

October 7, 2021

A Regular Work Session of the Danville City Council convened on October 7, 2021 at 8:37 p.m. in Council Chambers located on the Fourth Floor of the Municipal Building. Council Members present were: James B. Buckner, L.G. "Larry" Campbell Jr., Bryant Hood, Mayor Alonzo Jones, Barry P. Mayo, Vice Mayor Gary P. Miller, Sherman M. Saunders, J. Lee Vogler, Jr., and Madison J.R. Whittle (9).

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

Mayor Jones presided.

WORK SESSION ITEMS

MINUTES

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Whittle and **second** by Council Member Campbell, Minutes of the Regular Work Session held on September 7, 2021 were approved as presented. Draft copies were distributed to Council Members prior to the Meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING ENTERPRISE ZONE #1, AND AMENDING THE INCENTIVES OFFERED IN ENTERPRISE ZONE #1 AND #57B

This item was **Tabled** until the next Council Work Session.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE ASSIGNMENT OF AN EXISTING POLE ATTACHMENT FRANCHISE

Council had no questions or concerns and agreed to put this on an upcoming business agenda.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF CITY-HELD LIENS AGAINST PARCELS #21232 AND #24234 JEFFERSON AVENUE AND PARCELS #22490, 22491 AND 21930 LOYAL STREET

Council had no questions or concerns and agreed to put this on an upcoming business agenda.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF CITY-HELD LIENS AGAINST PARCELS #20724, #21571, AND #23906 COLQUHOUN STREET

Council had no questions or concerns and agreed to put this on an upcoming business agenda.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

City of Danville Director of Economic Development Corrie Bobe noted staff will bring to Council a request for a Moral Obligation. The City's Industrial Development Authority and Pittsylvania County's Industrial Development Authority were partnering on a building construction project which was a 30,000 square foot shell building in the Cyberpark. Staff has engaged Virginia Community Capital and the Virginia Small Business Financing Authority to finance this project; they were asking that both localities provide a moral obligation for this loan. The construction amount was \$2.87M, however, they have received a \$1M grant from the Tobacco Commission to go towards the project, so the permanent financing will be \$1.87M. It will be on RIFA property

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but both IDAs will be constructing the building. Staff wanted to make Council aware of the request and will be bringing that back before Council for approval.

Council had no objections and agreed to put this on an upcoming agenda.

Ms. Bobe explained the City received a \$500,000 grant from the State to go towards environmental remediation of the covered pedestrian bridge that once connected the White Mill to the Long Mill property. The City should start to see some work being done to the pedestrian bridge; the lead and asbestos will be remediated, and the metal panels will be taken off that property. Staff will then engage an architect to begin a community engagement process, as well as the design on how to incorporate that bridge into the Riverwalk Trail system.

Ms. Bobe invited Council to their first community event related to the master planning of the Schoolfield District. Their consultants, WRT, will be in the City the week of October 25th to begin their evaluation and due diligence of the entire area of study. On the 28th in the evening, the City will be hosting the community at the Welfare Building, the former Schoolfield Museum, on the lot to the left. WRT's team will be there to explain to the community the master plan process, they will also be collecting ideas and information from the public about what they would like to see throughout that entire district. There will be vintage yard games themed after the 1950s, food and beverages, give away items, they will also have a sock hop, and a local vintage car club will bring some of their cars to display that evening. The area of study will include from the North Carolina line, entering into the City along West Main Street to the intersection of Memorial and West Main split, the commercial property between Memorial and West Main Street, they will also pull in the Mill Village and they were including a corridor study from the resort to the boundaries of the River District to make sure traffic flow was appropriate.

CLOSED MEETING

At 8:45 p.m., Vice Mayor Miller **moved** that this meeting of the City Council of the City of Danville, Virginia be recessed and that Council immediately reconvene in a Closed Meeting for the following purposes: Discussion or consideration of the acquisition and/or disposition of real property for a public purpose where discussion in an open meeting would adversely impact the bargaining position of the City as permitted by Subsection (A) (3) of Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended and more specifically to consider: Discussion regarding the sale and/or potential purchase of a specific parcel of property for use by prospective industrial, commercial and mixed use projects looking to locate to the City; and an Economic Development discussion and update concerning prospective business or industry where no previous announcement has been made and/or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made as permitted by Subsection (A)(5) of Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended and more specifically to consider: an update on multiple prospective commercial and mixed use and industrial projects considering locating within the City and the region.

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

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

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Upon unanimous vote at 9:07 p.m., Council reconvened in open session and Council Member Vogler **moved** for adoption of the following Resolution:

CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Council convened in Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.1-344.1 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, requires a Certification by the Council that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each Member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements of Virginia Law under Section 2.2-3711 were heard, discussed or considered, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the Motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by the Committee.

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

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

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:10 P.M.

APPROVED:

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK