



COUNCIL

Communicates

Highlights from July 22, 2014 City Council Meeting

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Please Note:

These are not the official minutes of the City Council meeting. The official minutes and agendas can be viewed on the City website: www.petersburg-va.org

4. Presentations/Proclamations/Recognition:

- Presentation on activities associated with the 150th anniversary of the Civil War and Emancipation. **Brian Little, Director of Tourism and Cultural Affairs presented.**
- Proclamation designating August 2014 as Children's Vision and Learning Month. **Dr. Alan G. Toler presented.**
- Rashad Gresham introduced as the new Zoning Administrator.**

5. Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of the regularly-scheduled Council meeting held on June 3, 2014. **Approved**
- A request to schedule a public hearing on an Ordinance amending Chapter 35 of the Code of the City of Petersburg, pertaining to solicitation.
- A request to schedule a public hearing on an Ordinance amending Chapter 106 of the Code of the City of Petersburg, pertaining to taxes.
- A request to schedule a public hearing on a potential communications tower on property addressed as 1243 Commerce Street.
- A request to schedule a public hearing on the City's proposed Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2015-2019.

Items b-e will be schedule for a public hearing on September 2, 2014.

6. Public Hearing:

- A public hearing on an Ordinance declaring 1150-52 Farmer Street a blighted property and a public nuisance to the community and authorizing the abatement of such nuisance. **Approved**
- A public hearing on an Ordinance declaring 1333 Farmer Street a blighted property and a public nuisance to the community and authorizing the abatement of such nuisance. **Approved**
- A public hearing on an Ordinance declaring 554 Halifax Street a blighted property and a public nuisance to the community and authorizing the abatement of such nuisance. **Removed from consideration so owner can seek resources to renovate said property.**
- A public hearing on an Ordinance declaring 834 South Jones Street a blighted property and a public nuisance to the community and authorizing the abatement of such nuisance. **Removed from consideration to give co-owner (not present at meeting) time to renovate said property.**
- A public hearing on an Ordinance declaring 1364 Rome Street a blighted property and a public nuisance to the community and authorizing the abatement of such nuisance. **Approved**
- A public hearing on an Ordinance declaring 1110 Stainback Street a blighted property and a public nuisance to the community and authorizing the abatement of such nuisance. **Approved**
- A public hearing on an Ordinance declaring 1135 Willcox Street a blighted property and a public nuisance to the community and authorizing the abatement of such nuisance. **Approved**
- A public hearing on an Ordinance declaring 1137-39 Willcox Street a blighted property and a public nuisance to the community and authorizing the abatement of such nuisance. **Approved**
- A public hearing on a proposed Ordinance granting to Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc., an exclusive easement, variable width right of ingress and egress and variable right-of-way on and through a tract of land along South Adams Street and Apollo Street. **Approved**
- A public hearing on an Ordinance amending certain Sections of Article II of Chapter 66 of the Code of the City of Petersburg to reflect the previous elimination of the Commission on Community Relations and its supporting staff. **Approved**



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6. Public Information Period Questions

What can be done about upkeep at Blandford Cemetery? **The City has responsibility for maintaining the grass at Blandford Cemetery. The grounds are staffed to accomplish this goal.**

Did City Council agree on the Wesley Street MOU in February? When will it be executed? **Some aspects of the contract have not been finalized pending action from the attorney representing the party who will assume the Wesley Street party.**

Allusions Barber Shop will host the 9th Annual Back to School Rally on August 31, 2014 at Vernon Johns Middle School including book bag and uniform giveaways, dance contest and basket ball games. **Requested participation from other groups because of the anticipated demand based on previous year's success.**

The Petersburg Hospitality Group asked for a reconsideration of the length of stay to extend the 28 day limitation in hotels. **The Petersburg City Code, updated March 2014, prohibits hotel stays longer than 28 days.**

8. Business or Reports from Mayor or other Members of City Council:

The City Council Advance will be on July 31-August 1, 2014 at Richard Bland College. There will be no City Council meetings in August.

- a. Consideration of a request from the Petersburg Public School Division for City Council to adopt a Resolution concurring with the School Division's election to pay the VRS Board-Certified Rate. **Approved**
- b. Consideration of authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to the agreement between the City of Petersburg and the Department of Military Affairs. **Approved**
- c. Consideration of a request for the appropriation of a grant award from The Cameron Foundation for repairs to Centre Hill Mansion. **Approved**
- d. Consideration of a request for appropriation of Federal Asset Forfeiture Funds received by the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney. **Approved**
- e. Consideration of a request for appropriation of Federal Asset Forfeiture Funds received by the Petersburg Bureau of Police. **Approved**

9. City Manager's Agenda:

a. Update on an engineering study regarding six(6) traffic signals:

- 3 signals are back in normal operation (Washington Street/ West Street; Wythe Street/ West Street & Wythe Street / South Street) and will remain in normal mode.
- 2 signals (Washington Street/ Elm Street & Farmer Street/ West Street.) are still in flash mode and will remain that way until September, 2014. This will conclude a 90 day testing period required by the Traffic Manual (The Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices).
- The signal at E. Washington Street/ Slagle Street will operate in flash mode from 7:00pm to 6:00am and will operate as normal during all other times of day. The study showed that traffic volume is significantly decreased during the evening and early morning. Area businesses gave feedback regarding the study findings and potential impact to their employees and customers.



Left: Brian Little, Director of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, presented activities associated with the 150th anniversary of the Civil War and Emancipation.

Right: Michelle Peters, Director of Planning and Community Development, presented the grant award from the Cameron Foundation for repairs to Centre Hill Mansion.



Left: Dr. Alan G. Toler and the Honorable Mayor Brain Moore hold the Proclamation designating August 2014 as Children's Vision and Learning Month.



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