DANVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

February 20, 2024

7:00 PM

PRESIDING:	Alonzo L. Jones, Mayor	
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:	James B. Buckner L.G. "Larry" Campbell, Jr. Bryant Hood Barry P. Mayo	Dr. Gary P. Miller, Vice Mayor Sherman M. Saunders J. Lee Vogler, Jr., Madison J. Whittle
STAFF:	Ken F. Larking, City Manager Earl B. Reynolds, Jr., Deputy City Manager	W. Clarke Whitfield, Jr., City Attorney Susan M. DeMasi, City Clerk

The City Council is the City of Danville's legislative body and is composed of nine Council members. Council members are elected to serve a four year term of office and elects one of its own to serve as Mayor and presiding officer for a two year term.

<u>Time and Place of Meeting</u>
The public is invited and encouraged to attend and participate in the City Council meetings. The City Council meets in the City Hall, Fourth Floor, Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month. All meetings of the Council are open to the public.

<u>Communications from Visitors</u>
Communication from Visitors is an opportunity for citizens, who have signed up to speak, to address Council on matters <u>not</u> on the agenda. Citizens who desire to speak on agenda items will be heard <u>when the agenda item is considered</u>. Each speaker shall clearly state his or her name and address, and shall have three uninterrupted minutes. A representative of a group may have up to five uninterrupted minutes to make a presentation. The representative shall identify the group and a group may have no more than one spokesperson. Time will be kept using the electronic timer on the podium.

<u>Guidelines for Public Hearings</u>
For Public Hearings the applicant or his or her representative shall be the first speaker(s). There shall be a time limit of ten (10) minutes for the applicant's or his or her representative's presentation. The presiding officer shall then solicit comments from the public, asking those in favor of the proposal to speak first, and then those opposed to the proposal. Each speaker must clearly state his or her name and address. There shall be a time limit of three (3) minutes for each individual speaker. If the speaker represents a group, there shall be a time limit of five (5) minutes. A speaker representing a group shall identify the group at the beginning of his or her remarks. A group may have no more than one spokesperson. The presiding officer may limit or preclude comment which is repetitive, redundant, cumulative, or irrelevant to the subject of the public hearing. After public comments have been received, in a land use case, the applicant or the representative of the applicant, at his or her discretion, may respond with a rebuttal. There shall be a five (5) minute time limit for rebuttal.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION - SHERMAN M. SAUNDERS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

MEETING MINUTES

A. Consideration of Approval of Minutes from Regular Council Meeting held on January 16, 2024.
Council Letter Number CL - 1173.

Consideration of Approval of Minutes from Regular Council Meeting held on January 16, 2024.

APPOINTMENTS

A. Consideration of Appointments to Boards and Commissions.
Council Letter Number CL - 1174.

1. A Resolution Reappointing Andre Bethea to the Southern Area Agency on Aging.
2. A Resolution Appointing Mandy Crowder to the Southern Area Agency on Aging.
3. A Resolution Appointing Hampton Wilkins to the Airport Commission to fill an unexpired term.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Review of General Fund Financials as of January 31, 2024.
Council Letter Number CL - 1083.

Review of General Fund Financials as of January 31, 2024. Financial Statements are included.

B. Consideration of Authorizing and Approving a Grant Application to Assist in the Removal of the White Mill/Long Mill Dam.
Council Letter Number CL - 1159.

A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Application by the City of Danville to the Virginia Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund for the Removal of the White Mill/Long Mill Dam.

C. Consideration of Amending the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Appropriation Ordinance by Increasing Revenues from Casino Gaming Taxes to Fund Capital Projects.
Council Letter Number CL - 2.

An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Appropriation Ordinance by Increasing Revenues from the Casino Gaming Taxes to Fund Capital Projects in the Amount of $2,000,000 and Appropriating the Same.
FIRST READING

COMMUNICATIONS FROM VISITORS

Communication from Visitors is an opportunity for citizens, who have signed up to speak, to address

Council on matters not on the agenda. Citizens who desire to speak on agenda items will be heard when the agenda item is considered. Each speaker shall clearly state his or her name and address. Each individual speaker shall have three uninterrupted minutes. A representative of a group may have up to five uninterrupted minutes to make a presentation. The representative shall identify the group and a group may have no more than one spokesperson. Time will be kept using the electronic timer on the podium.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. City Manager

B. Deputy City Manager

C. City Attorney

D. City Clerk

E. Roll Call

ADJOURNMENT

Council Letter
City of Danville, Virginia

CL - 1173 **MEETING MINUTES A.**

City Council REGULAR MEETING

Meeting Date: February 20, 2024

Subject: Approval of Meeting Minutes.

From: Susan DeMasi, City Clerk

COUNCIL ACTION

Consideration of Approval of Minutes from Regular Council Meeting held on January 16, 2024.

Attachments

1. Meeting Minutes

The Second January meeting of the Danville City Council was held on January 16, 2024, 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., 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). James B. Buckner 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 J. Lee Vogler Jr. gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Presentation: Update on the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research
By: Telly Tucker, President of IALR

Mr. Tucker introduced Dr. John Hughes, IV, who serves as the Executive Vice President for Operations at the Institute. Mr. Tucker began his update on Fiscal Year 2023 at the Institute, noting last year was a year that signified growth for the region; they served 5,116 students at the Career Choice Expo, 134 students in STEM camps this past summer and more than 14,000 across thirteen school divisions were enrolled in Major Clarity which helps them track student progress through K12 schools. The Institute was able to partner with the City on internship placement and placed 86 paid interns throughout the region as well as start eleven new registered apprenticeships with businesses as well. The GO Tech program will reach 9,000 plus students by 2024, across forty-four middle schools and divisions in Virginia. To date, they have 4,397 middle school students enrolled and served over the past year; this represents a $20M investment. In 2023 the Institute served more than 27,600 people in their conference center, representing an indirect impact for tourism. Mr. Tucker noted he wanted to recognize the Vice President of the Institute’s Conference Center, Leslie Dobbins, who announced her retirement at the end of the month. Mr. Tucker noted they have two AmeriCorp programs, one supports public health and the other was centered around support for STEM and literacy assistance with the youth. From an economic development standpoint, Linda Green and the Southern Virginia Regional Alliance team helped partner with localities including Danville, Pittsylvania County, Halifax County and Patrick County to support $335M in new capital investment during 2023, 545 new jobs, four company expansions and five companies locating in the southern Virginia region. The Institute’s research division, led by Dr. Scott Loman has engaged in 15 new NDAs with new companies that they were either partnering with, having a physical presence at the Institute, or using their labs in some way. Mr. Tucker noted their largest division, Manufacturing Advancement was the most rapidly growing division at the Instit+ute. They opened their Center for Manufacturing Advancement and had a groundbreaking on the new regional training center for ATDM. The Center for Manufacturing Advancement now has four businesses located within it, three of which were new to southern Virginia; the wages that were being paid by those companies were more than two times the average wage for this region. Mr. Tucker noted these were examples of their continued partnerships, a few examples of how they bring value to the region in terms of supporting the City’s goals and also being a collaborator and bringing together a diverse group of constituencies in support of economic transformation. Mr. Tucker asked Council to consider the Institute a partner, an ally and asset for this region and continue to utilize them. Council Members thanked Mr. Tucker for his presentation and the work the Institute was doing for the region.

MEETING MINUTES

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

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW OF GENERAL FUND FINANCIALS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023

Chief Financial Officer Michael Adkins began the review of the General Fund Financials as of December 31, 2023 which marks 50% of the Fiscal Year 2024 complete. Revenues were just over \$66M at this point and tracking well with budget, an increase of about \$9M over last year; a little over half of that increase was casino revenue related. If the amounts received from the state and directly from Caesars were combined, that was \$4.8M in December. Interest earnings were up \$1.2M over last year and most of the remaining increase was from local consumer taxes. Sales tax was currently at \$6.3M, or 53% of budget, running a little ahead, and an increase of \$640,000 over last year. Meals tax was very similar, the City received \$6M at the end of December, 53% of budget and an increase of \$635,000 over last year. Lodging was \$1.7M the first half of the year, 69% of budget, and an increase of \$350,000 over last year. December also marked the completion of the first of two property tax collection cycles for Fiscal Year 2024. Real Estate and Personal Property combined was just over \$19M, almost exactly 50% of budget, and where they would expect to be at halfway through the year. State and Federal funding was coming in as expected with no concerns there.

With regard to Expenditures, Departmental Spending was running just under budget at 45% at the end of December. Non-Departmental expenses were primarily group health insurance; that was running slightly ahead of budget at 52%, however, the premium restructuring went into effect January 1st so there may be some effects from that going forward. Last month, the Transfer to Schools was quite a bit ahead of budget. The City was basically funding some capital expenditures that will be reimbursed by the large grant they received from the state; the City started receiving those reimbursements now. Looking at this month's report, they were back down to 50% of school funding advanced to them.

Mayor Jones questioned the delinquent real estate taxes, was there a plan to go after them and Mr. Adkins noted they were constantly doing that. If a citizen doesn't pay the first half, they get a reminder when they get the second half bill and see the balance. The bills are quickly turned over to the outside collection agency and they use all the tools that were available to them including garnishments. If something doesn't get paid for quite a while, it eventually goes through the court system, and they auction that off as abandoned property. The City had another sale this past Friday with about twenty parcels that were available, all of them were purchased, and believed the City received \$480,000 from those sales.

Mr. Vogler questioned the process to decide what gets put on an auction, how does it get to that point and Mr. Adkins noted he has reached out to the outside collection agency for more detailed explanation of at what point do they seek the court's approval for auctioning those properties. When the City first started working with TACS they would always prioritize the parcels that had the most delinquent balances to collect as much money as possible. Mr. Adkins noted he will have that detailed information for Mr. Vogler. Vice Mayor Miller asked what the target number was for successful percentage to collect on delinquent taxes and Mr. Adkins noted he provides a collection report once a year to Council. The City has twenty years to collect Real Estate taxes, and usually by year sixteen or seventeen, the City was at 98% or 99%. It does not cost the City anything to use the collection agency; the agency tacks on a percentage to what was owed, and the delinquent tax payer actually paid them.

Mr. Vogler noted utility payments used to be only paid in person, then citizens could pay on-line but would have to pay that 2.75% fee and so some people wouldn't do that; Council decided to get rid of that fee for the user. Taxes can be paid in person, or paid online, but must pay that 2.75% fee. Mr. Vogler noted he would like Council to consider eliminating that fee, and paying taxes the same way the utility payments were paid. Mr. Vogler noted he understood that fee had to be paid and the City would meet that cost; if the City was trying to make it easier for people to pay their taxes and encourage them to do so, this was one way to do it.

Mayor Jones questioned what happened with past due personal property taxes and Mr. Adkins noted if the personal property tax was delinquent, the City can put a DMV stop which prevents someone from renewing their license. The state also has Debt Setoff; if the City files that with the state, if a citizen was due a refund on state taxes, and they owe money to the City, the City gets that first before the citizen gets what was left of their tax refund.

PRESENTATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2023 AUDIT

Mr. Adkins introduced Matt Heatwole, a partner with Brown Edwards & Company, who oversees and reviews the City's audit. Mr. Heatwole thanked Council for the opportunity to work with the City, Mr. Adkins and Ms. Chandler in Finance for a smooth audit process. One of the main documents was the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which goes into detail on several things, included the basic financial statements and a letter of transmittal written by Mr. Larking and Mr. Adkins. It also includes a Management and Analysis section. The City files the report with the GFOA, the Government Finance Officers Association and receives a yearly award for the presentation of that report; the City has received that award for 37 consecutive years. A copy of the certificate was in the report, and they have applied for that award for Fiscal Year 2023.

The Audit Report was included in the Financial Statements, and they issued a clean, unmodified Audit Opinion; it was the highest and best opinion the City can receive. It means based on their audit, they believe the City's financial statements, disclosures and so forth were materially correct and in accordance with accounting principles of the U.S. Two other reports they issued were a report on internal controls and compliance issues, and another related to the federal expenditures the City expends each year; that was also an unmodified or clean audit opinion.

Two other letters were issued, one was Comments on Internal Controls and the other, Suggestions for Consideration. They were issued as a tool for management if they come across internal control best practices they think would benefit the City. Also included in that letter were updates to accounting standards which were always changing. The final letter was a letter addressed to City Council called Required Communications with those Charged with Governance. The purpose of that was to discuss any significant audit issues that arose as a part of the audit. It goes into detail on some estimates inherent in the Financial Statements and corrected misstatements; uncorrected misstatements were disclosed for Council to review. Attached to that was a Management Representation letter, a final piece of the audit where they obtain specific representations from management; it was important to include it in that letter.

Council Member Whittle asked if they found any discrepancies and Mr. Heatwole noted they did not find any they would call material. Any adjustments they may have come from a numbers perspective, were disclosed in the Required Communications and discussed with management as they come across those.

CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE RELEASE OF NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIENS AFFECTING PARCEL #23531 ON HUGHES STREET

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01.02

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF CITY-HELD LIENS AGAINST REAL PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL #23531 (HUGHES STREET), TO FACILITATE ITS DONATION TO THE DANVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

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

VOTE:	7-0-1-1
AYE:	Campbell, Jones, Mayo, Miller, Saunders, Vogler, and Whittle (7)
NAY:	None (0)
ABSENT:	Buckner (1)
ABSTAIN:	Hood (1)

CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE RELEASE OF NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIENS AFFECTING PARCELS ON GROVE STREET, COLQUHOUN STREET, LEE STREET, AND STOKES STREET

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01.03

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF CITY-HELD LIENS AGAINST REAL PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS PARCELS #20616, #20675, #20745, #22133, AND #23408, TO FACILITATE THEIR DONATION TO THE DANVILLE REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY.

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

Council Member Whittle asked for an explanation and Assistant City Attorney Ryan Dodson explained that three of these lots have large tax delinquencies due to demolition costs for unsafe structures; the owners do not have sufficient funds to cover the cost. The other option might be to go to auction which would take a few years. Because of the difficulty of this, the City will look to see if they can use the property, or the Housing Authority or the Neighborhood Development Corporation can use the property. There were lots on Grove and Stokes Street that can be used in the future by the City’s partners. The two lots on Colquhoun Street were not actually tax delinquent but the property owner was throwing those in to compensate for the fact that the City was writing off larger amounts.

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

VOTE:	6-0-2-1
AYE:	Campbell, Mayo, Miller, Saunders, Vogler, and Whittle (6)
NAY:	None (0)
ABSTAIN:	Hood, Jones (2)
ABSENT:	Buckner (1)

CONSIDERATION OF A REZONING APPLICATION FILED BY J. CUBAS HOLDINGS, LLC, REQUESTING TO REZONE PARCELS ON JENNY LANE FROM T-R THRESHOLD RESIDENTIAL TO S-R SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Rezoning Application on Jenny Lane. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on January 2, 2024 and January 9, 2024.

Mayor Jones recognized the applicant, Joe Cubas, who noted there were two properties on Jenny Lane, one was 46 acres, one was 55 acres. Both of these were zoned TR-Residential which basically provides for two units per acre, single family detached homes. Their request was to rezone it to SR Suburban Residential which was three units per acre. After listening to neighbors and members of the community they decided to withdraw the RV park from the 46 acre parcel and put in homes like they were going to do on the 55 acre property. Mr. Cubas stated he knew there were several issues that needed to be worked through and was more than willing to do so. This was just the rezoning request from two units per acre to three. They still have to bring in their Engineers, draw up the site plans for submission, get permits, hire local general contractors and then from there will hire subcontractors to do all the trades that comprise the actual construction.

Mayor Jones recognized Wade Murphy who stated at the Planning Commission meeting, the approval was with the understanding that there would be a traffic impact analysis because of the number of cars being added to the traffic on Jenny Lane.

Mayor Jones recognized Donna Pruitt, 600 Jenny Lane, who spoke to Council about a traffic impact study being conducted as mentioned by the Planning Commission; it would be a different study than for the RV park because it was a different scenario. She was also concerned about the construction traffic during this multiyear process, how would that be handled on the roads. Ms. Pruitt asked if the sewer would go to the existing homes on the road once they start running that, and that there was a deaf child in the area and wanted to know who to contact to have a sign put up in the community to slow the traffic down if possible.

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. 2024-01.07

AN ORDINANCE REZONING FROM T-R THRESHOLD RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICT TO S-R SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICT PARCEL IDS 75941, 77419, 77420, 77421, AND 77422 (JENNY LANE).

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

Mayor Jones questioned the City Manager regarding the traffic impact study, sewer and a sign. Mr. Larking stated for this type of rezoning, a traffic impact analysis was not required. Director of Planning Renee Burton stated that was correct; there were still a lot of unknowns, and they were not sure of the total yield. As Mr. Cubas stated, engineering needed to be done and there were a lot of things to be figured out before a total yield could be determined. Mr. Larking explained for the subdivision to be approved there would need to be public sewer serving the property. The City would have to examine the layout, where the sewer tap would be, what would be required to get the sewer there and make a determination. The Public Works director prefers, and best practice was, to have gravity sewer serving customers because pumping sewer has multiple issues. Mr. Larking noted he will talk with the Public Works Director about the sign request.

Council Member Vogler asked if staff recommended this be approved and was this unanimously approved by the Planning Commission, and Ms. Burton stated it was. Mr. Vogler noted that for at least a year the Council and staff have acknowledged that Danville needs more housing and have asked for housing projects to handle the growth in Danville. Mr. Vogler noted for himself, this was a yes vote. Council Member Saunders asked Mr. Cubas if he said some property may be added later and Mr. Cubas stated additional property would not be added for this subdivision, just these two properties. Council Member Campbell asked how many acres were there in total, and Mr. Cubas stated that one property was 46, and the other was 55 acres but not all the property can be developed. Rev. Campbell asked if Mr. Cubas was talking about roughly 300 homes, and Mr. Cubas explained that due to roads and other structures being built, there cannot be 300 homes built in this development. Mr. Larking noted there will be streets, stormwater and other needs, and parts of the acreage cannot be developed. It was unlikely for three hundred homes to be built. Council Member Hood asked if this would be continuous construction, and Mr. Cubas stated this will be done in phases and should be continuous construction, however, it will depend on sales. Mr. Vogler asked if there was a price range for these homes, and Mr. Cubas stated these homes will stay between the $300,000 to $350,000 range.

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

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

<u>CONSIDERATION OF A REZONING APPLICATION FILED BY J. CUBAS HOLDINGS, LLC, REQUESTING TO REZONE PARCEL 78052 ON JENNY LANE FROM T-R THRESHOLD RESIDENTIAL TO S-R SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL</u>

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Rezoning Application on Jenny Lane. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on January 2, 2024 and January 9, 2024.

Mayor Jones recognized Donna Pruitt, 600 Jenny Lane; Ms. Pruitt noted she had not stated her opposition previously to three units instead of two, and also her concern was regarding the traffic.

Mayor Jones recognized Wade Murphy who noted from the Planning Commission meeting, they heard there would be a traffic impact analysis done. Hearing tonight it was not necessary was different from what they heard before.

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. 2024-01.08

CONSIDERATION OF A REZONING APPLICATION FILED BY J. CUBAS HOLDINGS, LLC, REQUESTING TO REZONE PARCEL 78052 ON JENNY LANE FROM T-R THRESHOLD RESIDENTIAL TO S-R SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL.

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM VISITORS

Mayor Jones recognized Steve Barrow who spoke about the community garden he was considering starting on Colquohoun Street. Anyone interested can come to Hammerhill Computers at 185 Wilson Street to sign up.

COMMUNICATIONS

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

Vice Mayor Miller spoke about the cyber security program at DCC and how much these attacks cost cities to fix. Dr. Miller noted Sunday, Averett sponsored a dinner, Dr. Hairston was the keynote speaker, and she did not disappoint. She talked about the City schools and what was going on. Dr. Miller noted Cherrystone had a sold-out breakfast on Monday morning with 450 people; it was a very moving event.

Council Member Vogler discussed a people first budget, lowering taxes and fees, different ideas that the Council Members have, and looking out for citizens. Mr. Vogler noted how smoothly Council works through a process, respectfully rather than like some other elected bodies. Eliminating the online fee may be what needed to be done to make it easier for people to pay things online; Richmond was eliminating the fee for citizens to pay their taxes.

Council Member Whittle thanked Mr. Tucker for his presentation and what the Institute does for the City, and to Mr. Cubas for the project that his group was starting. Mr. Whittle stated if the City could get a 5%/net 10 days on paying taxes on time, it might make things a little less painful. When discussing the budget, if the Governor does remove state vehicle tax, it was a $3.5M deficit for the City, and Mr. Adkins noted it was roughly $19M. Mr. Whittle noted he received a nice note from citizens about an employee Antionette Harris providing excellent customer service, and was glad to see the auction bring in over $400k.

Council Member Campbell discussed the climate change workshops being held every Friday in February from 9:30 am to 11:30 am at 206 N Union Street in the Plan Danville office; this was a project that every citizen can participate in. In reference to City contracts, Rev. Campbell questioned if there was a certain percentage of contracts that were given to minorities, and Mr. Larking stated he would get back to Reverend Campbell with those numbers.

Council Member Hood commented on his visits to the schools with Tyrell Payne at GW, Westwood, and Bonner; it was a great time. On Sunday, he joined SCLC for the MLK candlelight march and had the opportunity to walk with the new police chief; they had a great turnout. Mr. Hood noted he was involved in the PIT count which was coming up February 24th through HUD, with the West Piedmont Housing Coalition, DRHA and other stakeholders; they will be doing a Point in Time count where volunteers and citizens go out in the community from 6 pm to 6 am looking for people who were homeless, collecting data, and providing resources to those individuals.

Council Member Whittle noted regarding the PIT count, if there was a card that they can give the people to give them information on resources and Mr. Hood noted they provide information to those they encounter on how to get in contact with different resources.

Council Member Mayo thanked Mr. Boston and everyone for coming out tonight and noted the ribbon cutting at Hughes Home was phenomenal with Council attending, and thanked Mr. Tucker and Dr. Hughes for coming to Council. Mr. Mayo encouraged Mr. Barrow to keep doing what he was doing in the Five-Fork Area. The MLK breakfast and the weekend in general was great with a lot of events going on this weekend.

Mayor Jones reminded everyone that Danville Public Schools will be closed tomorrow, and asked Mr. Boston to come up and receive a proper welcome to Danville. Mr. Boston greeted everyone with “laissez le bon temps rouler” which was Creole for “let the good times roll”. He was looking to bring in a safe place for adults to come and enjoy themselves while tasting great Cajun cuisine; they were opening at the former Grizzly Hatchet House.

Mayor Jones commented on the phenomenal job at the MLK event, and thanked Mr. Tucker and Dr. Hughes for the amazing job they do at the Institute. Mayor Jones noted Dr. Miller had commented on Dr. Hairston’s amazing job at the Sunday dinner; her presentation on hurt people and risky behaviors touched him. There were three communities in Danville that they needed to tackle, and as a community they need to look out for their young people. Mayor Jones asked citizens to continue to pray for their teachers.

ADJOURNED: 8:54 p.m.

APPROVED:

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MAYOR

ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK

Council Letter
City of Danville, Virginia

CL - 1174 **APPOINTMENTS A.**

City Council REGULAR MEETING

Meeting Date: February 20, 2024

Subject: Consideration of Appointments to Boards and Commissions.

From: Susan DeMasi, City Clerk

COUNCIL ACTION

1. A Resolution Reappointing Andre Bethea to the Southern Area Agency on Aging.

2. A Resolution Appointing Mandy Crowder to the Southern Area Agency on Aging.

3. A Resolution Appointing Hampton Wilkins to the Airport Commission to fill an unexpired term.

Attachments

1. Resolutions

PRESENTED: ____________

ADOPTED: ___________

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 – ___ . ___

A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ANDRE BETHEA AS A MEMBER OF THE SOUTHERN AREA AGENCY ON AGING.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Danville, Virginia, that Andre Bethea be, and he is hereby reappointed as a member of the Southern Area Agency on Aging for a three-year term commencing March 1, 2024 and ending February 28, 2027.

APPROVED:

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MAYOR

ATTEST:

____
CITY CLERK

PRESENTED: ____________

ADOPTED: ____________

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 – ___ . ___

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MANDY CROWDER AS A MEMBER OF THE SOUTHERN AREA AGENCY ON AGING.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Danville, Virginia, that Mandy Crowder be, and she is hereby appointed as a member of the Southern Area Agency on Aging for a three-year term commencing March 1, 2024 and ending February 28, 2027.

APPROVED:

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MAYOR

ATTEST:

____
CITY CLERK

PRESENTED: ____________

ADOPTED: ____________

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 – ___ . ___

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING HAMPTON WILKINS AS A MEMBER OF THE AIRPORT COMMISSION TO FILL AN UNEXPIRED TERM.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Danville, Virginia, that Hampton Wilkins be, and he is hereby appointed as a member of the Airport Commission to fill an unexpired term ending June 30, 2024.

APPROVED:

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MAYOR

ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK

Council Letter
City of Danville, Virginia

CL - 1083 **NEW BUSINESS A.**

City Council REGULAR MEETING

Meeting Date: February 20, 2024

Subject: Review of General Fund Financials as of January 31, 2024.

From: Michael Adkins, Chief Financial Officer

COUNCIL ACTION

Review of General Fund Financials as of January 31, 2024. Financial Statements are included.

Attachments

1. Financial Statements

City of Danville
Department of Finance
Michael Adkins, Director

To: **Ken F. Larking, City Manager**

From: **Michael L. Adkins, Chief Financial Officer**

Date: **February 12, 2024**

Subject: Summary of Preliminary General Fund Financial Results for January 31, 2024

After completing the first seven months of fiscal year 2024, revenues are ahead of the previous year. As of January 31, General Fund revenues were $77,650,142. This represents 55% of our FY 2024 budget. This is an increase of $13.1 million over January 31, 2023. Apart from small decreases in fines, charges for services, state categorical aid and federal categorical aid, all major revenue categories are ahead of the prior year. The increase over last year is primarily from growth in property and local taxes, along with the increase for the gaming tax revenue.

General Property Tax collections continue to perform well with 52% of the budgeted property tax realized at the end of January. More specifically, real estate tax collections through the end of January amounted to $9,982,182 or 53% of the budgeted real estate tax revenue. We continue to see steady performance in the collection of delinquent real estate taxes this year with $674,148 realized in the first seven months. This accounts for 75% of the current year budget. Personal property tax collections are tracking as expected with 50% realized as of January 31.

Regarding local taxes, sales tax collections through January amounted to $7,405,994 or 62% of budget, an increase of $851,922 from last year. Meals taxes collected for the first seven months of the fiscal year amounted to $7,061,764 or 62% of budget, an increase of $715,525 from last year. Business Licenses realized through the end of January were $1,526,050, an increase of $288,836 from the prior year. Lodging taxes received as of January 31, were $1,902,876 or 77% of budget, an increase of $362,211 from the prior year. The Ceasars Min Fee received as of January 31, was $2,856,646 or 57% of budget. Apart from small decreases in utility taxes, vehicle license fees, and DMV fees, all other local tax revenue categories are tracking well with budget and are exceeding the prior year at this point.

Expenditures through January 31 were $74,826,906 or 48% of budget. This is an overall decrease of $5.7 million when compared to January 31, 2023. This decrease can be primarily attributed to a decrease in transfers to schools of nearly $9 million offset by an increase in departmental expenditures of $4 million. As mentioned in previous months, Danville Public Schools increased funding for several grant related projects in which the City funded as the schools awaited reimbursements. We received part of the reimbursement in December amounting to $8 million thus reflecting a decrease in expenditures over the prior year. The increase in departmental spending is attributed to an increase in salaries in benefits, along with timing of payments for maintenance service contracts within general government and operating and debt service expenses related to the new police headquarters.

General Fund revenues exceeded expenditures by $2.8 million, an improvement of $18.9 million when compared to the deficit of $16 million in the prior fiscal year. Typically, the General Fund is in a deficit for most of the fiscal year due to the timing of revenue recognition not being matched to expenditures, however, the increase in revenue and the decrease in expenditures resulted in a surplus at the end of January. At this point, the General Fund is performing above expectations.

CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA
GENERAL FUND REPORT
58% OF YEAR LAPSED AS OF JANUARY 31, 2024
PRE-CLOSING FIGURES - SUBJECT TO CHANGE - UNAUDITED

	Budgets & Appropriations For Current Year	Actual Revenues & Expenditures For Year-to-Date	Percent Realized/Expended This Year	Encumbrances	Balance to be Realized/Expended	Actual Revenues & Expenditures At This Date Last Year
REVENUES:						
Property Taxes	$ 38,347,010	$ 19,667,734	51.29%		$ 18,679,276	$ 19,034,085
Other Local Taxes	41,230,430	22,038,189	53.45%		19,192,241	16,981,419
License Permits & Privilege Fees	424,040	406,581	95.88%		17,459	299,491
Fines & Forfeitures	277,760	101,027	36.37%		176,733	130,180
Revenue From Use Money & Property	3,969,170	2,323,035	58.53%		1,646,135	949,053
Charges For Services	3,140,340	1,631,547	51.95%		1,508,793	1,889,043
Miscellaneous Revenue	25,100	184,624	735.55%		(159,524)	178,023
Recovered Cost	8,900,992	5,041,848	56.64%		3,859,144	4,775,676
Non-Categorical Aid	13,382,620	8,862,781	66.23%		4,519,839	2,988,304
Shared Expenses (Categ. Aid State)	6,021,050	2,842,697	47.21%		3,178,353	3,206,522
Categorical Aid (State)	10,223,090	5,451,218	53.32%		4,771,872	4,819,449
Emergency Services (Federal)	27,020	-	0.00%		27,020	-
Categorical Aid (Federal)	-	5,860			(5,860)	9,435
Transfers From Utilities	15,588,000	9,093,000	58.33%		6,495,000	9,246,916
TOTAL REVENUES	**$ 141,556,622**	**$ 77,650,142**	**54.85%**		**$ 63,906,480**	**$ 64,507,596**
EXPENDITURES:						
General Government Administration	$ 14,613,948	$ 9,055,745	61.97%	$ 110,312	$ 5,447,892	$ 8,517,800
Judicial Administration	9,211,265	4,948,558	53.72%	9,146	4,253,561	4,942,477
Public Safety	38,820,603	22,392,334	57.68%	468,833	15,959,437	20,472,107
Public Works	5,267,922	2,757,606	52.35%	117,533	2,392,783	2,813,340
Health, Education, Welfare & Soc. Svc.	10,006,616	4,350,685	43.48%	36,178	5,619,753	4,244,300
Parks, Recreation & Cultural	6,330,734	3,333,108	52.65%	31,955	2,965,671	2,843,516
Community Development	4,842,522	2,185,709	45.14%	29,723	2,627,090	1,194,275
Non-Departmental	19,512,886	9,724,758	49.84%	-	9,788,129	9,411,073
Transfer to Schools - Operating	36,633,907	12,965,821	35.39%	-	23,668,087	21,934,906
Transfer to Capital Projects	6,869,503	1,624,033	23.64%	-	5,245,470	3,045,000
Transfer to Other Funds	3,892,050	1,488,551	38.25%	-	2,403,499	1,145,808
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	**$ 156,001,957**	**$ 74,826,906**	**47.97%**	**$ 803,679**	**$ 80,371,371**	**$ 80,564,603**
Revenue over(under) Expenditures		$ 2,823,236				$ (16,057,007)
FUND BALANCE:						
Beginning Fund Balance 07/01/2023		$ 55,069,404				$ 46,401,528
Revenue over(under) Expenditures		2,823,236				(16,057,007)
Ending Fund Balance 1/31/2024		**$ 57,892,640**				**$ 30,344,521**
Composition of Fund Balance:						
Reserved for Encumbrances/Designated Funds		$ 16,501,108				$ 14,105,903
Unassigned		41,391,533				24,258,601
TOTAL FUND BALANCE 12/31/2023		**$ 57,892,640**				**$ 38,364,504**

2/12/2024

CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA
GENERAL FUND
COMPOSITION OF FUND BALANCE
PRELIMINARY - AS OF JANUARY 31, 2024

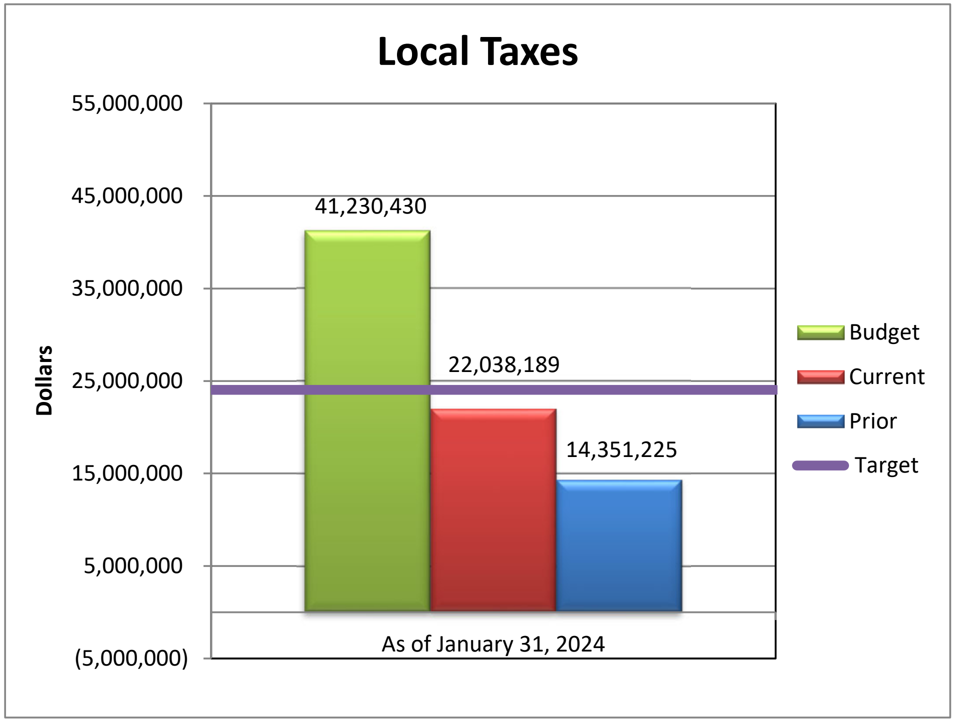
Beginning Total Fund Balance, July 1, 2023	55,069,403.89
Add: General Fund Revenues	77,650,142.23
Deduct: General Fund Expenditures	(74,826,906.01)
Ending Total Fund Balance, January 31, 2024	57,892,640.11

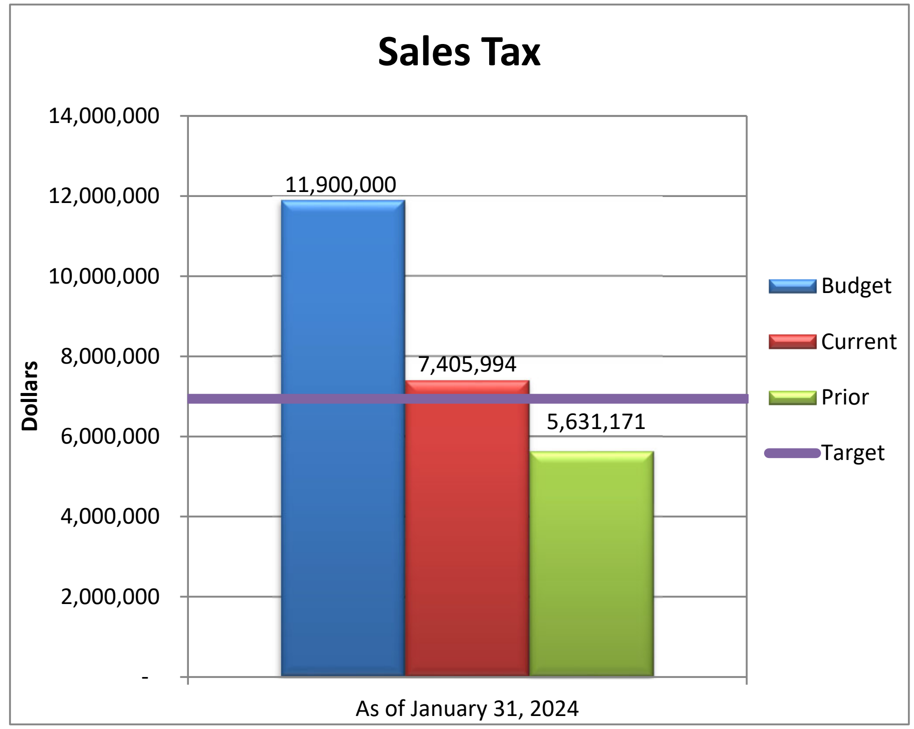
Composition of Fund Balance:	
Restricted for Commonwealth Attorney	102,335.92
Restricted for Police Department	40,297.41
Restricted for Fire Department	132,802.75
Committed for Sheriff's Department	9,908.73
Committed to Schools	9,199,100.67
Committed to Budget Stabilization	3,000,000.00
Assigned to Sheriff's Department	13,114.68
Assigned to Community Development	61,860.99
Assigned for Encumbrances	803,679.41
Assigned Casino Revenue	2,623,179.00
Nonspendable (Inventory and Prepaids)	514,828.02
UNASSIGNED	**41,391,532.53**
Total Fund Balance, January 31, 2024	57,892,640.11

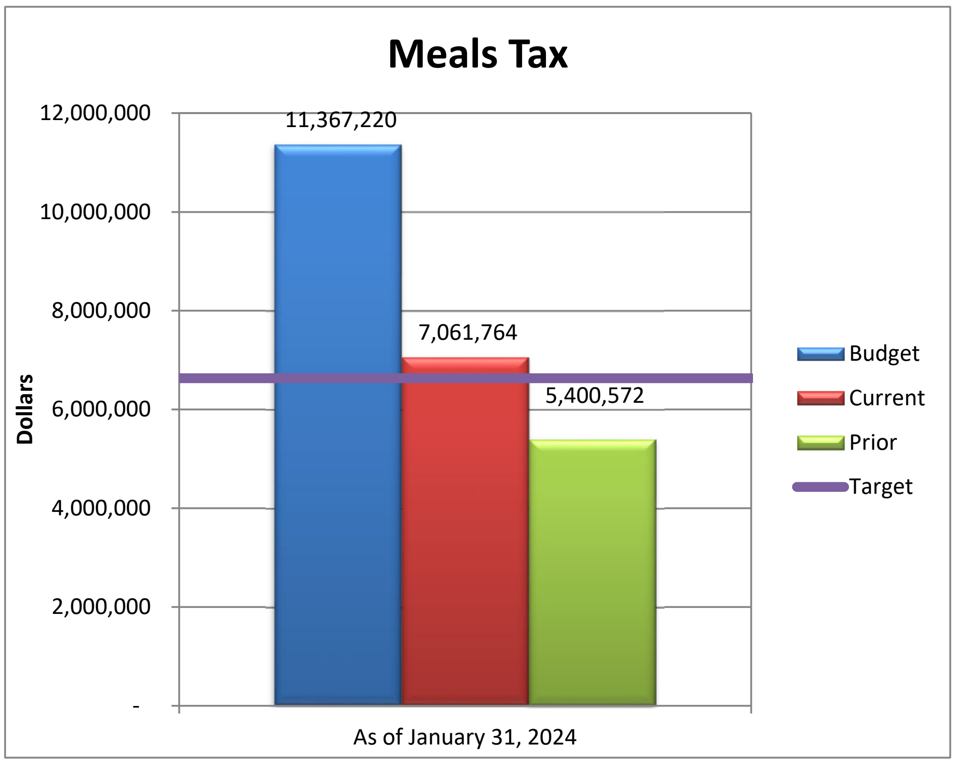
Unassigned fund balance from above	41,391,532.53
Unassigned Minimum per policy (20% of General Fund Operating Revenues) based on FY 2024 budget	28,311,324.38
Current surplus (deficit) over (under) minimum	13,080,208.15

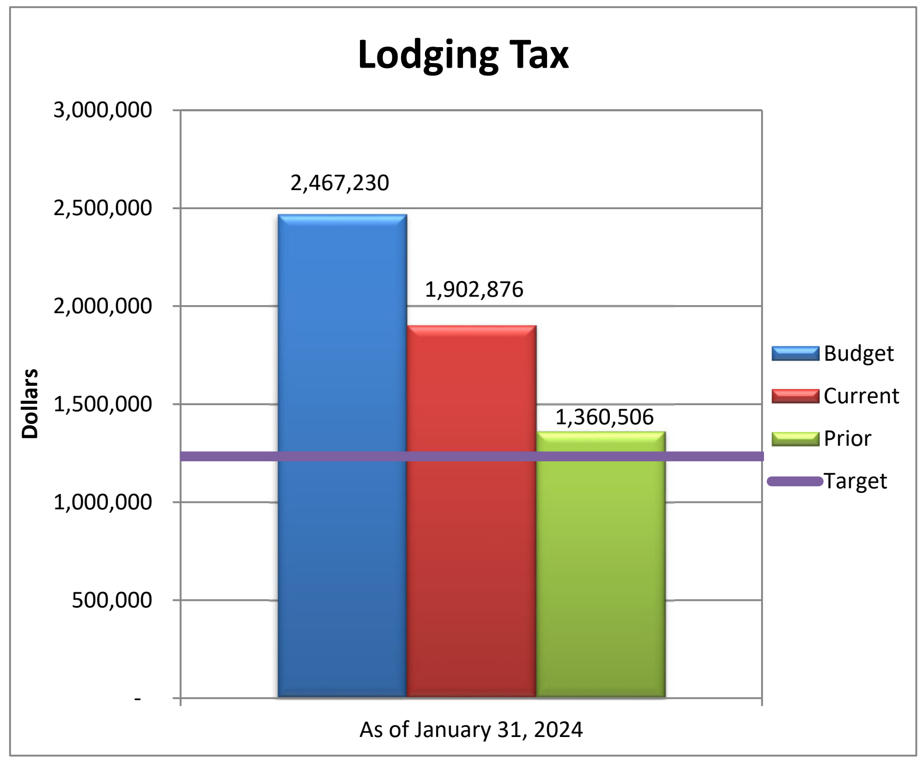
City of Danville, Virginia
Summary of Other Local Tax Revenues - PRE-CLOSING - UNAUDITED
For the period ending January 31, 2024

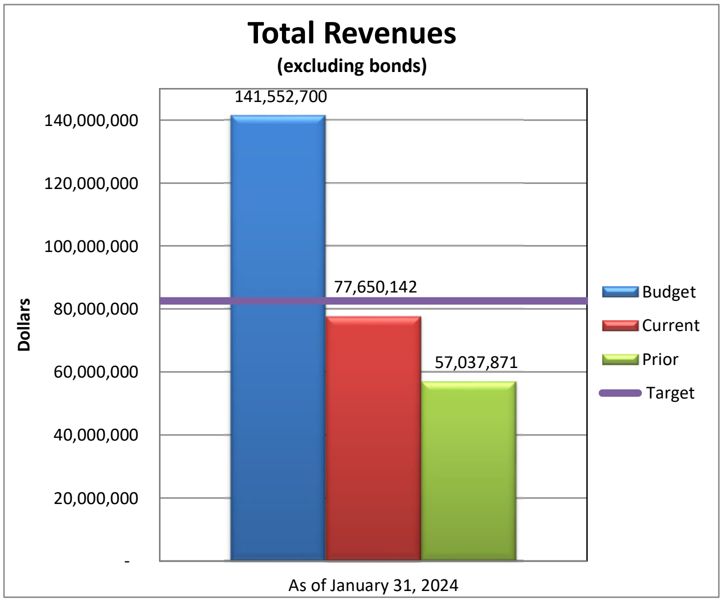
Description	Current Budget	Revenue Realized	Percentage Realized	Prior Year Budget	Prior Year Realized	Percentage Prior Year
Sales Tax	$ 11,900,000	$ 7,405,994	62.24%	$ 11,302,050	$ 6,554,072	57.99%
Business Licenses	6,800,000	1,526,050	22.44%	5,430,000	1,237,213	22.78%
Meals Tax	11,367,220	7,061,764	62.12%	10,800,000	6,346,240	58.76%
Utility Taxes	930,000	526,914	56.66%	930,000	534,853	57.51%
Vehicle License Fees	1,000,000	269,058	26.91%	1,000,000	281,216	28.12%
Bank Stock Tax	1,000,000	-	0.00%	1,000,000	-	0.00%
Recordation Tax	270,000	210,445	77.94%	270,000	207,987	77.03%
Hotel Motel Tax	2,467,230	1,902,876	77.13%	2,885,080	1,540,665	53.40%
Daily Property Rental Tax	15,980	16,495	103.22%	12,370	15,521	125.48%
Motor Vehicle Tax	200,000	144,621	72.31%	200,000	137,093	68.55%
DMV Fees	280,000	117,326	41.90%	250,000	126,559	50.62%
Ceasars Min Fee	5,000,000	2,856,646	57.13%	-	-	0.00%
TOTAL	$ 41,230,430	$ 22,038,189	53.45%	$ 34,079,500	$ 16,981,419	49.83%


Local Taxes
55,000,000
45,000,000
35,000,000
25,000,000
15,000,000
5,000,000
(5,000,000)
Dollars
41,230,430
22,038,189
14,351,225
As of January 31, 2024
Budget
Current
Prior
Target

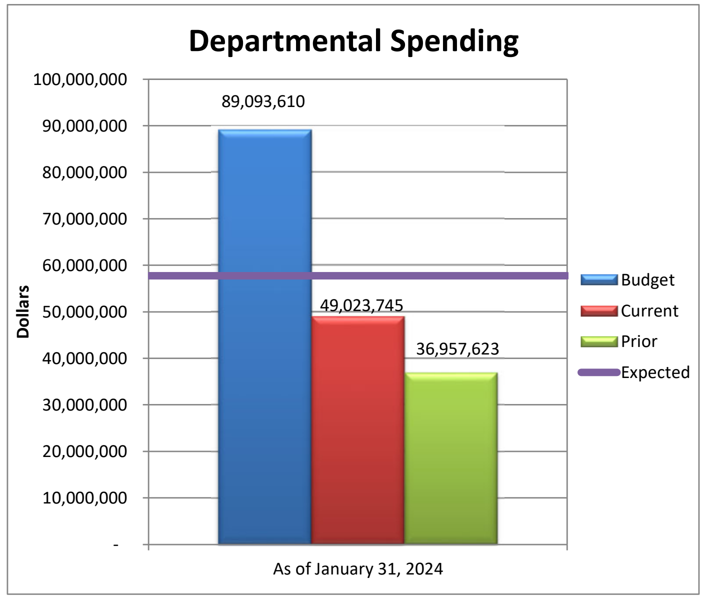

Sales Tax
14,000,000
12,000,000
10,000,000
8,000,000
6,000,000
4,000,000
2,000,000
-
Dollars
11,900,000
7,405,994
5,631,171
As of January 31, 2024
Budget
Current
Prior
Target


Meals Tax
12,000,000
10,000,000
8,000,000
6,000,000
4,000,000
2,000,000
-
Dollars
11,367,220
7,061,764
5,400,572
As of January 31, 2024
Budget
Current
Prior
Target

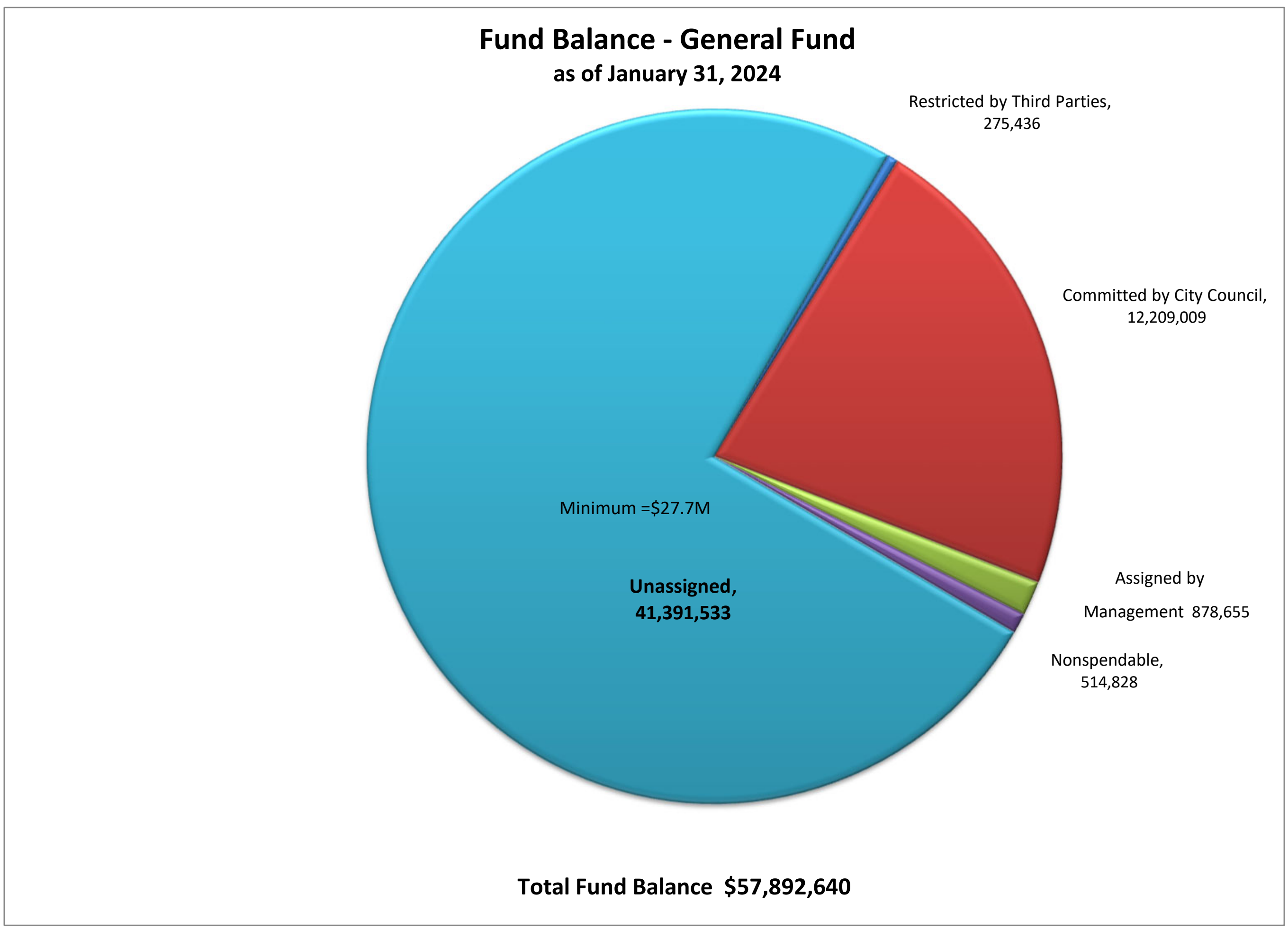

Lodging Tax
3,000,000
2,500,000
2,000,000
1,500,000
1,000,000
500,000
-
Dollars
2,467,230
1,902,876
1,360,506
As of January 31, 2024
Budget
Current
Prior
Target



Total Revenues
(excluding bonds)
141,552,700
77,650,142
57,037,871
140,000,000
120,000,000
100,000,000
80,000,000
60,000,000
40,000,000
20,000,000
-
Dollars
Budget
Current
Prior
Target
As of January 31, 2024



Departmental Spending
100,000,000
90,000,000
80,000,000
70,000,000
60,000,000
50,000,000
40,000,000
30,000,000
20,000,000
10,000,000
-
Dollars
89,093,610
49,023,745
36,957,623
Budget
Current
Prior
Expected
As of January 31, 2024



Fund Balance - General Fund
as of January 31, 2024
Restricted by Third Parties, 275,436
Committed by City Council, 12,209,009
Minimum =$27.7M
Unassigned, 41,391,533
Assigned by Management 878,655
Nonspendable, 514,828
Total Fund Balance $57,892,640

Council Letter
City of Danville, Virginia

CL - 1159 **NEW BUSINESS B.**

City Council REGULAR MEETING

Meeting Date: February 20, 2024

Subject: Consideration of Authorizing and Approving a Grant Application to Assist in the Removal of the White Mill/Long Mill Dam.

From: Aisha Gwynn, Grant Administrator

COUNCIL ACTION

A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Application by the City of Danville to the Virginia Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund for the Removal of the White Mill/Long Mill Dam.

SUMMARY

In response to the adopted Resolution at the July 5, 2022, City Council Meeting, a grant has been located that could match up to 50% of a total award of $1,000,000 for the removal of the Long Mill/White Mill Dam. The matching grant award is provided by the Virginia Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund. A Resolution from City Council in support of this grant application is required to apply.

BACKGROUND

A resolution was adopted for the removal of the Long Mill/White Mill Dam at the July 5, 2022, regularly scheduled City Council meeting, noting the removal was in the interest of public safety and to mitigate flooding concerns in and around future planned development along that stretch of the Dan River. Removing the non-functioning, low-head dam is in the interest of public safety and public investment. A grant has been identified that can provide up to 50% matching funds for the removal of regulated dams. The funding is provided via the Virginia Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund. An eligibility requirement is the adoption of a Resolution requesting assistance from the Virginia Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund for the purposes of removing the White Mill/Long Mill Dam.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approving this Resolution which will enable the City to apply for the grant.

Attachments

1. Resolution

PRESENTED:________________________

ADOPTED: __________________________

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-________

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF DANVILLE TO THE VIRGINIA DAM SAFETY, FLOOD PREVENTION AND PROTECTION ASSISTANCE FUND FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE WHITE MILL/LONG MILL DAM.

WHEREAS, the City of Danville, Virginia is requesting assistance from the Virginia Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund for the removal of the White Mill/Long Mill Dam in the amount of $1,000,000 to assist the City of Danville in its efforts to protect human life and restore a section of the natural environment of the Dan River.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Danville, Virginia, that it does hereby approve and authorize the City of Danville to request assistance from the Fund by submitting a grant application to the Virginia Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund in the amount of $1,000,000 to assist the City of Danville in its efforts to remove the White Mill/Long Mill Dam; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, Kenneth F. Larking be, and is hereby, authorized to execute any and all documents pertaining to said grant application.

Approved:

____
Mayor

Attest:

____
City Clerk

Approved as to
Form and legal sufficiency:

____
City Attorney

Local Certification

The applicant herby assures and certifies that:

It possesses legal authority to request assistance and apply for the Virginia Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund.

The White Mill/Long Mill Dam is owned by the City of Danville.

Its governing body has duly adopted or passes as an official act a resolution, motion, or similar action authorizing the filing of the application including all understandings and assurances contained therein, and directing and authorizing the person identified as the official representative of the application to act in connection with application and to provide such additional information as may be required.

That the information contained in the application is true and correct.

Chief Administrative Official

____

Name:___________________________

Title:____________________________

Date:____________________________

Council Letter
City of Danville, Virginia

CL - 2 **NEW BUSINESS C.**

City Council REGULAR MEETING

Meeting Date: February 20, 2024

Subject: Consideration of Amending the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Appropriation Ordinance by Increasing Revenues from Casino Gaming Taxes to Fund Capital Projects.

From: Henrietta Weaver, Budget Director

COUNCIL ACTION

An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Appropriation Ordinance by Increasing Revenues from the Casino Gaming Taxes to Fund Capital Projects in the Amount of $2,000,000 and Appropriating the Same.

FIRST READING

SUMMARY

Revenues from casino gaming taxes are anticipated to exceed previously budgeted amounts. The additional revenues will be used to fund the construction of Ballou Park Splash Pad for $1 million and the design and placement of underground electric lines along West Main Street in front of the casino and adjacent properties for $1 million.

BACKGROUND

The City's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Appropriation Ordinance includes estimates for casino gaming taxes using the best available information. Casino gaming taxes are on trend to exceed fiscal year estimates. The projects intended to be funded by the increased revenues are one-time type expenditures, since the revenue derived from this funding source is highly contingent on the state of the economy.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Appropriation Ordinance.

Attachments

1. Ordinance

PRESENTED: ____________________

ADOPTED: ______________________

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 -____.____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY INCREASING REVENUES FROM THE CASINO GAMING TAXES TO FUND CAPITAL PROJECTS IN THE AMOUNT OF $2,000,000 AND APPROPRIATING THE SAME.

WHEREAS, the City anticipates the receipt of an additional $2,000,000 in casino gaming taxes to be used to fund Phases 1 and 2 of the Ballou Park Splash Pad construction and the placement of underground electric lines along West Main Street .

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of Danville, Virginia, that the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Appropriation Ordinance be, and the same hereby is, amended, by increasing revenues in the General Fund and appropriating same to be as follows:

ANTICIPATED REVENUES

Description	Account No.	Amount
Casino Gaming Tax Local Share	0100000-40585	$2,000,000
Total		**$2,000,000**

ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES

Description	Account No.	Amount
Support of /Transfer to/ Capital:		
Transfer Out to Capital Projects	0199501-6025	$1,000,000
Transfer Out to Electric Fund	0199501-6054	1,000,000
Total		**$2,000,000**

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of Danville, Virginia, that the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Appropriation Ordinance be, and the same hereby is, amended, by providing funding for the Splash Pads in the Capital Projects Fund and appropriating same to be as follows:

ANTICIPATED REVENUES

Description	Account No.	Amount
Transfer In From General Fund	61618000-6101	$1,000,000

ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES

Description	Account No.	Amount
Splash Pads	61618999-50	$1,000,000

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of Danville, Virginia, that the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Appropriation Ordinance be, and the same hereby is, amended, by providing funding for the West Main Street Underground in the Electric Fund and appropriating same to be as follows:

ANTICIPATED REVENUES

Description	Account No.	Amount
Transfer In From General Fund	61903000-6101	$1,000,000

ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES

Description	Account No.	Amount
West Main St. Underground	61903999-50	$1,000,000

AND BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED, that all other accounts and provisions of the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Appropriation Ordinance, as amended, not hereby amended, shall continue in full force and effect unless and until hereafter further amended or repealed.

Approved:

____
Mayor

Attest:

____
City Clerk

Approved As To
Form and Legal Sufficiency

____
City Attorney