

October 21, 2025

The Second October meeting of the Danville City Council was held on October 21, 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, and Sherman M. Saunders, J. Lee Vogler, Jr., and Madison J.R. Whittle (9).

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

Mayor Jones stated, Good Evening to all of you here in Chambers, those of you in the hallway, there were seats on the front row. To those of you here in the Chambers, we say good evening. To those of you who are viewing us on River City TV, we say Good Evening to you as well. Oftentimes when new business comes into our community, we say welcome home. When new persons come into our community, we say welcome home. When persons return back to our community we say welcome home. Council Member Vogler, you know these terms and we will simply say, welcome home.

ANNOUNCEMENT AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Mayor Jones noted they had a special presentation, and City Manager Ken Larking asked Director of Economic Development and Tourism, Corrie Bobe to come forward. A few weeks ago, Council Member Buckner, Council Member Whittle and he joined Delegate Marshall, Lisa Meriweather, Division Director of Tourism, Samantha Bagbey from Economic Development for a trip to Richmond where Ms. Bobe was recognized as one of Virginia's Top Women Leaders. It was a great event with a lot of highly accomplished people recognized. Ms. Bobe thanked Council for recognizing her inclusion in the list by *Virginia Business*, it was truly an honor to be recognized with amazing women across the Commonwealth. This was really the collaborative and collective efforts of the full team in the Economic Development and Tourism Office, and the continued collaboration between all city departments and regional partners. It also speaks highly of the leadership and support from the city administration and each member of City Council. Council Members noted Ms. Bobe has done an outstanding job and thanked her for all that she does.

Mr. Larking noted there was a group present representing the collaborative effort that enabled the City of Danville to be awarded the President's Award at the recent Virginia Municipal League conference. They were notified ahead of time they had received an Innovation Award for their Danville's Outdoors Program. During the event they learned that they were honored with the top award, the President's Award, amongst those that were recognized. Mr. Larking asked Director of Parks & Recreation and his team to come forward. Jason Bookheimer, from Parks and Recreation thanked everyone there and explained Danville Outdoors was also recognized as a Nature Everywhere Community in the State. The work they were doing would not be possible without the people in this room and their community partners, who work to take nature and outdoor opportunities to every person in the community. Maggie Wiles thanked Council and their partners who were with them tonight, they were excited working with the City, and what they have accomplished. Ms. Wiles recognized Jason Bookheimer, Jessica Smith, Horticulturist from Public

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Works, Sonja Wallen, Virginia Master Naturalists, Brenda Rollen with Bee City Committee and Garden Club of Danville, Bill Sgrinia, Director of Parks & Recreation, Lisa Wintrobe with the Garden Club of Danville, Ken and Christa Vigoro with the Gabriella Garden Club, and Liz Russell with the Garden Club of Danville. Mr. Larking noted they appreciated the support of Council and the resources that were provided to them to make their City a beautiful place for people to enjoy. Council Members noted how proud they were to see Danville receive these two major awards and congratulated staff and the community partners.

Proclamation: Keeping the Lights on After School

Presented to: Dr. Angela Hairston, Superintendent of Danville Public Schools.

Dr. Hairston thanked Mayor Jones and Council noting this evening, she was representing Cathy Gore, President and CEO of the United Way of Danville Pittsylvania County. The United Way of Danville Pittsylvania County Board of Directors was part of a strategic vision committed to achieving a long-term, collective impact on access to childcare and afterschool programs by pioneering community driven solutions for Danville and Pittsylvania County. Quality childcare was essential not only for the well-being of children and families but as a cornerstone of workforce participation and economic development in the region. United Way has launched a Dan River Region Out of School time network in partnership with the Danville Regional Foundation. This initiative was born of a growing awareness of the intersection of access to childcare and the critical role of out-of-school programs and supporting families. Council thanked Dr. Hairston.

Mayor Jones noted there was a possibility that November 1st, SNAP benefits and assistance may go away. They did not want anyone to go hungry, and asked the community to help make sure every adult and child was fed. Council Members noted there were many different agencies and churches that were giving out food to those in need, and asked people to donate food and money to organizations such as God's Storehouse.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Consideration of Approval of Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on September 16, 2025.

Consideration of Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation Ordinance for a Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Historic Resources Grant.

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.

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

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

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APPOINTMENTS

Vice Mayor Buckner **moved** for adoption of Appointment Resolutions entitled:

Resolution 2025-10.01 – A Resolution Reappointing Robert Stowe as a Member of the Commission of Architectural Review.

Resolution 2025-10.02 – A Resolution Appointing Lawrence Meder as a Member of the Commission of Architectural Review to fill an Unexpired Term.

Resolution 2025-10.03 – A Resolution Reappointing Janet Gwynn as a Member of the Community Improvement Council.

Resolution 2025-10.04 – A Resolution Reappointing Kasey Cunningham as a Member of the Community Improvement Council.

Resolution 2025-10.05 – A Resolution Appointing TyQuan Graves as a Member of the Danville Redevelopment and Housing Authority.

Resolution 2025-10.06 – A Resolution Reappointing James Turner to the West Piedmont Planning District Commission.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Mayo 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 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10.04

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS 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.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Miller 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

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Review of General Fund Financials as of September 30, 2025

City of Danville Chief Financial Officer, Michael Adkins, gave an overview of the General Fund financials through the end of September, marking the first quarter or 25% of Fiscal 26 complete. Revenues were very comparable to last year; through September they collected \$28.2M, compared to last year at about \$28M. Collections of delinquent real estate continue to go very strong, at about \$660,000, or 58% of budget. This tends to slow down in the coming months, but they do have another public auction of abandoned property scheduled for December 11th at noon. Current year real estate and personal property tax bills will be mailed the first week of November with a due date of December 5th. Under local taxes, business licenses continue to perform very comparably to last year; they collected \$620,000 in the first quarter, up about \$2,000 from last year. However, the number of business licenses was dramatically higher, with an additional fifty-two licenses in the first quarter this year compared to last year. Meals tax was on track with budget, collecting just over 25% which comes to about \$3.5M. Lodging tax exceeded budgeted expectations, collecting about 30% or \$1.1M. Sales tax was the only consumer driven tax that was slightly behind budget, having collected over 23% but not quite 25%; that was about a \$200,000 difference between the 25% mark. However, sales tax was not collected evenly throughout the year; the holiday sales tend to be the highest month of sales tax. Mr. Adkins noted he expected to see increases in January and February that will probably push the City back up to the budgeted level. The casino had very profitable months for July and August, and a very average month for September, however, the current amount of casino taxes collected or due was \$9.2M. This was about four percentage points ahead of budget at this point; they would have expected that to be about \$8M if they were going to meet budget for this year. Overall, state and federal revenues were coming in on track with budget, so no concerns there.

Under Expenditures, the Departmental Expenditures were at 23% of budget; they typically run about one or two percent behind budget through the year, so they were where they should be. Non-Departmental Expenditures were mostly debt service and group health insurance, that was currently 37% of budget. The reason that it was so far up, nearly half of the debt service was due in September each year, so the City has already made about half of their debt service payments for the year. Group health insurance was running close to budget, a couple percentage points over, but nothing to be concerned with right now. The employee contribution was a slight increase, but collectively, it does make a difference, and will help offset that; that increase will come in January. Most of the budget that was allocated to capital projects has already been transferred, so looking at the bottom line, there was significant deficit but that was very normal for the first part of the year as they have transferred all of those funds over and that revenue will be coming in to cover that throughout the rest of the year. Regarding the Fiscal 25 Audit, it was almost complete; in the next four weeks the City should receive its signed audit report. Mr. Adkins noted he was not aware of any adjustments or concerns expressed by the auditors at this time and consistent with what he has reported in the past, the Unassigned Fund Balance should increase about \$3M for Fiscal 25, from \$51M at the end of Fiscal 24 to \$54M at the end of Fiscal 25. To compare that to the City's policy which was 25% of budgeted revenues, that puts the City at about 29% of budgeted revenues and gives the City about an \$8M buffer over the \$46M that was required by policy.

CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER TRANSMISSION LLC

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Agreements with AMP. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 14, 2025. No one present desired to be heard, and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-10.07

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR CONTRACTS FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL-OWNED TRANSMISSION ASSETS TO AMP TRANSMISSION, LLC, A SUBSIDIARY OF AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER, INC. (AMP).

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)

CONSIDERATION OF THE SALE OF 1.75 ACRES OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY ON LIVESTOCK ROAD IN PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding the Sale of 1.75 acres on Livestock Road. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 14, 2025. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-10.08

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA DECLARING CERTAIN CITY-OWNED PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS TO THE NEEDS OF THE CITY AND APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF 1.75 ACRES OF REAL PROPERTY IN PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL #2420-74-8048 FOR A PRICE OF \$5,000.00 AND ALL CLOSING COSTS.

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)

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE #1

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding an Amendment to Enterprise Zone #1. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on October 9, 2025 and October 14, 2025. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-10.09

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A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AN ENTERPRISE ZONE AMENDMENT APPLICATION FOR THE CITY URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE 1.

The Motion was **seconded** by Vice Mayor Buckner.

Council Member Whittle asked for an explanation and Assistant Director of Economic Development Kelvin Perry explained with this item, the City was expanding the zone for some businesses that will be doing projects over the year and to be able to take advantage of this particular program. The City was taking out acreage of some woodlands in the Schoolfield area and near the police station and expanding it along Riverside Drive.

The Motion was **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 THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-10.10

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE, SALE AND AWARD BY THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, OF ONE OR MORE SERIES OF GENERAL OBLIGATION PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT BONDS, HERETOFORE AUTHORIZED, AND PROVIDING FOR THE FORM, DETAILS AND PAYMENT OF SUCH BONDS

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)

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING CHAPTER 34 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA RELATING TO LOCAL WASTEWATER LIMIT DISCHARGES AND CONTRACT HAULERS

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10.06

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AMENDING CHAPTER 34, SECTIONS 12, 16, 20 OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO WASTEWATER LOCAL DISCHARGE LIMITS AND CONTRACT HAULERS.

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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)

**CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMUNITY
CRIMINAL JUSTICE BOARD**

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-10.11

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMUNITY CRIMINAL JUSTICE BOARD.

The Motion was **seconded** by Vice Mayor Buckner 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 AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION
ORDINANCE FOR THE VICTIM WITNESS GRANT PROGRAM**

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10.07

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A GRANT FROM THE STATE FOR A VICTIM WITNESS PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$189,205, WITH A LOCAL MATCH \$1,275 FOR A TOTAL OF \$190,480, AND APPROPRIATING 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 EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT**

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10.08

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A GRANT FROM THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF

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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN AN AMOUNT OF \$150,000 TO THE DANVILLE 9-1-1 EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMUNICATION CENTER FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150,000 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 ONE SOUTHERN VIRGINIA PROGRAM GRANT FROM THE VIRGINIA TOBACCO REGIONAL REVITALIZATION COMMISSION

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10.09

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR ONE SOUTHERN VIRGINIA PROGRAM GRANT #4275 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,333,095 FROM THE VIRGINIA TOBACCO REGION REVITALIZATION COMMISSION 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 TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO THE DANVILLE LIFESAVING CREW

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10.10

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FUNDING FROM UNASSIGNED GENERAL FUND BALANCE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO THE DANVILLE LIFE SAVING CREW IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000 AND APPROPRIATING 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 BY ANTICIPATING THE PROCEEDS FROM THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10.11

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY ANTICIPATING THE PROCEEDS FROM THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND APPROPRIATING SAME FOR ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES.

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

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**CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION
ORDINANCE FOR A DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER
GRANT**

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10.12

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY INCREASING REVENUE FROM VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES – FISCAL YEAR 2026 SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER GRANT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$103,415 AND A LOCAL SHARE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,855 FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$136,270 AND APPROPRIATING SAME.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Ken Larking, Deputy City Manager Earl Reynolds, City Attorney Clarke Whitfield, and City Clerk Susan DeMasi noted it was good to have Mr. Vogler back. Mr. Whitfield reminded citizens that Council's November 4th meeting will be moved to Thursday, November 6th due to Election Day.

Vice Mayor Buckner noted he was happy to have Mr. Vogler back home. Mr. Buckner thanked everyone who came out to the Food Truck Rodeo this past weekend; it was an amazing time. The Ninth Annual Monster Mash was at the Community Market on October 31st beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Council Member Campbell noted they were living in uncertain times, but there were opportunities for the community to draw together and he heard that from the Council tonight.

Council Member Hood provided additional organizations that provide food and clothing, and gave a massive welcome back to Lee Vogler, the comeback kid.

Council Member Mayo welcomed Mr. Vogler back, it was good to see him again. Mr. Mayo recognized members of Virginia Organizing in Chambers, and encouraged citizens to pray for those who receive services.

Council Member Miller thanked the Mayor for bringing the potential crisis to everyone's attention. Dr. Miller noted the City's lightshow was coming in December, and welcomed Mr. Vogler back to Council; they were grateful for his return.

Council Member Saunders welcomed Mr. Vogler back and recognized Will Pace, Council Member from the Town of Chatham. Mr. Saunders noted he attended the Danville School Board meeting last Thursday, it was one of the best meetings he attended. He was very impressed with the Board, staff, administration and Dr. Hairston. Mr. Saunders thanked all the employees of the City of Danville for all they do.

Council Member Vogler noted, God is Everything. For him to be able to be there tonight was nothing short of a miracle. People all over were praying for him and through the power of prayer

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and the amazing team at UNC Health, he turned a corner, woke up and then it was day by day. Mr. Vogler thanked his family, friends, and council members; he feels blessed to be there. Mr. Vogler noted it was so good to be back to Council tonight, he has missed the council members, and was proud to be a part of this team.

Council Member Whittle noted a lot of prayers and miracles have come true for Mr. Vogler, for him to be sitting here this evening.

Mayor Jones recognized Mr. Vogler's wife, and noted the importance of family, and how she cared for Mr. Vogler, and thanked her for what she has done. Mayor Jones noted it was good to have Mr. Vogler back at Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

APPROVED:

s/Alonzo L. Jones
MAYOR

ATTEST:

s/Susan M. DeMasi, CMC
CITY CLERK