

September 1, 2026

The Regular September meeting of the Danville City Council was held on September 1, 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., Bryant Hood, Mayor Alonzo L. Jones, Daniel W. Marshall, Barry P. Mayo, Gary P. Miller, 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/CFO 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 Daniel W. Marshall gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Proclamation: National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week
Presented to: Dr. Jessalyn Woods and Dr. Antonio Hairston, Danville Public Schools

Mayor Jones recognized Traci Fitz-Scales who addressed Council on Prostate Health Awareness Month.

MEETING MINUTES

Upon **Motion** by Vice Mayor Buckner and **second** by Council Member Mayo, Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on August 4, 2026, were approved as presented. Draft copies had been distributed to Council Members prior to the Meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

Vice Mayor Buckner made the following recommendations for appointments to Boards and Commissions:

Community Improvement Council	Reappoint:	Tyrell Payne
Danville Community College Board	Appoint:	Robert David
Danville Community Policy and Management Team	Appoint:	Andrea Staten

These appointments will be voted on at the next Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF A CODE AMENDMENT REQUEST TO AMEND CHAPTER 41, SPECIFICALLY "EGD-ENTERTAINMENT AND GAMING DISTRICT."

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 August 18, 2026, and August 25, 2026. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-09.01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 41 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, 1986 AS AMENDED ENTITLED "CODE DANVILLE: THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA", MORE SPECIFICALLY, TO AMEND ARTICLE 2, SECTION L ENTITLED "EGD – ENTERTAINMENT AND GAMING DISTRICT".

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 SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION TO ALLOW INDOOR COMMERCIAL RECREATION AT 616 NORTH MAIN STREET

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding a Special Use Permit at 616 North Main Street. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* August 18, 2026, and August 25, 2026.

Mayor Jones recognized DeAnthony Poole, 616 N. Main Street, owner of T Valley Studios, who stated he wanted to grow his business, offer more opportunities, and noted he will implement the recommendations of the Planning Commission for the Special Use Permit.

Mayor Jones recognized Sherri Myers Keats, 192 Wood Avenue, who spoke in support of Mr. Poole and his business. No one further desired to be heard, and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-09.02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PZ26-00380 TO ALLOW INDOOR COMMERCIAL RECREATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.A OF THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE WITHIN THE SECOND-FLOOR TENANT SPACE AT PARCEL ID #00798 (616 NORTH MAIN STREET).

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)

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CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN AWNING AT 319 CRAGHEAD STREET

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Construction of an Awning at 319 Craghead Street. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on August 18, 2026, and August 25, 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. 2026-09.03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, AUTHORIZING AN ENCROACHMENT OVER THE PUBLIC SIDEWALK ADJACENT TO 319 CRAGHEAD STREET FOR THE INSTALLATION OF AN AWNING.

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 ORDINANCE TO ISSUE REVENUE BONDS FOR UTILITY SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Mayor Jones opened the floor for a Public Hearing regarding Issuance of Revenue Bonds. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Danville Register & Bee* on August 11, 2026, and August 18, 2026. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-09.04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, IN THE MAXIMUM AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$16,500,000 TO FINANCE VARIOUS EXPENDITURES FOR ITS UTILITY SYSTEM.

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

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO ISSUE AN IRREVOCABLE STANDBY LETTER OF CREDIT FOR ELECTRIC INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE SOUTHERN VIRGINIA MEGASITE AT BERRY HILL

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-09.01

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A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO OBTAIN AN IRREVOCABLE STANDBY LETTER OF CREDIT FOR THE PROVISION OF A 12KV ELECTRIC SERVICE BY APPALACHIAN POWER TO THE SOUTHERN VIRGINIA MEGASITE AT BERRY HILL.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Vogler 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 AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR A RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FOR PRISONERS GRANT

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-09.05

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY INCREASING REVENUE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES FOR A RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FOR STATE PRISONERS (RSAT) COMPETITIVE PROGRAM GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$225,000 AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LOCAL SHARE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$75,000 FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$300,000 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 2027 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT GRANT

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-09.06

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY INCREASING CERTAIN REVENUES TO PROVIDE FOR TITLE III-B GRANT FUNDS AND LOCAL SHARE FOR SENIOR CITIZEN TRANSPORTATION SERVICES 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 2027 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR THE CREATIVE COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP GRANT FROM THE VIRGINIA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-09.07

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 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.

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM VISITORS

Mayor Jones recognized Joie Ford, 306 Laurel Woods Drive, a broker for Riverfront Real Estate, who addressed Council about the parking changes that took effect in May 2026, more recent restrictions placed on public lots in the Community Market, and accessible parking time limits.

Mayor Jones recognized Rachel Cassidy, a resident of the River District who requested that the City reevaluate and remove the two hour parking limit currently enforced in the River District.

Mayor Jones recognized Tashawn Simmons who appeared on behalf of Angie Dixon, and addressed Council about the 10th Anniversary of Hoops Don't Shoot on September 19th at 4:00 p.m. at Cherrystone Missionary Baptist Association, Tom Fork Road.

COMMUNICATIONS

Assistant City Manager Adkins noted at Council's seat was the Annual Collection Report which reflects the collection percentages for real estate and personal property taxes for the past year.

Assistant City Manager Evans noted the time restrictions on the ADA timed parking on Bridge Street in particular have been removed; that parking was available 24/7 for citizens with valid placards.

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

Council Member Miller noted the GWHS football game last week was a great game, and complemented Traci Fitz Scale for her presentation, noting men do not like to talk about prostate cancer. Dr. Miller encouraged men to talk to their physicians and get checked. Dr. Miller remembered Dolly Parton and the many charitable works she did.

Council Member Saunders thanked Tashawn Simmons for coming tonight and speaking for Angie Dixon; her group does great things. Mr. Saunders noted he would like a discussion on a partnership in some form with Hoops Don't Shoot.

Mayor Jones recognized Mr. Simmons again and encouraged him to continue doing what they were doing.

Council Member Vogler thanked the citizens who came and spoke tonight about the parking in the River District, noting he had concerns about the changes. He has spoken with the City

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Manager and thinks there were things they could do to improve the situation there. Mr. Vogler questioned the JTI Fountain that has been shut down for several months and would like to see it back on.

Vice Mayor Buckner noted earlier this evening Council approved a reduction in setbacks in the EDG Gaming District and asked if staff could look into whether there were other nearby zoning districts in Schoolfield that could have reduced setbacks. Mr. Buckner stated the law enforcement community lost a giant of man this past Saturday, Sheriff Draper, a fifty year career and thirty two years as Sheriff in Martinsville.

Council Member Campbell noted it was a great meeting, working on a good quality of life for their citizens; the agenda item for substance abuse treatment for the incarcerated was so important. Rev Campbell noted he was grateful for the participation of citizens, employees and the City Manager working together to make this a better place to live.

Council Member Hood gave a shout out to Joe Brothers Entertainment Group for holding their Richmond R&B Festival this past weekend. They have been looking at Danville as a part of a multicity tour. Mr. Hood thanked Ms. Scales for providing information on prostate cancer and Stay in the Game information. Mr. Hood noted the Three Sisters Marathon was coming up on Friday September 11th for the youth one miler and on Saturday will be the marathon.

Council Member Marshall honored Dolly Parton and her life and legacy, her music and the example she set.

Council Member Mayo noted he was glad to see the citizens attending and those who presented information to Council, and thanked Ms. Scales for her information on prostate cancer. Mr. Mayo noted the Adult Education Program was a great program doing great things for the citizens.

Mayor Jones thanked those who attended the meeting tonight, their presentations were fantastic and thanked them for what they were doing for the community. Mayor Jones noted the drone show was going to be this Friday from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Riverfront Park with music and food trucks.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:04 P.M.

APPROVED:

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK