

April 4, 2023

The Regular April meeting of the Danville City Council was held on April 4, 2023, 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, Bryant Hood, Mayor Alonzo L. Jones, Barry 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)

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

Council Member Sherman M. Saunders gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Presentation: Tunstall High School Beta Club

Presented by: Tara Mills, Teacher and Beta Club Sponsor

Mayor Jones recognized Ms. Mills who introduced senior Mackenzie Harris, sophomore Shelton McKinny, teacher and sponsor Crystal Harris, Matthew and Maggie Harris, and her daughter Clara Mills. Tunstall High School Beta Club finished first place at the Virginia State Beta Competition in marketing and communications. Ms. Mills stated that Tunstall currently competes in state and regional competitions, and this summer they hope to compete in the national competition. Beta Club focuses on academic achievement, community service, character development, and leadership. The Tunstall Beta Club competes in academics, engineering, robotics, performance arts, artistic abilities, marketing, communications, and others. This year's prompt for marketing and communications was to develop a campaign to present to City Council to create a memorial for a hero in the community. The students not only brought in a regional hero but a marketing aspect as well. The title of their presentation was "Reimagine That, Immortalizing Dan River Regional Heroes." Shelton McKinny began the presentation to Council which included using murals to honor Henrietta Lacks, costs, using social media, where the funding would come from, and how the Casino could impact the success of this.

Council Member Vogler thanked the students for the presentation; they did a tremendous job, and he appreciated them presenting their idea. Mr. Vogler discussed his love for murals and street art and how they become destinations. Henrietta Lacks was a great person who deserved the recognition, and he hoped this was something that can be done. Council Member Whittle stated that they did a fantastic job. Council Member Buckner congratulated them on a great presentation, and wished them success at Nationals in Louisville on June 16. Vice Mayor Miller stated this was a great idea and he loved murals too. Council Member Mayo stated this was an awesome opportunity and that he loved the way it was presented. Council Member Hood congratulated them on going to nationals; Council appreciated their presentation and appreciated #DanvilleHereos. Council Member Saunders congratulated them and stated this was another example of regional cooperation. Mayor Jones congratulated them on going to Nationals in June. Ms. Mills thanked Council for listening and for their comments, she looked forward to taking them to Nationals and seeing them shine on that stage.

Mayor Jones recognized David Coffey, Chief of the Danville Fire Department. Chief Coffey thanked Council for the opportunity to speak tonight, and thanked them for the work that has been

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done on the budget. Danville Fire Department was internationally accredited and has an Insurance Office Safety rating of 1; there were 27,190 fire departments registered with the US Fire Administration, and of those, only 114 are internationally accredited and have an insurance office safety rating. Chief Coffey stated he could not do his job if it wasn't for the men and women of the Danville Fire Department; they were outstanding. When they went before CPSE, Center for Public Safety Excellence, to be reaccredited three years ago, the only thing they could ding them on was the fact that Danville did not have a Community Risk Reduction Director. Chief Coffey introduced Shelby Irving as their new Community Risk Reduction Director. Ms. Irving stated she was excited about this new position. She strives to make a citizen's worst day as easy as they can and follow them from the fire all the way back to normalcy. Mayor Jones asked Richard Guill to come up to the podium. Chief Coffey stated that with Ms. Irving taking this new role, Mr. Guill would be the new Fire Marshall for the City of Danville. As Fire Marshall, Mr. Guill has been at the temporary casino at midnight doing inspections and making sure they were on track; he has made himself available 24/7 even on vacation he came in to do inspections. He has done an exceptional job.

Mayor Jones recognized Corrie Bobe, Director of Economic Development and Tourism who announced that Kelvin Perry had been promoted to Assistant Director of Economic Development and Tourism. He has been with their office over five years as a Project Manager leading downtown revitalization efforts, working hand in hand with small businesses in the community, and assisting in helping to build an economic entrepreneurial ecosystem. He will be overseeing the business retention and expansion program. Mr. Perry thanked everyone for the new opportunity; he has really enjoyed working with one of the best staff around, and thanked everyone for their support.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Budget Items on the Consent Agenda. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 11, 2023. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

Council Member Vogler **moved** for adoption of the following Consent Agenda items:

Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on March 7, 2023. Draft copies of the Minutes had been distributed prior to the meeting.

Amending Danville City Code regarding Elderly and Disabled Real Estate Tax Exemption

An Ordinance entitled, Ordinance No. 2023-03.04, Amending Article IV, Entitled "Real Estate and Mobile Home Tax Exemption and Deferral for Certain Elderly and Disabled Persons," of Chapter 37, Entitled "Taxation," of the Danville City Code to Allow for Revisions to the Real Estate Exemption and Deferral Program.

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

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

Council Member Whittle asked if this was to reduce the taxes for elderly and disabled persons, and City Manager Ken Larking stated it was increasing the income thresholds so they could qualify

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to receive the tax relief. Mr. Whittle stated at a previous meeting he wanted to put a motion on the floor to do a \$0.04 real estate tax reduction and was told to wait and do it at budget time; Mayor Jones suggested Mr. Whittle discuss this in work session.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION ON PARCEL 74895 ON LITTLE CREEK ROAD

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit on Little Creek Road. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 4, 2023 and April 11, 2023. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-04.01

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ23-00039, FILED BY ROBBIE TERRY, REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW AN ACCESSORY BUILDING WITHOUT A PRIMARY BUILDING AT PARCEL ID 74895 (LITTLE CREEK RD) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.C. SECTION C ITEM 23.

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

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

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED “ZONING ORDINANCE” OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE TO ADD “HEAVY EQUIPMENT SALES, RENTAL, AND SERVICING (WITH SCREENED SERVICE AND STORAGE AREAS)”

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Amending the Zoning Ordinance. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 4, 2023 and April 11, 2023. Mayor Jones recognized Krystal Milam, applicant, who noted she was there to answer any questions. 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. 2023-04.02

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED, “ZONING ORDINANCE” OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, 1986, AS AMENDED, MORE SPECIFICALLY, TO AMEND ARTICLE 3M. SECTION C, TO ADD ITEM 30 “HEAVY EQUIPMENT SALES, RENTAL, AND SERVICING (WITH SCREENED SERVICE AND STORAGE AREAS)”.

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

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

CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION TO ALLOW HEAVY EQUIPMENT SALES, SERVICING, AND RENTALS AT PARCEL 77144 ON SOUTH BOSTON ROAD

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit on South Boston Road. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 4, 2023 and April 11, 2023. 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. 2023-04.03

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ23-00035, FILED BY KRYSTAL MILAM, REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW HEAVY EQUIPMENT SALES, RENTAL AND SERVICING (WITH SCREENED SERVICE AND STORAGE AREAS) AT PARCEL ID 77144 (SOUTH BOSTON ROAD), IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.M.C ITEM 30.

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

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

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED "ZONING ORDINANCE" OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, TO AMEND ARTICLE 3.O SECTION C ITEM 8 TO INCLUDE "HEAVY EQUIPMENT RENTALS."

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Amending the Zoning Ordinance. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 4, 2023 and April 11, 2023. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-04.04

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED, "ZONING ORDINANCE" OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, 1986, AS AMENDED, MORE SPECIFICALLY, TO AMEND ARTICLE 3.O. SECTION C ITEM 8, TO INCLUDE HEAVY EQUIPMENT RENTAL.

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

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

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED “ZONING ORDINANCE” OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE TO ADDRESS CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY AND FIRE SAFETY PLAN REQUIREMENTS

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Amending the Zoning Ordinance. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 4, 2023 and April 11, 2023. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-04.05

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED, “ZONING ORDINANCE” OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, 1986, AS AMENDED, MORE SPECIFICALLY, TO AMEND ARTICLE 2 SECTION Y, TO ADD REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY AND FIRE SAFETY PLANS.

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

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

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED “ZONING ORDINANCE” OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE TO UPDATE “SHORT-TERM RENTAL, ENTIRE FURNISHED HOME” TO INCLUDE “AS PRINCIPAL USE.”

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Amending the Zoning Ordinance. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 4, 2023 and April 11, 2023. 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. 2023-04.06

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED, “ZONING ORDINANCE” OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, 1986, AS AMENDED, MORE SPECIFICALLY, TO AMEND ARTICLE 3.A SECTION C, ARTICLE 3.B SECTION C, ARTICLE 3.C SECTION C, ARTICLE 3.D SECTION C, ARTICLE 3.E SECTION C, ARTICLE 3.F SECTION C, ARTICLE 3.G SECTION C, ARTICLE 3.I SECTION B, ARTICLE 3.J SECTION B, ARTICLE 3.K SECTION B, ARTICLE 3.L SECTION B TO AMEND “SHORT-TERM RENTAL, ENTIRE FURNISHED HOME” TO REMOVE “ENTIRE FURNISHED HOME” AND TO INCLUDE “AS PRINCIPAL USE”.

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The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Mayo.

Council Member Whittle stated if someone was in the rental district, but part of a rental program, they had to identify as a rental property; Ms. Burton noted that was correct. Any properties that were located within the rental districts must complete a survey with the City's inspections department to state that they were a rental property versus an owner occupied property; that was part of the regulations for inspections. Mr. Whittle stated, for instance, he had four or five houses with housing and redevelopment, they don't have to have inspections on those, and then have several on the same street that have to go through the City's inspection program, how does that change. Ms. Burton explained the difference was going to be with the housing authority and their operations; they can perform their own separate inspections. That was a collaboration between the inspections division with the City and the housing authority.

Mr. Whittle stated it was said that he had to identify the other properties or other folks have to identify their properties as rental versus home ownership and Ms. Burton noted only if they were in one of the city's rental inspection districts; that was part of the city's inspection program. They will identify as a rental property, then the building inspectors will come out, verify that status and then inspect the property for quality to ensure they meet the standards for a certificate of occupancy. Mr. Whittle stated he already does that and Mr. Larking noted Mr. Whittle may be thinking there was a separate program for those who own property they rent to people that were receiving assistance from the housing authority. The housing authority has its own process and that was regardless of whether they were in a rental inspection district or not; it was just a matter of if they were participating in that program.

Mr. Larking explained that Danville has a number of rental inspection districts within the city; they have been adopted by Council, with their own rules and regulations, and the City's inspections department goes in on a periodic basis to make sure everything was up to code and safe for the occupants. Mr. Whittle stated on top of the inspections, he had to have another inspection, and Mr. Larking noted if he was in a rental inspection district, he would be subject to both the City's and the housing authority if the occupant was taking advantage of the housing authority program. Mr. Whittle stated he already does it with the housing authority, and if it was not with the housing authority, he does it with the City and pays the fee to have the property inspected. The issue was why do they have to identify somebody's property and subject it to more taxes unless they were going to reduce the real estate taxes. Mr. Larking explained they have identified certain areas of the City that were heavily rental; there have been issues in certain parts of the City with blight and as part of the blight remediation program, the city has rental inspection districts that have been implemented through City Council. The whole purpose was to make sure the properties were safe for people who live there; most comply with the requirements.

Mr. Larking noted this item did not have anything to do with the rental inspection district, but with Airbnb. Ms. Burton explained Council was voting on the item listed as Short-Term Rental Entire Furnished Home; they were specifically looking at a code amendment to clarify that it means short-term rental entire home, to differentiate between Code Section Article 2 that states it as an accessory use. An accessory use means you have a primary dwelling that was owner occupied and then you have a separate unit that was rented as a short-term rental. This particular code amendment only addresses those that were an entire house as the primary use as a short-term rental, meaning the owner occupancy was not on the same parcel as the short-term rental. Mr. Larking stated that a short-term rental was like an Air BnB or someone using Vrbo to rent a place to stay, which was what was being discussed. Ms. Burton explained a short-term rental was identified as greater than 18 hours and less than 30 days. Therefore, it would not affect someone who was renting long term as their primary dwelling, it was simply a short term use.

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The **Motion** was carried by the following vote:

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

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED “ZONING ORDINANCE” OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE TO AMEND ARTICLE 3.G SECTION F ITEM 2 TO INCLUDE “INSTITUTIONAL USES”

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Amending the Zoning Ordinance. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 4, 2023 and April 11, 2023. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-04.07

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED, “ZONING ORDINANCE” OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, 1986, AS AMENDED, MORE SPECIFICALLY, TO AMEND ARTICLE 3.G. SECTION F ITEM 2, TO INCLUDE INSTITUTIONAL USES.

The Motion was **seconded** by Vice Mayor Miller and carried by the following vote:

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

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED “ZONING ORDINANCE” OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE TO AMEND ARTICLE 15 SECTION B TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF “PRINCIPAL BUILDING”

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Amending the Zoning Ordinance. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 4, 2023 and April 11, 2023. 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. 2023-04.08

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED, “ZONING ORDINANCE” OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, 1986, AS AMENDED, MORE SPECIFICALLY, TO AMEND ARTICLE 15. SECTION B, TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF PRINCIPAL BUILDING.

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

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

CONSIDERATION OF THE RELEASE OF UNUSED GAS EASEMENTS ON SOUTH BOSTON ROAD AND KENTUCK ROAD

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Release of Gas Easements. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on March 27, 2023 and April 3, 2023. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-04.01

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ABANDONMENT OF AN UNUSED CITY UTILITY EASEMENT ACROSS CITY PARCELS #76416, #76417 AND #78091 IN ORDER TO FACILITATE DEVELOPMENT UPON THE SAME PROPERTY.

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 REPEALING AND REORDAINING CHAPTER 16 AND SECTION 23-3 OF THE CITY CODE TO ALLOW FOR CASINO GAMBLING IN THE C-E CASINO ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT AND TO ALLOW FOR THE SALE OF BEER AND WINE IN A LICENSED CASINO GAMING ESTABLISHMENT

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-04.09

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REORDAINING IN ITS ENTIRETY CHAPTER 16, ENTITLED GAMBLING, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, 1986, AS AMENDED AND REPEALING AND REORDAINING SECTION 23-3 ENTITLED "SALE OF BEER AND WINE BETWEEN MIDNIGHT SATURDAY AND 6:00 A.M. SUNDAY" OF CHAPTER 23, ENTITLED OFFENSES MISCELLANEOUS, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA 1986 AS AMENDED.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Mayo.

Dr. Miller asked for clarification on what would happen after 6:00 am on Sunday morning, and Mr. Whitfield stated this does not limit alcohol sales in a casino district; it can be sold 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It would only be cut off if that was what the casino wanted. Mr. Larking explained the current code has the limitation now, so Council was eliminating it for casino district

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sales. Mr. Vogler stated that in the future he would like to have a conversation in a work session about applying these rules to other businesses as well. If they were going to have it in one part of the City then Council should at least discuss it for other businesses; Vice Mayor Miller noted his agreement.

The **Motion** was carried the following vote.

VOTE: 7-1-1
AYE: Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
Saunders, Vogler, and Buckner (7)
NAY: Whittle (1)
ABSENT: Campbell (1)

COMMUNICATIONS FROM VISITORS

Mayor Jones recognized Mr. Dale McCray. Mr. McCray spoke to Council regarding collective bargaining, commended Council and the City Manager for the budget and bringing employee pay to market value. He suggested that the market study results be made public, and looked forward to working with Council on collective bargaining.

Council Member Saunders asked the City Manager and the City Attorney with regard to the 1100 employees in the City, how many grievances did they get in a year, and Mr. Whitfield stated he believed it would be less than ten. Mr. Larking stated that it was a lot less than that; if they get one a year that was about normal, but they have not had many. Mr. Saunders stated that he understood collective bargaining and the need for people to be able to form organizations to protect them when protection was needed. He understood that if they had one to ten a year and no major complaints, why would they want to have collective bargaining. Mr. Saunders noted he was trying to find a reason to support it, but cannot find one. Mayor Jones thanked Council Member Saunders for stating that because this Council has proven over the last couple of months as forementioned, and it was proven tonight, that their employees were their top priority.

COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Ken Larking expressed his condolences to the family of Bishop Campbell, stating he had the pleasure of getting to know him over the years that he has been here, had a few meetings with him, and he was always a great person to talk to. It was a great honor for him to have those brief conversations over the years, to know about his history and what he brought to the City. This was a big loss for Danville, and he wanted to express his condolences to his family and to their colleague on Council, Larry Campbell.

Deputy City Manager Earl Reynolds expressed his condolences to Council Member Campbell and his family. Bishop Campbell was larger than life; he knew the Bishop, had opportunities to meet with him and get guidance from him even before coming to Danville as an employee. When he was with the City of Martinsville, as well as the Planning District Commission, he was always a "go to" person for information, guidance, and direction. That will certainly be sorely missed. His legacy was one that speaks for itself. Mr. Reynolds stated he was blessed to have known someone of his caliber and his reach. This community was certainly a better place because of the things he was able to do here, his family, and certainly the sacrifices that were made on behalf of the community.

City Attorney Clarke Whitfield also expressed his condolences to the Campbell family, his friends, and members of his church; he had been their spiritual leader for a very long time. Mr. Whitfield

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stated the River District received a major award last week in Boston, Massachusetts. There were a lot of people who worked to make that happen but as he watched it a name came to mind, Deputy City Manager Lyle Lacy. He came up with the wildest, out of the box idea on how to get revitalization in downtown Danville and that was where all of this started.

Council Member Hood noted the community Easter event this Saturday at Johnson School was being presented by the community. It was open to the public and there will be some awesome things for the youth there. Mr. Hood recognized the Parks and Recreation youth basketball team, seven year olds, the Panthers who went 10-0 this season. It was good to watch kids at that age collaborate and understand how to work together as a team. He wanted to humbly thank the Campbell family for allowing them to have Bishop Campbell here for the time that they did. Being iconic for the City was an understatement, seeing the work, diligence, and sacrifice that he and his family provided. The City had someone that stood and fought for the injustice that he fought for, and he wanted to give a special prayer out to the entire Bibleway family.

Council Member Mayo expressed his condolences to the Campbell family stating they lost an icon; the legacy that he held, and leaves was iconic. Mr. Mayo noted he remembered bits and pieces growing up when his mother would talk about him fighting for so many. He gave a remarkable story of history and how he fought for opportunities for the citizens in the African American community, hearing about his generosity and his giving, and being at Bibleway for over 60 years. Mr. Mayo asked citizens to keep the Danville school system and children in prayer after learning about what has happened. Also, congratulations to the fire department for the recognition that they received.

Vice Mayor Miller expressed his condolences to the Campbell family. Bishop Campbell inspired so many people of all races and made this community better for all. Congratulations to the fire department on their award. Dr. Miller noted he first met Shelby Irving back when the fire department was on Bridge Street, and her office was the most cluttered office in the building. She said that was why a new fire station was needed. A patient of his saw an Old West End newsletter in Florida and thought Danville looked like a nice place, so he bought two homes in the Old West End; he was living in one and fixing the other up. Virgil Stone was a little league baseball coach and had stated how little league baseball was the highlight of the summer. Somehow those youth programs have slipped away, and Dr. Miller noted they needed to get them brought back.

Council Member Saunders expressed his condolences to the Campbell family and the Bibleway church family. He personally met Bishop Campbell in 1963 and marched with him when he brought Dr. King to Danville. The man was absolutely amazing; he has done so much for so many people and did not ask for anything in return. Mr. Saunders noted when he was Mayor, he was very pleased to have presented him with the key to the City. They all heard about the recent school situation, and pray for the family and for the children. Mr. Saunders stated he would like to thank all the doctors and nurses at SOVAH health; they were doing an excellent job even being short staffed, and thanked Attorney Steven Gould for all he does in the community. Mr. Saunders asked him to have his new partner stand up introduce herself; Melony Kendrick introduced herself to Council and was welcomed to Danville. Mr. Saunders noted they were blessed to have an excellent City Manager, Deputy City Manager, and excellent city staff. They were all working for the same thing, progress, and for the good of everyone.

Council Member Vogler mentioned that on April 4, citizens always recognize the passing of one icon Dr. King and tonight they celebrate the life of their own icon Bishop Campbell. Mr. Vogler noted he was thinking about his friend and colleague Council Member Campbell and his family during this time. Mr. Vogler noted his agreement with Dr. Miller about bringing youth sports back

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to Danville; Council was a great supporter of it. Mr. Vogler noted he had a very special guest here with him this evening, his daughter Ava was here; this was actually her fifth birthday, and asked to let Ava come to the podium so that they can sing Happy Birthday to her.

Council Member Whittle expressed his condolences to the Campbell family, noting he met with Bishop Campbell a few times. He was an extremely smart man and to hear the people around him speaking of his accomplishments was amazing. He knew that Larry was going through a lot since he also lost his wife last year. Mr. Whittle noted his congratulations to Richie Guill and Shelby Irving and stated Council speaks about regional cooperation, and wanted to let everyone know his brother was running for a seat on the county board.

Council Member Buckner expressed his condolences to the Campbell family. He was a civil rights champion, icon, Danville hero, and southside hero. He was honored to have been on the Transportation Advisory Committee when they put Bishop Campbell's photo on the side of one of the City's buses. Mr. Buckner noted they were praying for Council Member Campbell. Congratulations to the RDA for receiving the Great American Main Street Award in one of the greatest cities in America. Mr. Buckner asked citizens to continue their prayers for DPS students; they are having some really tough conversations and going through a tough time right now. Mr. Buckner noted he traveled to Norfolk to watch Britain Hart compete and was happy to report that she defended her title and brought it back to Virginia. She was the first lady ever to reach ten fights in that sport since the sport has been around and she did it right here in Virginia.

Mayor Jones stated one of the toughest things that people have to go through in life was the loss of a loved one. Tonight, hearing the sentiments and the accolades, he was thinking about Mother Campbell, Allethia, Larry, Philip, Angela, Hope, and the grandchildren and great grandchildren. It was one of the toughest things he has had to go through since December. In December Council was hearing the same thing about another great mentor of theirs, Charles Harris, and three months later they were here talking about Bishop Campbell. To hear white men and black men, white women and black women talk about the legacy of Bishop Campbell as an icon. A man that poured his life experiences into everyone. He counseled and listened to so many people and the issues they needed help with. Mayor Jones noted he could not imagine what the family was going through. To Council and to all citizens in this community, on April 14 and April 15 there will be a homegoing service for this giant. There will be people coming from around the world for this service because that was how many people he impacted. Mayor Jones encouraged citizens to continue to keep the family in their thoughts and prayers. To his brothers and sisters at Bibleway know that they were here for them and were praying for them.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm.

APPROVED:

s/Alonzo L. Jones
MAYOR

ATTEST:

s/Susan M. DeMasi, CMC
CITY CLERK