

**CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**



Agenda Date:	August 5, 2024
Action Required:	Public Hearing and Approval of Ordinance (First Reading)
Presenter:	Lauren Hildebrand, Director of Utilities
Staff Contacts:	Lauren Hildebrand, Director of Utilities
Title:	Ordinance to vacate gas and waterline easements – Garden Street and Former Walnut Street (requesting waiver of 2nd reading)

Background

The City of Charlottesville Department of Utilities received a request to vacate a deed of easement for a natural gas line and waterline under Garden Street and the City right-of-way formerly known as Walnut Street. This city street was vacated in 2011, and the gas and waterline easements were recorded as a result. The Department of Utilities recorded the easements for these natural gas and waterlines in conjunction with the deed of vacation for the former City rights-of-way Walnut Street and an abandoned section of Garden Street, recorded by plat on July 28, 2011 (revised Feb 6, 2012) and deed of vacation and easement on December 5, 2011.

Discussion

The owner, Belmont & Carlton Holdings, LLC is requesting the easements be vacated to develop the land. The natural gas and waterline mains and service connections have since been abandoned. The attached ordinance proposes to vacate the existing natural gas and waterline easements in order to remove an encumbrance for the owner.

Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan

This supports City Council's vision and contributes to the Strategic Outcome Area of Organizational Excellence.

Community Engagement

In accordance with Va. Code Sec. 15.2-1800, a public hearing is required to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed conveyance of a property interest. Notice of the public hearing was advertised in the local newspaper at least 7 days in advance of the public hearing.

Budgetary Impact

None.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the approval of the attached ordinance and deed of vacation.

Alternatives

If the ordinance is not approved, the owner Belmont and Carlton Holdings, LLC will not be able to develop their land with natural gas and waterline easements in place.

Attachments

1. Ordinance vacating gas line - Belmont Condos
2. Deed of Vacation of Easement - Belmont Condos
3. Plat (3 pages) - Belmont Condos