CAD Resource Monitor Software Enhancement Project. **(2023-04)**
- c) Appropriating \$24,863 of additional categorical state funding, to the General Fund, for various Library expenditures. **(2023-05)**
- d) Appropriating reimbursements received by the Police Department totaling \$2,505, to the General Fund, for various Police Department expenditures. **(2023-06)**
- e) Appropriating \$1,250 of sponsorship revenue, to the General Fund, for race needs and advertising for future Parks and Recreation race events. **(2023-07)**
- f) Appropriating a \$540 reimbursement received by the Police Department, to the General Fund, for purchase and installation of patrol vehicle cargo boxes. **(2023-08)**

CODE AMENDMENT - PARKING FINES

Assistant City Manager-Public Safety and staff’s survey of neighboring localities found that Waynesboro’s parking fines are 50% lower for almost all offenses. Increased fines will help deter business owners, employees and visitors from intentionally violating the law. The code amendment includes language that clearly outlines the process for contesting a parking violation and collecting fines for delinquent parking citations. Council member Short moved to introduce an ordinance and to set a public hearing for Monday, March 13, 2023 amending **ARTICLE III, SECTION 82-69 ERECTION OF NO PARKING SIGNS, SECTION 82-93 PENALTIES, SECTION 82-97 REMOVING OR ALTERING MARKS PLACED ON THE TIRES OF PARKED VEHICLES, AND SECTION 82-101 EFFECT OF TIMED PARKING ZONE REGULATIONS OF THE CITY CODE OF WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA.** Having been seconded and with no further discussion, the public hearing will be held and the ordinance will receive second consideration at the March 13, 2023 regular business meeting.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD APPOINTMENT

Vice Mayor Wood moved to appoint Ms. Chanda McGuffin to the Economic Development Authority Board for an unexpired four-year term ending August 31, 2023. Having been seconded and with no further discussion, the appointment was adopted 4:0:

Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Allen	Absent
Vice Mayor Wood	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Lee	Aye

COMMUNICATION, CORRESPONDENCE, AND CALENDAR

With no comments from Council or staff, the meeting continued.

CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD

The following citizens spoke during the citizen comment period. Citizens who spoke on multiple topics are shown by topic below.

The following citizens spoke regarding the need for safe affordable housing in the city and a proposed Rental Inspection Program:

Andrea Jackson, Waynesboro
Savanah Fersner, Waynesboro, Virginia Organizing Chapter representative
Jacye Grant, Waynesboro, Virginia Organizing Chapter representative
Deadra Becky, Waynesboro, Virginia Organizing Chapter representative
Jessica Scott, Lovingson
Randall Wolf, Stuarts Draft
Mason Pickett, Albemarle County
Sharon van Name, Waynesboro
Jen Lewis, Waynesboro: reiterated support for Virginia Organizing Rental Inspection Program

Frank Rott, Waynesboro: concerned about stress on infrastructure due to the increased development; asked that everyone be informed on the assessment process and that the increased assessment be split into multiple years.

The following citizens spoke regarding the Vice Mayor and his remark concerning the Secretary of Transportation:

Andrea Jackson, Waynesboro: against the vice mayor and asked that he resign.
Marcia Geiger, Waynesboro: against the vice mayor and asked that he resign.
Craig Scott, Waynesboro: opposed comment but spoke in support of the vice mayor.
Randall Wolf, Stuarts Draft: against the vice mayor, asked the vice mayor to step down
Evelyn Cotton, Waynesboro: against the vice mayor, asked vice mayor to consider position
Mason Pickett, Albemarle County: asked the vice mayor to apologize and not to repeat it
Sharon van Name, Waynesboro: against the vice mayor's remark, supports a code of conduct
Jen Lewis, Waynesboro: against the vice mayor, asking that he resign
Dan Sullivan, Waynesboro: spoke against the vice mayor
Sheryl Carey, Waynesboro: opposed his comment but spoke in support of the vice mayor
Abbie Edwards, Waynesboro: the vice mayor should apologize and correct or resign
Paula Klann, Waynesboro: supports accepting the vice mayor's apology; thanked council for service
Deane Dozier, Waynesboro: asked council to accept vice mayor's apology and move forward
Dwight Williams, Waynesboro: in support of the vice mayor; asked that he stay in office
Jess Hancock, Waynesboro: opposed to the vice mayor's comment; asked that people move forward
Rob Orlando, Waynesboro: supports a code of conduct for council
Tiffany Sensabaugh, Waynesboro: supports the vice mayor continuing to serve on council
Danny Ledford, Waynesboro: supports the vice mayor; accept apology and move forward
Jeremy Sloat, Waynesboro: comment was thoughtless, accepts the vice mayor's apology

Craig Scott, Waynesboro: economic development will occur with reforms and good governance.

Dan Williams, Waynesboro: advised that assessments are appealable.

Dwight Williams, Waynesboro: suggested citizens speak about city matters such as the west end fire station, affordable housing, and economic development.

Danny Ledford: spoke about the property owner's removal of "tent city" from private property.

CLOSED MEETING

Vice Mayor Wood moved to reconvene in a closed meeting per Code of Virginia 2.2-3711(3) to discuss or consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of a public body, specifically acquisition of real property for city offices.

Having been seconded and with no objections, the closed meeting was convened at 8:41 p.m. on a roll call vote:

Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Allen	Absent
Vice Mayor Wood	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Lee	Aye

At 8:48 p.m., Council member Wood moved to come out of closed meeting and reconvene in open meeting and adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION (R23-09)

WHEREAS, the City Council of Waynesboro has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this City Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of Waynesboro hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the City Council of Waynesboro.

Having been seconded and with no further discussion, the resolution was adopted 4:0 on a roll call vote:

Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Allen	Absent
Vice Mayor Wood	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Lee	Aye

ADJOURN

Vice Mayor Wood moved to adjourn the meeting. Having been seconded and with no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. on an affirmative 4:0 vote:

Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Allen	Absent
Vice Mayor Wood	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Lee	Aye

Julia Bortle, MMC, Clerk of Council

Lana Williams, Mayor