



COUNCIL

Communicates

Highlights from City Council Meetings

February 4, 2025

Petersburg Public Library

City Council Members

Ward 1

Marlow Jones

mjones@petersburg-va.org

Ward 2

Darrin Hill

Vice Mayor

dhill@petersburg-va.org

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.

1. Roll Call
All present on roll call except Councilman Jones and Smith-Lee.
A motion was approved to add a contract to the Closed Session agenda.
2. Closed Session
The purpose of this meeting is to convene in the closed session pursuant to:
 - a. §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 Actual or Probable Litigation and Specific Legal Matters Requiring the Provision of Legal Advice by the City Attorney, Specifically Including But Not Limited to Discussion Regarding House Bill 2232; 2.2-4303(F) of the Code of Virginia; 2-393 of the Petersburg City Code; and
 - b. §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; and
 - c. §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
3. Adjournment

A motion was made to approve a resolution to the agenda directing the City Manager and City Clerk to take all necessary action to initiate an emergency procurement for the contractor submitting an unsolicited PPEA Proposal to perform the necessary work required to complete construction on the new police station located on Farmer Street.

Council 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. Presentations
Council acknowledged the Public Works team for their dedication and long hours addressing snow and water line breaks in freezing conditions.
 - a. UVA Presentation - Phase 1: Assessment and Roadmap
No action was taken.
6. Public Comments
Dr. Robert Grossman
Dr. Grossman has lived in Petersburg for 80 years and is concerned about noise from possible data centers in the Camelot neighborhood.

Celish Revish
Ms. Revish said her first home was purchased in Petersburg. She worries about the increase of group homes in the Fillmore Street area.

Bobby Beverly
Mr. Beverly commended the efforts of good citizens who support the city and stated that he is one of them. He thanked the Vice Mayor and Cory Harris for helping the city. He said leaders should not drive people from the city. He will agree to pause his situation if it never happens again.

Barb Rudolph

Field House: She thought the Mayor was taking a shot at her when she was on the School Board, and she shared this with the Board members she served with. She stated that in the 1990s, when she was a Board member, they were struggling to buy bleachers, so they focused on athletics.

Gary Talley

Mr. Talley stated that the Council has never been good at follow-up. He referenced the Jewish wall at the cemetery, the retaining wall at Hotel Petersburg, the \$6M fund for emergency repairs – why can't it be used to fix the bridges, the hole on Bank Street, and the development at Sycamore Grove?

The wall belonging to the Jewish cemetery is under repair. That wall does not belong to the City. The retaining wall at Hotel Petersburg is in progress, and the weather has caused delays. There is not a \$6M fund for emergency repairs. The Bank Street hole is being addressed by the City with the owners, and the City is waiting for information from the developers at Sycamore Grove.

Norman Vaughan

Mr. Vaughan owns a rental property on University Blvd. He has parking problems and can't park across the street in the field. He can't contact the field owner and does not know what to do. He is asking the City Council for assistance.

Mayor Parham asked that he speak with Brian Moore, Director of Economic Development.

David Batts

People entering Public Works are earning more than those who have been there for decades. Invest back into the community. Invest in those who voted for the casino. Set aside funds to support the city's residents. Allow small businesses to access financial support. Many people can't afford to live here now, despite having lived here all their lives.

7. Approval of Consent Agenda (to include minutes of previous meetings):
 - a. Minutes of Previous Meetings:
 - January 21, 2025 Closed Session
 - b. First Read and to Schedule a Public Hearing to Consider an Ordinance Revoking a Special Use Permit Granted to Michael and Nina Stanley for a Vehicle Rental Business, Auto Body, and Vehicle Repair Shop at 1036 West Washington Street, Parcel ID 024270001 in the B-2, General Commercial District for Failure to Comply with Conditions of Approval
 - c. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing of an Ordinance to Approve a Request by Virginia Electric & Power Co. DBA Dominion Energy to Rezone with Proffers Property at 3345, 3339, and 3311 West Washington Street, Parcel IDs 027010001, 027010003, and 027010004, from the R-2 Single-Family Residence and B-2 General Commercial Districts to the M-1 Light Industrial District

- d. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing of an Ordinance to Approve a Request by Fortune Founders LLC for a Special Use Permit with Conditions for Multiple-Family Dwellings as Authorized and Controlled by the R-5 Multiple Dwelling District Standards at 25 South Crater Road, Parcel ID 012260023, in the B-2, General Commercial District
- e. First Read and to Schedule a Public Hearing for the Consideration of an Ordinance Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Purchase Agreement Between the City of Petersburg and PBURG ROE PROPERTIES LLC Towards the Sale of City-Owned Property at 125 West Tabb Street (Parcel 011230037)
- f. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Consideration of Acceptance of the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) Urban & Community Forestry Grant
- g. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Consideration of an Appropriation Ordinance to Amend the FY25 Streets Fund Budget, Increasing the Urban Highway Maintenance Funding for Street Operations in the Amount of \$59,543
- h. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Consideration of An Ordinance to Increase the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) ARPA Grant Agreement Sub-Award by \$5.0 million for Poor Creek Infrastructure Projects 183-188
- i. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Consideration of Acceptance of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) FY25 Litter Grant
- j. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for the Consideration of an Ordinance to Accept and Appropriate Funding from the Virginia Office of EMS – Rescue Squad Assistance Fund (RSAF) in the Amount of \$38,441.61
- k. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing to be Held on February 25, 2025, of an Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Petersburg Pertaining to the Creation and Regulation of a New Zoning District Entitled the ERC, Entertainment, and Resort Casino District
- l. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing to be Held on February 25, 2025, of an Ordinance Approving a Request by PPE Casino Resorts Petersburg, LLC, on Behalf of Roslyn Farm Corporation to Rezone Property at 2949 South Crater Road and 155, 161, and 301 Wagner Road, Parcel IDs 064020003, 064020800, 082010001, 082010802 from the PUD, Planned Unit Development and B-2, General Commercial Districts to the ERC, Entertainment, and Resort Casino District - Pages 210-219
- m. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing to be Held on February 25, 2025, of an Ordinance Approving a Request by Woda Cooper Development Inc., on Behalf of 3030 Pinetree, LLC and Chanmeet Singh, LLC, for a Special Use Permit for Multiple-Family Dwellings as Authorized and Controlled by the R-5 Multiple Dwelling District Standards at 3030, 3060, and 3090 Pinetree Drive, Parcel IDs 059010806, 059010807, 059010808 in the B-2 General Commercial District
- n. First, Read and Schedule a Public Hearing of an Ordinance to Amend and Re-Adopt Section 22-2 of the Code of Virginia to Include Subsection (F) Authorizing the Appointment of Unarmed Special Conservators of the Peace.

Approved.

8. Special Reports

None.

9. Monthly Reports
None.
10. Finance and Budget Report
None.
11. Capital Projects Update
None.
12. Utilities
None.
13. Streets
None.
14. Facilities
The Director of Public Works, Jerry Byerly, discussed the 10 leaks in waterlines that occurred in one week. City crews monitored tanks around the clock. He also discussed the Lock's waterline break.
15. Economic Development
None.
16. City Manager's Agenda
 - a. Data Center Zoning Amendment – Discussion
No action was taken.
 - b. Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance Rewrite - Transitioning to Form-Based Code
No action was taken.
 - c. Sycamore Street Trees
No action was taken.
17. Business or reports from the Clerk
None.
18. Business or reports from the City Attorney
None.
19. Adjournment