

November 9, 2023

The Regular November meeting of the Danville City Council was held on November 9, 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, L.G. "Larry" Campbell Jr., Bryant Hood, Mayor Alonzo L. Jones, Barry Mayo, Vice Mayor Gary P. Miller, J. Lee Vogler, Jr., and Madison J.R. Whittle (8). Absent: Sherman M. Saunders (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 Buckner gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEETING MINUTES

Upon Motion by Council Member Vogler and second by Council Member Campbell, Minutes from Regular Council Meeting held on October 5, 2023, were approved as presented. Draft copies of the Minutes had been distributed prior to the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING - CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION FILED BY LATE BLOOMERS LLC REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT AT 115 HOWELAND CIRCLE TO ALLOW SHORT-TERM RENTAL AS PRINCIPAL USE

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at 115 Howeland Circle. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 26, 2023 and November 2, 2023.

Mayor Jones recognized Troy Nevells, 144 Joyce Drive, Providence, NC and co-owner of Late Bloomers LLC. He noted there was an issue with off-street parking, but that issue had been resolved; there was off-street parking, the driveway was installed, they can get three vehicles in the driveway and one in front of the house. Mr. Nevells asked if it was possible that the restrictions be removed from two vehicles to four; initially it was two vehicles only because they had off street parking. They have four bedrooms and three full baths and were told they could only have six occupants versus eight. He was asking if that could be removed. Mayor Jones questioned Mr. Nevells if he was asking that it be approved as presented and Mr. Nevells noted it was.

No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

Mayor Jones asked Director of Planning, Renee Burton, if what the applicant was asking for was the same as what was being presented tonight; Ms. Burton stated it was not. What was presented to Council was the recommendation from the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission stated three conditions in their recommendation for approval: 1) that there be no more than two vehicles, 2) off-street parking must be provided, and 3) the maximum rental be three bedrooms and six persons.

Council Member Campbell asked for more clarity since the Planning Commission approved one thing and the co-owner was asking for another. Council Member Vogler stated that he understood

November 9, 2023

Council could approve it as presented which was what the Planning Commission approved, so that the owner can operate. The owner asked for more which did not go through the Planning Commission. Mr. Vogler noted he was comfortable approving what was presented, but to make changes he does not think would be appropriate, not having gone through the proper public hearing for the additional parking and occupancy. Mayor Jones stated that Council would be voting on what was presented tonight and if the applicant wished to go to the Planning Commission with the additional parking and occupancy they can do so later.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-11.01

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ23- 00210, FILED BY LATE BLOOMERS LLC, REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO OPERATE A SHORT-TERM RENTAL AT PARCEL ID 21172 (115 HOWELAND CIRCLE) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.E., SECTION C., ITEM 29.

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING - CONSIDERATION OF DENYING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION FILED BY PREFERRED MANAGEMENT GROUP ON BEHALF OF 2 JD LLC REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT AT 151 VIRGINIA AVENUE TO ALLOW SHORT-TERM RENTAL AS PRINCIPAL USE

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at 151 Virginia Avenue. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 26, 2023 and November 2, 2023.

Mayor Jones recognized the following speakers who spoke in opposition to this item:

Randolph Neal, 150 Virginia Avenue.
Dale Martin, 154 Virginia Avenue
Nancy Rudder, 134 Virginia Avenue
Mark Holland, 204 Virginia Avenue

Doug Plachcinski, 626 Park View Place, spoke to Council about the Planning Commission not giving Council all the facts regarding why they are recommending this application be denied, for Council to make this decision tonight.

No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-11.01

November 9, 2023

A RESOLUTION DENYING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ23- 00271, FILED BY PREFERRED MANAGEMENT GROUP ON BEHALF OF 2 JD LLC, REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO OPERATE A SHORT-TERM RENTAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.E., SECTION C., ITEM 29 AT PARCEL ID 20470 (151 VIRGINIA AVENUE).

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

Council Member Vogler asked Ms. Burton to elaborate on why the Planning Commission made this decision. Ms. Burton stated that the Planning Commission heard similar opposition to the property being made a short-term rental including concerns about parking, transient occupancy, as well as how management of the property would be handled. Council Member Campbell stated that many short-term rentals have come during the last few meetings, and he feels that more clarity for Council was needed when making these decisions. Reverend Campbell noted he hoped they can define things and be fair across the board. Council listens to the demands of the citizens who want to do it, yet they have to be considerate of the neighborhood; it needs to be clearer to Council. Rev. Campbell noted he was concerned about violations, what they were; those need to be defined. Council Member Buckner stated he was having a hard time with this resolution. The Council and staff sets out regulations and requirements, they require certain things be obtained by owners per regulations and most of the time while they were asking for those items be done, the owners were out there doing them. If they were doing everything that was asked of them, all the boxes were checked, how can the Planning Commission recommend a denial. If the house does not have off-street parking how can Council require them to create off-street parking. Mayor Jones noted he would be questioning how far out in advance were the letters being sent to neighbors, because if letters were being sent to adjoining streets and they were voting yes then that can be a concern.

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING - CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION FILED BY MISTY AND DEREK ADAMS ON BEHALF OF DM WOODSTOCK ENTERPRISE, LLC REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT AT 1244 WESTOVER DRIVE TO ALLOW SHORT-TERM RENTAL AS PRINCIPAL USE

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at 1244 Westover Drive. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 26, 2023, and November 2, 2023.

Mayor Jones recognized Christen and Dave Riley of Mebane, NC, owners of 1244 Westover Drive, who asked Council to approve this ordinance. No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-11.02

November 9, 2023

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ23- 00312, FILED BY MISTY AND DEREK ADAMS ON BEHALF OF DM WOODSTOCK ENTERPRISE, LLC, REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO OPERATE A SHORT-TERM RENTAL AT PARCEL ID 50398 (1244 WESTOVER DRIVE) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.E., SECTION C., ITEM 29.

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING - CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION FILED BY ANTHONY C. MARTIN REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT AT 85 ASHLAWN DRIVE TO ALLOW SHORT-TERM RENTAL AS PRINCIPAL USE

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at 85 Ashlawn Drive. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 26, 2023 and November 2, 2023.

Mayor Jones recognized Anthony Martin, 334 Ross Street, owner of Ashlawn Drive. No one further desired to be heard and the public hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-11.03

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ23- 00327, FILED BY ANTHONY C. MARTIN, REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO OPERATE A SHORT-TERM RENTAL AT PARCEL ID 53437 (85 ASHLAWN DRIVE) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.E., SECTION C., ITEM 29.

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING - CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION FILED BY DAVID GOLD AND JULI REEVES REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT AT 118 MT VERNON AVENUE TO ALLOW SHORT-TERM RENTAL AS PRINCIPAL USE

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit for 118 Mount Vernon Avenue. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 26, 2023, and November 2, 2023.

November 9, 2023

Mayor Jones recognized David Gold and Juli Reeves who asked Council to approve their special use permit as recommended by the Planning Commission. No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-11.04

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ23- 00314, FILED BY DAVID GOLD AND JULI REEVES, REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO OPERATE A SHORT-TERM RENTAL AT PARCEL ID 23302 (118 MT VERNON AVENUE) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.E., SECTION C., ITEM 29.

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING - CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION FILED BY TAMARA BELOTTI REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT AT 440 MIMOSA STREET TO ALLOW SHORT-TERM RENTAL AS PRINCIPAL USE

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit for 440 Mimosa Street. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 26, 2023 and November 2, 2023.

Mayor Jones recognized the applicant, Tamara Belotti. No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-11.05

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ23-00316, FILED BY TAMARA BELOTTI, REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO OPERATE A SHORT-TERM RENTAL AT PARCEL ID 56067 (440 MIMOSA STREET) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.C., SECTION C., ITEM 29.

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING - CONSIDERATION OF A CODE AMENDMENT REQUEST FILED BY JAMES OSBORNE ON BEHALF OF EXTREME RECOVERY OF DANVILLE TO AMEND CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED "ZONING ORDINANCE"

November 9, 2023

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding an Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 26, 2023 and November 2, 2023.

Mayor Jones recognized James Osborne, owner of Extreme Recovery, who noted he put the skirting up as was requested, and stated the building was located at 4711 Riverside Drive. No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-11.06

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.M. ENTITLED "HR-C, RETAIL COMMERCIAL", SECTION C., ENTITLED "USES PERMITTED BY SPECIAL USE PERMIT".

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING - CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION FILED BY JAMES OSBORNE ON BEHALF OF EXTREME RECOVERY OF DANVILLE REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT AT 4711 RIVERSIDE DRIVE TO ALLOW AUTOMOBILE SALVAGE

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at 4711 Riverside Drive. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 26, 2023, and November 2, 2023.

Mayor Jones recognized the owner, James Osborne. No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-11.07

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ23-00340, FILED BY JAMES OSBORNE ON BEHALF OF EXTREME RECOVERY OF DANVILLE, REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW AN AUTOMOBILE SALVAGE OPERATION AT PARCEL ID 51529 (4711 RIVERSIDE DRIVE) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.M., SECTION C., ITEM 31.

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

VOTE: 8-0-1
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,

November 9, 2023

Vogler and Whittle (8)
NAY: None (0)
ABSENT: Saunders (1)

PUBLIC HEARING - CONSIDERATION OF AN APPEAL OF THE COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW'S DECISION TO DENY A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS TO INSTALL A ROOF MOUNTED SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM AT 830 GREEN STREET

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding an Appeal of the Commission of Architectural Review. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 26, 2023, and November 2, 2023.

Mayor Jones recognized Robert Tuthill, owner of 830 Green Street, who stated he was there under duress, asking that the permit be reinstated. He has been going through this process since May. The day the work order was given they waited two weeks; the day the work order was rescinded was the day the work was finished. Mr. Tuthill stated he had \$50,000 invested in this; he also invested in putting in a new roof so he would have a warranty for twenty-five years, that was \$70,000 total. Through no fault of his own he was denied after having the materials installed and ready to be put on the grid. No one has complained to him about the panels.

Mayor Jones asked the City Attorney what would happen if Council voted to deny. Mr. Whitfield stated the applicant could appeal the decision or take the solar panels off his roof.

Mayor Jones recognized Robert Weir, Chairman of the Commission for Architectural Review, who stated the Commission must follow mandates from state and federal levels. He reviewed guidelines including that owners, before any work was done that will change the exterior of any historical property, must obtain approval from the CAR after which other permits, local and state levels, must be obtained as appropriate. The Commission will review the work and issue a certificate of appropriateness which states that the proposed changes were compatible with the historical character of the property and the district. In the past, they have approved two similar projects to the one being discussed tonight. This item was submitted to CAR on August 24th for approval, and no one from this property showed up to the meeting.

Mayor Jones recognized James Lofton, Convert Solar, who stated their company installed solar panels on this home under the recognizance that there was an active permit from the City to conduct work for a solar installation, effective 8/3/23. The work that took place on this home was 8/16/23, two weeks prior to when the active permit was initially given to them to conduct work on this house. Their Virginia Beach office received a call at 3:55 pm to cease work but the work had already been completed. Mr. Lofton noted he had copies of the permit and approved plans that were submitted and approved by the City. If it was voted to deny then it will take many avenues to get this home back to its originality, including putting on a new roof, labor, and material cost, in addition to the cost to remove the work that was done, siding, and electrical work. This was a permanent fixture.

No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-11.08

November 9, 2023

AN ORDINANCE REVERSING THE COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW DECISION TO DENY A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS TO INSTALL A SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM AT 830 GREEN STREET.

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

Council Member Vogler stated he appreciated what CAR does but the majority of homes in that area were vacant and falling apart. In the last several years, people have been investing money and fixing them up. The gentleman has put \$70,000 into his home to make it a more energy efficient home so that it can be usable in the twenty-first century. Mr. Vogler noted he would prefer to see this home being used with solar panels on the roof, then to fall into disrepair, be vacant or demolished, and was in favor of reversing this decision.

City Manager Ken Larking stated that he had spoken with staff regarding the series of events that actually occurred on this property. Ms. Burton explained the project was presented for a project review and there were conditions placed by the Planning Division stating that it needed approval by the CAR. There was a permit issued for an electrical permit but those conditions were still attached that there was to be a review by the CAR, issued on 8/03/2023. On August 16, 2023, Ms. Burton noted she was headed to another inspection and saw that the railing had been put up. She called into the inspections division, Mr. Fulcher, who contacted the company. After her inspection, she drove back past the home and the railings were still up. She contacted the company, they determined that they would cease work, that it would not be completed. The CAR meeting was on August 24, 2023, and during that review, she was informed the project had been completed; the vote from CAR was a denial of the project. Mr. Larking stated that the property owner and the installer did not have a full permit to put the solar panels on the building.

Council Member Buckner asked how the City was issuing permits for the work to be done before CAR approved it. Mr. Larking stated the permit was conditioned with getting CAR approval, but the work started before CAR approval. Mayor Jones asked why the City would not get with CAR first before money was spent or permits were given. If it was him, he would like to know from CAR before he started anything. Mr. Whittle noted in the conversation they were going to first be given the permit and then they can deny after it gets to the CAR, and Ms. Burton noted in general the procedure was that a permit was not issued until after review by CAR. This permit was issued prior to that; staff worked in their software to put in a stop when there were conditions; that was not active at that time. Now, once there was a condition that it must have review from the CAR, it was activated that there will be a stop placed on that permit, it cannot be issued until the Planning Division removes that. Mr. Buckner noted that was not this gentleman's problem.

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

VOTE: 8-0-1

AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
Vogler and Whittle, (8)

NAY: None (0)

ABSENT: Saunders (1)

CONSIDERATION OF REJECTING TWO NEW PUBLIC UTILITY REGULATORY POLICIES ACT (PURPA) STANDARDS

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

November 9, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-11.02

A RESOLUTION TO REJECT THE TWO NEW PURPA STANDARDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT OF 2021.

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

Council Member Whittle asked for clarification. Director of Utilities Jason Grey stated that all electric utilities have to follow standards, they don't have to follow all fourteen, but do have to follow seven of them. Two new standards came out that the City does not have to follow; but they have to go through the public process of seeking public input; they did that. The two that came out were for demand response and electric vehicles. The City can have their own program separate from that that do not have to follow the Federal guidelines.

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

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

CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF A SUPPORT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AND THE VIRGINIA SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING AUTHORITY

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-11.03

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA APPROVING SUPPORT AGREEMENT.

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

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

BUDGET AMENDMENT - CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET APPROPRIATION FOR A GRANT FROM THE EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JAG PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17,799

Upon **Motion** by Vice Mayor Miller and **second** by Council Member Mayo an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-11.01

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY INCREASING REVENUE FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF

November 9, 2023

JUSTICE 2023 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17,799.

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM VISITORS

Mayor Jones recognized Steve Barrow, owner of Hammerhill Computers and a U-Haul dealership at Five Forks, who introduced Jasmine Lipscomb, and employees, Keith Crews and Steve Gunner. Mr. Barrow's team passed out pictures of the dealership to Council and Mr. Barrow apologized for jumping past Ms. Burton, but this was a matter of urgency. They have been operating the U-Haul dealership for about a year. The trucks were in a fenced lot at 747 Loyal which was across the street from his shop. There was one vehicle parked out front for advertising. They were now being told that they were not zoned to have a U-Haul dealership in that area. Mr. Barrow noted he employs four people on the U-Haul and four people on Hammerhill Computers; if they did not have that dealership they would not be able to employ those people. They were also extending the U-Haul because they were going to open up a U-Haul Warehouse on Industrial which will have another three employees. Mr. Barrow noted he has also helped the homeless and opened a house for homeless men who were sleeping on the streets. Several of his employees who were homeless, and they spoke to Council about how Mr. Barrow has built up that area and helped them. Council Member Campbell recommended that Council amend codes to include business development there, and that the City needed to look at a special amended fee for this. Mayor Jones encouraged Mr. Barrow to contact Ms. Burton and follow the rules from her department, because there were state codes that the City Council cannot do anything about; Mr. Whitfield noted that was correct. Council Member Vogler stated he loved what Mr. Barrow was doing for the neighborhood and felt like this was an appropriate use for the property. Council Member Mayo stated Council was there for him and encouraged him to keep the vision he started out with, continue to grow and do what he was doing. Vice Mayor Miller stated what Mr. Barrow was doing was wonderful but there was a process.

COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Ken Larking reminded everyone that City Offices were closed on Friday, November 10 in observation of Veteran's Day, and thanked all veterans for their service to the country.

City Attorney Clarke Whitfield stated that the debt owed to the veterans was something that can never be repaid and thanked them for their and their families' sacrifices.

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

Council Member Mayo thanked the City of Danville, city staff, DCC, and all the agencies that participated in the community job and resource fair. He cannot express his gratitude for the city and what they can do. There were over 700 jobs, the turnout was astronomical, and there was truly no limit to what they can do together. Steve Barrow was there with his computers set up and even printed out resumes for people attending. It was about seeing what they can do to help their citizens. There were so many services available here and citizens can get the help that they need. They were looking forward to next year.

Vice Mayor Miller noted that Saturday was Veteran's Day and they can never say thank you enough for the veterans and what they have been through. Dr. Miller noted his wife was watching the news and a company called Circ, in Danville, that separates polyester from clothing and

November 9, 2023

recycles the clothing. CBS evening news highlighted Danville in this news post and this news station reaches millions of people.

Council Member Vogler spoke to all their Jewish brothers and sisters in Danville, across the country, and in Israel, they love and support them. It was astonishing to see a rise in antisemitism in this country, especially in college campuses. They have been in his prayers for the past several weeks and will continue to be. Council was about to go into their budget process for Fiscal Year 2025, and knows they all go into this process with things that they would like to see and achieve. Mr. Vogler noted for him, he would like Council to focus on a people first budget that lowers the car tax, real estate tax, and further expands tax relief for senior citizens. This was a time of prosperity in the City and it was time they make sure each one of their citizens share in that prosperity.

Council Member Buckner reminded everyone that the hospital moved the ER to start a year long renovation. The Bright Leaf Brewfest was Saturday from 11 a.m. to p.m. and encouraged citizens to come enjoy the festivities at the community market.

Council Member Campbell commented on Mrs. Hickson's death and the work that she had done for many generations in the community. Her homegoing celebration will be next Saturday at Bibleway Cathedral.

Council Member Hood thanked all the veterans for their services and how honored he was last Saturday in the parade to be able to shake veteran's hands and thank them, it meant a great deal to him. Mr. Hood noted the job and resource fair was a great event; Mrs. Hickson did many wonderful things for the Danville community and will be greatly missed. Danville fashion week premiered six years ago; the next fashion show was this Saturday at the Institute, season 9 and the theme was Freedom. There will be a civil rights documentary of Cora Tucker, the first African-American woman to run for governor, Saturday at the North Theater at 3 p.m.; the cost was \$20.

Mayor Jones discussed touring the historical museum and thanked Mr. Jones. To Mrs. Hickson's family and friends, they send their thoughts and prayers. Mayor Jones thanked all veterans for all of their services and all that they have done for this country. Mayor Jones noted Mr. Vogler's comments, people were wondering where Caesar's money was going. The City Manager put together a group of citizens to help voice where that money goes. Council has focused on their youth in the past, teachers will soon be getting a bonus, and many on Council have been talking about what they can do to help the citizens more. Now it was time for Council to focus on their citizens.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

APPROVED:

s/Alonzo L. Jones
MAYOR

ATTEST:

s/Susan M. DeMasi, CMC
CITY CLERK