



COUNCIL

Communicates

Highlights from City Council Meetings

November 21, 2023

Petersburg Public Library

City Council Members

Ward 1

Marlow Jones

mjones@petersburg-va.org

Ward 2

Darrin Hill

Vice Mayor

dhill@petersburg-va.org

Ward 3

Samuel Parham

Mayor

sparham@petersburg-va.org

Ward 4

Charles Cuthbert

ccuthbert@petersburg-va.org

Ward 5

W. Howard Myers

whowardmyers@petersburg-va.org

Ward 6

Anette Smith-Lee

alee@petersburg-va.org

Ward 7

Arnold Westbrook

awestbrook@petersburg-va.org

Clerk of Council

Nykesha Jackson

njackson@petersburg-va.org

804-733-2323

Please Note:

These are not the official minutes of the City Council meeting.

The official minutes and agendas can be accessed on the city website:

www.petersburg-va.org

Please note that the official minutes are not posted until approved by City Council.

Closed Session

3:30 pm

1. Roll Call

Councilwoman Smith-Lee and Councilman Jones not present at the beginning of the meeting.

2. Closed Session

The purpose of this meeting is to convene in the closed session pursuant to:

a. The purpose of this meeting is to convene in the closed session pursuant to:

(1)§2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and the disposition of publicly held real property where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically including but not limited to the acquisition and disposition of real property; and under Section 2.2-3711(A)(7) and (8) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of receiving legal advice and status update from the city attorney and legal consultation regarding the subject of specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by the city attorney, specifically including but not limited to matters requiring the legal advice of the city attorney; and under Section 2.2-3711(A)(29) for the purpose of discussion regarding the subject matter of a public contract involving the expenditure of funds and terms or scope of such contract where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining or negotiating strategy of the public contract; and under Section 2.2-3711(a)(1) for the purpose of discussion pertaining to performance, assignment, and appointment of a specific public employees of the City of Petersburg, specifically

including but not limited to discussion of the performance, assignment, and appointment of a specific public officer of the City of Petersburg.

Motion approved to conclude closed session.

Motion approved to amend 10/17/23 minutes.

Motion approved to direct city attorney to obtain the verbatim transcript of 10/17/23 meeting.

3. Adjournment

Regular City Council

5:00 pm

1. Roll Call
All present.
2. Prayer
Led by Vice Mayor Hill.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
Led by Mayor Parham.
4. Determination of the Presence of a Quorum
Quorum present.
5. Proclamations/Recognitions/Presentation of Ceremonial Proclamations
 - a. Presentation on Street Operations Division: Petersburg Neighborhood Traffic Management Program.
No action taken.
6. Responses to Previous Public Information Posted
Council Communicates.
7. Approval of Consent Agenda (to include minutes of previous meetings):
 - a. Minutes:
 - November 8, 2023 - Closed Session Minutes
 - November 8, 2023 - Work Session Minutes (pulled from consent agenda)
 - b. A request to schedule a public hearing and the consideration of an ordinance to amend and re-adopt Article 24 Nonconforming Uses and Article 25 Supplementary Height, Area and Bulk Regulations, as set forth in the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Petersburg and as requested by the Planning Commission, to allow the rehabilitation and continuation of residential structures and four-units or less with a certificate of nonconforming use, development of nonconforming lots, and the rehabilitation of existing neighborhood commercial structures with a certificate of nonconforming use. **Approved.**

8. Official Public Hearings
 - a. A public hearing on an appeal by John Brockwell, applicant of 21 W. Washington Street, Tax Parcel 022-03-0001, owned by Labrodor Properties LLC/John Brockwell, on the decision of the Architectural Review Board (ARB). The property is located within the Courthouse Local Historic District.
Motion approved to move item to December 12 agenda.
 - b. A public hearing and consideration of the ordinance to amend and re-adopt Chapter 107 of the City Code pertaining to the Commercial property - assessed clean energy (CPACE) program - 2nd Reading.
Approved. Councilmen Cuthbert and Myers abstained.
 - c. A public hearing on the consideration of an ordinance to amend and re-adopt Chapter 21 including Sections 21-1 and 21-2 to change the name of the "Petersburg Area Public Arts" to the "Petersburg Arts Council."
Approved.
 - d. A public hearing to consider an ordinance to amend and re-adopt Chapter 2 Article VII Subdivision I of the Petersburg City Code to include Section 2-360 to authorize the City Manager to administratively approve amendments to the purchasing manuals & purchasing procedure.
Approved.
9. Public Information Period

A public information period, limited in time to 30 minutes, shall be part of an Order of Business at each regular council meeting. Each speaker shall be a resident or business owner of the City and shall be limited to three minutes. No speaker will be permitted to speak on any item scheduled for consideration on the regular docket of the meeting at which the speaker is to speak. The order of speakers, limited by the 30-minute time period, shall be determined as follows:

 - a. First, in chronological order of the notice, persons who have notified the Clerk no later than 12:00 noon of the day of the meeting,
 - b. Second, in chronological order of their sign up, persons who have signed a sign-up sheet placed by the Clerk in the rear of the meeting room prior to the meeting removed from consent agenda.

Amanda Greene
Concerned about people dumping trash along the river on Pocahontas Island, and the lack of Appomattox River Trail maintenance. Stated that houses on the Island are being used for commercial storage.
10. Business or reports from the Mayor or other Members of City Council

Councilman Cuthbert
Announced Ward 4 meeting.

Councilman Jones
Motion approved to give City employees a full day off on Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Councilman Cuthbert voted no.

Councilman Westbrook

Reported on National League of Cities meeting. Announced presidential debate at VSU in October 2024.

Councilman Myers

Concerned about a resident who has been told to vacate her home of 50 years by the new owner with only 30 days' notice.

Councilwoman Smith-Lee

Congratulated Terry Hill as teacher of the year at Petersburg High School and announced that Walnut Hill Elementary has the highest attendance of city schools.

Vice Mayor Hill

Suggested a roundtable discussion event where residents can talk with department heads and Council members.

Mayor Parham

Thanked police for the Citizens Academy.

11. Items removed from Consent Agenda
None.
12. Finance and Budget Report
None.
13. Unfinished Business
 - a. Consideration of appointment/s to the Community Development Block Grant Advisory Board.
Sonya Hawks - Ward 2 – approved.
Leonard Curry – at large – approved.
Latisha Henry – Ward 6 – approved.
Other appointments will be made at December meeting.
14. New Business
 - a. Consideration of appointments to the Petersburg Arts Council.
Trey Sims and Laurel Charbonneau appointments approved.
 - b. Consideration of ordinance appropriation for 508516-LE ARPA - Law Enforcement Equipment Grant - 2nd Reading - \$43,000
Approved.
 - c. Consideration of an appropriation for a \$2,467 increase to the FY24 approved & adopted budget for the Litter Grant received from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). This increases the amount from \$10,158 to \$12,645 for the City of Petersburg's Litter Prevention and Recycling Program activities for FY24 - 2nd Reading.
Approved.

d. Consideration of a resolution of the City Council for the City of Petersburg supporting the application for Highway Safety Improvement Program funds for safety initiative projects.

Approved.

15. City Manager's Report
 - a. Presentation of the 2024 Legislative Agenda

Approved.

16. Business or reports from the Clerk

None.

17. Business or reports from the City Attorney

None.

18. Adjournment