

June 18, 2024

The Second June meeting of the Danville City Council was held on June 18, 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: James B. Buckner, 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 (9). *Mr. Vogler entered the meeting at 7:03 p.m., Mr. Whittle entered the meeting at 7:05 p.m.*

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.

Mayor Jones welcomed back Council Member James Buckner, and welcomed Antoni Matczek, Intern for the City Manager's office.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation was given by Vice Mayor Gary P. Miller, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Antoni Matczek.

PROCLAMATION

Proclamation: LGBTQIA+ Pride Month
Presented to: Maureen Belko

Ms. Belko thanked the City government, police and the other allies they have in the area for making Danville a place that was safe and welcoming for the LGBTQIA+ community. Ms. Belko noted their Pride Party was this Saturday at Ballad Brewing from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., followed by other events. Mayor Jones recognized Lindsey Crumpton, President-Elect of Collidescope.

All America City Award

City Manager Ken Larking noted last week, Danville was one of ten cities named an All-America City by the National Civic League. The 2024 All-America City Award theme was Strengthening Democracy Through Local Action and Innovation. The delegation, present tonight, traveled to Denver, Colorado to present the City's story and make their case to a jury of nationally recognized civic leaders. In the application, the City cited their work with PLAN Danville, Parks & Recreation's Heart to Park Initiative, the Danville Police Department's Grass Roots Empowerment and Action Training, and Student Voices on the School Board. Danville also won the All-America City Social Media Award, for the use of the City's social channels during the event. Mr. Larking introduced Team leader, Amanda Paez.

Assistant to the City Manager, Amanda Paez, introduced the Home Team: Debra Harris, Director of Student Support Services for DPS; Renee Burton, City of Danville Planning Director; Stephanie Haynesworth, Coordinator of Teacher Quality; Tia Yancey from the CCECC at Averett; Lori Merricks from the Danville Regional Foundation; Sam Howard from Danville Parks & Recreation; Willie Jones from the Danville Regional Foundation; Officer Kayla Robinson from the Danville Police Department; Ashtyn Foddrell from the Danville Police Department, and Mark Aron from the City of Danville/River City TV. One member of the team could not be here, Darion Saunders, who was the student representative on the Danville School Board.

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Ms. Paez stated they could not thank Council enough for their support, both in person and on social media. It was great seeing so many family, friends and neighbors excited and proud about Danville. While this win was a win for the city government, it was important to note it was also a reflection of the community. PLAN Danville and Heart the Park could not have happened without the residents willing to engage and trusting the City with their comments. The Police Department's great program could not happen without civic and neighborhood leaders willing to engage and teach rookie officers about the community they would serve. Having a student member on the School Board could not have happened without engaged leaders at Danville Public Schools. The team was thrilled to represent Danville, bring home the second title in four years and were looking forward to celebrating with the community, updating all the signage around town, including outside of Council chambers, and most importantly, continuing to innovate and find new ways to engage.

Council Members thanked the team for representing the City and doing a phenomenal job, they were all excited watching the results on Facebook and Council was very proud of them and of Danville being an All-America City again.

Mr. Larking noted it was awesome to get the All-America City award, but what he was most proud of was the work the team represented, that made it possible for Danville to be a finalist and win. That did not happen quickly, it took a lot of dedication, time, and hard work; the theme was to make sure the City engaged the community as much as possible in the things they were doing. Danville was in a time of change and as they move forward with trying to implement that change in a way that was as positive for them as could be, engaging the community as much as they did was extremely important. The judges recognized that, and he was extremely proud of the team but was also proud of the many people that were behind the scenes that helped make this a possibility. That included a majority of the city workforce, Danville Public Schools, and others in the community such as Averett University, and the Danville Regional Foundation.

Council Recognition

Mayor Jones recognized Michael Duncan, a member of the Airforce Auxiliary, who noted about 25 years ago, they moved to the City, met Sherman Saunders, and others, and came to love Danville. The people in this community mean a great deal, but one in particular touched his heart early on. Recently he had the opportunity to become involved in the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration Program through the Association of the United States Army, as well as his activities in the Civil Air Patrol. This commemoration was in the form of a small lapel pin; it was to recognize, thank and honor a United States military veteran who served during the Vietnam War, not necessarily in Vietnam, but during that period from 1955 to 1975. Mr. Duncan reminded Mr. Saunders of a story Mr. Saunders told him when they first met, when they were in Germany; the story touched him. Mr. Duncan presented Mr. Saunders with the commemorative lapel pin for his service in the Army during the Vietnam War era. Mr. Saunders noted he had no idea about this honor, thanked Mr. Duncan and all the people who have served in the military. Mr. Saunders stated he was very proud of his family's service, was very proud to serve America. Mr. Saunders stated he was glad to have met Mr. Duncan, who represents the city; he was a pilot, and volunteers his service to the city.

MEETING MINUTES

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Campbell and **second** by Council Member Whittle, the Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on April 16, 2024, were approved as a presented. Draft copies of the minutes had been distributed prior to the meeting.

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APPOINTMENTS

Vice Mayor Miller **moved** for adoption of the following Appointment Resolutions:

Resolution 2024-06.06 – A Resolution Appointing Maureen Belko to the Danville Pittsylvania Community Services Board.

Resolution 2024-06.07 – A Resolution Appointing Shakeva Frazier to the Danville Pittsylvania Community Services Board.

Resolution 2024-06.08 – A Resolution Appointing Richard Marlowe to the Dan River Alcohol and Safety Action Board.

Resolution 2024-06.09 – A Resolution Appointing Janet Gwynn to the Danville Development Council.

Resolution 2024-06.10 – A Resolution Appointing Melanie Tosh to the Danville Community Policy and Management Team.

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

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
Saunders, Vogler, and Whittle, (9)
NAY: None (0)

OLD BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF FEE CHANGES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

Community Development Planning and Zoning Fees

Vice Mayor Miller **moved** for adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-06.03

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING, ESTABLISHING AND INCREASING CERTAIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND ZONING FEES OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024, EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE STATED.

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

VOTE: 8-1
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
Saunders, and Vogler (8)
NAY: Whittle (1)

Community Development Inspection Fees

Vice Mayor Miller **moved** for adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

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ORDINANCE NO. 2024-06.04

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING, ESTABLISHING AND INCREASING CERTAIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT INSPECTION FEES OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024.

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

Council Member Vogler asked the City Manager to give a quick overview of the changes that were made to the fee related to short-term rentals. Mr. Larking noted short term rental fees were recommended to be reduced from the original \$500 down to \$250, now down to \$50 per year with a half year at \$25 starting July 1. Council Member Whittle noted there was another fee down for inspections, was that included in the Airbnb, and Mr. Larking stated that was a separate fee and typically these fees were paid for the by users. It encumbers the administrative cost for advertising and various other things. When the City has fees, they set them so those that were using that service were paying for that service and it was not supported by the general taxing authority of the City. They were not being subsidized by tax dollars.

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

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
Saunders, Vogler, Whittle (9)
NAY: None (0)

Public Works Sanitation Fees

Vice Mayor Miller **moved** for adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-06.05

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING, ESTABLISHING AND INCREASING CERTAIN PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SANITATION FEES OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024.

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

VOTE: 7-2
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
and Saunders (7)
NAY: Vogler, Whittle (2)

Public Works Cemetery Fees

Vice Mayor Miller **moved** for adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-06.06

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING, ESTABLISHING AND INCREASING CERTAIN PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT CEMETERY FEES OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024.

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

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Council Member Whittle questioned the cemetery fee; previously they didn't pick up the headstone and fix it; one of his concerns was they have a headstone down and the City does not put them back up. Mr. Larking stated he would have to look into it; it was his understanding that these fees were for the first time anything was done; they were applied right before the service was provided.

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

VOTE: 7-2
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
and Saunders (7)
NAY: Vogler, Whittle (2)

CONSIDERATION OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE BUDGET, CSP, AND BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

Approving the Budgets of the Various Funds of the City of Danville for Fiscal Year 2025

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-06.04

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE BUDGETS OF THE VARIOUS FUNDS OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025.

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

VOTE: 8-1
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
Saunders, and Vogler (8)
NAY: Whittle (1)

Fiscal Year 2025 Capital and Special Projects Plan for the City of Danville, Virginia

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-06.05

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 CAPITAL AND SPECIAL PROJECTS PLAN FOR THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA.

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

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
Saunders, Vogler and Whittle (9)
NAY: None (0)

Budget Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2025

Vice Mayor Miller **moved** for adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

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ORDINANCE NO. 2024-06.07

BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025.

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

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
Saunders, Vogler and Whittle (9)
NAY: None (0)

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW OF GENERAL FUND FINANCIALS AS OF MAY 31, 2024

Chief Financial Officer Michael Adkins noted these were the General Fund financial results through the month of May; that was eleven months of the fiscal year completed. Mr. Adkins noted as he did last time, instead of referring to the reports in the agenda, he will give up to date information through today as they were approaching the end of the fiscal year.

Looking at Property Tax collections as of today, the current Real Estate tax collection budget for this year was \$19M and through today they have collected 99.8% of that budget; they need about \$29,000 more and he was confident that will come in over the next week and half. For delinquent real estate taxes, they budgeted \$900,000 for this year and currently were at \$951,000, about \$50,000 over budget. Personal Property taxes for the current year, which included vehicles, machinery and tools, mobile homes, boats, aircraft, trailers and business tangible property was budgeted at \$15.5M; as of today, they were at \$16.4M collected, about \$900,000 over budget. The Delinquent Personal Property taxes performed well; the budget for the current year was \$1.2M and currently they have collected \$1.5M. For local consumer taxes, the main four being sales, meals, lodging and business licenses, show sales tax with this year's budget nearly \$12M and as of the end of May, forecasting what they will receive for June, he believed they will end up at about \$13M. Meals tax was budgeted at \$11.4M for this year, at the end of May they were at \$11.2M collected and they still have one month remaining. Typically, they collect anywhere from \$800,000 to \$1M a month in meals tax, and they will exceed that line item. Lodging tax was budgeted at \$2.5M for this year and as of the end of May, they have collected \$2.9M; they were over \$400,000 and still have one month of lodging taxes to collect. Business licenses were budgeted at \$7.4M for this year, the actuals through the end of May were \$7.7M, slightly above budget. They had forty additional business licenses, comparing the first eleven months of this year to last year. State and Federal revenues were on track with expectations.

On the Expenditure side, Departmental Expenses continued to trail budget between 2-3% which was what they usually see. The only expenditure that was materially over budget was group health insurance. The last time he was before Council, Mr. Adkins had noted he expected it to be about \$1M over budget, but at the end of May it was only \$860,000 over budget, so they may come in under that \$1M mark. At this point he was fairly certain that they will end the year with a surplus that can be added to the unreserved fund balance. Approaching year end, there were a lot of adjustments, lots of accruals to make, various liabilities have to be updated that depend on external reports that they will not get until July. They will continue to make those adjustments and will keep Council aware of that. Typically, he skips the month of July for financial reports to give staff time to close out the year, but he anticipated he will be back in August to give somewhat firm results and the audit will be underway at that point.

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Council Member Vogler questioned the business licenses, Mr. Adkins mentioned that the City had exceeded what was projected; in terms of the number of business licenses, was this year the most they have had and Mr. Adkins stated he suspected so, but did not do a comparison back more than one year. He can get that historical data for Mr. Vogler.

Mr. Vogler noted some of the things Council voted on recently, for the people watching at home, they voted to lower the Personal Property tax rate from \$3.60 to \$3.45, that won't take effect until January and Mr. Adkins noted that was correct. Personal Property was a calendar year based tax, so that will go into effect January 1st. Mr. Vogler stated the Real Estate tax rate, Council voted to lower that as well, when will that new rate take effect and Mr. Adkins stated on July 1st. Mr. Vogler noted the senior tax rate, Council voted to raise the eligibility from \$35,000 to \$40,000, when does that take effect and Mr. Adkins stated that also takes effect on July 1st so the applications for the relief have to be submitted during the months of July, August and September.

Council Member Whittle noted on the Business Licenses, Council reduced those; he has heard a lot of good comments on that and Mr. Adkins explained Council voted to eliminate the \$50 fee which was based on gross sales. Any business with \$100,000 or under in annual sales now does not have to pay for a business license, as long as they file with the Commissioner of Revenue in a timely manner.

Vice Mayor Miller asked why the Personal Property Tax was on a different basis than the others and Mr. Adkins stated he believed the City in the past, both real estate and personal property were on a calendar year basis, but perhaps for budgetary purposes, the real estate was moved to a fiscal year basis. Mr. Vogler noted looking ahead, it might not be a bad idea to have a conversation on having real estate on a calendar year.

CONSIDERATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2025 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding the Fiscal Year 2025 Public Transportation Plan. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on June 4, 2024, and June 11, 2024. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-06.11

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION BY THE CITY TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF RAIL AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FOR GRANTS FOR OPERATING AND CAPITAL COSTS FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025.

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

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
Saunders, Vogler, and Whittle (9)
NAY: None (0)

Mr. Whittle noted the people working on getting these grants, like Mr. Adelman, were doing a great job; Mayor Jones noted his agreement.

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CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF 1.75 ACRES OF REAL PROPERTY ON LIVESTOCK ROAD IN PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL 2420-74-8048

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

RESOLUTION 2024-06.12

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 1.75 ACRES OF REAL PROPERTY IN PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL 2420-74-8048 FOR THE EXPANSION OF UTILITY SERVICES.

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

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
Saunders, Vogler, and Whittle (9)
NAY: None (0)

CONSIDERATION OF REVISIONS TO THE PERSONNEL SYSTEM

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

ORDINANCE 2024-06.08

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PERSONNEL SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE PROVIDING FOR THE CLASSIFICATION, COMPENSATION, AND EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT FOR EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS OF THE CITY.

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

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
Saunders, Vogler, and Whittle (9)
NAY: None (0)

CONSIDERATION OF REVISIONS TO THE CHAPTER 32 – RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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

ORDINANCE 2024-06.09

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REORDAINING CHAPTER 32 ENTITLED “RETIREMENT SYSTEM,” SECTION 32-2. DEFINITIONS, SECTION 32-10. PORTABILITY OF SERVICE CREDIT, SECTION 32-56. DISABILITY RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE, SECTION 32-58. OPTIONAL ALLOWANCES, SECTION 32-559. RETURN OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEATH BENEFITS, AND SECTION 32-63. VESTED RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE., OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, 1986, AS AMENDED.

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

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VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Hood, Jones, Mayo, Miller,
Saunders, Vogler, and Whittle (9)
NAY: None (0)

**CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET APPROPRIATION
ORDINANCE FOR A STATE AVIATION GRANT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES TO
COMPLETE OBSTRUCTION ANALYSIS**

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

ORDINANCE 2024-06.10

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL STATE AVIATION FUNDING FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMPLETING OBSTRUCTION SURVEY ANALYSIS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$52,058 PLUS LOCAL SHARE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,785 TO BE PROVIDED BY A TRANSFER FROM UNDESIGNATED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS AND APPROPRIATING SAME.

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM VISITORS

Mayor Jones called for Ann Beck and Tamara Bellotti; neither were in attendance.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Jones recognized the City Manager, Deputy City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk and thanked them for all that they do; they were Council's employees.

City Manager Ken Larking noted before the City received the All-America City Award, Danville was awarded a social media award as well, and wanted to recognize Amanda Paez, leader of the team, who made sure the team was enthusiastic throughout the entire event, posting on social media, and encouraging other cities along the way. Apparently, it was noticed and commented on by judges and others during the competition. Mr. Larking thanked Ms. Paez for making sure that Danville fully participated in the All-America City Process, and represented the city well and professionally.

Mr. Larking noted he had an answer for Mr. Whittle regarding the headstones; the City does not replace headstones that were broken or fallen because they were owned by the families; they have to be professionally installed by people who do that kind of work. Mr. Larking noted Renee Burton was applying for a grant for some of the older cemeteries to try to get funds to refurbish some headstones.

Mayor Jones recognized Amanda Paez, stated it was the second award that she has worked on and thanked her for her work.

City Attorney Clarke Whitfield noted his retirement from broadcasting the GW football games with Chuck Vipperman, after twenty-two years.

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

Council Member Mayo congratulated Mr. Whitfield, he knew how much GW Football meant to him, congratulated Ms. Paez on the All-America City award, and to all city employees for the wonderful job they do. Danville was on the move, he was proud to be from Danville, and the best was yet to come.

Vice Mayor Miller noted he heard on the TV that Charles Barkley was retiring, and then he heard Mr. Whitfield was retiring as well; Mr. Whitfield wanted to sit in the stands and cheer for the home team. Dr. Miller congratulated the All-America team for their victory, and encouraged citizens to go out to Dan Daniel Park to see the new scoreboard, and support the Danville Otterbots and Dairy Daddys.

Council Member Saunders congratulated Mr. Whitfield for his twenty-two years of service to the community, and congratulations to Ms. Paez and the team, Council was proud of them and thanked them for representing the City. Danville was in transition, they were becoming better than they were; that was the way it should be. Mr. Saunders noted he was grateful for this Council, they work well together, thanked the Chief of Police for the work he and his staff do, and noted tonight, Mr. Duncan caught him by surprise, thanked him for the recognition and asked that everyone pray for the men and women in uniform. Mr. Saunders encouraged citizens to not be bitter, be better.

Council Member Vogler noted he has enjoyed listening to Mr. Whitfield on the air over the years at GW football games and thanked him for his years of service. There was a great Juneteenth event at Ballou Park today, with citizens celebrating with each other. Mr. Vogler noted the word team has been on his mind today, stating he had to learn how to grow as a team member on Council. Mr. Vogler recognized the staff of the City that worked behind the scenes every day, and specifically Amanda Allen in the City Manager's Office. The City was blessed to have the best employees who were behind why the City continues to get better every day. He was honored to serve the people of Danville, proud to serve the City, and the best was yet to come.

Council Member Whittle noted he had a question on the medicinal marijuana policies and how that affects staff, including police, fire and rescue, employees that run machines; everything he has read contradicts itself and wanted to make sure the City does not have a problem with it. Mr. Whitfield noted the City policy did not need to change much; employees cannot use and cannot come to work high. There were certain positions, no matter what the state says, that falls under federal laws such as bus drivers, pipe line workers and employees like that, rules were still in place. Mr. Buckner asked if there was a House Bill that was going into effect July 1st that directly affect that, specifically firefighters, first responders and police officers, and Mr. Whittle quoted a statement about the Virginia Governor signing a medical marijuana workplace protection bill for firefighters and other public sector workers. Mr. Whitfield noted he believed it goes into effect on July 1st; it was debated very heavily in the early spring, and it was passed before the General Assembly went on their break for the spring. Mr. Whittle noted he would like to read the City's policy.

Council Member Buckner thanked all the people that called, texted and emailed him over the past couple of weeks, it really meant a lot. Thanks to everyone who checked in on him while he was out; he was thankful for all the well wishes.

Council Member Campbell noted he was very excited that Danville was once again an All-America City and was glad that Mr. Buckner was back.

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Council Member Hood welcomed Mr. Buckner back, and thanked Mr. Whitfield for being the voice of GW Football with Chuck Vipperman, and thanked Council Member Saunders and all that have served. Mr. Hood noted for the past several weeks he has been working with Cathy Gore at the United Way and he has passed out a booklet to Council Members with contact information for various resources. He was working with the United Way on the Dolly Parton Imagination Library going into housing through the DRHA and provided information on the reading program, encouraging literacy.

Mayor Jones thanked Council Member Saunders for his words and service, and congratulations on the recognition from Mr. Duncan. Mayor Jones recognized Mark Aron and Arnold Hendrix for all the work they do, the intern for the City Manager's office, and welcomed Mr. Buckner back to Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.

APPROVED:

s/Alonzo L. Jones
MAYOR

ATTEST:

s/Susan M. DeMasi, CMC
CITY CLERK