



COUNCIL

Communicates

Highlights from City Council Meetings

November 5, 2025

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

Councilors Jones and Myers were absent on roll call.

2. Closed Session

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

- a. §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; and
- b. §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 Provisions of Legal Advice by the City Attorney, Specifically Including But Not Limited to Discussion Regarding the Legal Requirements of Chapter 41 of Title 58.1 of the Code of Virginia; Petersburg Circuit Court Case No.: CL25000745-00; and Other Probable Litigation and Legal Matters Requiring the Advice of the City Attorney; and
- c. §2.2-3711(A)(29) of the Code of Virginia for the Purpose of Discussion Regarding the Subject of Award of a Public Contract Involving the Expenditure of Public Funds, and Discussion of the Terms or Scope of Such Contract, Where Discussion in an Open Session Would Adversely Affect the Bargaining Position or Negotiating Strategy of the Public Body; and
- d. §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 Specific Public Officers of the City of Petersburg

3. Adjournment

A motion was approved to include a Resolution to Amend the Interim Agreement for the New Consolidated Courthouse.

City Council Work Session

5:00 pm

1. Roll Call

All present except Councilman Myers.

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. Proclamations/Recognitions/Presentation of Ceremonial Proclamation

a. Proclamation Honoring Grand Basileus Ricky Lawrence Lewis, and Declaring November 15, 2025, as Grand Basileus Ricky L. Lewis Day

6. Public Comments

Marlo Green

Ms. Green shared updates on upcoming events, including an African American Tour on November 16 and *Stories by Candlelight: The Story of the Jarrett House* on December 4. She also announced that her non-profit did not receive a grant for the Jarrett House.

Otis Hill

Mr. Hill inquired about a photo of a carbon monoxide detector designed for individuals who are deaf.

Sharon Johnson

Ms. Johnson shared how impressed she was with the Farmer Street tennis courts and



Kidde Carbon Monoxide Detector, Plug In Wall with 10-Year Battery Backup, Safety Light for Hearing Impaired or Deaf People, Digital LED Display

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Style	Hallway
Power Source	Battery Powered
Color	White
Item Weight	0.88 Pounds
Alarm	Audible
Sensor Type	Electrochemical
See more	

the other park upgrades. She also gave a shoutout to the recreational/training center being built near the high school, saying that Council is doing a great job. She suggested that Council members deserve a raise for all the hard work they're putting in.

Cheryl Brown

Ms. Brown shared that Petersburg is making great strides in cleaning up for its citizens and addressing their concerns. She mentioned how much she appreciates the downtown improvements and is impressed with the beautification efforts. She also noted that she recently filled a food bin on Hinton Street, and it was emptied quickly.

7. Approval of Consent Agenda (to include minutes of previous meetings):
 - a. Minutes of Previous Meetings: - August 9-11, 2025, Council Advance - September 16, 2025, Closed Session - October 7, 2025, Closed Session - October 7, 2025, Work Session - October 21, 2025, Closed Session - October 21, 2025, City Council Meeting
 - b. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Consideration of an Amendment to the FY26 Grants Fund
 - c. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Consideration of an Amendment to the FY26 Petersburg City Public Schools Budget
 - d. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Consideration of an Ordinance to Amend and Re-Adopt Chapter 106 of the City Code to Include Article XIII - Local Disposable Plastic Bag Tax
 - e. First Read and Scheduling of a Public Hearing to Consider Amendment to Ordinance Sections 106-8 and 106-10 Personal Property Tax to Change Due Dates, and Section 110-115 Change the Due Date for Vehicle License Fee
 - f. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing to Vacate an Alley Between 223 and 227 Kentucky Avenue
 - g. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Carol Williams to Appeal a Decision Made by the Architectural Review Board that an Unapproved Shed in the Front Yard of 214 South Adams Street in the Poplar Lawn Historic District Should Be Removed Until Its Permanent Location is Reviewed and Approved
 - h. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Carol Williams to Appeal a Decision Made by the Architectural Review Board to Deny the Construction of Stairs and a Walkway for a Subterranean Entrance at 214 S Adams Street in the Poplar Lawn Historic District

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
None.
15. Economic Development
None.
16. City Manager's Agenda
 - a. Increasing the Water and Sewer Fund Accounts Collection Rate
 - b. Increasing the Water and Sewer Fund Rates
 - c. Transferring the Stormwater Fees to the Real Estate Tax Bills
 - d. Downtown Improvements
Update from the Turf Division & Tourism
 - e. Governor's State of Emergency and Virginia Emergency Nutrition Assistance (VENA) Initiative and Potential Fiscal Impacts of a Prolonged Federal Shutdown
Update from Social Services
17. Business or reports from the Clerk
None.
18. Business or reports from the City Attorney
None.
19. Adjournment