

November 1, 2022

The First Regular November meeting of the Danville City Council was held on November 1, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located on the Fourth Floor of the Municipal Building. The following Council Members were present: James B. Buckner, L.G. "Larry" Campbell Jr., Bryant Hood, Mayor Alonzo L. Jones, Barry Mayo, Dr. Gary P. Miller, Sherman M. Saunders, J. Lee Vogler, Jr., and Madison J.R. Whittle (9). *Mr. Campbell left the meeting at 7:21 p.m.*

Staff Members present were: City Manager Ken Larking, Deputy City Attorney Alan Spencer, and City Clerk Susan M. DeMasi. Deputy City Manager Earl Reynolds was absent.

Mayor Jones presided.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member L.G. "Larry" Campbell, Jr., gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Council Member Mayo thanked the citizens, vendors, employers, and resources that made the All Citizens Job Fair a success. Over 300 people came out to apply for the 1,408 jobs that were available. Mayor Jones commented that he witnessed a mother of four children get a job on the spot. Council Member Campbell stated that he was excited to see the number of people that attended. Nothing has been done of that magnitude and he wanted to commend all those who made this happen. Council Member Buckner thanked Council Member Mayo for having the foresight to pull this event together, and thanked all the companies, vendors, and everyone else who helped make this event successful.

Mayor Jones recognized Stephanie Hoer, Vice President of Mission Services, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys, who reviewed her Power Point presentation on Goodwill's reimagined future, overview of their strategic direction, the impact Goodwill was making in the Danville community, as well as Goodwill's goals for the future. Mayor Jones thanked Ms. Hoer for coming to Council and asked that she take the City Manager's card, contact him regarding services for youth that Goodwill may collaborate with the services the City was providing.

Mayor Jones recognized Lorrie Eanes, Secretary of the Danville Pittsylvania Community Services Board of Directors, who gave the annual report to Council, titled *50 Years of Unlocking Potential*. Ms. Eanes reviewed the various services provided by Danville Pittsylvania Community Services and their impact on the region. Mayor Jones thanked Ms. Eanes and Director Jim Bebeau for her presentation and for all that they do.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM VISITORS

Mayor Jones recognized Dr. Connie Fletcher, 145 Holbrook Avenue, who spoke to Council on behalf of the Danville Concert Association. She urged citizens to come to the concerts that were scheduled for this season, and left brochures for Council.

Mayor Jones recognized Felicia Hite-Venable (former captain of the G.W. Danville 1985 State Championship team) and Melbaena Hairston, who addressed Council concerning a 37-year-old issue. Ms. Venable stated that they won the Division 3 AAA State Championship for George Washington High School and were never recognized or given state championship rings. She came before Council representing the twenty members of her team asking that they look into their

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receiving their reward for their accomplishment. Mayor Jones thanked them for coming out tonight and asked that she contact the City Manager so that he can coordinate with the superintendent.

Mayor Jones recognized Cynthia Jones of Jones Enterprise, and her business partner Tracey Canty, who spoke to Council regarding what they would like see done regarding the homeless community. She discussed an encounter she had with two homeless people that they helped. They have partnered with several churches and go out providing blankets, coats, and essentials for homeless individuals. Mayor Jones thanked them for what they do and asked that they contact the City Manager.

MEETING MINUTES

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Buckner and **second** by Council Member Mayo, Minutes of the October 4, 2022 Regular Council Meeting were approved as presented. Draft copies of the minutes had been distributed prior to the meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

Vice Mayor Miller **moved** for adoption of the following Appointment Resolutions:

Resolution No. 2022-11.01 - A Resolution Reappointing Jermaine Parker to the Danville Redevelopment and Housing Authority.

Resolution No. 2022-11.02 - A Resolution Reappointing Patricia Daniel to the Danville Redevelopment and Housing Authority.

Resolution No. 2022-11.03 - A Resolution Reappointing John Ranson to the River District Design Commission.

Resolution No. 2022-11.04 - A Resolution Appointing Pierre Jones to the Planning Commission to Fill an Unexpired Term.

Resolution No. 2022-11.05 - A Resolution Reappointing Kimberly Walker to the West Piedmont Planning District Commission.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Mayo and carried by the following vote:

VOTE: 8-0-1
AYE: Buckner, Hood, Jones, Mayo,
Miller, Saunders, Vogler and Whittle (8)
NAY: None
ABSENT: Campbell (1)

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF GRANTING TAX EXEMPT STATUS TO THE WEDNESDAY CLUB OF DANVILLE

Vice Mayor Miller made a Motion to **POSTPONE** an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-11.01

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AN ORDINANCE TO DESIGNATE THE WEDNESDAY CLUB AS BEING EXEMPT FROM LOCAL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXATION.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Vogler and carried by the following vote:

VOTE: 8-0-1
AYE: Buckner, Hood, Jones, Mayo,
Miller, Saunders, Vogler and Whittle (8)
NAY: None
ABSENT: Campbell (1)

CONSIDERATION OF GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT AT 3090 NORTH MAIN STREET

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at 3090 North Main Street. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 18, 2022 and October 25, 2022.

Mayor Jones recognized Philip Winstead, 413 Brooke Drive, representing St. Luke's United Methodist Church, who stated their children's wing was being underused. They would like to open a childcare facility, and have been in contact with Just Kids who also needed to expand their facilities. Just Kids would be renting part of this facility for their use. No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

Council Member Whittle **moved** for adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-11.02

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ22- 00178, FILED BY PHILIP W. WINSTEAD, REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO OPERATE A CHILDCARE FACILITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.J.C. ITEM 4 OF THE ZONING CODE AT 3090 NORTH MAIN STREET (PARCEL #59958).

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Mayo and carried the following vote:

VOTE: 8-0-1
AYE: Buckner, Hood, Jones, Mayo,
Miller, Saunders, Vogler and Whittle (8)
NAY: None
ABSENT: Campbell (1)

CONSIDERATION OF A REDUCTION OF CERTAIN BUSINESS LICENSE FEES

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Reduction of Certain Business License Fees. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 24, 2022. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

Council Member Vogler **moved** for adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-11.03

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AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REORDAINING SECTION 20-8, ENTITLED "FEE; TAX ON GROSS RECEIPTS" OF ARTICLE I, ENTITLED "BUSINESS LICENSES," OF CHAPTER 20, ENTITLED "LICENSES," OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, 1986, AS AMENDED.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Miller and carried the following vote:

VOTE: 8-0-1
AYE: Buckner, Hood, Jones, Mayo,
Miller, Saunders, Vogler and Whittle (8)
NAY: None
ABSENT: Campbell (1)

Council Member Vogler thanked everyone on Council and staff for how quickly this was able to be placed on the agenda and voted on.

CONSIDERATION OF OFFERING FREE BUS SERVICE FOR NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION DAYS

Council Member Vogler **moved** for adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-11.06

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DANVILLE TRANSIT SYSTEM TO OFFER FREE BUS SERVICE IN THE FUTURE WHEN NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTIONS OCCUR.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Mayo and carried the following vote:

VOTE: 8-0-1
AYE: Buckner, Hood, Jones, Mayo,
Miller, Saunders, Vogler and Whittle (8)
NAY: None
ABSENT: Campbell (1)

Mayor Jones asked City Manager Ken Larking if this was only for the November 8 election, and Marc Adelman, Director of Transportation, noted it was. Vice Mayor Miller stated that removing fees on election day has been done every year and this was just making it a permanent policy. Mr. Larking stated that fees were being waived for fixed bus routes and reserve a ride.

CONSIDERATION OF NEW STANDARDS ADDED TO THE PUBLIC UTILITY REGULATORY POLICIES ACT OF 1978

Council Member Buckner **moved** for adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-11.02

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING DANVILLE UTILITIES TO INITIATE CONSIDERATION OF NEW FEDERAL UTILITY STANDARDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT OF 2021.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Mayo and carried the following vote:

VOTE: 8-0-1

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AYE: Buckner, Hood, Jones, Mayo,
Miller, Saunders, Vogler and Whittle (8)
NAY: None
ABSENT: Campbell (1)

Council Member Whittle asked if the Federal Standards were options or mandates, and Jason Grey, Director of Utilities, stated that this particular item was a consideration for the City to start the process to receive public input. It was a year long process and they have to come back in a year and say whether the rate payers were in favor of this or against it, and give the reasons why. Mr. Grey explained City Council approval was needed to start the process by November 15, 2022.

CONSIDERATION OF RESCINDING AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2022-07.02, APPROVING A MORAL OBLIGATION AGREEMENT

Council Member Buckner **moved** for adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-11.08

A RESOLUTION RESCINDING AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2022-07.02, WHICH APPROVED A MORAL OBLIGATION AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AND AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK AND TRUST COMPANY.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Mayo and carried the following vote:

VOTE: 8-0-1
AYE: Buckner, Hood, Jones, Mayo,
Miller, Saunders, Vogler and Whittle (8)
NAY: None
ABSENT: Campbell (1)

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF A MORAL OBLIGATION BETWEEN THE CITY OF DANVILLE AND AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK

Council Member Buckner **moved** for adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-11.09

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MORAL OBLIGATION AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AND AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK AND TRUST COMPANY.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Mayo and carried the following vote:

VOTE: 8-0-1
AYE: Buckner, Hood, Jones, Mayo,
Miller, Saunders, Vogler and Whittle (8)
NAY: None
ABSENT: Campbell (1)

Council Member Whittle asked Mr. Larking if the amount started off at \$25M and then increased another \$2.5M, and Mr. Larking explained the vote was for \$21M where the previous moral obligation was for \$26M.

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CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTING VIRGINIA JUVENILE COMMUNITY CRIME CONTROL ACT FUNDING

Consideration of a Resolution of Intent to Accept Funding and Service High Risk Local Youth

Council Member Vogler **moved** for adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-11.10

A RESOLUTION OF INTENT THAT THE CITY OF DANVILLE WILL ACCEPT FUNDING AND SERVE HIGH RISK LOCAL YOUTH INVOLVED WITH THE COURT SERVICES UNIT THROUGH THE VIRGINIA JUVENILE COMMUNITY CRIME CONTROL ACT PROGRAM.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Buckner and carried the following vote:

VOTE: 8-0-1
AYE: Buckner, Hood, Jones, Mayo,
Miller, Saunders, Vogler and Whittle (8)
NAY: None
ABSENT: Campbell (1)

Consideration of Amending the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Appropriation Ordinance for a Grant from the Department of Juvenile Justice to Provide for Electronic Monitoring

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Vogler and **second** by Council Member Buckner, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-11.04

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR A GRANT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$86,999 AND A LOCAL SHARE OF \$39,830, FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$126,829, TO PROVIDE FOR THE ELECTRONIC MONITORING AND OUTREACH DETENTION PROGRAMS, YOUTH GANG VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAMS, AND ONLINE INTERVENTION PROGRAMS FOR THE CITY OF DANVILLE AT THE W. W. MOORE JR. DETENTION HOME AND APPROPRIATING SAME.

was presented by its **First Reading**, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR GRANT FUNDS RELATED TO FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS AT W.W. MOORE, JR., DETENTION HOME

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Buckner and **second** by Council Member Mayo, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-11.05

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR A FEDERAL GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF APPROXIMATELY \$31,746 TO

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AID THE FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS AT W. W. MOORE, JR. DETENTION HOME AND APPROPRIATING SAME.

was presented by its **First Reading**, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR A US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMMUNITY POLICING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANT

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Vogler and **second** by Council Member Buckner, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-11.06

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY INCREASING REVENUE FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMMUNITY POLICING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$106,554 FOR USE IN CONDUCTING A COMPREHENSIVE CASE STUDY TO UNDERSTAND THE DANVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S SUCCESS IN DECREASING CRIME AND IMPROVING COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AND TRUST.

was presented by its **First Reading**, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Larking reminded Council that on November 12 there will be a joint meeting of the City Council and School Board at the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research. A start time has not been selected but this was a breakfast meeting and should be over by lunch. On November 29 at 5:30pm there will be a meeting with the Danville Life Saving Crew at their training center. Mayor Jones asked Council to let the City Manager know of questions or concerns they would like noted at the meetings.

There were no communications from the Deputy City Attorney or City Clerk.

Council Member Mayo thanked everyone for their participation in the job fair today. They were still in the business of helping others and wanted to encourage all citizens to get in touch with them and let them know what services they need. The shooting at the mall on Saturday was a sad event for the City; Mr. Mayo encouraged parents to listen and talk to their youth, and let them know that a weapon was not the way to go.

Vice Mayor Miller stated that the incident at the mall was tragic; a young man was dead and all his potential impacts on the future were gone. The City has to find a way to keep their young people from resorting to violence. Last week Council had a great ribbon cutting with the DeLorean Power storage project, and thanked everyone that was part of the solution to mitigate power usage increases. Dr. Miller encouraged citizens to please get out and vote on November 8.

Council Member Vogler noted his thoughts and prayers were with both families impacted by the shooting at the mall; it was truly a tragic event. One young man lost his life and another young man essentially threw his life away; it was incredibly sad. Mr. Vogler noted he wanted to make sure the city does not lose focus; this very unfortunate thing that happened did not diminish the great work that was being done by the police department and Project Imagine. Mr. Vogler noted he received a letter from a Mr. Smith who grew up in the Almagro community. The letter spoke of

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the businesses, people and places of the neighborhood and within the community, the events that happened and how proud he was to have grown up there. Mr. Vogler stated that he was honored to work with each and every member of Council, and reminded everyone to go out and vote on November 8.

Council Member Whittle stated that he wanted to see the 0.04 cent per \$100 reduction on real estate taxes on the business session tonight and push it through by the next meeting. Mayor Jones noted that the business session of the meeting was over and that could be discussed in work session. Mr. Whittle stated this Council does not defund their police department, they back them up; the Council works cohesively and have come a long way. Mr. Whittle thanked the city staff, police, fire, and rescue for the great job that they do.

Council Member Buckner commented that there has been \$1,132,525,000 in new investments since 2018, with six expansions of existing companies and twenty new companies that located to Danville. That was a total of 3,922 new jobs since this Council was elected in 2018. Danville gets asked by municipalities and counties all around the state how they were doing it, and how were they able to achieve the things that they were able to achieve. The answer was very simple, teamwork. Mr. Buckner encouraged everyone to get out and vote.

Mayor Jones thanked everyone that was in attendance tonight, and everyone that gave a presentation or report for their agency. Mayor Jones noted he went to Laurel Grove for a youth summit and had an amazing time. Mayor Jones stated that they were going to run into some challenges in the city, but they cannot forget the ultimate goal. He asked citizens to help promote the positive in the community, and see how the positivity grows. He stated he was thankful for the members of Council, thanked everyone on Council personally for their support, respect, passion, and dedication to the City.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23pm.

APPROVED:

s/Alonzo L. Jones
MAYOR

ATTEST:

s/Susan M. DeMasi, CMC
CITY CLERK