

April 2, 2019

The Regular April meeting of the Danville City Council was held on April 2, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located on the Fourth Floor of the Municipal Building. The following Council Members were present: L.G. "Larry" Campbell Jr., Mayor Alonzo L. Jones, Dr. Gary P. Miller, Sherman M. Saunders, Fred O. Shanks, III, Vice Mayor J. Lee Vogler, Jr., and Madison J.R. Whittle (7). James B. Buckner and Adam J. Tomer were absent (2).

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

Mayor Jones presided.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation was given by Sherman M. Saunders, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Mayor Jones read a Proclamation entitled National Service Recognition Day and presented it to members of Americorp.

Mayor Jones recognized Tia Yancey from Averett University and the Love Danville Averett students. Ms. Yancey noted she was from the Center for Community Engagement and Career Competitiveness and advisor of the Love Danville Group, and introduced Brianna Shelton, who also works at the CCECC and was co-advisor to the Love Danville Council. Ms. Yancey, Ms. Shelton and members of the group discussed the group and upcoming activities.

MEETING MINUTES

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Whittle and **second** by Council Member Campbell, Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on March 5, 2019 were approved as presented. Draft copies of the minutes had been distributed prior to the meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM VISITORS

Mayor Jones recognized Keister Evans from Alexandria, VA, formerly of Danville. Mr. Evans discussed Evans Park, donated to the City by his family, located on Water Street and Eagle Springs Road. Mr. Evans noted the bridge was knocked down by Norfolk Southern Railway, and that bridge was the only direct access from the City to the park. He has contacted VDOT, Norfolk Southern and worked with staff in the City to get Norfolk Southern to repair the bridge. Mr. Evans requested Council proceed with legal attention to this matter.

Mayor Jones recognized Michael Miller, 2532 Franklin Turnpike, who noted the action he took was not intended as a threat, it was a measured response to the former Mayor's directive. He looks forward to an opportunity to explain that, and Council does not need to feel threatened.

NEW BUSINESS

BUDGET AMENDMENT – AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR STATE AVIATION CAPITAL GRANT FUNDING AND THE LOCAL SHARE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$684,329

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Upon **Motion** by Council Member Campbell and **second** by Council Member Whittle, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-04.01

AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL STATE AVIATION FUNDING FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMPLETING DESIGN SERVICES TO UPDATE THE AIRPORT LAYOUT PLAN AND TO SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF HANGAR FACILITIES AND THE WALKING TRAIL AND FOR CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES TO REHABILITATE T-HANGAR TAXI-LANES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$652,525 PLUS THE LOCAL SHARE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$31,804 TO BE PROVIDED BY A TRANSFER FROM THE GENERAL FUND SUPPORT OF SPECIAL GRANTS 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 2019 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR VDOT REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM FUNDS

BUDGET AMENDMENT - AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR A PROJECT ON SOUTH UNION STREET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$350,000

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Shanks and **second** by Council Member Whittle, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-04.02

AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR A PROJECT TO BE UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE CITY OF DANVILLE ON SOUTH UNION STREET AND TO BE FINANCED ANTICIPATING REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM FUNDS FROM THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$350,000.00.

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

BUDGET AMENDMENT - AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR A PROJECT ON MAIN STREET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$350,000

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Shanks and second by Council Member Whittle, an ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-04.03

AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR A PROJECT TO BE UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE CITY OF DANVILLE ON MAIN STREET AND TO BE FINANCED ANTICIPATING REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM FUNDS FROM THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$350,000.00

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

BUDGET AMENDMENT- AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR A PROJECT ON RIVERSIDE DRIVE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$483,652

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Shanks and **second** by Council Member Whittle, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-04.04

AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR A PROJECT TO BE UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE CITY OF DANVILLE ON RIVERSIDE DRIVE AND TO BE FINANCED ANTICIPATING REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM FUNDS FROM THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$483,652.00

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

AFFIRMING THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO FUNDING THE LOCALITY SHARES OF APPROVED PROJECTS WITH THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Vice Mayor Vogler **moved** for adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-04.01

AFFIRMING CITY'S COMMITMENT TO FUND THE LOCALITY SHARE OF PROJECTS UNDER AGREEMENT WITH THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PROVIDE SIGNATURE AUTHORITY FOR PROJECT AGREEMENTS AND ADDENDUMS.

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING – CONSIDERATION OF GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR A DUPLEX AT 338 THIRD AVENUE

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at 338 Third Avenue. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on March 19, 2019 and March 26, 2019. Mayor Jones recognized Stanley Hicks speaking on behalf of Tanisha Lowery regarding 338 Third Avenue. The plan is to turn this building into a duplex, with two bedrooms and two bathrooms, and approximately 1800 square feet each. No one else desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-04.05

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GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR A DUPLEX IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3:E, SECTION C, ITEM 2 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, 1986, AS AMENDED, AT 338 THIRD AVENUE, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS GRID 2813, BLOCK 004, PARCEL 000015 OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA ZONING DISTRICT MAP.

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

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

BUDGET AMENDMENT – GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR A DAYCARE CENTER AT 110 EXCHANGE STREET

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at 110 Exchange Street. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on March 19, 2019 and March 26, 2019. Mayor Jones recognized Cecil Z. Bridgeforth, 228 Woodlawn Heights, Chatham, VA who noted he was there for a special use permit to operate a daycare center. They see a need in the City for daycare and want to make sure they serve the community as they have in the past and in the future. No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-04.06

GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR A DAYCARE CENTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3:M, SECTION C, ITEM 6 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, 1986, AS AMENDED, AT 110 EXCHANGE STREET, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS GRID 1713, BLOCK 005, PARCEL 000005, OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA ZONING DISTRICT MAP.

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS

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

ROLL CALL

Council Member Saunders noted he appreciated the young people from Averett, the Love Danville and what they are doing to make the City better. It is always good to see young people doing that. Mr. Saunders apologized for missing the last Council meeting because of

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family health issues, but appreciated City Council recognizing the GWHS Eagles for their championship. Mr. Saunders noted he was still hearing about the Danville casino, people asking when the City was going to get it. They believe Council makes that decision; the vote was to ask the state to allow the people to decide.

Council Member Shanks stated the 10th Annual Bridge 2 Bridge, Danville Pittsylvania Cancer Association fundraiser was April 13th. There is a one mile run for the kids, a five mile run and five mile walk, a 10K run and a 39 mile bike ride. It was a great celebration for the Danville Pittsylvania Cancer Association; the money generated for the Cancer Association goes to the people who are fighting cancer in this locality. *Showcase Magazine* this March had an article about the fundraiser, and would encourage citizens to register and participate in this event.

Vice Mayor Vogler thanked Council Member Shanks for bringing up the Bridge 2 Bridge event, Mr. Shanks has been an advocate for it for a number of years, and Mr. Vogler and his wife are looking forward to participating. The GW Sports Banquet last night was for a wonderful group of young men and women and he was very proud of them. April 8th will be the next meeting of the group working to bring back the Holiday Basketball Tournament, it will be on the fourth floor conference room of the Municipal building. Mr. Vogler discussed the proposed cigarette tax, the amount of revenue it would bring to the City and the impact on localities.

Council Member Whittle noted he will not be supporting any tax increase and thinks Council can work the budget down and find other ways to raise the revenue.

Council Member Miller noted several years ago, citizens lobbied to get cigarettes outlawed from restaurants and nightclubs. They heard from the tobacco industry and owners, that it would hurt their businesses; it didn't hurt their businesses. When he researched the literature, cities didn't lose that much business although he wished they did, it would mean less people smoking. If Council takes the money from other sources, \$300,000 is about two cents on the real estate tax. Council would be asking all the citizens to pay extra real estate tax to pay for the lifesaving crew, which they could get from the people that primarily cause the problem, the cigarette smokers. Dr. Miller noted the City was sorry to lose Diana Schwartz, the Director of the River District, she did an outstanding job. Another big event next weekend is Rugby on the River, Duke hosts the worldwide rugby tournament for MBA schools.

Mayor Jones stated those in Chambers and those watching understand that Council has some tough budget decisions to make. The City Manager, Deputy City Manager and their team, present a budget to Council and the City Council works to do what is best for the citizens of Danville. Last night there was a terrible fire on North Main Street, the City's Fire Department and Public Safety team did a great job and thanked them on behalf of the City.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

APPROVED:

s/ Alonzo L. Jones
MAYOR

ATTEST:

s/ Susan M. DeMasi, CMC
CITY CLERK