



# COUNCIL

## Communicates

### Highlights from City Council Meetings

**February 3, 2026**

Petersburg Public Library

#### City Council Members

Ward 1

**Marlow Jones**

[mjones@petersburg-va.org](mailto:mjones@petersburg-va.org)

Ward 2

**Darrin Hill**

**Vice Mayor**

[dhill@petersburg-va.org](mailto:dhill@petersburg-va.org)

Ward 3

**Samuel Parham**

**Mayor**

[sparham@petersburg-va.org](mailto:sparham@petersburg-va.org)

Ward 4

**Charles Cuthbert**

[ccuthbert@petersburg-va.org](mailto:ccuthbert@petersburg-va.org)

Ward 5

**W. Howard Myers**

[whowardmyers@petersburg-va.org](mailto:whowardmyers@petersburg-va.org)

Ward 6

**Anette Smith-Lee**

[alee@petersburg-va.org](mailto:alee@petersburg-va.org)

Ward 7

**Arnold Westbrook**

[awestbrook@petersburg-va.org](mailto:awestbrook@petersburg-va.org)

#### 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](http://www.petersburg-va.org)

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

#### Closed Session

3:00 pm

#### 1. Roll Call

All present at rollcall except for Councilors Myers and Jones.

#### 2. Closed Session

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

- a. §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 Actual or Probable Litigation and Specific Legal Matters Requiring the Provision of Legal Advice by the City Attorney, Specifically Including But Not Limited to Discussion Regarding the Legal Requirements of Code of Virginia §§ 15.2-953; 22.1-89; 94; and 115, and Other Probable Litigation and Legal Matters Requiring the Advice of the City Attorney; and
- b. §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

#### 3. Adjournment

A motion was approved to adopt the Resolution Ratifying the Declaration of a Local Emergency.

## Council Work Session

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. Public Comments

### Marlo Green

Ms. Green, representing the OCR Empowerment Group, a non-profit she leads, provided an update on the successful Martin Luther King, Jr. Day cleanup on Pocahontas Island. The event saw 43 volunteers collect 43 tires, fill 42 trash bags, and uncover a toilet. She expressed thanks to St. Joseph Catholic School, Virginia State University, Flavorful Portions, community members, and other individuals for their hard work. She also acknowledged Vanessa Crawford for organizing the successful MLK Day parade. Ms. Green shared that OCR is advancing grant work and will host an invasive species training in March with Friends of the Lower Appomattox River (FOLAR). Lastly, she reminded everyone about the "Stories by Candlelight, Love, and Legacy" event on Valentine's Day at 6:30 pm at the Appomattox Event Center, featuring a string quartet.

### Barbara Rudolph

Ms. Rudolph noted an upcoming business meeting and highlighted the challenges faced by the City Assessor's Office on the recent reassessments. While praising the staff's responsiveness, she noted the difficulty in effectively communicating assessment changes to the public. Sharing her own experience, she mentioned her property assessment initially showed a 48-49% increase, later corrected to 58%, which was disappointing. She acknowledged the Assessor's Office's efforts, such as offering lower rates for garage and basement spaces, but raised questions about how outbuildings, like those on her property, are measured—via flyovers or specialized tools. Ms. Rudolph urged Council to ensure transparency in sharing this information with the community to prevent misinformation.

Joyce Vinson

Ms. Vinson expressed concern about the nightclub the Planning Commission had denied at 2793 S. Crater Road. The proposed nightclub is near her church at 2787 S. Crater Road. She said she appreciated it when the Council honors and respects the votes of appointed officials who are qualified and certified to make those decisions. Acknowledging Council Member Jones' familiarity with the facility, Ms. Vinson maintained that the corridor is not a suitable location for a nightclub. She urged Council members to consider any personal connections to the property or application and recuse themselves if necessary to ensure impartiality.

6. Approval of Consent Agenda (to include minutes of previous meetings):
  - a. Minutes of Previous Meetings:
    - January 20, 2026 Closed Session Meeting
    - January 20, 2026 City Council Meeting
  - b. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for the Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of One or More Series of General Obligation and Refunding Bonds of the City of Petersburg in the Maximum Aggregate Principal Amount of \$5,600,000 to Refund the City's Outstanding Water and Sewer Revenue Bond, Series 2015 and Pay All Related Costs of Issuance
  - c. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Consideration of an Ordinance to Approve a Request by Raymond Akoury, on Behalf of RGC Investments C/O Hotrod Motorsports, for a Special Use Permit for Multiple-Family Dwellings as Authorized and Controlled by the R-5 Multiple Dwelling District Standards at 1325 West Washington Street, Parcel ID 024230005, in the B-2, General Commercial Zoning District
  - d. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Consideration of an Ordinance to Approve a Request by Pedro Rosario for a Special Use Permit to Operate a Stand-Alone Vehicle Repair Shop at 3857 South Crater Road, Parcel ID 101090005, in the B-2, General Commercial Zoning District
  - e. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Consideration of an Ordinance to Approve a Request by Donte Threatt, on Behalf of Sweet Investments VA LLC, for a Special Use Permit to Operate a Nightclub at 2793 South Crater Road, Parcel ID 065110004, in the B-2, General Commercial Zoning District
  - f. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Consideration of an Ordinance to Approve a Request by Alexander Graham Jr., on Behalf of the Warrenton Group, to Rezone Property at 2088 Defense Road, 1918 Townes Road, and 1926 Bogese Drive, Parcel IDs 070080002, 069070001, 077010801, from the A Agricultural and R-1A Single-Family Residence Zoning Districts to the M-1 Light Industrial Zoning District with Proffers and to Amend the Existing Proffers for Property at 2233 Halifax Road, Parcel ID 076030800 in the M-1 Light Industrial Zoning District
  - g. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing for Consideration of an Ordinance Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Purchase Agreement Between the City of Petersburg and LDJ Petersburg LLC (Ansal McCal) for the Development of a Sub-Parcel (5.36 Acres) of 3501 Halifax Road, Located in Petersburg, VA, Tax Map No.: 092010001

h. First Read and Schedule a Public Hearing on Consideration of an Ordinance Adopting the FY27 Real Property Tax Rate  
Consent agenda approved.

7. Special Reports  
None.
8. Monthly Reports  
City Manager March Altman shared that Public Works had been focused on snow and ice removal, with reports to be presented in March. He thanked Public Works staff for their efforts in clearing the City's main roads, Petersburg Area Transit (PAT) staff for maintaining the Comfort Station, and the individuals and organizations who donated supplies.
9. Finance and Budget Report  
None.
10. Capital Projects Update  
None.
11. Utilities  
None.
12. Streets  
None.
13. Facilities  
None.
14. Economic Development  
None.
15. City Manager's Agenda  
None.
16. Business or reports from the Clerk  
City Clerk Tangi Hill announced two upcoming events in honor of Black History Month. On Friday, February 13, the City will host a free Black History concert at the Petersburg Public Library's Event Center. On Friday, February 20, at 7:00 pm, the City will hold its Unity Fellowship Celebration, with Dr. John R. Faison, Sr. as guest speaker and music by the VSU Gospel Chorale.
17. Business or reports from the City Attorney  
None.
18. Adjournment