

November 8, 2018

The Regular November meeting of the Danville City Council was held on November 8, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located on the Fourth Floor of the Municipal Building. The following Council Members were present: James B. Buckner, L.G. "Larry" Campbell Jr., Mayor Alonzo L. Jones, Dr. Gary P. Miller, Sherman M. Saunders, Fred O. Shanks, III, Vice Mayor J. Lee Vogler, Jr., Adam J. Tomer and Madison J.R. Whittle (9).

Staff Members present were: City Manager Ken F. Larking, Deputy City Manager Earl B. Reynolds, Jr., City Attorney W. Clarke Whitfield Jr., and City Clerk Susan M. DeMasi.

Mayor Jones presided.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation was given by Council Member Sherman M. Saunders; the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Mayor Jones read a Proclamation entitled National Nurse Practitioner Week, November 11-17, 2018 and presented it to Karen Hill, FNP, President of the Southside Chapter of VCNP.

Mayor Jones recognized Lori Eanes-Brooks who gave Council the annual update from Danville Pittsylvania Community Services.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM VISITORS

Mayor Jones recognized Kimberly Hill, speaking on behalf of her parents who reside at 610 Westview Drive and their neighbors. Ms. Hill shared pictures of her parent's yard before and after Hurricane Michael and asked for help with the reservoir behind Wal Mart. Mayor Jones asked the City Manager to contact Ms. Hill and thanked her for coming to Council.

MEETING MINUTES

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Whittle and **second** by Council Member Saunders, Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on October 4, 2018 were approved as presented. Draft copies had been distributed prior to the meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

Vice Mayor Vogler **moved** for adoption of the following Resolutions:

Resolution No. 2018-11.01 - Reappointing Richard L. Turner as a Member of the Industrial Development Authority.

Resolution No. 2018-11.02 - Reappointing John Laramore as a Member of the Industrial Development Authority.

Resolution No. 2018-11.03 - Reappointing Max Glass as a Member of the Industrial Development Authority.

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Resolution No. 2018-11.04 - Appointing Anna Kautzman as a Member of the Transportation Advisory Board.

Resolution No. 2018-11.05 - Appointing Paul Liepe as a Member of the Danville Utility Commission to Fill an Unexpired Term.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Shanks and carried by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Buckner, Campbell, Jones, Miller, Saunders,
Shanks, Tomer, Vogler and Whittle (9)
NAY: None

COMMUNICATIONS

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

ROLL CALL

Council Member Miller noted the City has picked up 2,200 truckloads of wood debris from Hurricane Michael, plus tons of other debris, and are doing a great job cleaning up the City; Public Works has said they will continue to collect the storm debris for an additional week. Dr. Miller congratulated Danville, they had a 54% turnout for the recent election. Council recently met with the Life Saving Crew, their budget is now at \$2.1M of which the City only provides \$80,000 per year; Council wants to look and see if they can help them with more than 3% of their funding. Dr. Miller stated 72,000 people died of overdoses last year in this country and believes the City needs to join the class-action suit against the pharmaceutical companies.

Council Member Saunders noted he appreciated the City Manager and staff working hard to get assistance for people whose property was damaged from the floods. Also, thanks to the City Manager and staff for extending the bulk trash pick up; there are still people cleaning out their homes and basements. Mr. Saunders thanked City employees for all they do.

Council Member Tomer congratulated new Congressman Denver Riggleman on his election, Senator Tim Kaine for his re-election and looks forward to working with both of them.

Vice Mayor Vogler noted people are still sorting through their flood damage and was glad to hear the pick up deadline had been extended. Mr. Vogler noted the opioid situation is serious, and is something that has to be addressed. He believes Council discussed the drug courts at one point and asked for an update at an upcoming meeting. Mr. Vogler stated drug courts have shown to reduce recidivism, drug dependency and graduates of the program have a 33% higher income and rate of employment versus dropout peers. The City needs to look at this situation and work toward finding some solutions; it impacts everything the City does. Mr. Vogler noted in recent weeks, the City has had some really good economic development announcements and since 2013, there have been twenty industrial companies that located to Danville. Telly Tucker and Matt Rowe are doing a tremendous job.

Council Member Whittle noted the joint meeting with the Danville Life Saving Crew was very informative and feels the City needs to look into helping them more. Mr. Whittle stated he

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also has a property on the other side of the retention pond, noted he will get back with the City Manager and see what can be worked out.

Council Member Buckner thanked everyone who came out last weekend supporting this year's Bridge Street Food Truck Rodeo, it was a big success; food trucks came from all over and many sold out. This Saturday at the Community Market is the 11th Annual Bright Leaf Brew Fest and encouraged citizens to attend.

Council Member Campbell asked the City Manager to address what citizens can do about storm damage and Mr. Larking stated the first thing that property owners need to do is contact their insurance provider. A lot of people will find that they don't have flood insurance and will have to take steps on their own to make improvements. The City is working with their State and Federal partners, the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Both have had representatives come to Danville in recent weeks, made assessments and verified damage that has occurred on public and private property. They are making determinations as to what kind of assistance they will be able to provide to the City, residents and property owners. Mr. Larking noted he is not sure what form that will be in, but understands the City will get a determination through the Governor's office sometime next week. Once they have that information, they will share that with the community, will make sure everyone knows what they can do, what steps they need to take and what kind of assistance will be available. The Deputy City Manager has been working on some local assistance programs; nothing is set up yet, but that could also provide some assistance for property owners. The City will be sharing that information as it is ready as well.

Mayor Jones noted his agreement with Mr. Whittle regarding the Danville Life Saving Crew; to Mr. Woodall, staff and board of directors hosting City Council, it was a great meeting. Mayor Jones recognized Cynthia Poteat who does a lot of work with the City's young people in Cedar Terrace, and thanked her for all that she does. Mayor Jones noted the food truck festival was a vision of Mr. Buckner's and noted how proud he was of him for bringing this to Danville, it was an amazing event. Mayor Jones noted the Community Christmas Dinner has received \$9,000 in donations and thanked the citizens of Danville for their generosity. Mayor Jones thanked all the veterans, and reminded citizens, this weekend is the Veteran's Day Parade.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

APPROVED:

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK