

Council Member Bestpitch placed in nomination the name of Douglas Pitzer.

There being no further nominations, Mr. Pitzer was appointed as a member of the Youth Services Citizen Board to fill the unexpired term of office of Crystal Hall ending June 30, 2021, by the following vote:

FOR MR. PITZER: Council Members Jeffrey, Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, Bestpitch, Cobb and White-6.

(Mayor Lea was absent.)

There being no further business to come before the Council, Vice-Mayor White-Boyd declared the regular meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

A P P R O V E D

ATTEST:

Cecelia F. McCoy

Cecelia F. McCoy, CMC
City Clerk

White-Boyd

Patricia White-Boyd
Vice-Mayor

ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL-REGULAR SESSION

May 17, 2021

2:00 p.m.

The Council of the City of Roanoke met in regular session on Monday, May 17, 2021 at 2:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Room 450, fourth floor, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, with Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr., presiding, pursuant to Chapter 2, Administration, Article II, City Council, Section 2-15, Rules of Procedure, Rule 1, Regular Meetings, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, and pursuant to Resolution No. 41964-010421 adopted by the Council on Monday, January 4, 2021.

PRESENT: Council Members Stephanie Moon Reynolds, Vivian Sanchez-Jones, Patricia White-Boyd, William D. Bestpitch, Joseph L. Cobb, Robert L. Jeffrey, Jr., and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

ABSENT: None-0.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Robert S. Cowell, Jr., City Manager; Timothy R. Spencer, City Attorney; and Cecelia F. McCoy, City Clerk.

The Invocation was delivered by Rabbi Kathy Cohen, Temple Emmanuel Reform Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.

PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

ACTS OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT-PROCLAMATIONS: Mayor Lea declared the week of May 16 - 23, 2021 as National Public Works Week.

(See ceremonial copy of proclamation on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

The Mayor presented the proclamation to Mark Jamison, Director of Public Works, and Michael Clark, Director of Parks and Recreation.

HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS:

City Council sets this time as a priority for citizens to be heard. If deemed appropriate, matters will be referred to the City Manager for response, recommendation or report to the Council.

Due to the recent increase and severity in COVID-19 cases in the City of Roanoke, out of an abundance of caution, the Roanoke City Council has determined that temporary changes are necessary. Roanoke City Council Members will continue to meet in person in City Council Chamber, observing all recommended safety protocols while members of the community wishing to address the City Council during Hearing of Citizens Upon Public Matters are required to participate virtually or via email by contacting the City Clerk's Office at clerk@roanokeva.gov and (540) 853-2541, by 12:00 p.m., on May 17. The Council Chamber will not be accessible to the general public during the meeting. The meeting will continue to be broadcast via RVTV-3 and on the City's Facebook account.

MISCELLANEOUS: Barbara Andes, 2803 Rosalind Avenue, S. W., addressed the Council with regard to the decision to discuss school board appointments in Closed Meeting on May 3 as announced and expressed concern about transparency of City Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Mayor advised that all matters listed under the Consent Agenda were considered to be routine by the Members of Council and would be enacted by one motion in the form, or forms, listed on the Consent Agenda, and if discussion were desired, the item would be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL: Minutes of the regular meetings of City Council held on Monday, April 5, 2021; and on Monday, April 19, 2021, were before the body.

(See Minutes on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with and approved as recorded. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

ROANOKE CITY SCHOOL BOARD: A communication from Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr., requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss the appointments of three Trustees to serve on the Roanoke City School Board, for three-year terms, each, commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

(See communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved that Council concur in the request of the Mayor as abovementioned. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

MARKET BUILDING FOUNDATION-DEFINED CONTRIBUTION BOARD-VACANCY: A communication from the City Clerk advising of the resignation of Sherman M. Stovall, Deputy City Manager as a representative of the Market Building Foundation, Board of Directors and the Defined Contribution Board, effective June 30, 2021, was before the Council.

(See communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved that the resignations be accepted and the communication be received and filed. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

CITY TREASURER'S OFFICE ANNUAL REPORT: Annual Report of the City Treasurer's Office for Calendar Year 2020, was before the Council.

(See Annual Report on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved that the Annual Report be received and filed. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MARKET BUILDING FOUNDATION FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020: Annual Report of the Market Building Foundation, Board of Directors, for Calendar Year 2020, was before the Council.

(See Annual Report on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved that the Annual Report be received and filed. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

OATHS OF OFFICE-PERSONNEL AND EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES COMMISSION-FAIR HOUSING BOARD-VISIT VIRGINIA'S BLUERIDGE BOAD OF DIRECTORS-BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CITY OF ROANOKE PENSION PLAN-DEFINED CONTRIBUTION BOARD-COURT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS REGIONAL PROGRAM CRIMINAL JUSTICE BOARD-RONAOKE VALLEY-ALLEGHANY REGIONAL COMMISSION-PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD-WESTERN VIRGINIA WATER AUTHORITY-ROANOKE ARTS COMMISSION:

Reports of qualification of the following individuals:

Roy Mentkow as a member of the (Protected Class/Citizen at Large) of the Personnel and Employment Practices Commission for a three-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024;

Charnika Elliott as a member of the Fair Housing Board to replace Anita Wilson for a three-year term of office ending March 31, 2024;

Annette Lewis as a City representative of the Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge, Board of Directors for a one-year term of office commencing, July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022;

Gregory W. Feldmann as a Citizen-at-Large representative of the Board of Trustees, City of Roanoke Pension Plan, for a four-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2025;

Andrea Trent as a member (Assistant City Manager Designee) of the Defined Contribution Board for a four-year term of office commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2025;

Laura Eichenlaub as the Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare Board representative of the Court Community Corrections Regional Program Criminal Justice Board for a three-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024;

Dr. Elda Stanco Downey as a Citizen representative of the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission for a three-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024;

Elvir Berbic as a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to replace Sue Williams for a term of office ending March 31, 2024;

John P. Bradshaw as a Roanoke City Appointee of the Western Virginia Water Authority for a four-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2025; and

Helen Dean as a member of the Roanoke Arts Commission for a three-year term of office, commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024, were before the Council.

(See Oaths or Affirmations of Office on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Moon Bestpitch moved that the reports of qualification be received and filed. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

LEGAL COUNSEL-PROBABLE LITIGATION: A communication from the City Attorney requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to consult with legal counsel and hear briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(7), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, was before the body.

(See communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved that the communication be received and filed. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF THE VALLEY: Richmond Vincent, President and CEO, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys, appeared before the Council and presented information highlighting projects, initiatives and current activities.

(See presentation on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Jeffrey, Chair of the Goodwill Industries of the Valleys Board of Directors, introduced Mr. Vincent who emphasized the following topics:

- Goodwill 2027 – “The War on Poverty”
- Vision
- Mission
- Empower Individuals
- Strengthen Families
- Build Strong Communities
- Economic Impact to City of Roanoke
- Economic Impact (2020)
- What’s Next???
- Short-Term
- Roanoke City Plan 2040
- Big Ideas
- Eliminate Poverty!
- Questions

Following Mr. Vincent’s presentation, Vice-Mayor White-Boyd commended Mr. Vincent for ‘hitting the ground running’ and thanked him for taking the time review the City’s 2040 Plan and exploring how Goodwill could work in conjunction with the City to empower individuals and strengthen families. She inquired about Goodwill’s Re-entry Program and Senior Citizens Employment Program; wherein, Mr. Vincent replied Goodwill’s Re-entry Program was similar to TAP’s Re-entry Program, serving approximately 70 to 110 per year of individuals after incarceration. He noted that upon completion of the program, Goodwill tries to hire these individuals with a goal to expand the program and to generate more funding within that program.

With regard to the Senior Citizens Employment Program, Mr. Vincent indicated the age range was 55 plus and allowed Goodwill to place seniors in a non-profit or government programs, with payment of up to four years in the program.

Council Member Bestpitch commended Mr. Vincent for quickly getting to know the Roanoke community and appreciated his bringing new energy to Goodwill and the City; and commended the Goodwill staff for keeping City Council informed about the happenings at Goodwill.

Mr. Vincent expressed concern with regard to the recent gun violence in the City and asked what he and the Goodwill organization could do to assist in creating a solution to the problem.

Council Member Cobb thanked Mr. Vincent for his work at Goodwill and shared that the Gun Violence Prevention Commission will be launching a youth and gun violence assessment reaching out in the community to reach as many youth as

possible. He said that focus would remain on the issue of poverty and noted that too many people in Roanoke were struggling to survive and the best way to reduce poverty was by increasing opportunity for people to thrive, not just survive.

Council Member Moon Reynolds asked Mr. Vincent about the Youth Summer Employment Program; whereupon, Mr. Vincent answered stating that the program would begin in mid-June, serving approximately 30 students, ages 16 through 24, based in the City of Roanoke throughout the quadrants working with community partners and school system to get focus specifically on the program with a goal to continue to expand Goodwill's focus on youth.

Council Member Sanchez-Jones expressed appreciation for Goodwill's Discovery Program to assist students with disabilities and mentioned a student currently enrolled in the program that she has worked closely with and pointed out that he enjoyed the program and was doing well.

Following additional comments by the Council members, Mayor Lea thanked Mr. Vincent for an informative presentation and advised that the presentation would be received and filed.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS AND COMMENTS OF CITY MANAGER:

CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS:

Recommended Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget

The City Manager and Director of Finance summarized the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022 Recommended Budget and highlighted the following information:

(See presentation on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

The City Manager advised that the recommended budget was balanced at \$307,630,000, an increase of \$9.565 million or 3.2 percent aligned with the priorities established by City Council. She reviewed each budget priority category noting that it accounted for funding for strategic investments in all priority areas, strategic compensation increases and strategic fee increases.

Ms. Merchant thanked the Department of Finance staff for their tireless work on the budget and explained that in terms of local taxes, noted that for the City of Roanoke taxes totaled approximately 68.3 percent of the total budget, which percentage stressed the importance of how the local taxes perform and how reliant the budget was upon the performance of the local taxes to perform well.

She also explained that local tax projections for Fiscal Year 2021 was anticipated to increase by 4.1 percent or as much as \$8.3 million; mainly attributed to the performance of real estate, transient occupancy, sales tax, personal property and business license taxes; and after making adjustments to the local taxes allocated to external partners 40 percent of the growth will be allocated for RCPS.

Ms. Merchant reviewed the FY 2022 total recommended revenues and fee adjustments, pointing out that the Stormwater Utility Fee increase was effective July 1, 2022.

The City Manager reviewed the guiding principles for budget preparation, noting that the budget has been prepared with Council's priorities key, consideration of the anticipated impacts of COVID-19 to local taxes and other service related revenues, fund the highest base and supplemental priority services and programs, fund non-discretionary cost increases, prioritize remaining base and supplemental services and programs, lay groundwork for way to improve in future years requests that advance equity and empowerment initiatives, and maintain market competitiveness with compensation.

In terms of the City's seven priorities, Mr. Workman highlighted the most significant changes in each and advised that the City continues to support Roanoke City Public Schools based on the formula which provides 40 percent of adjusted local taxes, and main library operations by restoration of Library Automation Coordinator position.

The City Manager advised that in terms of compensation much has been asked of the employees throughout the pandemic and noted that the budget included a 3 percent increase for employees and going forward an opportunity to recognize commitment and remain competitive to continue to attract and retain good employees.

Mr. Workman continued with the presentation by reviewing the non-departmental and external agency categories and advised that non-departmental was a handful of items that did not fit within one priority, but must be budgeted for such as civic center subsidy and admissions tax, contingencies, debt service, GRTC, reserves and residual fringe benefits.

He explained that the external agency funding was provided to local partners who activities align with the City's goal and priorities; mentioned that the funding increased approximately \$1.3 million and totaled approximately \$10 million; and included Roanoke Arts Commission and Human Services Advisory Board funding recommendations. He pointed out that the Culture Endowment funding had been fully restored to the requested \$125,000.00.

With regard to the FY 2022 - 2026 Capital Improvement Program, Ms. Merchant continued advising that the investments made were within the parameters of the debt policy with consideration of required debt service. She further advised that the recommended Capital Improvement Program totaled \$143 million over five years and in some of the years, excess debt service may be available for one-time capital needs, undesignated fund balance and the stabilization reserve.

Lastly, Ms. Merchant reviewed the budget calendar calling attention to a public hearing scheduled for May 24, at 7:00 p.m. to hear citizen views on the proposed real estate tax rate and General Fund budget; budget study scheduled for June 7 at 9:00 a.m., and budget adoption on June 21 at 7:00 p.m.

The City Manager concluded by reminding the Council that the budget document would be posted online; separate meetings with Council Members to review and explain the recommended budget would be scheduled; and if there were items in the budget to reconsider for Budget Study on June 7.

Council Member Bestpitch inquired as to what the \$66,584.00 for redistricting entailed; whereupon, Mr. Workman advised that there were many requests from the General Registrar in connection with election rules. Mr. Bestpitch opined that he would follow up with the General Registrar for more details.

He further inquired about the number of City employees that contracted the Coronavirus; if any employees were still furloughed; and if the budget documents could be placed on the City's homepage in addition to the Management and Budget webpage.

The City Manager replied that approximately 191 employees contracted the virus to date; some employees were still furloughed until the Berglund Center resumed public events; and the budget documents could be added to the homepage for easier access.

Council Member Moon Reynolds asked the City Manager to expand on the Marcus Alert System; whereupon, he responded stating that the Governor signed off on all Virginia localities providing certain services in the field of mental health by the year 2027 resulting in someone having a mental health crisis calling in 911 and going through a different set of protocols or perhaps even dialing an alternate number to 911 for those cases.

She further inquired about the reopening of the City's public pools and who would oversee the distribution of the \$75,000.00 allocated to the Gun Violence Prevention Commission; whereupon, the City Manager advised that the Gator Aquatic Center would operate the Fallon Park pool and the City would operate the Washington Park pool with the CCA Marlins School providing lifeguards. He also stated that the Gun Violence Prevention Commission would oversee the funding and Angela O'Brien, Chief Strategy Officer would handle the mechanics.

Following additional discussion with regard to supplemental funding, Mayor Lea thanked Mr. Cowell, Ms. Merchant and Mr. Workman for the informative presentation and advised that the briefing would be received and filed.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

2020 HUD CONTINUUM OF CARE GRANT-HOMELESS ASSISTANCE TEAM (HAT): The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending the acceptance of the 2020 Continuum of Care Grant funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to support the City's Homeless Assistance Team.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following resolution:

(#42047-051721) A RESOLUTION authorizing acceptance of the FY 2020 Continuum of Care ("CoC") Grant Award to the City of Roanoke, on behalf of the Department of Social Services' Homeless Assistance Team ("HAT"), from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"), in the amount of \$140,422, upon certain terms and conditions; and authorizing execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 81, page 661.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42047-051721. The motion seconded by Vice-Mayor White-Boyd and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42048-051721) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Homeless Assistance Team Grant, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2020 - 2021 Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 81, page 662.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 42048-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

2020 HUD CONTINUUM OF CARE GRANT-COORDINATED ASSESSMENT SYSTEM (CS): The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending the acceptance of the 2020 Continuum of Care Grant funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to support the Coordinated Assessment System.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd offered the following resolution:

(#42049-051721) A RESOLUTION authorizing acceptance of the FY 2020 Continuum of Care ("CoC") Grant Award ("Grant") to the City of Roanoke from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"), in the amount of \$49,070, upon certain terms and conditions; and authorizing the City Manager to execute any necessary documents necessary to accept such funding.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 81, page 663.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42049-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member Bestpitch and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42050-051721) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Continuum of Care (CoC) Coordinated Assessment System (CAS) Grant, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2020 - 2021 Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 81, page 664.)

Council Member Moon Bestpitch moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 42050-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

ROANOKE VALLEY-ALLEGHANY REGIONAL COMMISSION-AMEND CHARTER: The City Manager submitted a written communication authorizing to reduce the number of members from 38 to 30 on the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following resolution:

(#42051-051721) A RESOLUTION authorizing the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission to amend its Charter to Reduce Membership Requirements; and providing for an effective date.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 81, page 665.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42051-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

AMENDMENT TO FY2021 CONCRETE CONTRACT WITH ATLAS CONSTRUCTION & EXCAVATING, INC: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending execution of an amendment to the contract between the City of Roanoke and Atlas Construction & Excavating, Inc., for additional repairs.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following resolution:

(#42052-051721) A RESOLUTION authorizing the City Manager's issuance and execution of a contract amendment to the City's contract with Atlas Construction & Excavating Inc., for additional repairs to various concrete sidewalk, curb, curb and gutter, and ADA curb ramp locations; and authorizing the City Manager to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary to provide for the implementation, administration, and enforcement of such contract, as amended.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 81, page 667.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42052-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member Cobb and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

COLONIAL GREEN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending execution of the agreement regarding performance obligations of Colonial Green, L.C., related to the Colonial Green development project.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following ordinance:

(#42053-051721) AN ORDINANCE authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement regarding the remaining performance obligations of Colonial Green, L.C., related to the development of Colonial Green; and dispensing with the second reading of this ordinance by title.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 81, page 668.)

Council Member Moon Bestpitch moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 42053-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member Cobb and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

COLONIAL GREEN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending to repeal Budget Ordinance No. 42002-031521 and appropriation of funds in connection with the acceptance of VDOT Transportation Alternatives Set Aside funding.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42054-051721) AN ORDINANCE to repeal Budget Ordinance No. 42002-031521, adopted by Roanoke City Council on March 15, 2021 and to appropriate funding from Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Transportation Alternatives Program and the Transportation Alternatives Set Aside and 9th Street Multimodal Improvements, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2020 - 2021 General and Capital Projects Funds Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 81, page 669.)

Council Member Moon Bestpitch moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 42054-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member Sanchez-Jones and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

COMMENTS OF CITY MANAGER:

The City Manager offered the following comments:

The Gun Violence Prevention Commission is making mini-grants available to non-profit and faith-based organizations:

- The mini-grants are for activities designed for prevention and intervention of gun violence in our community.
- The Commission is primarily interested in programs that work with youth and young adults and are collaborative in nature.
- These funds will be distributed in grants ranging from \$3,000 to \$5,000 for activities to be completed by August 31, 2021.
- Details about the criteria for the mini-grants are posted on the City's website homepage – roanokeva.gov – under "Read About Roanoke."
- Applications must be received by May 21, 2021, at 11:59 p.m.

The City will open pools at Washington and Fallon Parks this summer

- You will recall, the pools did not open the summer of 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- As we open the pools this year, safety is our number-one priority. Patrons will be asked to adhere to all VDH guidelines. Staff will adjust protocols as these restrictions change.
- Currently, the pools plan to operate at a 75% capacity limit (225 people per pool).
- As a reminder, last year—upon hearing the pools weren't going to open—private citizens raised funds to ensure they would open this year. The money raised was given to the City and is being used for pool staff wages.
- Information about pool hours and rates can be found at PLAYRoanoke.com

CITY ATTORNEY:

SPLIT PRECINCT WAIVER REQUEST: The City Attorney submitted a written communication recommending approval and authorization for the General Registrar to apply for a waiver in connection with split voting precincts.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following resolution:

(#42055-051721) AN RESOLUTION authorizing and supporting the Registrar for the City of Roanoke to apply for a waiver to administer the following eight split precincts within the City of Roanoke, Virginia; authorizing the Clerk to provide an attested copy of this resolution to be filed with the request for waiver.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 81, page 670.)

Council Member Moon Bestpitch moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42055-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

VARIOUS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS: The Roanoke City School Board submitted a written report requesting appropriation of funds for various educational programs; and the City Manager submitted a written report recommending that Council concur in the request.

(For full text, see reports on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following budget ordinance:

(#42056-051721) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the Commonwealth, federal and private grant for various educational programs, amending and re-ordaining certain sections of the 2020 - 2021 School Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 81, page 672.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 42056-051721. The motion seconded by Vice-Mayor White-Boyd and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

A REPORT OF CERTAIN AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS IN WHICH CITY COUNCIL SERVE AS LIAISONS OR APPOINTEES:

Council Member Cobb updated the Council on the work of the Gun Violence Prevention Commission and noted that in addition to the completion of mini-grant applications, the Commission had completed documents and awaiting funding for the Youth and Gang Violence Community Assessment, which would take place over the summer. The Gun Violence Prevention Commission was looking for community partners to help make connections and hear the voices of youth and families on realities they experience to assess the impact of violence and how to prevent, intervene and further reduce violence.

Council Member Cobb thanked the Granting Writing team, along with himself, Jamie Starkey, Jim O'Hare, Malcolm Quigley, Jamie Bowdel, Lloyd Merchant and Angie O'Brien who submitted a grant application, and if accepted, would provide \$500,000.00 over two years. Within that Grant, the Commission requested funding to hire a Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Coordinator and two outreach personnel, then funding to help support six areas of Prevention and Intervention initiatives. Council Member Moon Reynolds requested a briefing to citizens from the Gun Violence Prevention Commission to inform citizens on the work of the Commission.

Council Member Moon Reynolds informed the Council that the Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded the City of Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority with an FY 2020 - 2021 Jobs Plus Grant for Jamestown Place and Indian Rock Village in the amount of \$2,300,000.00. She applauded the City of Roanoke, Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority, and area service agencies for their collaborative efforts in ensuring public housing residents opportunities toward self-sufficiency.

With regard to the Equity and Empowerment Advisory Board, Vice Mayor White-Boyd advised that Board meetings were online and could be viewed on the City's website at www.roanokeva.gov. She advised that she would consolidate information into one report and send to the City Council Members by email.

Council Member Bestpitch thanked Mayor and Members of City Council for supporting the resolution authorizing the reduction of the number of members on the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission and reminded Council that unless every single county, city, and town that has representation on the Commission, approves a similar resolution, the change cannot go into effect. Mr. Bestpitch also reminded Council that he was tasked to be on the search committee for the new director, following the retirement of Wayne Strickland after thirty plus years, on June 30, the committee found a new director, but the candidate would be announced at a later date.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.

INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

APPOINTMENT OF A DIRECTOR OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY: Council Member Bestpitch offered the following resolution appointing Ollie Howie as a Director of the Economic Development Authority:

(#42057-051721) A RESOLUTION appointing a Director on the Board of Directors of the Economic Development Authority of the City of Roanoke, Virginia.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 81, page 673.)

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Council Member Bestpitch moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42057-051721. The motion was seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

MOTION AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

INQUIRIES AND/OR COMMENTS BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

Council Member Moon Reynolds requested that the City Manager share the plans for the tennis courts located on Burrell Street since nets and fencing were down; wherein, the City Manager replied that he would get details regarding the project and send an update to City Council Members.

VACANCIES ON CERTAIN AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES APPOINTED BY COUNCIL:

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd moved that the City residency requirement be waived for Elvir Berbic to serve as a member of the Parks and Recreation Board, which appointment was made at the May 3, 2021 Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Sanchez-Jones and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

At 4:58 p.m., Mayor Lea declared the Council Meeting in recess for a Closed Meeting; and thereafter will reconvene at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Room 450, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building.

At 7:00 p.m., the Council meeting reconvened in the Council Chamber, Room 450, fourth floor, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, with Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr., presiding.

PRESENT: Council Members Stephanie Moon Reynolds, Vivian Sanchez-Jones, Patricia White-Boyd, William D. Bestpitch, Joseph L. Cobb, Robert L. Jeffrey, Jr., and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

ABSENT: None-0.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Robert S. Cowell, Jr., City Manager; Timothy R. Spencer, City Attorney; and Cecelia F. McCoy, City Clerk.

The Invocation was delivered by The Reverend Dwight O. Steele, Sr., Pastor, Pilgrim Baptist Church (participated by electronic means).

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING: With respect to the Closed Meeting just concluded, Council Member Cobb moved that each Member of City Council certify to the best of his or her knowledge that: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in any motion by which any Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by City Council. The motion seconded by Council Member Bestpitch and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES: Vice-Mayor White-Boyd offered the following resolution appointing Diane M. Casola, Michael L. Cherry, II, and Mark K. Cathey, as School Board Trustees of the Roanoke City School Board for terms commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024:

(#42058-051721) A RESOLUTION appointing Diane Casola, Mark Cathey and Michael Cherry, II, as School Board Trustees of the Roanoke City School Board for terms commencing July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2024.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 81, page 674.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd moved the adoption of Resolution No. 42058-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member Bestpitch.

Council Member Moon Reynolds commented with regard to the Closed Meeting held following the 2:00 p.m. session, saying discussions were healthy; however, the Council agreed to disagree and encouraged candidates who were not successful to reapply next year.

There being no additional questions and/or comments by the Council Members, Resolution No. 42058-051721 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

ZONING: Pursuant to Resolution No. 25523 adopted by the Council on Monday, April 6, 1981, the City Clerk having advertised a public hearing for Monday, May 17, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on a request of David Todd for TD2, LLC, to rezone properties located at 4557 Shenandoah Avenue, N. W., and 4549 Shenandoah Avenue, N. W., from CN, Commercial-Neighborhood District, to CG, Commercial-General District, with conditions, the matter was before the body.

Legal advertisement of the public hearing was published in *The Roanoke Times* on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 and Tuesday, May 4, 2021.

(See publisher's affidavit on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

The City Planning Commission submitted a written report recommending approval of the rezoning request, finding that the Amended Application No. 1 is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan, Peters Creek South Neighborhood Plan, and the Zoning Ordinance as the subject property will be developed and used in a manner appropriate to the surrounding area.

(For full text, see report on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following ordinance:

(#42059-051721) AN ORDINANCE to rezone certain properties located at 4557 Shenandoah Avenue, N. W., and 4549 Shenandoah Avenue N. W., bearing Official Tax Map Nos. 6040312 and 6040313, from CN, Commercial-Neighborhood District, to CG, Commercial-General District, subject to certain conditions proffered by the applicant; and dispensing with the second reading of this ordinance by title.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 81, page 674.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 42059-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member Moon Reynolds.

The Mayor inquired if there were persons present who wished to speak on the matter. There being none, he declared the public hearing closed.

There being no comments and/or questions by the Council Members, Ordinance No. 42059-051721 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

ZONING: Pursuant to Resolution No. 25523 adopted by the Council on Monday, April 6, 1981, the City Clerk having advertised a public hearing for Monday, May 17, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on a request of the City of Roanoke to consider an amendment to City Plan 2040, the City's Comprehensive Plan, to adopt the Mill Mountain Trails Plan 2021 Amendment, the matter was before the body.

Legal advertisement of the public hearing was published in *The Roanoke Times* on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 and Tuesday, May 4, 2021.

(See publisher's affidavit on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

The City Planning Commission submitted a written report recommending adoption of the Mill Mountain Trails Plan 2021 Amendment as an amendment to City Plan 2040, the City of Roanoke's comprehensive plan.

(For full text, see report on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following ordinance:

(#42060-051721) AN ORDINANCE approving the Mill Mountain Trails Plan 2021 Amendment, and amending City Plan 2040, the City's Comprehensive Plan, to include such Mill Mountain Trails Plan 2021 Amendment; and dispensing with the second reading of this ordinance by title.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 81, page 676.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 42060-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member Jeffrey.

The Mayor inquired if there were persons present who wished to speak on the matter. There being none, he declared the public hearing closed.

There being no comments and/or questions by the Council Members, Ordinance No. 42060-051721 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

CITY OWNED PROPERTY-BARNS AVENUE: Pursuant to instructions by the Council, the City Clerk having advertised a public hearing for Monday, May 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on a proposal of the City of Roanoke to lease approximately 3.6 acres of City-owned property located adjacent to 5401 Barns Avenue, N. W., to Jared and Donna Green for agricultural purposes, the matter was before the body.

Legal advertisement of the public hearing was published in The Roanoke Times on Friday, May 7, 2021.

(See publisher's affidavit on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

The City Manager submitted a written report recommending execution of a lease agreement with Jared Green and Donna Green for approximately 3.6 acres of City-owned land, located at 5401 Barns Avenue, N. W., Roanoke, Virginia.

(For full text, see report on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds offered the following ordinance:

(#42061-051721) AN ORDINANCE authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement with Jared Green and Donna Green ("Green"), for the lease of approximately 3.6 acres of City-owned property, being a portion of Roanoke City Official Tax Map No. 6610101, located adjacent to 5401 Barns Avenue, N.W., in the City of Roanoke, Virginia, for agricultural purposes; and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 81, page 677.)

Council Member Moon Reynolds moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 42061-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member Sanchez-Jones.

The Mayor inquired if there were persons present who wished to speak on the matter. There being none, he declared the public hearing closed.

There being no comments and/or questions by the Council Members, Ordinance No. 42061-051721 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

DISPOSABLE PLASTIC BAG TAX: Pursuant to instructions by the Council, the City Clerk having advertised a public hearing for Monday, May 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on a proposal of the City of Roanoke to consider a proposed amendment for a tax in the amount of \$0.05 on each disposable plastic bag provided to customers by grocery store, convenience store, and drugstore retailers located within the City of Roanoke, the matter was before the body.

Legal advertisement of the public hearing was published in The Roanoke Times on Friday, May 7, 2021 and Wednesday May 12, 2021.

(See publisher's affidavit on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

The City Manager submitted a written report recommending adoption of an ordinance establishing a plastic bag tax of \$0.05 for each disposable plastic bag provided to a consumer by retailers in grocery stores, convenience stores, and drug stores, with an effective date of January 1, 2022.

(For full text, see report on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd offered the following ordinance:

(#42062-051721) AN ORDINANCE amending and reordaining Chapter 32, Taxation, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, by the adoption and addition of new Article XVI, Disposable Plastic Bag Tax, to provide for a tax on each disposable plastic bag provided to consumers by certain retailers, in accordance with the provisions of Section 58.1-1745 through Section 58.1-1748 et seq., Code of Virginia (1950) as amended; providing for an effective date; and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 81, page 678.)

Vice-Mayor White-Boyd moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 42062-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member Sanchez-Jones.

The Mayor inquired if there were persons present who wished to speak on the matter; whereupon, the following individuals addressed the Council by electronic communication means in support of the disposable plastic bag tax:

Julie Wagner, 2630 Grandin Road, S. W.;
Mike Hill, 1925 Cambridge Avenue, S. W.; and
Dustin Brookman, 357 Salem Avenue, S. W.

There being no additional speakers, the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

Vice Mayor White-Boyd opined that the community was ready for the taxation of disposable plastic bags and those retailers she had spoken with agreed to get rid of plastic bags because plastic pollution was a threat to the environment; and also shared that a number of food chains currently offer both plastic and paper bags.

Council Member Bestpitch commented that many of the major grocery store chains were moving in the direction of eliminating plastic bags.

There being no additional comments and/or questions by the Council Members, Ordinance No. 42062-051721 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

BH MEDIA GROUP, INC.: Pursuant to instructions by the Council, the City Clerk having advertised a public hearing for Monday, May 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on a proposal of the City of Roanoke to consider entering into a purchase and sales agreement with BH Media Group, Inc., along with the Roanoke City School Board to acquire parcels located at 201 Campbell Avenue, S. W., 207 Salem Avenue, S. W., and an unimproved lot located at 0 Salem Avenue, S. W., to be used as administrative offices and other educational purposes, the matter was before the body.

Legal advertisement of the public hearing was published in *The Roanoke Times* on Friday, May 7, 2021.

(See publisher's affidavit on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

The City Attorney submitted a written report recommending execution of a purchase and sales agreement to provide for acquisition of the Parcels from BH Media Group, Inc., for the lease of 201 Campbell Avenue and 207 Salem Avenue to Lee BHM Corporation for a ninety-day term.

(For full text, see report on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following ordinance:

(#42063-051721) AN ORDINANCE authorizing the City Manager to execute the necessary documents providing for the acceptance by the City of Roanoke, Virginia ("City") of certain real property interests, owned by BH Media Group, Inc., successor in interest to Times-World Corporation ("BH Media"), on behalf of the School Board of the City of Roanoke, located in the City of Roanoke, Virginia at 201 Campbell Avenue, S. W., 207 Salem Avenue, S. W., and 0 Salem Avenue, S. W., together with the execution of a lease agreement with Lee BHM Corp., dba *The Roanoke Times*, for the lease of 201 Campbell Avenue, S. W., and 207 Salem Avenue, S. W., upon certain terms and conditions; and dispensing with the second reading of this ordinance by title.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 81, page 681)

Council Member Bestpitch moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 42063-051721. The motion seconded by Council Member White-Boyd.

The Mayor inquired if there were persons present who wished to speak on the matter; whereupon, the following individual addressed the Council in support of the purchase and sales agreement:

Verletta White, School Superintendent, expressed appreciation to City Council for support of the acquisition of property to be used for administrative offices and other educational purposes; and the Roanoke City School Board Trustees and Administrative personnel for their hard work and support. Ms. White also highlighted key points for consideration and voiced enthusiasm for the future of Roanoke City Public Schools.

There being no additional speakers, the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

There being no comments and/or questions by the Council Members, Ordinance No. 42063-051721 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Moon Reynolds, Sanchez-Jones, White-Boyd, Bestpitch, Cobb, Jeffrey, and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS: NONE.

At 8:10 p.m., the Mayor declared the Council meeting in recess until Monday, May 24, 2021, in the Council Chamber, for the purpose of conducting public hearings on the City of Roanoke Recommended Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022 Budget at 7:00 p.m.; and Proposed Real Property Tax Increase at 7:10 p.m.

The recessed meeting of Roanoke City Council was called to order on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Room 450, fourth floor, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., with Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr., presiding.

PRESENT: Council Members Stephanie Moon Reynolds, Vivian Sanchez-Jones, Patricia White-Boyd, William D. Bestpitch, Joseph L. Cobb, Robert L. Jeffrey, Jr., and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

ABSENT: None-0.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Robert S. Cowell, Jr., City Manager; Timothy R. Spencer, City Attorney; and Cecelia F. McCoy, City Clerk.

The Invocation was delivered by Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mayor Lea.

Mayor Lea announced that the purpose of the recessed meeting was to conduct two separate public hearings: (1) Recommended Budget for the City for Fiscal Year 2021 – 2022 at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached; and (2) Proposed Real Estate Tax Rate Increase at 7:10 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached.

He explained there would be no discussion or action taken by the Council during or at the conclusion of the public hearings.

RECOMMENDED FISCAL YEAR 2021 - 2022 CITY BUDGET: Pursuant to instructions by the Council, the City Clerk having advertised a public hearing for Monday, May 24, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, to afford persons an opportunity to speak and state their views concerning all aspects of the Recommended Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022 City Budget, in the amount of \$307,630,000.00, the matter was before the body.

Legal advertisement of the public hearing was published in *The Roanoke Times* on Friday, May 14, 2021.

(See publishers' affidavit on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

The Mayor inquired if there were persons present who wished to speak on the proposed budget; whereupon, the following individuals addressed the Council, by electronic communication means:

Terry McGuire 339 King George Avenue, S. W., spoke with regard to increased funding of \$60,000.00 for the urban forestry program.

Chris Bryant, 1315 Sewell Lane, S. W., spoke with regard to the planting of more trees within the City of Roanoke.

Tatiana Durant, 513 20th Street, N. W., requested increased funding for policing and law enforcement, increased budget transparency and community engagement.

Chris Gewirtz, 513 20th Street, N. W., expressed concern about systemic racism, police funding and Sheriff Department expenditures.

Luke Priddy, 302 5th Street, N. W., Suite A, spoke with regard to increased voting hours, drop box installation at Municipal Building, increased funding for planting of trees and the addition of full-time positions within Department of Parks and Recreation.

There being no further speakers, Mayor Lea declared the public hearing closed.

PROPOSED REAL ESTATE TAX RATE INCREASE: Pursuant to instructions by the Council, the City Clerk having advertised a public hearing for Monday, May 24, 2021, at 7:10 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, to afford persons an opportunity to speak and state their views concerning all aspects of the proposed Real Estate Tax Rate Increase, the matter was before the body.

Legal advertisement of the public hearing was published in *The Roanoke Times* on Saturday, April 24, 2021.

(See publishers' affidavits on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

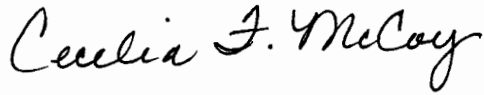
The Mayor inquired if there were persons present who wished to speak on the proposed real estate tax increase; there being none, he declared the public hearing closed.

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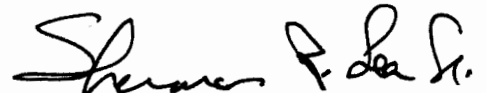
There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Lea declared the recessed meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

APPROVED

ATTEST:



Cecelia F. McCoy, CMC
City Clerk



Sherman P. Lea, Sr.
Mayor
