



CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

May 6, 2024 at 4:00 PM

Council Chamber

The Charlottesville City Council met on Monday, May 6, 2024. Mayor Juandiego Wade called the meeting to order and Clerk of Council Kyna Thomas called the roll, noting the following councilors present: Mayor Juandiego Wade, Vice Mayor Brian Pinkston and Councilor Michael Payne. Councilor Lloyd Snook was away for travel and Councilor Natalie Oschrein arrived after at 4:03 p.m., following agenda approval.

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Payne, Council by a 3-0 vote adopted the meeting agenda (Ayes: Payne, Pinkston, Wade; Noes: none; Absent: Oschrein, Snook).

REPORTS

1. REPORT: Charlottesville Albemarle Convention & Visitors Bureau (CACVB) Update

Courtney Cacatian, Executive Director, made a presentation explaining CACVB's role in tourism, the importance of visitors making informed decisions, and creating a welcoming environment for a variety of visitors. She provided economic data and information about the first Tourism Master Plan, and about recognition that the CACVB received this past year for inclusivity in the wine industry.

2. REPORT: City's Locally Administered Project Portfolio

Steven Hicks, Director of Public Works, introduced the locally administered project portfolio presentation, the project management team, and areas of responsibility. He reviewed the City's Projects Development Improvement Plan, a commitment signed in January 2024 to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for turning the program around. The Locality Sustained Performance Improvement Plan includes three primary areas: On-Time Performance, Reasonable Progress, and Fiscal Management. Focus areas for the Corrective Action Plan will be:

- Mission – Deliver projects on-time and on-budget
- Build a strong team in place - reorganization
- Solid VDOT relationship - MOA
- Restoring public trust
- Fiscal discipline
- Urban design
- Project Transparency
- Sense of urgency

Krisy Hammill, Budget Director, answered a question for Councilor Oschrein regarding VDOT funding for projects.

Ben Chambers, Transportation Planning Manager, presented the City's Locally VDOT-Administered Projects Overview.

CLOSED MEETING

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Oschrin, Council voted to meet in closed session pursuant to section 2.2-3712 of the Virginia Code, as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1), for: (1) Discussion and consideration of prospective candidates to be interviewed for upcoming and existing vacancies on the Charlottesville Redevelopment and Housing Authority Board; and (2) Discussion and consideration of prospective candidates to be interviewed for upcoming and existing vacancies on the Police Civilian Oversight Board; and (3) Discussion and consideration of applications of prospective candidates seeking appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals. The motion passed 4-0 (Ayes: Oschrin, Payne, Pinkston, Wade; Noes: none).

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Oschrin, Council voted to meet in closed session as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) and (A)(6), for: (1) Discussion and consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body; and (2) Discussion and consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the City would be adversely affected. The motion passed 4-0 (Ayes: Oschrin, Payne, Pinkston, Wade; Noes: none).

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Oschrin, Council certified by a recorded vote that to the best of each Council member's knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the Motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed session. Pinkston stated that Council planned to reconvene in a closed meeting at end of regular meeting.

BUSINESS SESSION

Council began the business session with a moment of silence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Mayor Pinkston thanked Tom Tom Festival organizers and participants for a successful series of events.

Councilor Oschrin announced the 9th Annual My Help List winners, a contest presented by Mr. Alex-Zan.

RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

- **PROCLAMATION: Older Americans Month**

Mayor Wade presented the proclamation to Marta Keane, JABA (Jefferson Area Board on Aging) Executive Director, who accepted with remarks.

- **PROCLAMATION: The Salvation Army Week**

Councilor Payne presented the proclamation to Salvation Army Development Director James Battaglia and Captain Mark Van Meter, who accepted with remarks.

- **PROCLAMATION: National Police Week and Peace Officers Memorial Day**

Vice Mayor Pinkston presented the proclamation to Chief Michael Kochis, who accepted with remarks, recognizing May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day.

- **PROCLAMATION: Professional Municipal Clerks Week**

Vice Mayor Pinkston presented the proclamation to Clerk of Council Kyna Thomas. Clerk Thomas shared the recognition with Deputy Clerk Maxicelia Robinson.

- **PROCLAMATION: Bike Month**

Councilor Oschrein presented the proclamation to Peter Krebs, Piedmont Environmental Council, who accepted on behalf of the residents of Charlottesville.

COMMUNITY MATTERS

Mayor Wade opened the floor for comments from the public.

1. Lisa Custalow spoke about David Yancey's, who was a Charlottesville resident and World War II veteran who is interned at Oakwood Cemetery. His grave marker is at Hartman Memorial on East Market Street and she has been trying to find his next of kin. She questioned payment to have the grave marker installed.
2. Em Gunter, city resident, asked about the multi-agency law enforcement response to protesters on May 4 at UVA. She requested that Council open an investigation.
3. James Groves, city resident, spoke about engineering activities in City operations as related to the presentation during the work session. He asked about personnel turnover with professional staff.
4. Don Gathers spoke about the multi-agency law enforcement response to protesters on May 4 at UVA. He urged Council to talk with whomever necessary to ask that charges be dropped against those arrested during the protest incident.
5. Moe Van de Sompel, city resident, spoke about the multi-agency law enforcement response to protesters on May 4 at UVA, and asked who determined that Virginia State Police were necessary. He requested a statement from a city official.

CONSENT AGENDA*

3. MINUTES: February 5 regular meeting, March 28 budget development, April 4 budget development
4. RESOLUTION: Resolution for Revenue Sharing Program Appropriation of \$394,256 and Transfer of \$394,256 for Multi-Modal Improvements FY21 (2nd reading)

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR Revenue Sharing Program - Multi-Modal Improvements - \$394,256

WHEREAS, a total of \$394,256 in state funds for the Revenue Sharing Program requires appropriation and;

WHEREAS, a total of \$394,256 in City match funds is required for the Revenue Sharing Program;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia that the following is hereby appropriated in the following manner:

Revenues (State Revenue Sharing)

\$56,756	Fund: 426	Internal Order: 2600040	G/L Account: 430110
\$22,895	Fund: 426	Internal Order: 2600041	G/L Account: 430110
\$318,605	Fund: 426	Internal Order: 2600042	G/L Account: 430110

Expenditure (State Revenue Sharing)

\$56,756	Fund: 426	Internal Order: 2600040	GIL Account: 599999
\$22,895	Fund: 426	Internal Order: 2600041	GIL Account: 599999
\$318,605	Fund: 426	Internal Order: 2600042	GIL Account: 599999

Transfer from (City Match)

\$394,256	Fund: 426	WBS: P-00335	G/L Account: 599999
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Transfer to

\$ 56,756	Fund: 426	Internal Order: 2600040	GIL Account: 599999
\$ 22,895	Fund: 426	Internal Order: 2600041	GIL Account: 599999
\$318,605	Fund: 426	Internal Order: 2600042	GIL Account: 599999

5. RESOLUTION: Resolution appropriating funding for Hydraulic Road shared use path study - \$40,000 (2nd reading)

RESOLUTION

**Appropriating funds for Engineering and Design study for Hydraulic Road Trail
\$40,000.00**

WHEREAS, the City of Charlottesville is exploring the viability of providing a shared use path along the north side of Hydraulic Road from Brandywine Drive to Michie Drive; and

WHEREAS, funding for an engineering and design study is needed to provide options for constructing the segment of share use path.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that the sum of \$40,000.00 is hereby appropriated in the following manner:

Transfer From

\$40,000.00	Fund: 426	WBS: CP-080	G/L Account: 599999
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Transfer To

\$40,000.00	Fund: 426	WBS: PR-00662-06	G/L Account: 599999
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6. RESOLUTION: Resolution appropriating Dogwood Memorial Foundation state grant pass-thru funding - \$600,000 (2nd reading)

RESOLUTION

**Appropriating funds from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR)
for the Dogwood Vietnam Memorial Foundations, Inc. - \$600,000**

WHEREAS, the City of Charlottesville through the Department of Historic Resources has received a grant award of \$600,000 to be given to the Dogwood Vietnam Memorial Foundation, Inc. to be used to support the Dogwood Veterans Memorial Pedestrian Bridge and Parking project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that the sum of \$600,000 received from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources is hereby appropriated in the following manner:

Revenues - \$600,000

\$600,000 Fund: 209 Order: 1900551 G/L Code: 430080

Expenditures - \$600,000

\$600,000 Fund: 209 Order: 1900551 G/L Code: 540100

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this appropriation is conditioned upon the receipt of \$600,000 from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

7. ORDINANCE: Resolution ratifying Meals and Lodging Tax Rates for FY 2025

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REORDAINING SECTION 30-283 OF CHAPTER 30 (TAXATION) INCREASING THE MEAL TAX FROM 6.5% TO 7.0%

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REORDAINING SECTION 30-253 OF CHAPTER 30 (TAXATION) INCREASING THE TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX FROM 8% TO 9%

8. RESOLUTION: Resolution appropriating a grant of public funds for housing assistance to low- and moderate-income homeowners within the City of Charlottesville - \$1,295,000 (carried)

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Oschrein, Council by a vote of 4-0 adopted the consent agenda (Ayes: Oschrein, Payne, Pinkston, Wade; Noes: None; Absent: Snook).

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Sam Sanders reported that he was the keynote speaker at the PHAR Internship Program graduation. Mr. Sanders, Mayor Wade and a group of leaders greeted representatives from the National League of Cities on their 100-city tour, where they chose Charlottesville as

one of the stops on April 18. The quarterly Neighborhood Association Meeting was held on April 18. He announced that "Inside Charlottesville", a local community affairs program was relaunching and a community newsletter being released to further community engagement work. Mr. Sanders clarified the Charlottesville Police Department (CPD) response for the May 4 protest event at UVA. He stated that CPD responded to a mutual aid request and provided crowd control as a perimeter.

Councilor Payne, for the record, expressed concern about the law enforcement response to a peaceful protest at UVA on May 4. He requested information about who called State Police to the event.

COMMUNITY MATTERS (2)

Mayor Wade opened the floor for comments from the public.

- Peter Krebs called the community's attention to infrastructure items on the consent agenda, and thanked Council for passing the items.

CLOSED MEETING

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Payne, Council voted 4-0 (Ayes: Oschrein, Payne, Pinkston, Wade; Noes: none) to meet in closed session pursuant to section 2.2-3712 of the Virginia Code, as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1), for: (1) Discussion and consideration of prospective candidates to be interviewed for upcoming and existing vacancies on the Charlottesville Redevelopment and Housing Authority Board; and (2) Discussion and consideration of prospective candidates to be interviewed for upcoming and existing vacancies on the Police Civilian Oversight Board; and (3) Discussion and consideration of applications of prospective candidates seeking appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Payne, Council voted 4-0 (Ayes: Oschrein, Payne, Pinkston, Snook, Wade; Noes: none) to meet in closed session as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) and (A)(6), for: (1) Discussion and consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body; and (2) Discussion and consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the City would be adversely affected.

Council reconvened in open meeting. On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Oschrein, Council certified by a recorded vote that to the best of each Council member's knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the Motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed session.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

BY Order of City Council

BY Kyna Thomas, Clerk of Council