

August 19, 2025

The Second August meeting of the Danville City Council was held on August 19, 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: Vice Mayor James B. Buckner, L.G. "Larry" Campbell Jr., Bryant Hood, Mayor Alonzo L. Jones, Barry Mayo, Dr. Gary P. Miller, Sherman M. Saunders, and Madison J.R. Whittle (8). J. Lee Vogler, Jr., was absent. (1).

Staff Members present were: City Manager Ken F. Larking, Deputy City Manager Earl B. Reynolds, Jr., City Attorney W. Clarke Whitfield, Jr., and City Clerk Susan M. DeMasi.

Mayor Jones presided.

Mayor Jones thanked citizens for their continued prayers for their colleague, Lee Vogler; his family sincerely appreciated all their prayers.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member L.G. "Larry" Campbell, Jr. gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENT AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Presentation: Project Imagine

Presented By: Robert David, Violence Prevention Manager

Mr. David gave Council a brief overview of Project Imagine and spoke about the comprehensive gang model adopted in 2018. The Model was about resources and individuals, and how it fits into the program to reduce gang violence, along with different methods used to provide services for the youth in the community. It started with the Comprehensive Gang Model and now it was known as Violence Prevention. Mr. David reviewed the foundations for accountability including criminal justice, transformational leadership, and self-efficacy. Mr. David introduced his staff, and discussed statistics from Project Imagine and Violence Prevention. Council thanked Robert David and staff for the work they were doing with the youth in the community. City Manager Ken Larking thanked City Council for providing the resources for this program; Danville was getting recognized all over the country and globe for some of the things the group was doing. Deputy City Manager Earl Reynolds noted this model was not in a textbook, it was created in Danville by Robert David.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Mayor Buckner **moved** for adoption of the following Consent Agenda items:

Consideration of Approval of Minutes from Regular Council Meeting held on July 15, 2025.

Consideration of Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation Ordinance for a Grant from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services First Responders Wellness Grant Program

An Ordinance Entitled, Ordinance No. 2025-08.02, an Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation Ordinance by Increasing Revenue from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services Office of First Responders Wellness Grant (DCJS) Program in the Amount of \$29,848.

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Consideration of Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation Ordinance for the Creative Communities Art Grant

An Ordinance Entitled, Ordinance No. 2025-08.03, an Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation Ordinance to Provide for a Virginia Commission for the Arts Grant in the Amount of \$4,500, and to Provide for the Local Share in the Amount of \$5,000 for a Total Grant of \$9,500.

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW OF THE GENERAL FUND FINANCIALS AS OF JUNE 30, 2025.

City of Danville Chief Financial Officer Michael Adkins gave a brief overview of the General Fund preliminary results for Fiscal Year 2025. This was a preliminary report as there were still some adjustments to make throughout the end of August regarding late incoming revenue, and some liabilities that needed outside reports to book. They have included estimates for all those amounts, and he was confident that the numbers he was sharing tonight will not change materially. The City was adding approximately \$2.5M to the unassigned fund balance for Fiscal Year 2025. Real Estate collections were on target, budgeted at \$21.7M; exceeding budget and the City collected \$22M. Delinquent real estate taxes did well; the City typically collects around \$1M, and this past year they collected \$960,000 with \$1.1M budgeted. The City fell a little short, but it was still a good year for collections of real estate. Personal property, once the final adjustments were in for the late payments through the end of August, may be right on target and exceed budget a little; the budget for that was \$17.4M. Delinquent personal property collections have done very well this past year, budgeted at \$1.6M; the City collected \$1.8M. Consumer driven taxes indicated that the City still had some continuous economic growth in the local economy. Sales tax was over budget by \$750,000; meals tax was over budget by \$1M, and business licenses were over budget by \$800,000. With business licenses, a lot of that increase was related to the construction throughout the year including the casino and school construction. Most of that has wrapped up for this year and staff was hoping oncoming development, hotels and residential development, may fill that gap for next year. Lodging tax was budgeted at \$3.5M and the City was \$4,000 to \$5,000 over that amount. All state and federal revenues came in as expected.

On the Expenditure side, group health insurance maintained throughout the year and the City saved about \$1.6M. Utilization was lower than expected and did not follow the trend from the past year. Worker's compensation was another area where the City saved a lot of money; a reversal of trends was seen there as well, especially in public safety departments. The City had budgeted on the trend of upward costs with worker's compensation claims, but as a whole, the General Fund saved about \$800,000 in worker's comp compared to budget. Departmental spending came in about 9% under budget; that was a combination of vacancy savings and worker's compensation. The City was ending the year adding about \$2.5M to the unreserved fund balance taking it from \$51M to \$53.5M. To put that in perspective of their policy, the minimum fund balance policy is 25% of budgeted revenues. Looking at the new year, that would mean that

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the minimum fund balance would need to be about \$46M, they were currently at \$53.5M, so the City has a buffer of about \$7.5M which was 29% of budgeted revenues. That was about where the credit rating agencies like to see it, around 30% of budgeted revenues. The auditors will return in a few weeks; it will take them anywhere between 8 and 12 weeks to review everything and get the final statements.

Council Members thanked Mr. Adkins for his report.

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF OFFICIAL INTENT TO REIMBURSE EXPENDITURES WITH PROCEEDS OF A BORROWING

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-08.02

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA FOR OFFICIAL INTENT TO REIMBURSE EXPENDITURES WITH PROCEEDS FROM BORROWING.

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

CONSIDERATION OF ALLOWING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A WATER MAIN COST-SHARING AGREEMENT FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE TO SERVE THE VANDOLA CRESCENT HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-08.03

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A COST SHARING AGREEMENT WITH LONGEVITY SOLUTIONS VIRGINIA TO EXTEND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE TO THE VANDOLA CRESCENT HOUSING PROJECT.

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

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

CONSIDERATION OF ALLOWING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A WATER MAIN REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT WITHIN THE VANDOLA CRESCENT HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

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

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RESOLUTION NO. 2025-08.04

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A WATER MAIN REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT WITH LONGEVITY SOLUTIONS VIRGINIA TO EXTEND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE WITHIN THE VANDOLA CRESCENT HOUSING PROJECT.

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

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE POWER AGREEMENT FOR WASTE HEAT ENERGY

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-08.05

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE POWER AGREEMENT WITH AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER FOR FIVE-MEGAWATTS OF WASTE HEAT ENERGY.

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

Vice Mayor Buckner asked Director of Utilities, Jason Grey, to give a brief overview of waste heat energy, and Mr. Grey explained waste heat energy was collecting heat that would normally be exhausted into the atmosphere, off the natural gas pipelines. There were large compressor stations that move gas along the pipelines. That waste heat was usually exhausted into the atmosphere; they were going to collect it and generate power with it.

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

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

CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE TO CODIFY STATE LAW CHANGES IN THE CITY PROCUREMENT CODE

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-08.04

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 30-12 ENTITLED "MANDATORY CONTRACT TERMS AND PROVISIONS" OF CHAPTER 30, ENTITLED "PROCUREMENT CODE", OF THE CODE

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OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, 1986, AS AMENDED TO PROHIBIT THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES INVOLVING FORCED CHILD LABOR.

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

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR A GRANT AND LOAN FROM THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-08.05

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH \$2,604,620 GRANT AND \$1,596,380 LOAN FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$4,201,000 TO ASSIST WITH THE CITY'S WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECTS AND APPROPRIATING THE SAME.

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

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR A GRANT FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-08.06

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION (PHMSA) \$10,052,738 GRANT TO ASSIST WITH THE CITY'S NATURAL GAS MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECTS AND APPROPRIATING THE SAME.

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

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR A GRANT FROM THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-08.07

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AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY INCREASING REVENUE FROM THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – INDUSTRIAL REVITALIZATION FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,000,000 AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LOCAL SHARE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,020,310 FOR A TOTAL OF \$5,020,310 AND APPROPRIATING THE SAME.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

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

City Attorney Clarke Whitfield wished Council Member Saunders a Happy Birthday.

Council Member Saunders thanked everyone for the cards and gifts that were given to him for his birthday. Mr. Saunders noted Mr. Bernard Baker was having a coat drive on Saturday, September 13th; coats can be taken to One Hour Martinizing, 115 N. Market Street, for cleaning and distribution. Mr. Saunders noted to Mrs. Stamps, it is always good to see her, and they know she was proud of her daughter.

Vice Mayor Buckner thanked the Chamber of Commerce, Chatham First, and Chatham Rotary for the invitation to come up for the opening ceremony for the new Pickle Ball Court. Mr. Buckner wished Council Member Saunders a very happy birthday, and asked everyone to please continue to pray for their friend and colleague Council Member Vogler. The love and support that he and his family were being shown means a lot and was appreciated.

Council Member Campbell noted the coat drive was very much appreciated. Rev Campbell noted Danville was a caring community and full of caring people, and asked citizens to continue to pray for Council Member Vogler.

Council Member Hood asked for continued prayers for their friend and colleague Council Member Vogler and his family. Mr. Hood asked citizens to continue to support local businesses, to make sure they maintain the backbone of this community. Mr. Hood encouraged men to please get their annual checkups; it was so important to make sure they keep themselves healthy and mindful as they get older. Mr. Hood recognized Karice Luck-Brimmer and Andrea Burney for the work they did on the documentary of the three historically black neighborhoods in Danville, and wished a Happy Birthday to Sherman Saunders.

Council Member Mayo thanked everyone who came out tonight, wished Council Member Saunders a very happy birthday, and to keep Council Member Vogler and his family in their thoughts and prayers. Mr. Mayo noted he was also able to see the documentary, *A Tale of 3 North Danville Neighborhoods*, showing the rich history of Danville; they represented the neighborhoods very well; and hats off to Project Imagine again for what they do.

Council Member Miller asked for continued prayers for Council Member Vogler. Dr. Miller noted he attended the community day last week at Trinity Baptist Church; it was a great get together. Dr. Miller stated he went to several concerts at Caesar's and urged people to go see one, it is an amazing experience, and Happy Birthday to Mr. Saunders.

Mayor Jones noted last Saturday, all day, Parks and Recreation had something going on and thanked Bill Sgrinia and his team for all they do. Mayor Jones wished Council Member Saunders

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a happy early birthday, thanked the Fire Department and asked that they get involved with the coat drive. Mayor Jones asked that everyone continue as a community to keep Council Member Vogler and his family in their thoughts and prayers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

APPROVED:

s/Alonzo L. Jones
MAYOR

ATTEST:

s/Susan M. DeMasi, CMC
CITY CLERK