



COUNCIL

Communicates

Highlights from City Council Meetings

April 2, 2024

Petersburg Public Library

City Council Members

Ward 1

Marlow Jones

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Ward 2

Darrin Hill

Vice Mayor

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Ward 3

Samuel Parham

Mayor

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Ward 4

Charles Cuthbert

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Ward 5

W. Howard Myers

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Ward 6

Anette Smith-Lee

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Ward 7

Arnold Westbrook

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Please Note:

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

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

www.petersburg-va.org

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

Closed Session

3:00 pm

1. Roll Call

All present. Councilman Jones and Councilwoman Smith-Lee arrived after the roll call.

2. Closed Session

The purpose of this meeting is to convene in the closed session pursuant to:

a. §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, assignment, and appointment of a specific public officer of the City of Petersburg; §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 consultation regarding the subject of specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by the City Attorney, specifically including but not limited to discussion of Petersburg Circuit Court Case Numbers CR23000979-00, CR23000980-00-00, 23000981-00, and other matters requiring legal advice of the City Attorney; and §2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and the disposition of publicly held real property where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically including but not limited to the acquisition and disposition of real property.

A motion regarding a letter dated March 20, 2024, was approved.

3. Old Business
 - a. Amendment of FY24 City General Fund Budget (2nd Reading)
revenue increased by \$3.9 M
Approved.
4. Adjournment
Approved.

Work Session

5:00 pm

1. Roll Call
All present.
2. Prayer
Led by Vice Mayor Hill.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
Led by Mayor Parham.
4. Determination of the Presence of a Quorum
Quorum present.
5. Public Comments
Coretha Claiborn
She stated that she was a licensed therapist and director of Alamo Recovery Center. Alamo Recovery serves approximately 150 people each year. The organization has applied for CDBG funding for repairs.

Barb Rudolph

She stated she was confused about funding for the Southside Emergency Crew and believes SVEC knew the city funding money was coming before it was approved. She asked about the FY24/25 budget and when it would be released for public review. **A budget schedule will be discussed at the next Council meeting.**

Pat Hines

She introduced Mr. Johnson, who resided in her homeless shelter last year and reported on how he had moved to transitional housing and has two children in the Petersburg School system. It was reported that her current shelter would close in April, and she asked the city to allocate funding for the shelter in the upcoming budget.

David Mueller

He told the Council of the assault of his 10-year-old son in 4th grade at Walnut Hill Elementary and thanked the police for arresting the person who assaulted his son and later admitted to the assault in court.

Jeff Fleming

Thanked city employees who helped solve an issue of a neighbor pouring oil in the city right-of-way in his neighborhood.

Jocelyn Toppin

She lives in Louisa County but works in Petersburg as a non-profit that rehabs houses, teaches leadership, feeds the homeless, provides family counseling, and works with prisoners. She stated that real estate taxes in Petersburg were higher than in Louisa County.

Jasmine McDonald

She stated that she lives on Housing Authority property and has had no water for 30 days. **The City has addressed this issue, and water has been restored.**

6. Approval of Consent Agenda (to include minutes of previous meetings):
 - a. March 19, 2024 - Regular Meeting Minutes
 - b. March 19, 2024 - Closed Session Meeting Minutes
 - c. March 27, 2024 - Special Meeting Closed Session Minutes
 - d. Schedule a Public Hearing for the Consideration of an Ordinance to Amend and Readopt Section 2-108 of the Petersburg City Code Pertaining to Responsibilities of the Clerk with Respect to Published Ordinances - (First Reading)
 - e. Schedule a Public Hearing and Consideration of an Ordinance Requested by City Council to Amend and Readopt Article 24 Nonconforming Uses and Article 25 Supplementary Height, Area, and Bulk Regulations, as Set forth in the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Petersburg, to Allow the Rehabilitation and Continuation of Noncomplying Structures as Defined and to Clarify the Allowance of Single-Family Dwellings and Accessory Improvements on Non-Conforming Lots Recorded Prior to Adoption of the Zoning Ordinance (First Reading)
 - f. Schedule a Public Hearing to Amend Chapter 106, Taxation, Article III, Real Estate, Division 3, Exemption for Elderly and Disabled (First Reading)
 - g. **Consideration of a Resolution to Amend and Re-Adopt the City of Petersburg's Purchasing/Procurement Manual—This item was removed from the Consent Agenda.**
 - h. Schedule a Public Hearing for Consideration of an Ordinance to Adopt the Real Property Tax Rate (First Reading)
Approved.

7. Special Reports
 - a. Discussion of the Draft Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map Modifications Based on Council Feedback and Request
Map changes reflecting more industrial sites were presented in the Comp Plan. Councilman Cuthbert asked for a comparison table reflecting the number of acres.

b. Discussion on the Safe Streets and Roads for All Planning Grant.
Petersburg is eligible for and will apply for a planning grant.
No formal action was taken by Council.

c. Tax Relief for the Elderly and Disabled

The Commissioner of the Revenue presented a new plan to increase gross income and property value to be eligible for relief. Action will be taken at the next Council meeting.

8. Monthly Reports

None.

9. Finance and Budget Report

None.

10. Capital Projects Update

None.

11. Utilities

a. Public Works Monthly Report

First monthly report by JMT on Poor Creek – Mike Luning

No action taken.

b. Citywide Drainage Study Update

Presented by Timmons Group

No action taken.

12. Streets

None.

13. Facilities

None.

14. Economic Development

a. Final Report for Upcoming Armed Forces Day on May 18

15. City Manager's Agenda

None.

16. Business or Reports from the Clerk

Ms. Hill reported on change in location on the city website for agenda packets.

17. Business or Reports from the City Attorney

None.

18. Adjournment