

October 9, 2025

The October meeting of the Danville City Council was held on October 9, 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, Gary P. Miller, Sherman M. Saunders, and Madison J.R. Whittle (8). Absent: J. Lee Vogler, Jr. (1).

Staff Members present were: City Manager Ken 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

Vice Mayor James B. Buckner gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Presentation: Presentation of Life Saving Awards for the Danville Police Department
Presented by: Danville Police Chief Chris Wiles

Danville Chief of Police, Chris Wiles gave an overview to Council of the recognitions received by the officers of the Danville Police Department for their extraordinary actions this past February when they were fired upon, wounded, and responded to an officer down call. In recognition of their heroic actions, the Virginia Associations of Chiefs of Police, at their 2025 annual conference, awarded Officer Kayla Robinson with the Medal of Valor and Sgt. Richard Wright, Officer Zakary Clay, Officer Deandre Edmonds, Officer David Guido Flores, and Officer William Headley with the Life Saving award. Chief Wiles reviewed the events of that night and noted how much worse the outcome could have been if not for the heroic efforts of these officers. Officer Robinson sustained five bullet wounds to her legs, one to her lower abdomen, one to her bullet proof vest, and one to her duty belt. Chief Wiles presented each officer with their award. Council thanked the officers for their heroic efforts and commended them on a job well done under extreme pressure.

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 October 2, 2025. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

Consideration of Approval of Minutes from Regular Council Meeting held on September 2, 2025.

Consideration of Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation Ordinance for a Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services Grant

Ordinance No. 2025-09.10, An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation Ordinance by Increasing Revenue from Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services – Jail Based Substance Use Disorder Treatment Grant Program in the Amount of \$126,000 and Appropriating the Same.

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Consideration of Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation Ordinance for a Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority Cooperative Partnership Grant

Ordinance No. 2025-09.11, An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation Ordinance by Increasing Revenue from Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority – Cooperative Partnership Grant Program in the Amount of \$268,809.16 with a Local Match of \$29,813.64 for a total amount of \$298,622.80 and Appropriating the Same.

Consideration of Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation Ordinance for State Aviation Capital Funding

Ordinance No. 2025-09.12, An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation Ordinance to Provide for Additional State Funding to Complete Various Projects at the Danville Regional Airport in the Amount of \$900,443 and for the Local Share in the Amount of \$100,050 for a Total of \$1,000,493 and Appropriating the Same.

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)

APPOINTMENTS

Recommendations of Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Vice Mayor Buckner noted earlier that evening the Committee on Appointments met and make the following recommendations:

Commission on Architectural Review	Reappoint Robert Stowe and Appoint Lawrence Meder
Community Improvement Council	Reappoint Janet Gwynn and Kasey Cunningham
Danville Redevelopment and Housing Authority	Appoint: TyQuan Graves
West Piedmont Planning District Commission	Reappoint: James Turner

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION FILED BY BRAYAN DANIEL GUARDADO ORTEGA AT 203 ASH STREET

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at 203 Ash Street. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on September 25, 2025 and October 2, 2025. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10.01

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ25- 00293 FILED BY BRAYAN DANIEL GUARDADO ORTEGA REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW A RESIDENTIAL DUPLEX AT PARCEL ID #77618 (203 ASH STREET) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.E SECTION C ITEM 1.

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 CONDITIONAL REZONING APPLICATION FILED BY GERALD KELLY TO REZONE 460 PARKER ROAD

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Rezoning Application for 460 Parker Road. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on September 25, 2025 and October 2, 2025.

Division Director of Planning, Renee Burton, explained this has changed to a conditional rezoning at 460 Parker Road. Mr. Kelly, the applicant, has volunteered the condition that he will maintain the existing tree line on the proposed eastern property line. The eastern property line separates the apartments from the mobile homes, and going further back it separates the tennis club from the mobile home park. No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10.02

AN ORDINANCE REZONING FROM M-R MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO "CONDITIONAL" MHPC-R MANUFACTURED HOME PARK RESIDENTIAL PARCEL ID #73163 (460 PARKER ROAD).

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)

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CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION REQUESTED BY DARREN GWYNN TO ALLOW AN ACCESSORY BUILDING WITHOUT A PRIMARY STRUCTURE AT PARCEL 22334 (DAVIS STREET)

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at Parcel 22334 (Davis Street.) Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on September 25, 2025 and October 2, 2025. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10.03

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ25- 00380 FILED BY DARREN GWYNN REQUESTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW AN ACCESSORY BUILDING WITHOUT A PRIMARY STRUCTURE AT PARCEL ID #22334 (DAVIS STREET) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.E SECTION C ITEM 23.

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 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding the Issuance of Bonds. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on September 16, 2025 and September 23, 2025. No one present desired to be heard, and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10.04

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, IN THE MAXIMUM AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$11,000,000 TO FINANCE VARIOUS EXPENDITURES FOR GOVERNMENTAL PURPOSES.

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 COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES GRANT

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

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ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10.05

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A GRANT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,715.30 WITH A LOCAL MATCH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,715.30 FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$29,430.60 AND APPROPRIATING THE SAME.

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM VISITORS

Mayor Jones recognized Coleman Maddox who spoke to Council about 238 Jefferson Avenue, that was on the demolition list. Mr. Maddox stated that he previously owned that property and sold it to the Danville Redevelopment and Housing Authority with the understanding that the property would be sold. The building has not been maintained, and he asked that demolition be stopped on this property since it was in the historic district.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications from the City Manager, Deputy City Manager, or City Clerk. City Attorney Clarke Whitfield congratulated all the officers who received awards tonight.

Council Member Mayo noted National Night Out was a big success throughout the community, and Council and School Board members had a great time.

Council Member Miller commented on National Night Out and the outstanding time Council had. Dr. Miller noted Averett University finally had enough bondholders to approve the sale of the North Campus, and stated he has received a lot of compliments from citizens about the police motorcycles and how traffic has slowed down in certain areas. The Crop Walk was another great event that took place in the City over the past week.

Council Member Saunders stated National Night Out was an outstanding event, appreciated the citizens coming out and showing their support for the community, and thanked all the staff for helping to make this event so successful. Mr. Saunders stated that National Night Out needed to find a way to incorporate the northern and eastern parts of the City, and noted his congratulations to Corrie Bobe for the award received by Economic Development.

Council Member Whittle commented on the opening of the new rescue squad building, how necessary this was for the City, and congratulated Corrie Bobe for the award she received in Richmond.

Vice Mayor Buckner commented on the Police Department being second to none and how grateful he was for the officers. The Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History has several exhibitions starting in October and that information can be found on their website. The Danville Sympathy Orchestra will be performing several concerts during their 34th season, and this Saturday night there will be a professional boxing event at Caesars with doors opening at 6:30 pm.

Council Member Campbell stated that Danville was headed to another level, and has a great quality of life during this time of prosperity. Rev Campbell commented on the awards received by the Danville Police Department, and stated National Night Out was an outstanding the event.

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Council Member Hood commented on the awards received by the members of the Police Department, and stated at National Night Out, it was great to see citizens engage with staff. The Crop Walk was this past Saturday, and congratulations to Corrie Bobe on her well-deserved award. There will be a Community Health Fair this Saturday at 11:00 am at Bible Way Cathedral with free health screenings and many health resources. Mr. Hood encouraged citizens to get involved with City Council and come to the meetings.

Mayor Jones recognized Charles Wilborne with the Danville Register and Bee, and thanked John Crane for all that he has done over his years with the Register and Bee. Mayor Jones recognized Mark Aron and Arnold Hendrix and thanked them for all they do to continue to cover events throughout the city. Mayor Jones asked Council Member Whittle and Miller to stand and be recognized for their stellar attitudes during this political back and forth during the upcoming election.

CLOSED MEETING

At 8:00 p.m., Vice Mayor Buckner **moved** that this meeting of the City Council of the City of Danville, Virginia be recessed and that Council immediately reconvene in a Closed Meeting for the following purposes: discussion or consideration of the acquisition or disposition of real property for a public purpose where discussion in an open meeting would adversely impact the bargaining position of the City as permitted by Subsection (A)(3) of Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended and more specifically to consider discussion regarding the potential purchase of a specific parcel of property for use by the City of Danville.

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)

Upon unanimous vote at 8:10 p.m., Council reconvened in open session and Vice Mayor Buckner **moved** for adoption of the following Resolution:

CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Council convened in Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.1-344.1 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, requires a Certification by the Council that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each Member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements of Virginia Law under Section 2.2-3711 were heard, discussed or considered, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the Motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by the Committee.

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

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:11 P.M.

APPROVED:

s/Alonzo L. Jones
MAYOR

ATTEST:

s/Susan M. DeMasi, CMC
CITY CLERK