

May 5, 2026

The Regular May meeting of the Danville City Council was held on May 5, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located on the Fourth Floor of the Municipal Building, 427 Patton Street, Danville, Virginia. The following Council Members were present: Vice Mayor James B. Buckner, L.G. "Larry" Campbell Jr., Mayor Alonzo L. Jones, Bryant Hood, Daniel W. Marshall, Dr. Gary P. Miller, Barry P. Mayo, Sherman M. Saunders, and J. Lee Vogler, Jr. (9).

Staff Members present were: City Manager Ken Larking, Deputy City Manager Earl B. Reynolds, Jr., Assistant City Manager Michael Adkins, Assistant City Manager Briana Evans, 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.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Budget Appropriation Items. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 28, 2026. 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:

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on April 7, 2026. Draft copies of the Minutes had been distributed prior to the meeting.

Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation Ordinance by Anticipating the Proceeds from the Issuance of Utility Revenue Bonds

Ordinance No. 2026-04.07, an Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Appropriation Ordinance to Provide for the Proceeds from the Sale of Utility Revenue Bonds and Appropriating Same.

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

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

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Consideration of Authorizing Utilization of the Virginia Water Supply Revolving Fund Through the Virginia Department of Health for Water Main Replacements and the Lead Service Line Replacement Project

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-04.06**

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AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UTILITY SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA IN THE MAXIMUM AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$6,700,000.00 TO FINANCE VARIOUS EXPENDITURES FOR ITS WATER, SEWER, ELECTRIC, AND GAS UTILITY SYSTEMS.

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

Vice Mayor Buckner noted this was a great program that helps citizens remove lead pipes and get them replaced; if citizens have any questions they can contact the City's Lead Safe Program. Council Member Campbell questioned the cost to the citizen, and Director of Utilities Jason Grey noted the City was still in the inventory process; all water utilities were identifying lead and galvanized service lines. The City's portion was from the street to the meter and the City had to also identify what the material was from the meter to the house; the final inventory was due next year. They have to put together a replacement plan and these funds were to fund any replacement activities; all lines need to be replaced by 2037. Dr. Miller questioned if it covered lead lines in citizen's homes and Mr. Grey explained it only covered to the edge of the house. There may be other programs or grants that cover internal piping.

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

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

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **CONSIDERATION OF A CODE AMENDMENT REQUEST FILED BY THE CITY OF DANVILLE TO AMEND CHAPTER 41 TO INCLUDE "DATA CENTERS."**

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Code Amendment Request. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 21, 2026, and April 28, 2026.

City Manager Ken Larking asked Council to consider slightly revising the wording in this Code Amendment, to add in the section where it lists Industrial Parks, to specifically list the industrial parks of Riverview, the Cyber Park and Airside Industrial parks, to provide clarity. Council Member Marshall questioned if he was including or excluding those parks and Mr. Larking stated right now, it says they were excluded in any industrial park, and he wanted to have clarity that the industrial parks were those three industrial parks. Right now, the Code section 20. Data Center, Number 4 *Operations may not be located within an industrial park.* Instead, it will say, *operations may not be located within the Airside, Riverview or Cyber Park Industrial Parks.*

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

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2026-05.01**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ENTITLED "CODE DANVILLE, THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA" OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, 1986, AS

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AMENDED, MORE SPECIFICALLY TO AMEND ARTICLE 3 SECTION B ENTITLED "USE STANDARDS" AND ARTICLE 9 ENTITLED "GLOSSARY" TO INCLUDE "DATA CENTER".

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

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

**CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION TO ALLOW INDOOR COMMERCIAL RECREATION AT 145 HOLT GARRISON PARKWAY, SUITE 410**

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at 145 Holt Garrison Parkway, Suite 410. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 21, 2026, and April 28, 2026. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-05.02**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ26-00223 FILED BY JLF INNOVATIONS, INC. TO ALLOW INDOOR COMMERCIAL RECREATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 41.3.A AT PARCEL ID# 73158 (145 HOLT GARRISON PARKWAY, SUITE 410).

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

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

**CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION TO ALLOW ADULT DAYCARE AT 405 NORTH MAIN STREET**

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at 405 North Main Street. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 21, 2026, and April 28, 2026. 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. 2026-05.03**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ26-00244 FILED BY JONATHAN SHAROLLI TO ALLOW AN ADULT DAYCARE IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 41.3.A AT PARCEL ID# 03430 (405 NORTH MAIN STREET).

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

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

**CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION TO ALLOW A WAIVER OF SIDE YARD SETBACK REQUIREMENTS AT 143 & 153 CROWN DRIVE**

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at 143 & 153 Crown Drive. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 21, 2026, and April 28, 2026.

Mayor Jones recognized Ben Crew, 1208 Corporate Circle, Roanoke, Virginia, agent on behalf of the subject request this evening. Mr. Crew noted he was there with the property owner Ben Blackburn, to answer any questions.

Mayor Jones recognized Frank Leist, who questioned the location of the setback.

No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-05.04**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ26-00251 FILED BY BFBDANVILLE LLC TO ALLOW A WAIVER OF SIDE YARD SETBACK REQUIREMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 41.2.I AT PARCEL ID# 72436 (143 & 153 CROWN DRIVE).

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

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

**CONSIDERATION OF A MORAL OBLIGATION AND SUPPORT AGREEMENT FOR THE MOUNT CROSS ROAD BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-05.01**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A MORAL OBLIGATION SUPPORT AGREEMENT SECURING A BORROWING BY THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA FOR THE MOUNT CROSS ROAD BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM.

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, Marshall  
Mayo, Miller, Saunders and Vogler (9)  
NAY: None (0)

**CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A POWER SUPPLY POOL AGREEMENT WITH AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-05.02**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER FOR THE 2026 DANVILLE POWER POOL PARTICIPANT SCHEDULE.

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

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

**CONSIDERATION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH MICROPOROUS, LLC TO EXTEND NATURAL GAS INFRASTRUCTURE TO THE SOUTHERN VIRGINIA MEGASITE AT BERRY HILL**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-05.03**

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MICROPOROUS, LLC FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A NATURAL GAS LINE EXTENSION.

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

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

**CONSIDERATION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH MICROPOROUS, LLC TO EXTEND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE SOUTHERN VIRGINIA MEGASITE AT BERRY HILL**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-05.04**

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MICROPOROUS, LLC FOR THE

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CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A WASTEWATER EXTENSION.

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

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

**CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO ISSUE UTILITY REVENUE BONDS TO UTILIZE FUNDING AVAILABLE THROUGH THE VIRGINIA WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING FUND – WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-05.05**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE BY THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, OF A TAXABLE UTILITY SYSTEM REVENUE BOND IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,596,380, HERETOFORE AUTHORIZED, AND PROVIDING FOR THE FORM, DETAILS, AND PAYMENT OF SUCH BOND.

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

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

**CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO ISSUE UTILITY REVENUE BONDS TO UTILIZE FUNDING AVAILABLE THROUGH THE VIRGINIA WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING FUND – LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-05.06**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE BY THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, OF A TAXABLE UTILITY SYSTEM REVENUE BOND IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$5,080,000, HERETOFORE AUTHORIZED, AND PROVIDING FOR THE FORM, DETAILS AND PAYMENT OF SUCH BOND.

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

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

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### **CONSIDERATION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 DANVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUDGET**

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding the Fiscal Year 2027 School Board Budget. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 28, 2026. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Saunders and **second** by Vice Mayor Buckner, a Resolution entitled:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2026-05.07**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA APPROVING THE BUDGET OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027.

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

### **CONSIDERATION OF FEE CHANGES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026**

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Fee Changes. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 28, 2026.

Mayor Jones recognized Frank Leist who noted he saw this on the agenda but he did not know which fees were referred to. No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2026-05.05**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AMENDING, ESTABLISHING AND INCREASING CERTAIN FEES OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026, EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE STATED.

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

Council Member Vogler asked, in the next meeting, he would like to vote on the fees individually so citizens will know which fees are changing; some Council Members might be in favor of one, and not of another.

### **CONSIDERATION OF A DATA CENTER TAX INCREASE**

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Data Center Tax Increase. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on April 28, 2026.

Mayor Jones recognized Frank Leist who addressed Council about the data center tax rates in the City; he thought the rate should stay where it was and not raise it at this time.

No one further desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-05.06**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AMENDING AND REORDAINING SECTION 37-37 OF THE DANVILLE CITY CODE TO INCREASE THE DATA CENTER TAX RATE FROM \$0.25 (TWENTY-FIVE CENTS) ON EVERY \$100 (ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS) OF ASSESSED VALUE TO \$1.20 (ONE DOLLAR AND TWENTY CENTS) ON EVERY \$100 (ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS) OF ASSESSED VALUE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026.

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 THE RECREATION ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-05.07**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$69,625 FOR A RECREATION ENRICHMENT PROGRAM AND THE LOCAL IN-KIND SHARE OF \$306,223 FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$375,848 AND APPROPRIATION OF 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 HOUSING WORKFORCE HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAM**

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-05.08**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A GRANT FROM VIRGINIA HOUSING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,000,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING 1700 WEST MAIN STREET 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 Beverly Richardson, 731 Grove Street who addressed Council about issues facing citizens and the disconnect between Council and citizens.

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Mayor Jones recognized Frank Leist who addressed Council on the City's utility system, and having more education of citizens on how the utility and government works.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

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

City Manager Ken Larking noted a few days ago the company, Microporous, closed on the purchase of the property at the Megasite at Berry Hill. Mr. Larking congratulated the community, Council and members of the RIFA board that serve on behalf of City Council on that transaction.

Council Member Marshall noted the opening of the Riverfront Park was a great event; he drove through there today and it was packed with people; it was a wise investment for the City of Danville.

Council Member Miller questioned the City Manager on the news on Aerofarms and Mr. Larking noted the Mayor received a revised WARN notice. Aerofarms has received a large investor and were rescinding the WARN notice which means there were no plans to lay off workers; they were thankful those jobs will be retained. Dr. Miller commended the Utility Department; he attended the Utility briefing for the public at Ballou Park; it was well attended and they answered all the questions about the utilities. Today was the ribbon cutting for a new hotel on the river; people have come back to the river and Danville was truly a river city.

Council Member Saunders stated it was their duty to leave things better than how they found it. Danville was doing that; it was an older city and there were a lot of issues to address. The Mill jobs, among others, have left, but there were new ones coming in. The City was growing, they were making the tough decisions, many people were complaining about utilities and Council addressed those concerns at their most recent meeting. There was a lot to do, but whoever comes behind them, it was their duty to leave things better than they found them.

Council Member Vogler thanked the citizens for appearing before Council and speaking about their concerns; he appreciated them sharing them with Council.

Vice Mayor Buckner noted it was great to see everyone come out for the kickoff of Make Danville Shine Saturday at the Community Market. The opening of the Riverfront Park was last Friday, that was a great ribbon cutting ceremony in the morning, and bands and music in the evening. Mr. Buckner encouraged the citizens to go down and enjoy the park. The Boys and Girls Club were having a benefit, Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm. and tickets were available at the door for a boxing event.

Council Member Campbell noted looking at Danville back to when they lost Dan River Mills and the Tobacco Market to see how the economy was then. Earlier leaders took the Tobacco Commission settlement and used it wisely. The park was an enhancement for a good quality of life for generations. Rev Campbell noted he had an opportunity to go to Jamaica, they had a tournament for pickleball with a facility, and hopes Danville was able to capitalize on the popularity of the pickleball and establish some opportunities.

Council Member Hood noted Danville sits in a unique place because it was big enough to understand the development and growth that comes, but small enough to have citizens that they

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know to speak on what they believe in and the concerns of ones that may not have a voice to do so. Mr. Hood thanked the citizens for holding them accountable.

Mayor Jones noted to hear citizens that came before them tonight, they did not hide behind social media, they greeted Council with respect and then made their point; he appreciated that. Mayor Jones noted a lot of Danville's growth has taken place because citizens came before Council or spoke to Council Members with their ideas. They also appreciate individuals with different perspectives than Council's. Mayor Jones thanked Dr. Hairston and the School Board for the work they were doing, and noted there would be job opportunities this summer to hire students. The Harry Johnson Holiday Classic committee has created a fund for those young people not able to work within the system in place, they would be hiring youth through the police department to do some projects.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:00 P.M.

APPROVED:

s/Alonzo L. Jones  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

s/Susan M. DeMasi, CMC  
CITY CLERK