

The regular meeting of the Petersburg City Council was held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, at the Petersburg Public Library. Mayor Parham called the meeting to order at 5:12 p.m.

**1. ROLL CALL:**

Present:

Council Member Charles Cuthbert, Jr.  
Council Member Treska Wilson-Smith  
Council Member W. Howard Myers  
Council Member Arnold Westbrook, Jr.  
Council Member Darrin Hill  
Vice Mayor Annette Smith-Lee  
Mayor Samuel Parham

Absent: None

Present from City Council Administration:

Clerk of Council Nykesha D. Jackson  
City Manager Stuart Turille  
City Attorney Anthony C. Williams  
City Assessor Brian Gordineer

**2. PRAYER:**

Mayor Parham stated, "Council Member Hill will lead us in our opening prayer."

Council Member Hill led the council meeting in prayer.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mayor Parham led council and the citizens in the pledge of allegiance.

**4. DETERMINATION OF THE PRESENCE OF A QUORUM:**

A quorum was determined with the presence of all City Council Members.

**5. PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATION OF CEREMONIAL PROCLAMATIONS:**

\*No items for this portion of the agenda.

**6. RESPONSES TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC INFORMATION PERIOD:**

Mayor Parham stated, "That is under Council Communicates."

**7. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA (to include minutes of previous meeting/s)**

- a. A request for public hearing on the consideration of appropriation for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2021, and ending on June 30, 2022, for the American Rescue Plan Act Loss Revenue Appropriation in the amount of \$3,925,000.
- b. Minutes:  
March 30, 2022 - City Council Closed Session  
April 5, 2022 – City council Work Session

\*Audio available upon request.

Council Member Myers made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Vice Mayor Smith-Lee seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee, and Parham

**8. OFFICIAL PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

- a. A public hearing on an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to adopt the amendments to the Real Estate Tax Abatement Program for Commercial and Industrial Business located within the Enterprise Zone that will allow them to qualify for Real Estate Tax Abatement for a period of Six (6) Years.

**BACKGROUND:** The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development established The Virginia Enterprise Zone (VEZ) program. It is a partnership between state and local governments that encourages job creation and private investment. VEZ accomplishes this by designating Enterprise Zones throughout the state and providing two state grant-based incentives, the Job Creation Grant (JCG) and the Real Property Investment Grant (RPIG), to qualified investors and job creators within those zones, while the locality provides local incentives.

On June 21, 2005, the City of Petersburg City Council adopted a resolution to establish a local Enterprise Zone in the City of Petersburg. The enterprise zone provides incentives to existing and new businesses such as permit fee waivers, façade improvement grants, and architectural assistance grants.

To continue to encourage development in the City of Petersburg, the Department of Economic Development is recommending that the City adopts a modification to the Real Estate Rebate program by adding an additional year to the program with an exemption of 100% to qualified commercial and industrial businesses located within the Enterprise Zone. This will change the term of the program from 5 years to 6 years for the commercial and industrial businesses in the enterprise zone.

Eligibility and qualifications is determined by the commercial and industrial business being located within the Enterprise Zone. A summary of the structure: minimum age requirements, necessary value increase, limitations of new square footage and maximum exemption amounts are as follows:

Area	Structure Age	Value Increase	Addition Maximum	Maximum Credit
Commercial-Enterprise Zone	25+	60%+	15%+	\$2,000,000

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Department of Economic Development recommends that the City Council approves the ordinance authorizing the City Manager to adopt the amendment to the Real Estate Tax Abatement Program for Commercial and Industrial Businesses located within the Enterprise Zone that will allow them to qualify for Real Estate Tax Abatement for a period of six (6) years.

Brian A. Moore, Director of Economic Development, gave a briefing on the request for an ordinance authorizing the city manager to adopt the amendments to the Real Estate Tax Abatement Program for Commercial and Industrial Business located within the Enterprise Zone that will allow them to qualify for Real Estate Tax Abatement for a period of Six (6) Years

Mayor Parham opened the floor for public comments.

\*Audio available upon request.

Seeing no hands, Mayor Parham closed the public hearing.  
There was discussion among City Council Members and staff.

Council Member Myers made a motion to approve the ordinance authorizing the city manager to adopt the amendment to real estate tax abatement program for commercial and industrial businesses located with the enterprise zone that will allow them to qualify for real estate tax abatement for a period of six (6) years. Council Member Hill seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee, and Parham; Voting No: Wilson-Smith

**22-ORD-18 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADOPT THE AMENDMENT TO THE REAL ESTATE TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAM FOR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL BUSINESSES LOCATED WITHIN THE ENTERPRISE ZONE THAT WILL ALLOW THEM TO QUALIFY FOR REAL ESTATE TAX ABATEMENT FOR A PERIOD OF SIX (6) YEARS.**

- b. A public hearing and consideration of naming a private street Civica Way at the request of Phlow Corporation.

**BACKGROUND:** The Phlow Corporation, owner of the property for the Civica facility has submitted a request to name a private unnamed street on the property to Civica Way.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Public Works Department recommends the unnamed private street be named Civica Way.

Randall Williams, Interim Director of Public Works and Utilities, gave an overview of the public hearing on the request for the naming of a private street to Civica Way.

Mayor Parham opened the floor for public comments.

Seeing no hands, Mayor Parham closed the public hearing.

Council Member Hill made a motion to approve the naming of a private street Civica Way at the request of Phlow Corporation. Vice Mayor Smith-Lee seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee, and Parham

**22-R-19 A RESOLUTION TO NAME A PRIVATE STREET CIVICA WAY FROM NORTH NORMANDY DRIVE TO END.**

- c. A public hearing for the consideration of a resolution by the City Council approving the issuance by the Petersburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority of its multifamily housing revenue bonds for the acquisition, construction, renovation, rehabilitation and equipping of the approximately 98-unit Dorsey Flats Apartments multifamily housing facility located in the City of Petersburg, Virginia.

**BACKGROUND:** On March 16, 2021, the City Council adopted a resolution 21-R-27 approving the issuance by the by the Petersburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority of its Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds for the acquisition, construction, renovation, rehabilitation, and equipping of the approximately 98-Unit Dorsey Flats Multifamily Housing Facility located in Petersburg, VA. This resolution has expired. Staff is requesting that the City Council approve the updated resolution below for the issuance of the bond.

The City Council adopted 20-ORD-17 on April 28, 2020, approving and authorizing the City Manager to sell

\*Audio available upon request.

1000 Diamond Street to PB Petersburg Owner LLC to construct multifamily residential development that requires: 1) occupancy limited to senior citizens and veterans; 2) no more than half of the apartments will be two-bedrooms and the remainder one-bedroom units; 3) the promises made by PB Petersburg Owners LLC in agenda item 11f are kept and 4) the owner will accept the current assessment for the next three years. The City Council also adopted 20-ORD-40, on September 1, 2020, authorizing the City Manager to execute a purchase agreement toward the sale of forty-nine (49) parcels of city owned property in Ward 5 to PB Petersburg, LLC, with amendments approved on July 20, 2021 with the removal of 11 parcels from the original purchase agreement (21-ORD-44)

The Petersburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority (the "Authority") has considered the application of PB Petersburg Owner II LLC, a Virginia limited liability company ("PB Petersburg II"), and PB Petersburg Owner IV LLC, a Virginia limited liability company ("PB Petersburg IV," and together with PB Petersburg II, the "Borrowers"), requesting that the Authority issue up to \$15,000,000 of its revenue bonds, tax-exempt loans or notes, in one or more series (collectively, the "Bonds") to assist the Borrowers or an affiliated entity in financing or refinancing a portion of the cost of acquiring, constructing, renovating, rehabilitating and equipping a multifamily residential rental housing project containing approximately 98 units, including approximately 50 units for seniors, as well as related community space and recreation facilities (collectively, the "Project") and the costs of issuance incurred in connection with the issuance of the Bonds (together with the Project, the "Plan of Finance"). The approximately 50 units for seniors to be known as Virginia Avenue School (the "Apartments Project") will be located at 1000 Diamond Street, in the City of Petersburg, Virginia, formerly the Virginia Avenue Elementary School, and the other approximately 48 units to be known as Dorsey Flats (the "Homes Projects") will be located on 38 lots at the following addresses, all of which are in the City of

- Petersburg, Virginia:
- 612 Pegram Street
  - 151 St. Mark Street
  - 709-711 Ann Street
  - 735 Halifax Street
  - 334 Harrison Street
  - 803 South Jones Street
  - 604 Shore Street
  - 425 South West Street
  - 715 South West Street
  - 517 St. Matthew Street
  - 716 Harding Street
  - 708-710 Kirkham Street
  - 249 North Carolina Avenue
  - 808 Halifax Street
  - 811 Halifax Street
  - 839-841 South Jones Street
  - 716 Kirkham Street
  - 742 Mount Airy Street
  - 829 South Jones Street
  - 742 Blick Street
  - 627 Harding Street
  - 804 South Jones Street
  - 135 Kentucky Avenue
  - 712-714 Kirkham Street
  - 809 South Jones Street
  - 408 Shore Street
  - 415 St. Matthew Street
  - 1004 Farmer Street

\*Audio available upon request.

852 Rome Street  
328 Shore Street  
322 Shore Street  
204 Kentucky Avenue  
521 St. Mark Street  
725 Sterling Street  
731 South West Street  
919 Wythe Street W  
202 Kentucky Avenue  
151 Virginia Avenue

The City Council of the City of Petersburg, Virginia (the "Council") has held a public hearing in connection with the Plan of Finance on April 19, 2022 (the "Public Hearing"). Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), provides that the applicable elected representatives of the governmental unit having jurisdiction over the issuer of private activity bonds and over the area in which any facility financed with the proceeds of private activity bonds is located must approve the issuance of such bonds. The Authority issues its bonds on behalf of the City of Petersburg, Virginia (the "City") and the Project is located in the City. The Authority, as the issuing governmental unit with respect to the Bonds, has no applicable elected representative, the City constitutes the next highest governmental unit with such a representative, and the members of the Council constitute the applicable elected representatives of the City. The Authority has recommended that the Council approve the issuance of the Bonds. A copy of the Authority's resolution approving the issuance of the Bonds and the fiscal impact statement concerning the Plan of Finance have been filed with the Council.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Department of Economic Development recommends that the City Council approves the resolution approving the issuance by the Petersburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority of its multifamily housing revenue bonds for the acquisition, construction, renovation, rehabilitation and equipping of the approximately 98-unit Dorsey Flats Apartments multifamily housing facility located in the City of Petersburg.

Brian Moore, Director of Economic Development, gave an overview of the public hearing regarding a resolution approving the issuance by the Petersburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority of its multifamily housing revenue bonds for the acquisition, construction, renovation, rehabilitation and equipping of the approximately 98-unit Dorsey Flats Apartments multifamily housing facility located in the City of Petersburg, Virginia.

Ann Curtis-Saunders, Representative of McGuireWoods, stated, "We serve as bond counsel on this financing for Virginia Avenue School and Dorsey Flat Apartments, which you all know is multifamily residential housing units that will contain approximately 98 units here in the city. For which the borrowers have requested that the Petersburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority issue up \$15 million in tax exempt revenue bonds to assist them with the financing. You may recall that council actually approved this bond issuance about a year ago in March 2021. But since more than a year has passed since that approval and our last public hearing on the bond issuance, federal tax laws for tax exempt bonds require that a subsequent public hearing be held and subsequent approval from council be obtained. We published notice on the public hearing on April 5<sup>th</sup> and April 12<sup>th</sup> in the Progress-Index. And also, I should point out that the resolution acknowledges that this will not be the general debt of the city or the housing authority. But that the debt service will be paid back from the borrowed entities and also from the bond pledge. If you have any questions about the financing process, I am happy to answer those."

Mayor Parham opened the floor for public comments.

\*Audio available upon request.

Michelle Murrills, 131 South Market Street, stated, "I am just curious to know why nothing has been done with this in the past year. And is this something that has to be done every year even if they start work on it. I am not against having the apartments in there. But it seems to me that this has come up multiple time, both with the zooming commission and here to go over the same things. And it seems like a lot is being done and I know that the more it sits then the more that it falls apart. And we already had a fire in there once. So, I just want city council to make sure that it is something that gets done soon as possible rather than continue to leave it out there which is kind of like how the hotel is. But that is what I was wondering. Thank you."

Ms. Saunders stated, "I think that the reason is that we hadn't closed the financing since the year that we last saw you can be mostly boiled down to logistically getting all of the parties to the financing through their internal approval processes which at this point we are very near. I expect that we will be able to close the bond financing within the next couple of months. And further, for the bond financing piece we will not have to come back before council for approval."

Tom Heinemann stated, "It took a little longer. No one really wanted it to go long. But we are also working through the state historical preservation office for approvals. We have all our state historical approvals, and they were finalized in February. And we are also expecting imminently. Also, we do not see any hiccups or concerns from the national park service for their historical approvals. So, that process took a little bit longer as we had to rework the interior design. And we have worked with some of the historical preservation elements within the school. And we have addressed all of those and we expect a letter from the national park any minute. As Mr. Moore noted we have our permit approvals, and we have the single-family lock permit approval. So, once everything is lined up, we are good to go."

Seeing no further hands, Mayor Parham closed the public hearing.

Council Member Myers made a motion to adopt the resolution approving the issuance by the Petersburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority of its multifamily housing revenue bonds for the acquisition, construction, renovation, rehabilitation and equipping of the approximately 98-unit Dorsey Flats Apartments multifamily housing facility located in the City of Petersburg. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hill. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee and Parham

**22-R-20 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ISSUANCE BY THE PETERSBURG REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY OF ITS MULTIFAMILY HOUSING REVENUE BONDS FOR THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, REHABILITATION AND EQUIPPING OF THE APPROXIMATELY 98-UNIT DORSEY FLATS APARTMENTS MULTIFAMILY HOUSING FACILITY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF PETERSBURG.**

- d. A public hearing on the consideration of an ordinance approving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for PY21/FY22.

**BACKGROUND:** The City of Petersburg receives funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Community Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The city distributes the funding to projects to address housing and community development needs. Since 2016, some projects previously approved for funding were cancelled or completed without expending all of the approved funding, resulting in a fund balance.

Up to 15% of CDBG funding can be allocated to public service activities, 20% of CDBG funding can be allocated to administration, and the remainder to housing and community development projects.

The following is project funding requested for approval:

\*Audio available upon request.

AP Hill Renovations	\$ 50,000.00
Low Street Project	\$ 20,000.00
CDBG Code Enforcement	\$ 55,000.00
CDBG Administration	\$ 20,000.00
Comprehensive Plan	\$150,000.00

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the City Council considers approval of CDBG funding for PY21/FY22.

Reginald Tabor, Director of Planning and Community Development, gave an overview on the public hearing on the consideration of an ordinance approving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for PY21/FY22.

Mayor Parham opened the floor for public comment.

Seeing no hands, Mayor Parham closed the public hearing.

Vice Mayor Smith-Lee made a motion to approve the funding for CDBG PY21/FY22. Council Member Myers seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee, and Parham

**22-ORD-19 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDING FOR PROGRAM YEAR (PY)21/FISCAL YEAR (FY)22.**

- e. A public hearing on April 19, 2022, for the consideration of FY2021-2022 #2 Proposed Schools Operating Budget in the amount of \$1,611,079.77.

**BACKGROUND:** In February City Council approved the 1<sup>st</sup> round of supplements, bringing the total appropriation to \$71,117,861. Petersburg Public Schools is bringing a 2<sup>nd</sup> round of supplements for approval in the amount of 2,001,759.10. This additional appropriation will bring schools’ revenues for FY2022 total to \$73,119,620.10.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend City Council to approve the budget supplement for the Petersburg City Public Schools for FY2021-2022 in the amount of \$1,611,079.77.

Stacey Jordan, Finance Director, gave a brief overview of the request of approval for the budget supplement for the Petersburg Public Schools.

Mayor Parham opened the floor for public comments.

Seeing no hands, Mayor Parham closed the public hearing.

Council Member Westbrook made a motion to approve the budget supplement for the Petersburg City Public Schools for FY2021-2022 in the amount of \$1,611,079.77. Vice Mayor Smith-Lee seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee and Parham

- f. A public hearing on the consideration of the FY2022-2023 City of Petersburg Proposed All Funds Budget.

\*Audio available upon request.

**BACKGROUND:** The Interim City Manager proposed an All Funds Budget to the City Council and the public on March 24, 2022.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend City council to adopt and appropriate the All Funds Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

Stacey Jordan, Director of Finance, gave a brief overview of the request.

Mayor Parham opened the floor for public comments.

Seeing no hands, Mayor Parham closed the public hearing.

Council Member Wilson-Smith stated, "Mr. Mayor, I think that our budget just went online today. So, I don't think that it is really fair to the public that the budget was just presented online so that the public can actually read it. We just received another copy today. I don't know if this is different from the copy that we received this week. I think that this item needs to be tabled until we have all had the opportunity to compare both documents until the public has had ample time to look at the budget in its entirety online. And I would like to make a motion that we table this."

Council Member Wilson-Smith made a motion to table the item and action until May 17, 2022. Council Member Hill seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee and Parham

- g. A public hearing on April 19, 2022, for the consideration of City Council to advertise a maximum tax rate of \$1.27 per \$100 of assessed value.

**BACKGROUND:** The lowered rate is necessary to offset increased assessment values. The City of Petersburg is proposing to adopt a tax rate of \$1.27 per \$100 of assessed value. The difference will be known as the "effective tax rate decrease."

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Interim City Manager recommends that the City Council approves the reduction of the Real Estate tax rate by \$.08, reducing the rate from \$1.35 to \$1.27 per \$100 of assessed value to allow residents economic relief.

Stacey Jordan, Director of Finance, gave an overview of the request to advertise a maximum tax rate of \$1.27 per \$100 of assessed value.

Mayor Parham opened the floor for public comments.

Gary Talley, 2323 Fort Rice Street, stated, "I strongly support this. This definitely puts us in the same range as the surrounding areas. It seems like a small amount but it is going to make a huge difference."

Seeing no further hands, Mayor Parham closed the public hearing.

Council Member Hill made a motion to approve the request to advertise a maximum tax rate of \$1.27 per \$100 of assessed value. Council Member Westbrook seconded the motion. There was discussion among city council. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee and Parham

- h. A public hearing on the consideration of an ordinance to amend and re-adopt 106-65 of the City of Code pertaining to the collection of delinquent real property taxes on properties where abatement expenses have been incurred.

\*Audio available upon request.



**BACKGROUND:** See attached ordinance.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that City Council approve the ordinance to amend and re-adopt 106-65 of the City Code pertaining to the collection of delinquent real property taxes on properties where abatement expenses have been incurred.

Stacey Jordan, Director of Finance, gave an overview of the consideration of an ordinance to amend and re-adopt 106-65 of the City of Code pertaining to the collection of delinquent real property taxes on properties where abatement expenses have been incurred.

Anthony Williams, City Attorney, stated, "Mr. Mayor, this is in furtherance of the General Assembly effort made by Councilman Myers a year or two ago to give us an advantage over other localities and shortening our collection time. This is just a local implementation of that statutory revision."

Mayor Parham opened the floor for public comments.

Seeing no hands, Mayor Parham closed the public hearing.

There was discussion among City Council and staff.

Council Member Cuthbert made a motion to approve the ordinance to amend and re-adopt 106-65 of the City Code pertaining to collection of delinquent real property taxes on properties where abatement expenses have been incurred. Council Member Myers seconded the motion. There was discussion among city council. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee and Parham

**22-ORD-20 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ADOPT 106-65 OF THE CITY CODE PERTAINING TO THE COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT REAL PROPERTY TAXES ON PROPERTIES WHERE ABATEMENT EXPENSES HAVE BEEN INCURRED.**

- i. A public hearing and consideration of an ordinance authorizing the installation of a street mural at the intersection of W. Washington & Market Street (corner of the Petersburg Public Library).

**BACKGROUND:** During the March 1, 2022, City Council meeting, Ms. Fancie Terrell, and Ms. Lisa Homa of Petersburg Healthy Options Partnerships (PHOPs) made a presentation regarding 'Tactical Urbanism' and a request to install a street mural at the intersection of W. Washington & Market Streets (corner of Petersburg Public Library). The purpose of the street mural is to increase safe and accessible active transportation (walking) opportunities to and between downtown community sites, businesses, and residences.

This street mural project is a part of the 2021-2022 Virginia Walkability Action Institute cohort's (Petersburg team) action plan to create safe and accessible walking opportunities to reach the POP! Mobile Farmers' Market and the Market @ PPL (farm market) at the Petersburg Public Library along with multiple other local businesses, community sites and residences in downtown.

Outcomes of this project are to:

1. Support safe crossing across a main downtown and intersecting street.
2. Increase access to local farm markets available at the Petersburg Public Library.
3. Create a community-driven artistic rendering in a highly-trafficked location.

\*Audio available upon request.

Funding for the project is to be paid through grant funding.

Logistics will be coordinated with the City's Department of Public Works.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that City Council approve an ordinance authorizing the installation of a street mural at the intersection of W. Washington & Market Street (corner of Petersburg Public Library).

Reginald Tabor, Director of Planning and Community Development, gave a brief overview of the request.

Mayor Parham opened the floor for public comments.

Fancy Terrell, 1604 East Tuckahoe Street, stated, "I presented this to you on March 1<sup>st</sup>. So, if you have any questions, please let me know. I do what to say I think that the street mural gives an opportunity for beautification in the city as well as safer transportation from cyclist as well as drivers in our area."

Seeing no further hands, Mayor Parham closed the public hearing.

Council Member Wilson-Smith made a motion to approve the ordinance as requested. Council Member Hill seconded the motion. There was discussion among city council. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee and Parham

**22-ORD-21 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE INSTALLATION OF A STREET MURAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF W. WASHINGTON & MARKET STREET (CORNER OF THE PETERSBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY).**

- j. A public hearing on April 19, 2022, for the consideration of an ordinance of conveyance of easements to Dominion Energy Virginia in furtherance of the Park & Ride Project.

**BACKGROUND:** During the March 1, 2022, City Council meeting, Ms. Fancie Terrell, and Ms. Lisa Homa of Petersburg Healthy Options Partnerships (PHOPs) made a presentation regarding 'Tactical Urbanism' and a request to install a street mural at the intersection of W. Washington & Market Streets (corner of Petersburg Public Library). The purpose of the street mural is to increase safe and accessible active transportation (walking) opportunities to and between downtown community sites, businesses, and residences.

This street mural project is a part of the 2021-2022 Virginia Walkability Action Institute cohort's (Petersburg team) action plan to create safe and accessible walking opportunities to reach the POP! Mobile Farmers' Market and the Market @ PPL (farm market) at the Petersburg Public Library along with multiple other local businesses, community sites and residences in downtown.

Outcomes of this project are to:

4. Support safe crossing across a main downtown and intersecting street.
5. Increase access to local farm markets available at the Petersburg Public Library.
6. Create a community-driven artistic rendering in a highly-trafficked location.

Funding for the project is to be paid through grant funding.

\*Audio available upon request.

Logistics will be coordinated with the City's Department of Public Works.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Public Works & Utilities recommends that the easements be granted to ensure that Dominion Virginia Energy (Dominion Virginia Power) can construct, maintain, and operate equipment necessary for the operation of electrical services to the Park and Ride Structure.

Randall Williams, Interim Director of Public Works and Utilities, gave an overview of the request.

Mayor Parham opened the floor for public comments.

Kenny T, 436 Hoke Drive, stated, "I just want to know what the significance of this park and ride is. I mean a lot of stuff has closed down, but we got this expensive parking deck. Is anything coming here for us to have that huge parking deck. I mean what is the deal with that.

Seeing no further hands, Mayor Parham closed the public hearing.

There was discussion among City Council and staff.

Council Member Westbrook made a motion to approve the ordinance to authorize the conveyance of an easement to Dominion Energy Virginia in furtherance of the park and ride project. Council Member Hill seconded the motion. There was discussion among city council. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee and Parham

**22-ORD-22 AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE CONVEYANCE OF AN EASEMENT TO DOMINION ENERGY VIRGINIA IN FURTHERANCE OF THE PARK AND RIDE PROJECT.**

- k. A public hearing on the consideration of an ordinance to amend and re-adopt Section 94-2 of the City Code pertaining to littering.

**BACKGROUND:** At the March 15, 2022, meeting of City Council, Councilman Myers made a motion to revise the City's littering ordinance. His proposed revisions are consistent with what the current enabling legislation provides. These revisions will make the punishment provisions for littering consistent with State Code provisions.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Schedule a public hearing and adopt the ordinance on April 19, 2022.

Anthony Williams, City Attorney, gave an overview on the public hearing on the consideration of the ordinance.

Mayor Parham opened the floor for public comments.

Michelle Murrills, 131 S. Market Street, stated, "I am glad that Councilman Myers did this. This is very interesting and cool that it goes along with the state. My only question is how does this pertain to the businesses such as Liberty Gas that has a lot of garbage around that nobody seems to pick up. So, I am just wondering is there an extra part to it or how it works. Thank you."

Seeing no further hands, Mayor Parham closed the public hearing.

There was discussion among City Council and staff.

Council Member Myers made a motion to approve the ordinance to amend and re-enact Section 94-2

\*Audio available upon request.

of the Code of Virginia to incorporate the minimum fines identified in the current enabling legislation. Council Member Hill seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee and Parham

**22-ORD-23 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT SECTION 94-2 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA TO INCORPORATE THE MINIMUM FINES IDENTIFIED IN THE CURRENT ENABLING LEGISLATION.**

- I. A public hearing on the consideration of an ordinance to amend and readopt Section 2-31 of the Petersburg City Code Pertaining to Salaries of City Council and the Mayor.

**BACKGROUND:** The Code of Virginia authorizes salaries for the Mayor and City Council based on population. The State Code provisions supersede any contrary provisions in City Charter with respect to procedures to effectuate salary revisions, but also require that such raises effectuated through adoption shall not become effective “until July 1 after the next regularly scheduled general election of Council Members.” The City Code currently provides for the salaries of Members of Council and the Mayor at levels that are considerably lower than provided under State Code. This amendment will allow salaries to be made consistent with the State Code provisions and will also incorporate any future changes to State Code with respect to salaries of the governing body.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt ordinance.

Anthony Williams, City Attorney, gave an overview of the request.

Mayor Parham opened the floor for public comments.

Seeing no hands, Mayor Parham closed the public hearing.

There was discussion among City Council and staff.

Council Member Cuthbert stated, “I do think that 2-31 is badly out of date. And so, I move that we amend Section 2-31 of the Petersburg City Code pertaining to salaries of city council and the mayor to read as follows: Section 2-31. – Salaries. The annual salary of the mayor shall be \$13,000. The annual salary of each other member of the City Council shall be \$12,000.”

Council Member Cuthbert made a motion to approve the ordinance with the additional changes that the mayor’s salary be \$13,000 and council members salary be \$12,000. Council Member Hill seconded the motion. There was discussion among city council. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Westbrook, Hill, and Smith-Lee; Voting No: Wilson-Smith and Myers; Abstain: Parham

**22-ORD-24 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ADOPT SECTION 2-31 OF THE CITY CODE TO INCREASE THE SALARIES OF THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL.**

**9. PUBLIC INFORMATION PERIOD:** A public information period, limited in time to 30 minutes, shall be part of an Order of Business at each regular council meeting. Each speaker shall be a resident or business owner of the City and shall be limited to three minutes. No speaker will be permitted to speak on any item scheduled for consideration on the regular docket of the meeting at which the speaker is to speak. The order of speakers, limited by the 30-minute time period, shall be determined as follows:

- a) First, in chronological order of the notice, persons who have notified the Clerk no later than 12:00 noon of the day of the meeting,

\*Audio available upon request.

- b) Second, in chronological order of their sign up, persons who have signed a sign-up sheet placed by the Clerk in the rear of the meeting room prior to the meeting.

Richard Stewart, 129 Rolfe Street, stated, "I am here today to see what happen when I told you about the traffic light. We need one going in and out of Pocohontas. It is very dangerous. There were two accidents that occurred out there this weekend. We need something to be done. Another thing and it is probably not my business, but I am still going to ask the question. When is St. Andrew Street Bridge going to be open? And the other question that people keep asking me is what happened to the city manager. He was just here, and he said hat he was going to do great things for Pocohontas and all this kind of stuff. And then all of a sudden, he left. So, what happened to the city manager? Thank you."

Gilvia Stith, 2448 County Drive, stated, "I have heard a lot of good stuff here today. I have a major concern about the homeless. And I do understand that the training center shut down. There seems to be something missing here. Because we have a vast number of homeless veterans. Mental health is a big issue. This is something that we used to not want to speak on. I think that it is something that we have to address. And it needs to be taken care of. I do not think that people should have to panhandle and be out in the cold and out in the weather. I think that everyone should have proper shelter. I do not think that it was considered when that training center closed where would these people go. And they end up all over the city. We as citizens can only give but so much. When I pass them, I keep certain dollars that I can give to them, blankets, shirts and whatever I can share. But I think that this is an issue. As much as you are planning for public housing, which is necessary, I think that it is a major necessity for the homeless and the mental health to be addressed as well."

Michelle Murrills, 131 S. Market Street, stated, "Since March 26, 2022, less than a month ago, there have been five shootings death in the City of Petersburg. The youngest victim is 15 years old. I am sorry to say that nothing has been officially released from the City of Petersburg, the City Manager's Office, or the City Council in response to this. This is wrong. There are grieving families that need help and guidance. There is a community that wants to look towards its leaders to know what the city plans on doing to keep this from happening again. I understand that there are no easy answers and fixing anyone prior to the problem will take time. But to simply shrug your shoulders and say it is Petersburg is not enough. Although one of you have been on City Council for more than five years, two of you have been here for more than 12 years. It is ridiculous that something has not been done or at least started during that time. I realize that Petersburg has been through some hard times in the last 12 years but there have been many times that money could have been spent on fixing problems in the city rather than the frivolous things that it was spent on. The money that was spent on this library extension could have gone towards working on violence rather than the library. This room, while nice, was not needed and no matter what else you say this room has never or will ever save a child's life. And that is what this boils down to. Saving a child's life. This city needs to work harder on hiring and retaining our police officers and not just allow them to use Petersburg as their training ground and then take that experience elsewhere. Experience that the citizens of Petersburg have paid for in more ways than one. This city needs to fix up the abandoned and blighted homes. Plenty of studies show that homes and buildings that look like blighted buildings here lead to more violence. There are so many laws in Petersburg that would make a difference in this problem if they were actually applied. I for one would like to commend Councilman Myers for the work that he has personally been doing on fixing blighted homes. Jefferson Street and Centre Hill area are looking much better with the houses that he has been working on. I hope that the momentum keeps up and these houses are finished. I truly believe it makes a difference. This city needs to finish fixing up parks and outdoor areas for children to play at. And make sure that all of the basketball hoops that came down because of COVID are put back up. This city also needs to repair broken sidewalks. We fixed the potholes now can we fix the sidewalks. Since, I only had three minutes to speak, these are just a few things that make a big difference in the lives of citizens of Petersburg. These things are prevalent throughout the city and not just Old Towne. I love what I have seen lately in Old Towne but there are more than just Old Towne. You have 30,000 residents within the city looking at you for guidance. Please help. Thank you."

\*Audio available upon request.

Amanda Green, 1210 West High Street, stated, "I just wanted to bring it to city council's attention that the request tracker is not working where you can report high grass. My neighbor at 1206 High Street and across the street at 1203 High Street are both blighted properties and the grass is almost at my knees. So, I want to make sure that the city is aware to get the site back up so we can put the complaint out there. Thank you."

#### **10. BUSINESS OR REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR OR OTHER MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL:**

Council Member Cuthbert made a motion to authorize the city manager and city attorney to execute all documents necessary to facilitate efforts to conclude Petersburg Circuit Court Case No.: CL21000495-00 in accordance with the terms discussed in closed session today. Council Member Hill seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee and Parham

Council Member Cuthbert stated, "Thank you. A couple of things. One, I enjoyed very much the Donamatrix Bicycle Ride on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. The mayor and I had a race to see who would come in first and I let him win. And a good time was had by all. I want to thank the Clerk of Council for adding page numbers to our agenda packet. That makes it a lot easier for us to navigate, Ms. Jackson. It really makes a big difference. So, I thank you for that and I think all of council thanks you for that. On this issue of violence, it is very much on the minds and consciousness of every member of this council. We all wish we could reach deep in the hearts and the minds of the people that are perpetrating the violence. Unfortunately, that is not the way that human nature works and that is beyond our grasp. At the same time, we are definitely not shrugging our shoulders. WE are doing everything that we can. We adopted the firearms ordinance that prohibits firearms in public buildings such as this. As well as in our parks and parade routes. We are strenuously enforcing our property maintenance building code. We are not where I would like us to be, but we are light years ahead of where we were when a number of us joined city council. A longer-term solution to the problem, I am convinced is to improve the literacy rate in our schools here in Petersburg. I handed out as many copies as I had to the public. And there are 11 pages of paper that I had stapled together. And I would just like to highlight what those pages teach us. On page one, shows that the school board has received over \$36 million dollars from March 2020 to 2021, through various federal programs that we have not seen in the past. And some of that money is eligible for the use of that money. Much of that money is to address the decrease in literacy that has taken place since the pandemic. As you will see if you turn to page six, this is a page from an article that was published in the Wall Street Journal last year. And the paragraph reads, 'to address the pandemic related learning laws, this particular principal in another jurisdiction used federal stimulus funds to hire an academic recovery teacher for the fourth graders and another staffer to focus on reading and prevention to targeting fourth and second graders.' She is also focusing on teachers and 14 instructional assistants to get trained in the reading system. A program that has a heavy system on phonics. Now that is hardly a quick solution, but I think there is no quick solution. If you go back to page 2, you will see the absolute abysmal reading, math, and science scores in our public schools. And so, I think for those who are concerned about violence in our community, one place to take your request for help, which I joined is to the Petersburg School Board. And you might take these papers in hand and ask them which of these categories of federal funds can be used to address our literacy problem. There is definitely a connection between lack of ready ability to read and tendency to violence. Last thing I want to turn to is a speeding motion. This is item 10a on the agenda and I move that we adopt the motion that appears in the agenda packet that appears at page 109 and 110."

- a. Consideration of a motion to discourage speeding.

**BACKGROUND:**     MOTION

\*Audio available upon request.

Council directs the City Manager to direct staff to take the following actions, all as recommended by the Petersburg Department of Police:

1. To re-install a stop light at the intersection of West Washington Street and Perry Street.
2. To add a stop light at the intersection of West Wythe Street and Perry Street.
3. To place signs on Mingea Street (near its intersection with South Crater Road) and McKeever Street, stating that large trucks are prohibited.
4. To install stop signs, as follows:
  - a. Intersection of South Sycamore Street and Fillmore Street (making this a four-way stop).
  - b. Intersection of South Jefferson Street and East Fillmore Street (making this a four-way stop).
  - c. Intersection of St. Andrews' Street and Webster Street (making this a three-way stop).
  - d. Intersection of Claremont Street and Blair Road (making this a three-way stop).
  - e. Intersection of Graham Road and Pine Ridge (making this a three-way stop).
  - f. Intersection of Liberty Street and Harrison Street (making this a four-way stop).
  - g. West Clara Drive and Talley Avenue (making this a three-way stop).
  - h. Custer Street and Hawk Street (making this a four-way stop).
  - i. Custer Street and Hamilton Street (making this a three-way stop).
  - j. Patterson Street and Augusta Avenue (replacing each of the two yield signs with a stop sign).

The City Attorney has advised that VDOT requires a speed study before the city erects a stop sign on state-designated roads. The City Attorney has further advised that there is no legal requirement for a speed study before the City erects a stop sign on roads that are not state designated and that the liability risk resulting from the erection of such a stop sign without first obtaining a speed study is not significant absent unique circumstances.

Accordingly, Council directs the City Manager to direct staff to erect stop signs at the foregoing intersections by the following deadlines:

1. As to the stop signs on state designated roads before September 1, 2022.
2. As to the other intersections specified above which are not state designated roads before June 1, 2022.

In addition, as to the following components of the proposed action plan to discourage speeding in Petersburg, Council asks the City Manager to work with staff to present a recommendation at Council's work session on May 3, 2022, as to the following:

1. Whether to designate certain residential through streets as "augmented fine streets" as *Virginia Code* section 46.2-878.2 and *Petersburg City Code* sections 110-10 and 110-12 allow (for example, perhaps High Street, South Jefferson Street, Graham Road, and Claremont Street).
2. Whether to adopt an ordinance and otherwise do what is necessary to decrease the speed limit from 25 MPH to 20 MPH along streets where speeding is a special problem (as *Virginia Code* section 46.2-1300 allows) (for example, perhaps West Bank and High Street, between North Sycamore Street and University Boulevard).
3. Whether to freshly paint all existing pedestrian crosswalks on North Sycamore Street, South Sycamore Street, and West Washington Street, and add pedestrian crosswalks at the intersections of West Washington Street and Guarantee Street, South Sycamore Street and Marshall Street, South Sycamore Street and Fillmore Street, South Jefferson Street and Fillmore Street, and South Jefferson Street and Marshall Street.
4. Whether to install more speed limit signs along the streets where the city installs new stop signs.
5. Whether to install solar-powered (and not merely battery-powered) signs on South Sycamore Street, where it crosses I-85, to display the motorist's current speed in real time.

\*Audio available upon request.

6. Whether to create, fund, and staff a dedicated traffic enforcement unit that will not be diverted to calls for service except under the direst circumstances.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve Motion

Council Member Cuthbert made a motion for council to direct the city manager to direct staff to take the following actions as listed in the attached motion. Vice Mayor Smith-Lee seconded the motion.

Mayor Parham opened the floor for public comments.

Brian Moore, 406 Claremont Street, stated, "No I am not the former Mayor Brian Moore, he is over there but he is my neighbor. One of the intersections that is proposed to have a three-way stop is right next to my house. Speeding has been a concern for all of us down on Claremont Street between Claremont and Sycamore Street. It seems like in the recent years it has become a drag strip of how fast they can get from one street to the other. I have been a victim several times with my property being destroyed parked out front of my house. The most recent was this past November. My truck got about \$1,000 worth of damage done to it. It is a problem. I am encouraging you guys to please work together and to pass this motion because eventually it is not going to be somebody's property but someone's family member. I am a firm believer that my kids ride their bicycles around the neighborhood with their friends. My wife and I walk our dog. Other neighbors walk their dogs and some of you have family members that live in that neighborhood, and it needs to be a priority. And I would appreciate if you guys took it as such. Thank you."

Percy Skeleton, 433 Graham Road, stated, "I really do appreciate Councilman Cuthbert coming and leaving that information in the door. Because where I live at, I live in at the bottom of Graham Road. And why it is so alerting to me is that I can stand in my yard on the side of the house, and I say what is this a speedway. Because they are coming by so fast. I have two grand kids. I have a one-year-old and two-year-old and they are walking. And then I have a special needs daughter. And we have to keep our eyes on them. What really gets me though is that when are coming down Graham Road and they see us braking and hitting the light to turn in the yard. It is just outrageous. Because living around there it is not like living on a level street where you can turn in. We live on the bottom of the hill and when we turn in it is so dangerous. I probably put my signal light on at three houses before I get to my house. And when I look, they are still very close to me. So, just like I said that when I got that in the door, I was so happy. Because it was something being done, or I hope that it will be done. Because I have those three grandkids and they be running wild. And they hit that hill and cannot stop, and a car come pass and you know what will happen. I thank Council Member Cuthbert for doing that, acknowledging that, and bringing it to you all up front."

Bob Rogers, 207 Marshall Street, stated, "I am a member of the Poplar Lawn Neighborhood Association. I urge you to pass this ordinance. Speeding at the corner of Jefferson and Marshall where I live is a problem. But I also encourage more things. But we will get what we can get tonight. There have been three accidents within one house of where I live at the corner of Marshall and Jefferson. I know that a couple of them were due to speeding. So, thank you and I urge you to do this, and I appreciate your time."

Claudia Bezaka, 205 South Sycamore Street, stated, "Thank you for this opportunity to address this really important issue. Speeding has affected me twice in 2020 where a car ended up in my yard. And that was speeding early in the morning. And the second car was in July, and it was a DUI. It was a personal consequence for me. However, I am here to address the two buildings that is across from Sycamore and Marshall Street. Those are senior living buildings, and the crosswalks are an issue. They are potential hazards. I do have footage of residents that just came from the new dollar store with their shopping cart waiting between three to five minutes before any car would stop. I also have video footage of a woman that is disabled, and she waited about six minutes before any card would stop. And even a school bus passed her as she was in the

\*Audio available upon request.



middle of the crosswalk. A third stance involves the public city bus that stops in front of my building which is a hazard being that we have a lot of wheelchair residence who need to cross that crosswalk to get to the building. So, they are coming from Walnut Hill and the bus stops right in front of it. And I see all of this because I am in the garden a lot. I love gardening. It is just an accident waiting to happen. Fences can be built but bodies cannot. And these are seniors that have lived on this earth for a long time. And I believe that they deserve a way to cross that without fearing for their life. A flashing sign or anything. Traffic is just not stopping. Even if they are not visible. I am thankful that you are addressing this issue because it does involve public safety.”

Michelle Murrills, 131 South Market Street, stated, “As you all know, I walk everywhere in the city. I do spend a lot of time down Sycamore and around Poplar Lawn. And I am very happy with putting in the stop signs. I know that some people get sinical and think that drivers tend to blow through stop signs. And what is the point in putting them out. But it does amaze me. I do watch on Liberty or other streets that people that are speeding will stop for stop signs. So, I am very happy that these are going in. Thank you.”

Abigail Roots, 241 South Sycamore Street, stated, “I pretty much want to be another voice backing up what everyone said. So, I hope you heard the heartfelt concerns from the people who live here. This is seriously an issue. WE moved it about a year ago. And since then, we have seen a number of instances that Claudia just mentioned of people in the crosswalk, and they cannot cross the street. I have checked the Petersburg Police Department and their weekly report that they put out. And these are certain incidents that have only been reported. Every week in one of the wards there is at least one hit and run. Sometimes there are more than one in the wards. So, this is a very serious issue. Secondly, we do live across from the Lafayette Senior Community Building. And I have seen a number of instances as well where they stand there, and they wait or one evening I saw one woman who was seconds away from being hit because someone did not see her because of the dust. She was trying to cross, and she stepped into the road, and they hit their brakes at the very last second. So, we almost had another hit and run. So, again I reiterate that I hope that this pass. And we do not need more discussion about. Please we need something done.”

Richard Stewart, 129 Rolfe Street, stated, “I thank the police department for coming over during the day and everything is neutral. But in the evening, with this new tour and stuff coming to Petersburg and all kind of people coming over there, there is something happening at the bottom of Rolfe Street that we call the racetrack. They come down there with a tremendous amount of speed. And so, or later somebody is going to get hurt. They have the Rotary Park down there. They go down to the park and I think that there is drug exchange down there. When they come out, they come out very fast. So, I am hoping that whatever this ordinance is you pass it. Because maybe it can apply to Pocohontas some way or somehow. I have sen0 them come off the Martin Luther King Bridge and it looks like that is the starting line. And they race from Pocohontas Street to Sapony Street, and they do not stop at the stop sign. They slow down and go around the corner like it is a racetrack. So, I hope that you can approve this and help Pocohontas. Thank you.”

Seeing no further hands, Mayor Parham closed the public hearing.

There was discussion among City Council and staff.

Council Member Wilson-Smith made a substitute motion to approve the motion and omit (1) and (2) and omit (1) at the bottom of the page and table page (2) and report back on May 3. Council Member Myers seconded the motion. There was discussion among city council. The motion was approved on roll call. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee and Parham

Council Member Wilson-Smith stated, “Thank you so much. Just three things. I too have been very concerned about the total number of murders, killings, and shootings that we have had in this city. It really has been horrendous. I want to ask us once again because I brought this up before. Not that my ideas are perfect,

\*Audio available upon request.

but it is something. We could initiate or institute the gun buy back program to help get some of these guns off the street. If we look at the reason for the gangs what are gang members after. They are after the power and money. And the buy back program would give them money and get some of the guns off the street. If it only gets three guns off the street, then that is three guns that are gone that could have killed somebody. Another concern is that I spoke once before about us, the city, adopting a program that they have in Virginia Beach where you rent out properties. We have some very small lots in this city that no one will every be able to build on and the city owns them. If we could rent out the lots for gardening space, that is revenue to the city and that is an opportunity for people who reside in apartments and things for some place to do gardening. It is for food or whether it is for greenery. It helps to beautify the city; it improves green space and when improving the look of the city and doing things like this it has a physiological effect on the citizens who live there. The program can be studied on the Virginia Beach website. And I would like to elaborate just a little bit on what my co-council member, Mr. Cuthbert, talked a little bit about the literacy rate improving and he is correct. Our literacy rate does need to improve. We need to do some things within our school system to improve however, one of the things that would help greatly is year around schools. When June comes once again our kids are out of school. And other than what the recreation department provides there is nothing much for them. The year-round school offers stability for our children and the opportunity to catch up with what is lagging. In order to do that council will have to step up. Because for the 12 years that I have been on council we have given the school system the same amount of money every year, but we expect different results and that doesn't happen. No matter what else are they getting from other entities, we continue to do the same thing. If we want more from our children, we have to invest more in our children. Even if the government gives you a million more every year, what are we doing for our children. Consider also going to your school board meetings and telling your school board members what it is you want. Ask for year around schools for your child. What do you have planned for the summer? Ask you school board to implement this. I just want you all to know that the concern for children in this city rest quite heavenly on my heart and you are not alone. Thank you."

Mayor Parham stated, "Thank you Council Member Wilson-Smith. I would like to allot some of my time for you because I want you to speak on, I know that Ms. Stith talked about the homeless population. We have been on several meetings, and we have a great concept of asking the state to reopen that training city part to give the wrap around service to our homeless people and veterans. Can you talk to Ms. Stith about it because she raised a question tonight? We have a great plan, but we need help from the public to get some traction from the state to allow us to use the facility."

Council Member Wilson-Smith gave an overview of the proposal for the use of the old Central State Training Facility, which is currently closed, to be used for the homeless with the city and area.

Mayor Parham stated, "We will get back with you. I just wanted you to hear that because we need your help, and we will have further communication with you after this matter. Because we need as much traction as we can get. I just wanted you to hear that city council has a plan, but we need your help to implement that. But thank you for coming today."

Council Member Westbrook stated, "Happy Belated Easter. Easter weekend was this past weekend, glory be to God. I am going to start out with just a great bit of good news at Virginia State University. They have recently established a debate and speech team. We competed in the HBCU National Tournament last weekend. And one of our members Idayziah Jones actually was awarded the top speaker in International Public Debate (IPDA). So, she is a national champion. And I just wanted to congratulate her in front of city council. And even though she is not here I would like to bring her in the future if possible. But just to know the great things that are there and why I mentioned that is because we are trying to mentor and bring the speech and debate team to the high school so that the kids can have a more productive way of getting their voice out and be heard. And understand that the discourse that can be done is helpful with solving problems that are in our community. I always have a message and theme and my theme is always about past possessed but being more forward focus. And to do that it's a few points that I would like to make it as a subpoint. The first one is

\*Audio available upon request.

that the city must be open to anyone. And when it means open to anyone, I would like to highlight our parks, like Poplar Lawn Park. If the weather is breaking, I hope that you get out and enjoy the park as well as support the FOLAR and Appomattox River Trail system that is being expanded. Ports have been paved and I really advise people to get down there for your own mental health to see this great river that runs through our city and really utilize it for recreation. And then finally the Wilcox Lake Park Pavilion, I have been recently helping out with the board. And they really are trying to bring back things like lighting Christmas lights and maybe even bringing Santa Clause. If you are from this area about 30 years ago when Santa Clause used to come into Petersburg on the river. It must be open for anyone. Second, the city must have something for everybody. On this point, I would like to highlight our food. Because I am one that love to eat. It is a lot of great cuisines in Petersburg. If you are a vegan, then you would want to go downtown to Local Vibe. You can stay downtown and patronize Alibi and Croaker Spot, Maria's, or Andrade's. Or you can venture out to other parts of the city like Yankee Coffee Shop, Traditionz Wing, or the Caribbean Kitchen on Route 36. Moving on to point three, it can attract and maintain demand. For that, I really like the idea that they did with the Easter Egg this past weekend down in the part. I really felt like the citizens were too early and I did not see a lot of support. And I would have liked to see more support. I know that there are a lot of kids in the city that would have loved to come out and participate in the easter egg hunt. Also, the 5K and the Half Marathon, I know that Petersburg is ranked 132 out of 132 as far as unhealthiest city. But coming out and walking three miles for the 5K is intimidating to some but really walking and participating, maybe you can do the half marathon. But just coming out and supporting the people that are coming from all around the region that are coming to Petersburg to see everything that we have to offer. And it is well support of the River Street Market. It is the attract and maintain demand. Next, is the framework for urbanization. And I would like to shout out Mr. Moore and the Department of Economic Development on the great things that they are doing. Some things that you may not know about but are interested, I would advise you to just really look at what is going on in Petersburg. And don't just look at all the bad that is going on. Support the Planning Commission and most importantly, citizens, come out and express your voice here at council. I am one that I am not a lot on the internet, but I know that there is this thing called Operation Clean Sweep, where people always want to voice their concerns there. But how about bringing your concerns to city council so that your name and address can be on the book where we can put some concerns with faces. Then we can really address you one-on-one and not have to go through an internet. Because sometimes that is not really real. Great projects require a lot of resources and shout out to Mr. Moore and Economic Development. It has to have a sustainable and livable environment. I would like to shoutout those four new firefighters that were just inducted. We had a great class that myself and Mayor Parham and all of council just support. But four new firefighters that have come to help protect the city, first responders. And more importantly, I think that as we shift that something has been done about littering the question is now will you buy in. Because no there is a citywide clean-up that has started but there is an official kick-off on May 14. And it even has a theme, 'Don't Trash Petersburg.' My question now is will you participate. I am going to try to get the Ward 7 to come out, but this is a citywide issue. But if we all buy into this clean-up then we can make the city look like it is supposed to which is a great city. It needs to nurture a civil society. And I am going to skip that one and come back to it. And then there are some other things that I have heard over the course of the last few weeks. The animal shelter, Ms. Potts, stated that it is in desperate need of some new housing. And let me know that out because I am an animal lover. Let's support our animal lover's out here and definitely help out the animal housing out off of Johnson Road. And then I am going to shout out Ms. Mitchner and Pleasants Lane Elementary School. As Council Member Cuthbert and Council Member Wilson-Smith said there is something going on with literacy. But it is upward. And Ms. Mitchner guaranteed me of that as they are having reading and math growth. And they are actually preparing for the SOLs now. So, you can support them. This Thursday, they are inviting all parents out from 5:15pm to 6:30pm for an SOL Rally to really get parents aboard. Not just through fundraising but to really come out and see how they can help bring up the SOL scores and find strategies to help their students. Also, at Pleasants Lane they did get the Fitness for Kids Award. They are combining fitness with literacy. So, again combat this unhealthy living as well as the literacy rates. I look at Ms. Stith with your shirt on, 'Good parents matter.' And I would like to say, parents, I am calling you out. And may be that is the wrong thing to do. And I am a parent myself and I really think that instead of always pointing the finger at the teachers for them to do their job it is time for use to do out job. And sometimes cut the TV off

\*Audio available upon request.

and cut the internet and give them some screen time and cut the video game off. Kids are getting a lot of messages from ways that are not always controllable. And they are getting a lot of wrong messages. So, we have to monitor them. And I understand that you are working two and three jobs to provide. But being a parent is not always about providing. It is about nurturing and helping them to grow into that citizen that makes this a great city of Petersburg. So, parents let's do this together. It takes a village, but I believe that it starts with an environment at home which is the parents. Now I am going to back track to it needs to nurture a civil society. I think you will not hear from everybody, but it is all on our hearts the gun violence. But it starts with the simple fights in school. Let's curve the violence in school. A fist fight turns into retaliation when someone is embarrassed, and they have lost the fight and now they have to go and get a gun. Or again the speeding is a big thing. Putting people at risk, older people down by the senior citizen community. Guns in itself, can we put the guns down. I am from an era where I am a hip-hop fan but there was song called 'Self Destruction.' Where is the music like that in 2022? Where is that we are all in the same gang. Sometimes again it is about working together and conflict resolution and about understanding that we have differences, and we can get over them through debate or through a boxing match. I mean it is better and it is not taking a life. And now I challenge the young people and I hope that you hear this message. Death is final and there is no coming back from that. This is not a video game where you get to push reset. We are losing to many young people that could be the next scientist, doctor, lawyers and let along politicians that are leading this city. And we are losing them before the age of 21 and 25. Something has to be done. So, it goes again to the parents and the kids themselves. We need your voice. All day in my classes, I just had some real discussions with my students. And it came with a lot of great things. I am going to read two of them to not take up time. One of my students said, 'that the main idea is that the children and teens need to cultivate anger management and conflict resolution skills.' And this is from a student from Virginia State and 'have access to counsel in school because chances are it is too unrealistic to expect just parents alone to give all the therapy on a larger scale. So, instead of constant punishment in school with problematic student, help them out with more counseling. Another student said, 'these young folks in the city need city leadership to be on the front lines and out in the city. They need to see success and be around those in leadership.' So, we see success with our Trey Songz, Quinton Spain, and Frank Mason but there is a lot of success right here in this room. And again, they like you driving your Benz or you BMW or you are dressing nice and you can tell them how you got there without violence. We all have to play this part to buy in. And I am going to close with this, more conflict management classes, peer mediation programs in K-12, and I believe that it is about breaking the culture. I am older, I am in my forties and some people are older than me. And you say they might not recognize or receive my message because I am older than them. But I am going to go back to my last statement I quote from a movie called 'Boyz N The Hood,' and it was about one of the main characters called 'Doughboy.' And he said he turned on the TV and he had this stuff on about living in a violent world. And it showed all these foreign places where foreigners lived. And he started to think either they do not know, they don't show, or they don't care about what is really going on in the hood. So, my last question is that if you really care about what is going on in the hood let's just not be out here talking, they really need to see us on the front lines being active. So, let's start cleaning up and let's start talking to these kids. Thank you very much."

Council Member Myers stated, "I do not know how to follow behind my protégé over here. But thank you Mr. Westbrook. But anyway, thank you all for being here tonight. I do not have anything to add but I will at the next meeting. Thank you."

Council Member Hill stated, "Good evening, everyone. We thank everyone for coming out today. Much has been said about what is going on in our city. I am going to touch about the shootings just a little bit. As council, we hurt just like our citizens hurt and you do not know how these shootings affect us personally. Because you do not know, especially with a lot of us being born and raised here. And we have families here, so you do not know how families have been impacted. So, when you make statements like we just shrug our shoulders and things, which is far from the truth. And not to point out anybody, we are from here and we are in the fight here. So, we go to church here, we shop here, and we live here, and our families are here. So, we are Petersburg. I just want all of us to be mindful and I am okay with us being held accountable. But we all are in

\*Audio available upon request.

this together, we all are trying to do what is best for this city. Our police officers are some of the best in the world. I tip my hat off to them. A lot of things you cannot get because if something is under investigation, we cannot be so verbal and tell everything that is going on because that will mess up the case. Somebody would just run. They stay quiet and they leave quietly. Before you know it there is an arrest somewhere. So, don't take our silence and their silence as if they are not doing their job. Because that is a very hard job. You can go from helping someone cross the street to someone pointing a gun at you. So, you know the emotions with that job, we cannot even understand what they are going through. So, I understand. So, if someone gets shot you don't know if it is a member of our family. You come up here and come to that mic and you say things. Just be mindful of that because we are a part of being on city council and living in the city. So, these things right here they hit us hard. I want to talk about blighted property really quickly. We know that is an issue, but if you notice lately a lot of the blighted properties are being rehabbed. If you go up Halifax Street and you see that they are bringing it back. One thing I must say for the City of Petersburg, is that a lot of people see the jewel in Petersburg and sometimes because we have been here for so long that we do not see the jewel of it. And it is going to be a point when people are moving in. I see it all the time. We have new neighborhoods out in Berkely Manor Estates, and we have people moving in older homes and rehabbing them. It will be a point that it will be hard to move back in. I would say stay here and you see our taxes are going down for the first time in years. Are bond ratings have gone up. We have an outstanding finance team that is working hard, and I know people want to know what happen when people leave and come. We cannot talk about personnel issues. You just waste your breath when talking about personnel issues. But legally you cannot even do that. We are here and we are fixtures in our community and plus we are not going anywhere. We love our community, and we love you. We have been on the liter issue for a long time, and I am glad that we are finally getting somewhere with that. Mr. Williams, I still want to know about the signage on the highway about people loitering on the highway coming off the corner. I believe that Chesterfield has something about pan handling. That is one of the areas where a lot of people just stand there, and they have shifts there. I want to know if we can do anything about people on the highway. Our economic development team let's hit the ground running. And we are so happy about that. We have a lot of development going on with the city and not with just Old Towne but in the west and east. Our citywide cleanup is doing outstanding just for the first time. We just have to keep it up cutting the grass and picking up the trash. If you see something, please say something. We can tell that everyone is here, and everyone is part of the solution and not part of the problem. I know that you are here because you are invested into your community. Thank you all for being here. And continue to hold us accountable, but just know that we live in this city too. You do not know how death affect us too. So, when you run to a council person and say such and such about a person just be mindful that it may be his cousin or someone who just got shot. You do not know. So, I would like to applaud our police officers of all the hard work that they do as well. Thank you, Mr. Mayor."

Vice Mayor Smith-Lee stated, "I am not going to be long. But I do want to let everybody know that Ward 6 and Ward 7 is going to have a joint ward meeting on May 26, 2022. We will announce where the meeting will be held at our next council meeting. Can the police officers please stand up? I know that your jobs are not easy at all. But I do know that you all work very hard to try to resolve some of the issues. But it is sad when a 14-year-old and 15-year-old have a gun. You all are not putting the guns in their hands. They are getting them from somewhere. The 14- and 15-year-old should be happy in school and try and figure out if they are going to play sports or be on the debate team. But they are gathering together and having shootouts. And I think what Mr. Hill and Mr. Westbrook said about those video games are just not healthy for them. Because a bullet kills you and you aren't coming back. But I want you all to know that you have our full support, always. And I know it is not easy because I know that some of you have kids, grandkids, nieces, and nephews that you would not want to see in this situation. But we just have to keep pushing and figure out what we can do to get these young kids to realize that their lives do matter. Thank you. Councilwoman Treska, you have been our superstar for the last past two months. And all the work that you do has not gone unseen or unspoken. We truly appreciate everything that you do. We thank you for that. There are summer programs for the youth at Virginia State University. Go on the website and look up summer programs. They are free and transportation, I know will be provided. We just got to remember that all of us want our kids to be able to read. Do you call your niece

\*Audio available upon request.

or nephews at night to ask them to read a page out of a book? Do you go to the school and try to read to the kids? What part do we play in trying to help the kids feel good about learning how to read? So, if we are going to talk about it, we have to be about it and do about it. I just want to say, Petersburg we are on the move and there are a lot of things that we are going to do and that we need everybody's help. We do not need certain people help; we need everyone's help."

Mayor Parham stated, "Thank you Vice Mayor Smith-Lee. I just want to tell you that I did go to Lakemont School and read to the children there in the third grade. So, I encourage everyone to take the time and take a book to the school. The principal and the teachers are doing a fabulous job with what they have. And I read them the book 'She Persistent.' A lot is going on and having the first female African American fire chief, 'She Persistent.' And having the first Black female Supreme Court Justice, 'She Persistent.' As a city we have to keep doing better and keep pressing on. I would like to thank Wayne Crocker and the Library Foundation for having a vision to get us to this. Because this is definitely instrumental to our kids having a place to come for shows. They helped raise the money for this. So, believe me this was definitely steered by the foundation and the city was happy to be part of this. Because this was definitely transformed, and a need of our community and I do not want to downplay that. Also, we talked about the property tax rate. And I want to thank Mr. Brian Gordineer that is sitting back there in the back and his staff, our Assessor's Office. They did some fabulous work to get us to this point. I just want to let people know that we talked about all the departments throughout the city, but the assessor's office is definitely valuable to our city and the life blood to our financials as well. Also, everyone talked about the gun violence, and I had a great meeting with Mr. Marquis Allen and Mr. Bari Muhammad. We have something coming that we are setting up that we call 'Gloves Up, Guns Down.' And it is going to be about based on conflict resolution and getting our young men to agree to disagree to box in the boxing ring to get that beef off. And then afterwards, you can be friends afterwards. You don't have to go to gun violence and not be able to lose lives both ways. So, that is something that we are working on Thank you Mr. Allen for helping us to spearhead that and getting that off the ground. So, we are all working together to improve the city. And I thank each and every one of you all for coming tonight and for your support."

Council Member Westbrook stated, "Can I add two things, sorry. I was just trying to make sure that I got it all in. I would like to announce that the 'Family Engagement Spring Festival' held by Petersburg Public Schools is going on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 1pm at the Sports Complex. Come out and support your city schools. On April 27<sup>th</sup> at Pleasants Lane, Ward 7 will be having a meeting and literature will be at your door. Thank you very much.

**11. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA:**

\*There are no items for this portion of the agenda.

**12. FINANCE AND BUDGET REPORT:**

\*There are no items for this portion of the agenda.

**13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

\*There are no items for this portion of the agenda.

**14. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. A resolution authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Performance Agreement between the City of Petersburg, City of Petersburg Economic Development Authority and Tabb Street Development, LLC.

\*Audio available upon request.

**BACKGROUND:** The City Council adopted the ordinance 21-ORD-70 on November 3, 2021, to establish the Tourism Finance Program under the Tourism Zone. The Tourism Finance Program allows qualifying businesses that are located within the Tourism Zone to apply fifty percent of their meals and lodging taxes to their revolving loan payment on a quarterly basis. Tabb Street Development has met the criteria for this program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Department of Economic Development recommends that the City Council approves the resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute the performance agreement between the City of Petersburg Economic Development Authority and Tabb Street Development, LLC.

Mayor Parham stated, "14A has been pulled from the agenda, so we will move on to 14B."

- b. Consideration of an appropriation ordinance of the Middle Atlantic Section Joint Player Development and Junior Golf Committees Grant in the amount of \$3,000 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

**BACKGROUND:** Dogwood Trace Golf Course has been awarded a grant from the Professional Golfers' Association of America Middle Atlantic Section for the Middle Atlantic Section Joint Player Development and Junior Golf Committees Grant of \$3,000.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend that Council approve the appropriation ordinance of the Middle Atlantic Section Joint Player Development and Junior Golf Committees Grant of \$3,000.

Council Member Hill made a motion to approve the appropriation ordinance of the Middle Atlantic Section Joint Player Development and Junior Golf Committees Grant of \$3,000. Vice Mayor Smith-Lee seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call vote. On roll call vote, voting yes: Wilson-Smith, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee, and Parham; Abstain: Cuthbert and Myers

**22-ORD-25 AN ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, SAID ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2021, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2022, FOR THE GRANTS FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,000.**

- c. Consideration to appropriate \$9,760.88 received from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the City of Petersburg's Litter Presentation and Recycling Program activities for the period July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

**BACKGROUND:** The City has applied for and been awarded this Litter Grant over the last several fiscal years. Also, the city has met the requirements by completing Performance & Accounting reports that were due to DEQ by the submission date.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend Council approve the attached appropriation for \$9,760.88 to the fiscal year 2022 budget.

Council Member Myers made a motion to table until the next meeting. Council Member Hill seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call vote. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee, and Parham

**22-ORD-26 AN ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, SAID ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2021, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2022, FOR THE GRANTS FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,760.88.**

\*Audio available upon request.

- d. A resolution adopting Petersburg Area Transit's Strategic Plan.

**BACKGROUND:** The TSP is firmly grounded in the goals endorsed by the City of Petersburg's Stakeholders/Petersburg Area Transit in December 2019 and creates a strategic blueprint outlining desired changes that will improve the provision of transit services throughout PAT service areas.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend City Council approve the attached resolution.

Council Member Myers made a motion to approve the attached resolution. Vice Mayor Smith-Lee seconded the motion. There was discussion on the motion. The motion was approved on roll call vote. On roll call vote, voting yes: Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee, and Parham; Voting No: Cuthbert

**22-R-21 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PETERSBURG AREA TRANSIT STRATEGIC PLAN (FY2021-FY2030).**

- e. A resolution approving the development agreement for development of 301 Rolfe Street, Petersburg, Virginia, between the City of Petersburg and Amanda Green with the proviso that the Deed of Conveyance from the City of Petersburg to the purchaser states that only one single-family dwelling may be constructed on the property that is not subdivided.

**BACKGROUND:** The City of Petersburg City Council approved 21-ORD-74 an Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute documents related to the sale of city-owned property located at 301 Rolfe Street on November 16, 2021. Following a due diligence period, a Development Agreement has been drafted that requires, in consideration of the City's conveyance of the Property to Amanda Green shall perform the redevelopment or the Property strictly in compliance with the project summary documents and in accordance with the terms in the Agreement. The project summary documents describe the intentions of The Purchaser with regard to the purchase and development of property as a three-bedroom, one and one-half full baths single-family residential house for owner occupancy

The Development Agreement shall be referenced as set forth fully in the deed of conveyance of the Property from the City to Amanda Green with the proviso that only one single-family dwelling may be constructed on the property and that the property is not subdivided. The deed shall include provisions for the reverter described in the Development Agreement.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the City Council considers adoption of a Resolution approving the development agreement for development of 301 Rolfe Street Petersburg, Virginia between the city of Petersburg and Amanda Green with the proviso that the deed of conveyance form the City of Petersburg to the purchaser state that only one single-family dwelling may be constructed on the property and that the property is not subdivided.

Council Member Cuthbert made a motion to approve the resolution approving the development agreement for development of 301 Rolfe Street Petersburg, Virginia between the city of Petersburg and Amanda Green with the proviso that the deed of conveyance form the City of Petersburg to the purchaser state that only one single-family dwelling may be constructed on the property and that the property is not subdivided. The motion was seconded by Council Member Wilson-Smith. The motion was approved on roll call vote. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee, and Parham

**22-R-22 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF 301 ROLFE STREET PETERSBURG, VIRGINIA BETWEEN THE CITY OF PETERSBURG AND AMANDA GREEN.**

- f. Consideration of re/appointment to the Economic Development Authority.

\*Audio available upon request.



**BACKGROUND:** The Economic Development Authority consists of seven members appointed by City Council. The duties of the board include, but are not limited to, the following: the Authority shall have the powers to acquire, own, lease, and dispose of properties. Such authority may be able to promote industry and develop trade by inducting manufacturing, industrial, governmental, and commercial enterprises to locate in or remain in the Commonwealth and further the use of its agricultural products and natural resources; to issue its bonds for the purpose of carrying out any of its power.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend that the Council make a re/appointment to the Economic Development Authority.

Council Member Hill made a motion to appoint Richard Taylor to the Economic Development Authority. Council Member Myers seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call vote. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee, and Parham

**22-R-23 A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING RICHARD TAYLOR, WITH A TERM ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2026, TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.**

g. Consideration of Personnel Policies & Procedures Manual Revisions.

**BACKGROUND:** The City Council expressed concerns with the Personnel Policies & Procedures Manual regarding the disciplinary and grievance processes. The City Attorney was directed to provide recommended revisions. Those revisions were shared with the Deputy City Manager and Human Resources for comment and discussion. Attached are the revisions of the Administration after reviewing the recommendation of the City Attorney.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend that the revisions be approved by City Council.

Mayor Parham stated, "Item G was removed tonight."

h. Consideration of appointments/s to the South Central Wastewater Treatment Authority Board.

**BACKGROUND:** South Central Wastewater Treatment Authority operates the Petersburg Wastewater Plant, which serves the Cities of Colonial Heights and Petersburg along with the Counties of Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, and Prince George.

The Authority Board includes one (1) Member and one (1) Alternate Member from each of the political subdivisions. City Council has, as have other member jurisdiction, traditionally appointed the locality's chief administrative officer as its representative on the Board and the Director of Public Works as the alternate.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend that Council appoints Tangela Innis as primary and Randall Williams as alternate to the South Central Wastewater Treatment Authority Board.

Council Member Hill made a motion to appoint Richard Taylor to the Economic Development Authority. Council Member Myers seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call vote. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee, and Parham

**22-R-24 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TANGELA INNIS AS THE PRIMARY AND RANDALL WILLIAMS AS THE ALTERNATE WITH A TERM ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, TO THE SOUTH CENTRAL VIRGINIA WASTEWATER TREATMENT AUTHORITY.**

\*Audio available upon request.

- i. Consideration of re/appointment to the Virginia Gateway Region.

**BACKGROUND:** Virginia’s Gateway Region is a private, nonprofit organization that is funded new business opportunities, work with existing businesses, advance resources that will enhance the economic viability of the region and foster regional cooperation among the public and private entities that are involved in economic development activities.

Virginia’s Gateway Region includes the Cities of Colonial Heights, Hopewell, and Petersburg and the Counties of Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Prince George, Surrey, and Sussex.

Each member jurisdiction appoints one (1) local elected official and one (1) local business representative to the Board of Directors.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Reappointment Mayor Samuel Parham to the Virginia Gateway Region.

Council Member Hill made a motion to reappoint Mayor Samuel Parham and appoint Elso DiFranco of AMPAC to the Virginia Gateway Region. Council Member Myers seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call vote. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee, and Parham

**22-R-25 A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING MAYOR PARHAM AND APPOINTING ELSO DIFRANCO (AMPAC) TO VIRGINIA GATEWAY REGION WITH TERM ENDING OCTOBER 1, 2022.**

- j. Consideration of re/appointment to the Petersburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority.

**BACKGROUND:** The Petersburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority (PRHA) Board consists of seven (7) members who are appointed by City Council to serve four-year, staggered terms. PRHA was created to study blighted areas within the City and to recommend programs for the improvement of such areas; to provide quality housing for low-income families at rents within their ability to pay; and to serve as the duly designated agent of the City to contract with federal agencies for financial assistance in order to undertake urban redevelopment and low-rent housing programs approved by City Council.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Reappointment City Council make re/appointment to the Petersburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority.

Mayor Parham stated, “I do not think that we have the applicants for this, so we are going to table this for tonight.”

- k. Consideration of appointing Tangela Innis and the primary to the Appomattox River Water Authority (ARWA) Board and Randall Williams as the alternate.

**BACKGROUND:** The Appomattox River Water Authority consists of the Cities of Colonial Heights and Petersburg and the Counties of Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, and Prince George. The Authority is responsible for the operation of the Appomattox River Water Treatment plant.

The Authority Board includes one (1) Member and one (1) Alternate Member from each of the political subdivisions. City Council has, as have other as its representatives on the Board and the Director of Public Works as the alternate.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend City Council appoint Tangela Innis, Deputy City Manager to the Appomattox River Water Authority Board as the primary member and Randall Williams as the alternate.

\*Audio available upon request.

Council Member Myers made a motion to appoint Tangela Innis, Deputy City Manager to the Appomattox River Water Authority Board as the primary member and Randall Williams as the alternate. Council Member Westbrook seconded the motion. The motion was approved on roll call vote. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, Smith-Lee, and Parham

**22-R-26 A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT TANGELA INNIS, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER TO THE APPOMATTOX RIVER WATER AUTHORITY BOARD AS THE PRIMARY MEMBER AND RANDALL WILLIAMS AS THE ALTERNATE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2022.**

**15. CITY MANAGER’S AGENDA:**

- a. City Manager’s Report

Mr. Miller stated, “Very quickly Mr. Mayor, I would like to thank all of our city employees, particularly Mr. Randall Williams. He and Mr. Harrison, sometimes we call him Fat Thomi, is working with the United States, this weekend did a cleanup detail throughout our city. I would like to thank our faith-based community. They will be working this Saturday in and around several churches in our community. Mr. Mayor, I have to say to you that this cleanup operation is not a short-lived operation, and it is an all-hands-on deck. I would like to thank Mr. Gerrit, he is helping in some training right now. Ms. Moody is back there learning how to operate all of the things in this great facility. Other than that Mr. Mayor, my reports you get them every week, if there are no questions for me, I thank you all for the support of our city employees.

**16. BUSINESS OR REPORTS FROM THE CLERK:**

Ms. Jackson just stated that she is coming up on her 16 years as Clerk of Council for the City of Petersburg and 19 years as a city employee and that she appreciates all the assistance, information and hard work from her coworkers and city staff.

**17. BUSINESS OR REPORTS FROM CITY ATTORNEY:**

\*No items for this portion of the agenda.

**18. ADJOURNMENT:**

City Council adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of City Council

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\*Audio available upon request.