

September 7, 2021

A Regular Work Session of the Danville City Council convened on September 7, 2021 at 8:05 p.m. in the Conference Room located on the Fourth Floor of the Municipal Building. Council Members present were: James B. Buckner, Bryant Hood, Mayor Alonzo Jones, Barry P. Mayo, Vice Mayor Gary P. Miller, Sherman M. Saunders, J. Lee Vogler, Jr., and Madison J.R. Whittle (8). L.G. "Larry" Campbell Jr. was absent (1). *Mayor Jones entered the meeting at 8:30 p.m. (1)*

Staff Members present were: City Manager Ken Larking, Deputy City Manager Earl B. Reynolds, Jr., and City Attorney W. Clarke Whitfield Jr.; City Clerk Susan M. DeMasi was absent.

Vice Mayor Miller presided.

MINUTES

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Saunders and **second** by Council Member Whittle, Minutes of the Regular Work Session held on August 5, 2021 were approved as presented. Draft copies were distributed to Council Members prior to the Meeting.

WORK SESSION ITEMS

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING RESOLUTIONS OF SUPPORT TO VDOT FOR PROJECT FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027 AND FISCAL YEAR 2028

Assistant Director of Public Works and Chief Engineer Brian Dunevant explained Public Works had prepared Revenue Sharing Applications to request Revenue Sharing Program funds for Fiscal Year 2027 and Fiscal Year 2028 for construction of two projects:

- Richmond Boulevard Pedestrian Access Improvements from Moffett Street to Justin Lane.
- Replace Structure 1816 on Riverside Drive over Apple Branch.

Mr. Whittle questioned Structure 1816 and Mr. Dunevant explained this was a culvert, a stream crossing between NAPA and Nikki's. The plan was to replace it, take it out and put a bridge in or something with a wider opening; staff feels that was part of the problem there but also for maintenance as well. Right now, what was down there was two box culverts that were about 10 by 6 each, but there was webbing in the middle that catches a lot of debris when there was flooding.

Council agreed to put this on an upcoming agenda.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING RESOLUTIONS OF SUPPORT TO VDOT FOR TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 AND FISCAL YEAR 2024

Mr. Dunevant noted these were two more resolutions of support for two Transportation Alternative Program projects. The first will be a Kemper Road Sidewalks Stage 2 and the second was Pedestrian Improvements at Piney Forest Road and Arnett Boulevard. Mr. Saunders asked where they were starting, was it halfway down to Arlington and Mr. Dunevant noted it was. The City has already been funded for the section from South Main to Edmonds. Mr. Saunders noted there were some LED lights on one side of Kemper Road going toward Arlington, it was still a little dark down there and Mr. Dunevant stated he would pass the word along.

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Mr. Mayo asked where the project was on Piney Forest Road and Mr. Dunevant explained it was at the intersection of Piney Forest Road, where Arnett Boulevard comes into Piney Forest. They have a traffic signal there but there were no crosswalks or pedestrian lights; part of this project will be to install those, and they will also try to extend the sidewalk down Arnett to the first bus stop. There was a current study on Piney Forest Road that was looking at all the access management through the corridor, but it hasn't been finalized yet.

Council agreed to put this on an upcoming business meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Saunders noted as the Council looks at trying to host VML in 2024, they would need to let the city know as soon as possible so they can look at other hotels for overflow.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Director of Economic Development Corrie Bobe noted there would be an announcement made by Secretary Ball at 10:00 a.m., it was by invitation only and Council had been invited. The public had been invited to watch online on the River City TV Facebook page.

Next Thursday, September 16th at noon, Caesars will be officially unveiling their plans for the Schoolfield site; this was also invitation only, however it will be live streamed through River City TV. Council has received their invitations to attend at the Institute.

CLOSED MEETING

At 8:18 p.m., Council Member Vogler **moved** that this meeting of the City Council of the City of Danville, Virginia be recessed and that Council immediately reconvene in a Closed Meeting for the following purposes: Discussion or consideration of the acquisition and/or disposition of real property for a public purpose where discussion in an open meeting would adversely impact the bargaining position of the City as permitted by Subsection (A) (3) of Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended and more specifically to consider: Discussion regarding the sale and/or potential purchase of a specific parcel of property for use by prospective industrial, commercial and mixed use projects looking to locate to the City; and an Economic Development discussion and update concerning prospective business or industry where no previous announcement has been made and/or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made as permitted by Subsection (A)(5) of Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended and more specifically to consider: an update on multiple prospective commercial and mixed use and industrial projects considering locating within the City and the region.

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

VOTE:	7-0-2
AYE:	Buckner, Hood, Mayo, Miller, Saunders, Vogler and Whittle (7)
NAY:	None
ABSENT:	Campbell, Jones, (2)

Upon unanimous vote at 9:05 p.m., Council reconvened in open session and Council Member Vogler **moved** for adoption of the following Resolution:

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CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Council convened in Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.1-344.1 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, requires a Certification by the Council that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each Member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements of Virginia Law under Section 2.2-3711 were heard, discussed or considered, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the Motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by the Committee.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Whittle 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)

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:06 P.M.

APPROVED:

s/Alonzo L. Jones
MAYOR

ATTEST:

s/Susan M. DeMasi, CMC
CITY CLERK