

April 1, 2025

The Regular April meeting of the Danville City Council was held on April 1, 2025, 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, Gary P. Miller, Sherman M. Saunders, J. Lee Vogler, Jr., and Madison J.R. Whittle (8). Absent: James B. Buckner (1).

Staff Members present were: City Manager Ken F. Larking, Deputy City Manager Earl B. Reynolds, Jr., Deputy City Attorney Alan B. Spencer, 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.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding budget items on the Consent Agenda. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on March 25, 2025. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

Council Member Campbell **moved** for adoption of the Consent Agenda:

Consideration of Approval of Minutes from Regular Council Meeting held on March 4, 2025. Draft copies of the minutes had been distributed prior to the meeting.

Consideration of Amending the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Appropriation Ordinance to Fund a Bonus Payment to City Retirees

An Ordinance entitled, Ordinance No. 2025-03.08, an Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Appropriation Ordinance by Increasing Revenues from Interest Income to Fund a Bonus for City Retirees in an Amount not to Exceed \$725,000 and Appropriating the Same.

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

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

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### **CONSIDERATION OF THE RELEASE OF CITY LIENS ON CHATHAM AVENUE**

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

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2025-04.01**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF CITY-HELD LIENS AGAINST REAL PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL #55564 ON CHATHAM AVENUE, TO

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FACILITATE ITS DONATION TO THE DANVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

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

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

I, Bryant Hood, do hereby state that I have a conflict of interest regarding a Resolution Considering the Release of City Held Liens on Chatham Avenue, listed on the agenda under New Business Item A. Therefore, pursuant to the State and Local Government Conflict of Interest Act, Virginia Code § 2.2-3112, I must abstain from voting on this agenda item.

Witness my signature this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2025.

*s/Bryant Hood*

**CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE US DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.**

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2025-04.01**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR PROJECTS TO BE OR BEING UNDERTAKEN TO IMPROVE THE DANVILLE COMMUNITY FINANCED WITH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP FUNDS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND ESTIMATED PROGRAM INCOME FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$1,186,687.

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

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM VISITORS**

No one signed up to speak.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

City Manager Ken Larking noted that the City of Danville's PLAN Danville effort won an award at the American Planning Association meeting in Denver, Colorado; they received a perfect score for sustainability. Mr. Larking congratulated everyone involved in the PLAN Danville effort; it took the resources allocated by the City Council to be able to do that plan. They also received a grant from DRF, and it also took staff and community members who participated to make the Plan as great as it was.

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

Council Member Hood congratulated the PLAN Danville team and wished Lonnie Jones a happy birthday.

Council Member Mayo spoke about the opportunity he had today to go into the Danville City Jail with Ashtyn Foddrell to speak to the inmates in the IDDU program, which partners with Virginia Cares. It was a unique program to help those citizens who have fallen by the wayside and trying to get back into being productive members of society. There were young men who will be graduating on 4/15 and he will be there.

Council Member Miller noted the City's staff was awesome, winning another award with PLAN Danville. Dr. Miller noted a few weeks ago the School Board invited Council over to their strategic planning; they broke up into groups and got input from Council and citizens on improving the schools. Dr. Miller noted they toured some of the new facilities, including the new kitchen area, to train chefs in the culinary arts.

Council Member Vogler congratulated the PLAN Danville team for their award. Mr. Vogler asked Lonnie Jones to come forward, sang happy birthday to him, and wished his daughter, Ava, an early happy birthday.

Council Member Whittle congratulated the PLAN Danville team for all their hard work. Mr. Whittle noted he went to G.W. today, met with the principal and walked around; he visited the auto mechanic program, and stated the welding program has increased in the past year or two.

Council Member Campbell noted he appreciated Mr. Mayo's comments on Virginia CARES, assisting people to have a good quality of life and community. Rev Campbell wished Lonnie Jones a happy birthday.

Mayor Jones thanked Alan Spencer for filling in for City Attorney Clarke Whitfield; he appreciated the work he does in the City, and congratulated the PLAN Danville team and the citizens that have been supportive of their efforts.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

APPROVED:

s/Alonzo L. Jones  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

s/Susan M. DeMasi, CMC  
CITY CLERK