



COUNCIL

Communicates

Highlights from City Council Meetings

September 6, 2022

Petersburg Public Library

City Council Members

Ward 1

Treska Wilson-Smith

treskawilsonsmith@petersburg-va.org

Ward 2

Darrin Hill

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Ward 3

Samuel Parham

Mayor

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Ward 4

Charles Cuthbert

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Ward 5

W. Howard Myers

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Ward 6

Anette Smith-Lee

Vice Mayor

alee@petersburg-va.org

Ward 7

Arnold Westbrook

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Clerk of Council

Nykesha Jackson

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804-733-2323

Please Note:

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

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

www.petersburg-va.org

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

Closed Session City Council Meeting

3:30pm

1. Roll Call
All present.

2. Closed Session

- a. The purpose of this meeting is to convene in the closed session pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussion pertaining to performance, assignment, and appointment of specific public employees of the City of Petersburg specifically including but not limited to discussion of the performance and appointment of specific public officers; and under §2.2-3711(A)(7) and (8) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of receiving legal advice and status update from the City Attorney and legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by the City Attorney, specifically including but not limited to discussion of the requirements of Code of Virginia §§2.2-4300 et. Seq. with respect to public solicitations; under §2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussion or consideration of the acquisition and disposition of real property for a public purpose or the disposition of publicly held real property where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically including but not limited to the acquisition of real property; and §2.2-3711(A)(29) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussion regarding the subject matter of public contract involving the expenditure of funds and terms or scope of such contract where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically including but not limited to the discussion of the award and terms of a public contract.

Motion approved to come out of closed session.

3. Adjournment

City Council Work Session

5:00pm

1. Roll Call
All present.
2. Prayer
Led by Councilman Hill.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
Led by Mayor Parham.
4. Determination of the Presence of a Quorum
Quorum present.
5. Approval of Consent Agenda (to include minutes of previous meetings):
 - a. Minutes:
 - July 5, 2022 - Closed Session City Council Meeting
 - July 5, 2022 - City Council Work Session
 - July 5, 2022 - Special City Council Meeting
 - July 19, 2022 - Closed Session Meeting
 - July 19, 2022 - Regular City Council Meeting
 - July 26, 2022 - Special City Council Meeting
 - August 2, 2022 - Special City Council Meeting
 - b. A request to schedule a public hearing and consideration of an ordinance approving the rezoning the property located at 2655 Stedman Drive from Single-Family Residence District (R-1A) to Mixed Use District-3 (MXD-3).
 - c. A request to schedule a Public Hearing and consideration of an Ordinance approving the rezoning of the properties located at 513 Old Wagner Road, and 525 Old Wagner Road, from A-Agricultural District to R-1A - Single-Family Residence District.
 - d. Consideration of the appropriation of the FY23 Gun Violence Intervention Program Grant for \$190,000 - 1st reading
 - e. Consideration of the appropriation of the Virginia Commission for the Arts Grant in the amount of \$4,500 - 1st Reading
 - f. Consideration of an appropriation for the FY23 SRO-SRO Grant in the amount of \$211,428 - 1st Reading
 - g. Consideration for the appropriation of the unused FY22 funds provided by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management - Emergency Management Performance Grant to the FY23 budget - \$1,717.27 - 1st reading.

h. Consideration for the appropriation of the unused FY22 funds provided by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs – Aid to Locality to the FY23 budget in the amount of \$96,735.31. - 1st Reading

i. Consideration for the appropriation of the unused Virginia Department of Emergency Management – Radiological Emergency Preparedness Grant to the FY23 Budget in the amount of \$3,949.98 - 1st Reading

Approved.

6. Special Reports

a. Proclamation designating September 8, 2022, as National Essential Medicine Shortage Awareness Day.

b. Presentation from Dr. Ted Raspiller from Brightpoint Community College
Mayor asked about Brightpoint having presence in middle schools
Councilman Westbrook stated transportation was a challenge for some students to Brightpoint

c. Updates on Ramada Demolition
Demolition began on September 6 – removing back parking decks first.

7. Monthly Reports

None.

8. Finance and Budget Report

None.

9. Capital Projects Update

None.

10. Utilities

None.

11. Streets

a. Update and presentation on Oak Hill Road

Will take approximately 9 months to design and repair bridge.

12. Facilities

None.

13. Economic Development

None.

14. City Manager's Agenda
 - a. Presentation on the Transition of Museums.
Museums being managed by City. Exchange Building will close for repairs on roof (grant funded). Visitor Center will be at Blandford during repairs at Exchange Building.
15. Business or reports from the Clerk
None.
16. Business or reports from the City Attorney
None.
17. Public Comments

Marcus Squires
Street gutters full of dirt in some areas
The City has a regular schedule for cleaning streets – all street problems can be reported through the City website (homepage: Report A Concern) and progress can be tracked.
Grass growing in middle of the streets – some City streets not paved for years
There is a schedule for paving city streets. Report street problems through the City website as referenced above.
Cook School, located in Peabody complex, top collapsing on south side of building
The Cook School closed in the 1960's. The City is evaluating the entire complex and economic development is working to find a developer to revitalize the complex.
Status of Peabody complex – answered above.
Bath house at Willcox Lake in need of repair.
The City was recently awarded a grant for design of a new dam at Willcox Lake. The City will apply for a construction grant in May, 2023 for dam repairs. Until design is completed, it is not known if the bath house can remain where located.

Gary Talley
Stated that his previous questions were not completely answered regarding the fire department.
Firefighters currently employed: 33
The plan is to create an open process to recruit Entry level people having the desire to work and grow into professional firefighters to serve Petersburg. The open process will allow the City to fill vacant firefighter positions while preparing for retirement of personnel and promotions. There is a job fair to recruit firefighters on September 30 and October 1.
All frontline apparatus is back in service including engine and ladder trucks.

Barb Rudolph
Asked that more information be provided to citizens on redistricting, including feature in next newsletter. Congratulated City on Partnership for Petersburg and BBBEDA grant award. Updates on Partnership for Petersburg initiatives and other grant awards will be given.

Richard Stewart

Thanked police department for patrolling Pocahontas Island and thanked Public Work for cutting grass and trimming trees. UVA brought students to his museum recently and they plan to return. He asked that City consider recognition of the passing of Dr. Farley.

18. Adjournment