



## CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 5, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Council Chamber

**Opening Session (led by City Manager)**

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

**Agenda Approval**

### **ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

#### **Reports**

##### **Environmental Regulations and Policy Review Project**

##### **Rivanna Authorities Presentation**

Bill Mawyer, Rivanna Authorities Executive Director, presented the Review of the Rivanna Drinking Water/Wastewater and Refuse /Recycling Programs, and answered questions from City Council.

balancing affordability and dependability

##### **Closed Meeting (Appointments for the Board of Architectural Review)**

##### **Business Session**

##### **Moment of Silence**

##### **Announcements**

Councilor Oschirin announced the MLK event by Mr. Alex Zan.

Wade - Abundant Life Ministries event for MLK Day, where he will be the speaker.

Payne - B&C openings

##### **Recognitions/Proclamations**

##### **In Honor of Eddie Harris**

Mayor Wade acknowledged the passing of Eddie Harris, and presented a proclamation to his family.

##### **Community Matters**

Invited guest: Toyosi Ogunseye    Invited guest: Presidential Precinct

1. Richard Allen ceded his time to Col. Robert Guest III, (Court Square Memorial Advocacy) who spoke in support of Enslavement auction block slate marker at E. Jefferson Street.
2. Paul Mack urged City Council to install an Enslavement auction block slate marker at E. Jefferson Street
3. Martize Tolbert made remarks about the impact that Eddie Harris made on and in the community.
4. Wendy Gao, Organizer for PHAR, encouraged Council to change the zoning code...
5. Alicia Lenahan, Albemarle County resident, encouraged Council to adopt a resolution protecting Constitutional rights from ICE & intrusive surveillance; she

- spoke about Metropolis technology in the city parking garages.
6. Angilee Shah, CEO and Editor in Chief for Charlottesville Tomorrow made comments to honor Eddie Harris.
  7. Taneesha Hudson, city resident, spoke about Eddie Harris and the need to honor people before they pass away.
  8. Sophia Merrero, Organizer with PHAR, LV Collective project & changing zoning code
  9. Sarad Davenport, city resident, made remarks about Eddie Harris's "others-centered" impact in the community.
  10. John Hall, city resident, spoke about the Montgomery Alabama Bus Boycott, and asked for consideration of honoring Uriah J. Fields, Charlottesville resident, who organized the boycott.
  11. Mike Henrietta, city resident, spoke about local history of enslavement auctioning, and the need to have a public monument.
  12. Rachel, city resident, spoke about the impacts of gun violence and voiced support for funding of violence interrupters, The BUCK Squad.
  13. Deanna McDonald thanked City Manager Sanders for communicating with the community about a new grocery store coming to the Fifeville neighborhood, and asked Council to keep the project moving forward.
  14. Frank Bechter, city resident, referred to a letter of appeal submitted to Council regarding (BAR) ...said the letter's argument is disingenuous.
  15. Richard Allen, city resident, spoke about tradition and agency, as related to memorializing the enslavement auction block...

### **Consent Agenda\***

**December 9 joint CIP public hearing with Planning Commission;  
December 15 regular meeting; December 18 joint meeting with School Board**

**Resolution to Grant \$50,000 to the Residential Energy Retrofit Mini-Grant Program (2nd reading)**

**Resolution to appropriate \$303,660.00 from the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant Program for the City of Charlottesville - Rock Creek Watershed Management Plan (2nd reading)**

**Resolution to appropriate Stormwater Local Assistance Grant Fund for the Rivanna Restoration at Riverview Park in the amount of \$607,610.00 (1 of 2 readings)**

### **City Manager Report**

City Manager Sanders asked Chris Engel, Director of Economic Development, to speak about the new Metropolis parking management system. Mr. Engel shared context about parking management evolution in Charlottesville since 1975, and the deployment of

modern software technology. The previous company, SP+ was acquired by Metropolis.

Councilor Payne expressed concerns about the implementation of the Metropolis parking management system. Mr. Engel answered additional questions from councilors. Mr. Sanders also added remarks about the parking management system, and missteps in rolling out the new technology.

Mr. Sanders introduced new Assistant City Manager Evan Pelachowski and Economic Mobility Officer Abigail Matthew Wade. He announced the City Council retreat on January 9, and the City Manager Budget sessions on January 13, 14 and 15.

## **City Manager Report**

### **Action Items**

#### **Resolution to establish days, times and places of Regular Meetings of the Charlottesville City Council during Calendar Year 2026**

Council discussed

#### **Approving a resolution authorizing the acceptance and installation of a city-sponsored commemorative display recognizing the 100th Anniversary of Jefferson High School**

Steven King, Assistant to the City Manager, presented the resolution proposal to honor the 100th anniversary of Jefferson High School.

Dr. Andrea Douglas provided details about the commemorative project, locating banners on West Main Street on the corridor between 4th Street and 8th Street. The images will come directly from The Jefferson School yearbooks.

Councilor Payne recommended that other discussions such as Vinegar Hill memorialization, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ be taken up...following this...

#### **Board and Commission Appointments for City Council**

### **General Business**

#### **Report and Discussion on Request for Investment in Housing Development Projects and Off Cycle Funding Requests**

City Manager Sanders presented a report on the Request for Investment in housing development projects, and off-cycle periodic funding requests.

#### **Request for Investment**

Annually, the City of Charlottesville, through a published Notice of Funding Opportunity, announces to the public the availability of funding for competitive grants to fund the priority of the preservation and production of affordable housing. One of the Request for Proposal (RFP) rounds is a Request for Investment, where developers of proposed projects can submit project details along with a request for

Council to consider making a direct investment. The results of this annual round is reviewed by staff and provided to Council for consideration in the development of the next fiscal year budget.

### **Off Cycle Grant Requests**

The City of Charlottesville offers multiple competitive grant rounds annually, but there are times with the schedules and deadlines do not align with priority matters or emergency situations. Council has therefore agreed to have the City Manager bring forward requests on a quarterly basis that meet an urgency requirement such that the next available competitive grant round will not be able to address the priority.

Councilors provided opinions to inform the city manager's next steps in prioritization.

### **Community Matters (2)**

- Genevieve Keller spoke in support of the resolution passed for The Jefferson School. She spoke as President of Preservation Piedmont about developments encroaching on historical, cultural and environmental resources and neighborhoods near West Main Street. She expressed concerns about increased density around ...map...

### **Adjournment**

10:35 p.m.



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**RESOLUTION**

**Establishing Days, Times and Places of Regular Meetings of the  
Charlottesville City Council During Calendar Year 2026**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA, THAT** pursuant to Virginia Code Sec. 15.2-1416, the regular meetings of the Charlottesville City Council shall be conducted on the following days, times, and places during calendar year 2026:

<b>CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING DATES</b>		
January 5, 2026	May 4, 2026	September 8, 2026 ( <i>Tuesday</i> )
January 20, 2026 ( <i>Tuesday</i> )	May 18, 2026	September 21, 2026
February 2, 2026	June 1, 2026	October 5, 2026
February 17, 2026 ( <i>Tuesday</i> )	June 15, 2026	October 19, 2026
March 2, 2026	July 6, 2026	November 2, 2026
March 16, 2026	July 20, 2026	November 16, 2026
April 6, 2026	August 3, 2026	December 7, 2026
April 20, 2026	August 17, 2026	December 21, 2026

**TIME:** 4:00 p.m. work session  
5:30 p.m. closed meeting (if called)  
6:30 p.m. business meeting upon conclusion of the closed meeting agenda

**LOCATION:** City Hall Council Chamber  
605 E. Main Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Charlottesville, VA

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** any regular meeting may be adjourned from day to day, or from time to time, or from place to place, not beyond the day and time fixed by this resolution for the next regular meeting, until the business before this City Council is completed. Notice of any regular meeting continued in this manner shall be reasonable under the circumstances and shall be given as provided in subsection D of Virginia Code Section 2.2-3707.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT,** in the event that the Mayor, or the Vice Mayor if the Mayor is unavailable or otherwise unable to act, finds and declares that weather or other conditions

are such that it is hazardous for members to attend a regular meeting, that regular meeting shall be continued to the next business day on which the said hazardous conditions no longer exist or to the next regular meeting date. Such finding and declaration shall be communicated to all city councilors and to the press as promptly as possible, along with the date and time on which the continued meeting will commence. All public hearings and other agenda matters previously advertised shall be conducted at the continued meeting with no further advertisement.

Date Adopted:

Certified: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council

## List of Boards for City Councilor(s) Appointment 2026

LOCAL BOARDS
Charlottesville Redevelopment & Housing Authority (CRHA) Board
Historic Resources Committee
Housing Advisory Committee (HAC)
Legislative Committee*
Minority Business Commission
Retirement Commission
School Capital Projects
Social Services Advisory Board
REGIONAL BOARDS
Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail Authority Board
Charlottesville Albemarle Convention and Visitors Bureau (CACVB)
Charlottesville-Albemarle Regional Transit Authority (CARTA)
Charlottesville Community Scholarship Program
<b>Darden Towe Memorial Park Committee</b>
Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA) Board of Directors
Jefferson Area Community Criminal Justice Board
Local Energy Alliance Program Governance Board (LEAP)
Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)*
Piedmont Housing Alliance - Kindlewood Advisory Committee
Regional Housing Partnership*
<b>Rivanna River Basin Commission</b>
Rivanna Solid Waste Authority (RSWA)
Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority (RWSA)
Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC)
Virginia Career Works-Piedmont Region
Virginia First Cities*

Asterisk (\*) denotes alternate appointee required

Boards in **bold** denotes two council seats