



COUNCIL

Communicates

Highlights from City Council Meetings

February 17, 2026

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

Councilmembers Cuthbert, Jones, and Westbrook were not present at rollcall.

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 the Legal Requirements of Code of Virginia §§ 15.2-953; 22.1-89; 94; and 115, and §2.2-3704 of the Code of Virginia; and Other Probable Litigation and Legal Matters Requiring the Advice of the City Attorney; and
- b. §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
- c. §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

Regular City Council Meeting

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. Proclamations/Recognitions/Presentation of Ceremonial Proclamations
 - a. Recognition of Deputy City Manager Kenneth Miller, Economic Development Project Manager Shalonda Venable-Royster, and Police Captain Carol Adams, Barbara Coleman. Offices in Petersburg being recognized by the Red Cross are Virginia Community Resource Center (Barbara Coleman), Central Virginia Health Services (Robin Tyler), and the Petersburg YMCA (Marco Calendar). Petersburg Churches and Other Organizations being recognized are Good Shepard Baptist Church, Metropolitan Baptist Church, The Mark Matthews Chapter of the Buffalo Soldiers
 - b. Proclamation Honoring Lisa M. Scott Upon the Occasion of Her Retirement
Councilman Jones made a Special Presentation to Louis Farrakhan, the person who influenced his life.
6. Responses to Previous Public Information Posted
Council Communicates.
7. Approval of Consent Agenda (to include minutes of previous meetings):
 - a. Minutes of Previous Meetings:
 - February 3, 2026 Closed Session Meeting
 - February 3, 2026 City Council Joint Meeting
 - February 3, 2026 City Council Work Session**Approved.**
8. Unfinished Business

a. Consideration of an Amendment to the FY26 Petersburg City Public Schools Budget

Approved.

b. Development Agreement Between TWG Petersburg LLC and the City of Petersburg for the Development of Collier Yard

Approved extension and development agreement.

9. Official Public Hearings

a. Public Hearing for the Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of One or More Series of General Obligation and Refunding Bonds of the City of Petersburg in the Maximum Aggregate Principal Amount of \$5,600,000 to Refund the City's Outstanding Water and Sewer Revenue Bond, Series 2015, and Pay All Related Costs of Issuance

No Public Comments

Approved.

b. Public Hearing for Consideration of an Ordinance to Approve a Request by Raymond Akoury, on Behalf of RGC Investments C/O Hotrod Motorsports, for a Special Use Permit for Multiple-Family Dwellings as Authorized and Controlled by the R-5 Multiple Dwelling District Standards at 1325 West Washington Street, Parcel ID 024230005, in the B-2, General Commercial Zoning District

Public Hearing

Several residents spoke and asked City Council to deny the Ordinance.

Motion to deny approved.

c. Public Hearing for Consideration of an Ordinance to Approve a Request by Pedro Rosario for a Special Use Permit to Operate a Stand-Alone Vehicle Repair Shop at 3857 South Crater Road, Parcel ID 101090005, in the B-2, General Commercial Zoning District

Public Hearing

One person spoke in support of the repair shop.

Approved.

d. Public Hearing for Consideration of an Ordinance to Approve a Request by Donte Threatt, on Behalf of Sweet Investments VA LLC, for a Special Use Permit to Operate a Nightclub at 2793 South Crater Road, Parcel ID 065110004, in the B-2, General Commercial Zoning District

Public Hearing

Several residents supported the opening of the nightclub, and several asked the City Council to deny the Ordinance.

Approved.

e. Public Hearing for Consideration of an Ordinance to Approve a Request by Alexander Graham Jr., on Behalf of the Warrenton Group, to Rezone Property at 2088 Defense Road, 1918 Townes Road, and 1926 Bogese Drive, Parcel IDs 070080002, 069070001, 077010801, from the A Agricultural and R-1A Single-Family Residence Zoning Districts to the M-1 Light Industrial Zoning District with Proffers and to Amend the Existing Proffers for Property at 2233 Halifax Road, Parcel ID 076030800 in the M-1 Light Industrial Zoning District.

Following a Public Hearing with both opposition and support, the ordinance was approved.

Council Member Jones made a motion to direct the City Attorney, the City Manager, and the Finance Director to draft an ordinance creating a senior property tax freeze exemption for residents aged 70 or older who had held title and had occupied their primary residence within the City limits for a minimum of 10 years, identify the funding source, such as the data center revenue fund, and determine how to backfill any revenue shortfall to the general fund, and then bring the ordinance back to Council for discussion.

Approved.

f. Public Hearing for Consideration of an Ordinance Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Purchase Agreement Between the City of Petersburg and LDJ Petersburg LLC (Ansal McCal) for the Development of a Sub-Parcel (5.36 Acres) of 3501 Halifax Road, Located in Petersburg, VA, Tax Map No.: 092010001

No public comments.

Approved.

g. Public Hearing on Consideration of an Ordinance Adopting the FY27 Real Property Tax Rate - Requesting Motion to Continue the Public Hearing to March 17, 2026, to Allow Compliance with the Statutory 30-Day Advertisement Requirement.

Motion approved to move to a special meeting in March.

10. Public Information Period

A public information period, limited in time to 30 minutes, shall be part of an Order of Business at each regular council meeting. Each speaker shall be a resident or business owner of the City and shall be limited to three minutes. No speaker will be permitted to speak on any item scheduled for consideration on the regular docket of the meeting at which the speaker is to speak. The order of speakers, limited by the 30-minute time period, shall be determined as follows:

a. First, in chronological order of the notice, persons who have notified the Clerk no later than 12:00 noon of the day of the meeting,

b. Second, in chronological order of their sign-up, persons who have signed a sign-up sheet placed by the Clerk in the rear of the meeting room prior to the meeting removed from consent agenda.

Jacqueline Kidd

Ms. Kidd, representing the Peabody High School National Alumni Association, requested that the City grant PALDC custodial ownership of the Peabody Complex. She emphasized the legacy of Peabody High School, which produced many notable alumni. She outlined PALDC's plans to address community needs through year-round tutoring, job training workshops, senior services, a museum, food distribution, and more, supported by multiple funders. In closing, Ms. Kidd thanked the Council and urged them to "do the right thing" for the community.

Louis Goodwyn

Mr. Goodwyn expressed his support for granting PALDC custodial ownership of the Peabody Complex, emphasizing its significance as the oldest Black high school in the United States. He highlighted the building's potential, describing it as large and beautiful, though in need of repairs, and envisioned it being restored for various community purposes. Mr. Goodwyn mentioned that assistance for the project was already lined up to begin next month and urged the Council to return ownership to PALDC. He called Peabody a historic landmark in a historic city, stressing its value to the community and its potential to achieve great things with minimal cost to the City.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Parham stated that it was 10:00 pm, and Council rules state meetings should not exceed that time, unless Council votes to suspend the Rules of Council.

Council voted to adjourn.