



Minutes of the Roanoke Rapids City Council

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids was held on **Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Council Chambers at the Lloyd Andrews City Meeting Hall.

Present: Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor
Carl Ferebee, Mayor Pro Tem
Sandra W. Bryant)
Thomas Daughtry, Jr.)
Wayne Smith)
Rex Stainback)

Council Members

Kelly Traynham, City Manager
Geoffrey Davis, City Attorney
Traci Storey, City Clerk
Carmen Johnson, Finance Director
Christina Caudle, Human Resources Director
Bobby Martin, Police Chief
John Simeon, Parks & Recreation Director
Larry Chalker, Public Works Director
Jason Patrick, Fire Chief

Absent: David Wise, Planning & Development Director
Tony Hall, Main Street Development Director

Mayor Doughtie called the meeting to order and opened with an invocation.

Adoption of Business Agenda

Mayor Doughtie asked Council members if there were any known conflicts of interest with respect to the matters before them this evening. There being no conflicts, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee, seconded by Councilwoman Bryant and unanimously carried to adopt the agenda as presented.

Installation of Newly Appointed Council Member

Installation of Newly Appointed Council Member Thomas A. Daughtry, Jr.

Mayor Doughtie administered the Oath of Office to Thomas A. Daughtry, Jr. Councilman Daughtry will serve the remainder of Suetta Scarbrough's term which ends November 2025.

Public Comment (Unscheduled)

Gorham Spencer

Ms. Spencer asked City Council to apply for additional funds for lead contamination in the city's water pipes. She referred to the 1972 Clean Water Act which was put into place to prevent contaminants into rivers and waterways. An amendment was made in 1986 for the Safe Drinking Water Act where there is legal standard for the safety of the water they drink. After 1986 no lead pipes were supposed to be used in the building of homes. Prior to that time, lead pipes were used and she among others live in older homes. She found out there is ARPA monies available to be used for lead contamination in pipes. It was suggested that homeowners and landlords ask for funding to assist them with putting whole-house water filtration system in to help filter out contaminants. She knows the City has already received ARPA funds but there are other funds available if homeowners get together and bring it to City Council when there is a need as the city has many homes built before 1986. The City could in turn apply for this special funding under ARPA. She asked City Council to consider doing this.

Mayor Doughtie asked City Manager Traynham if she made note of this information and would check into it.

Councilman Smith asked City Manager Traynham if the Roanoke Rapids Sanitary District would be the ones to apply for these funds or would it be the City. She replied she would need to look into the specific grant program. Sometimes the Sanitary District's responsibility goes to the water meter but from the meter to the residence could fall to the homeowner. She would get with Ms. Spencer on the grant details and see who the appropriate party would be.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee stated he attended that same meeting Ms. Spencer did and there are funds for the homeowner. He said there were funds available for homeowners to apply for through the City. He believed it was something the City needed to look into.

Leslie Brown

Ms. Leslie Brown and her husband Dewey wanted to introduce themselves to City Council. She said they came into town to view the Roanoke Rapids Theatre. She stated it was a beautiful theater. City Manager Traynham and Public Works Director Chalker were very knowledgeable about the building. They own and operate Brown Entertainment, LLC which includes The Liberty Showcase Theater in Liberty, NC and the Reidsville Showcase in Reidsville, NC. She thanked them for their hospitality.

Timothy Robinson

Mr. Robinson and his wife Elizabeth were in attendance because they are interested in the Roanoke Rapids Theatre. Mr. Derrick Bennett, himself and their wives along with Derrick Bennett, Jr. both operate facilities that were closed down in this town and weren't successful and they have turned them into successful facilities. He has experience with Interstate 95 because it is where he grew up and his family is six generation residents of Roanoke Rapids and Mr. Bennett is several generations of Halifax County. He stated due to a conflict of interest, his wife could not bid due to a real estate client. His wife wants the Theatre. She is doing a great job running the bowling alley and Mr. Bennett runs 51 Sycamore and doing a good job. Since his wife's client did not bid on the Theatre, they felt that dropped the conflict of interest. The reason they were here was to verbally say they were interested in the Theatre was because if there were any deals being cut anywhere to please let them know. If they were thinking about lowering the tax value, please let them know. If City Council was thinking about doing any concessions, let them know. They will bid and buy the Theatre with the tax value and expenses there are right now, but it is going to lower what they will bid on it. They have discussed the venue and looked at the venue and they can be successful in the venue. They can take it off the City's hands. The venue is costing the City about \$10,000 a month the way he sees it. It is pitiful that the City does not have the money to make the adjoining property owners cut grass because it is not in budget, but they were spending \$4,000 per month on a light bill on a venue they were trying to get rid of. Let's get rid of the Theatre. They are local people and they have seen deals cut with out-of-town people and people that are not business people. They would have a theatre for everyone; they run a bowling alley that is for everyone, every race and walk of life. If there is anything being done behind the scenes they need to be told about it. They came in behind the bid process because of the conflict of interest. He put a bid in and Attorney Davis gave it back. He told them the City could not take it because the bid process was over. They can open up something, it will be profitable and they would be proud.

Derrick Bennett

Mr. Bennett stated to reiterate what Mr. Robinson said, they were local businessmen and believes they had four generations in Halifax County. They were putting together some plans and ideas that would work for Halifax and Northampton Counties and would bring a lot of people to this area. He asked that the City consider giving them the opportunity to put a package together for them.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked if there was a process in how they send the bids out and do a sealed bid; is that what they were looking at now. He heard Mr. Robinson say something about behind the scenes and that may have just been terminology because they really don't do anything behind the scenes.

Attorney Davis replied the process is what they have already done and may be addressing later in the meeting tonight on the business agenda. They is no scenario like this where a city could essentially negotiate a private sale behind the scenes. He knows they have been through that before and now that there has been some attention since the City has been through the process once and they did not receive any bids by the deadline. There is no reason the City cannot go through the process again so everyone understands.

He explained as before the City Council would vote to open up bids. They would receive sealed bids where they would be closed in an envelope and would not be opened until a certain day and time. He stressed the envelopes/bids would be opened in public. That is, there is a public bid opening date like last time if they would have received a bid or bids. The public can attend to find out if any bids were received. The bids are accepted at that point; they are brought to City Council for their consideration. City Council has the choice to accept or reject any bids.

Attorney Davis said there was another process that has been some discussion between himself, City Manager Traynham and some other City personnel about some of the economic development statutes. They can negotiate a private sale under those, but it is a complex process and could not be done overnight. Even with that scenario, there is a public hearing that is held at that point so it is not something that can be done behind the scenes. He explained the process includes the City determining an adequate sale price. To determine that price, the City would have to hire somebody outside to do a study. They would look at potential sales tax revenue they would get over a period of several years in advance of the possible sale. They would have to look at other potential income that would be brought in or increase in surrounding property values. They could not arbitrarily pull those numbers out of the air or city personnel come up with. It would need to be someone with data analysis skills as well as a third party. This may be something the City Council considers if the sealed bid process does not work out. It could not be done within a 30-60 day time period because there is a lot of data that has to be collected. He believes it would be a level of difficulty to doing that kind of analysis with respect to the Theatre that may not be present in other businesses in the city of Roanoke Rapids as far as what the potential sales tax revenue would be 5-10 years out. There has not been shows at the Theatre every weekend to generate that kind of data.

He stated again even in that scenario there is no agreement that can be worked out behind the scenes. It has to come before City Council with a public hearing and in the sealed bid process the bids are opened in public and City Council takes a vote on it in open session in a public meeting. The City Council, City Manager, City Attorney nor any other City personnel could privately negotiate or agree to without having the

public apprised to what was going on.

Approval of City Council Minutes

Motion was made by Councilman Stainback, seconded by Councilwoman Bryant and unanimously carried to approve the August 16, 2022 City Council Regular Meeting, September 6, 2022 Special Meeting and September 6, 2022 Work Session minutes as drafted.

New Business

Consideration of Budget Ordinance No. 2022.18 – Radios and Vehicle Upfit

Finance Director Johnson stated as discussed in the September 6, 2022 Work Session, the upfit for the police vehicles was going to increase from \$5,400 to \$9,200 per vehicle and the mobile and portable radios increased almost \$200 each. The amount of the requested budget amendment is \$85,450.

Mayor Doughtie said this was concerning information they received previously where they thought they would be saving some money, but now they were not, so this is not necessarily an increase in the budget.

City Manager Traynham explained that is was increasing the budget that was approved, but the vehicle upfit cost amount is what was originally requested. The radio is due to the increase in the manufacturer's costs.

Finance Director Johnson presented Budget Ordinance No. 2022.18 for their consideration.

Ordinance No. 2022.18

CITY OF ROANOKE RAPIDS BUDGET AMENDMENT

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE RAPIDS:

SECTION 1. The following additional amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation of City Government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023, according to the following schedule:

SCHEDULE A – PROJECT FUND REVENUES

Capital Budget Increase for Police Dept. – Radios & Upfit to Vehicles	\$78,100.00
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Capital Budget Increase for Fire Dept. – Radios	\$7,350.00
Project Revenues – Police Dept. & Fire Dept.	\$85,450.00
FUND PROJECT TOTAL	\$85,450.00

SECTION 2. The following additional revenues and reductions in appropriations are available for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023, in order to meet the foregoing appropriations, according to the following schedule:

SCHEDULE B – PROJECT FUND EXPENDITURES

Capital Budget Increase for Police Dept. – Radios & Upfit to Vehicles	\$78,100.00
Capital Budget Increase for Fire Dept. – Radios	\$7,350.00
Project Expenditures – Police Dept. & Fire Dept.	\$85,450.00
FUND PROJECT TOTAL	\$85,450.00

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee, seconded by Councilman Smith and unanimously carried to adopt Budget Ordinance No. 2022.18 in order to increase the FY 2022-2023 budget in the amount of \$85,450.

Consideration of Ordinance No. 2022.19 – Amendment to FY 2022-23 Fee Schedule

Public Works Director Chalker stated as discussed during the September 6, 2022 Work Session, an amendment is needed to the City’s FY 2022-2023 Fee Schedule to add some rental fees for the Roanoke Rapids Theatre. He presented Ordinance No. 2022.19 for their consideration.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022.19

AMENDMENT TO FY 2022-2023 BUDGET ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE RAPIDS:

SECTION 1. That Section 5 “Fee Schedule” of the FY 2022-2023 Budget Ordinance be amended to add the following fees:

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The Roanoke Rapids Theatre

Facility Rental Fees

Lobby, No Production	\$5,000 per day
Lobby and Auditorium, No Production	\$7,500 per day
Full Production	\$10,000 per day

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor

Motion was made by Councilwoman Bryant, seconded by Councilman Smith and unanimously carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2022.19 to amend Section 5 – Fee Schedule of the FY 2022-2023 Budget Ordinance.

Consideration of Ordinance Declaring a Road Closure for the Christmas Parade

Police Chief Martin stated in recent years, NCDOT has made changes regarding closures of the state roads for special events. It is necessary to adopt an ordinance in order to close Roanoke Avenue (NC 48) for the Roanoke Rapids Christmas Parade on December 4, 2022. He presented the following ordinance for their consideration:

ORDINANCE NO. 2022.20

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING A ROAD CLOSURE FOR A CHRISTMAS PARADE

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids acknowledges a long tradition of providing an annual Christmas parade for the pleasure of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids acknowledges its citizens realize a financial benefit from holding an annual Christmas parade; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids acknowledges a parade requires approximately two (2) hours to install signing and traffic control, and also requires approximately two (2) hours for removing signs, traffic control and litter;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids pursuant to the authority granted by G.S. 20-169 that they do hereby declare a temporary road closure during the day(s) and times set forth below on the following described portion of a State Highway System route:

Date(s): Sunday, December 4, 2022

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Times: 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Route Description: Roanoke Avenue (NC 48) between 14th Street
and 1st Street

This ordinance to become effective when signs are erected giving notice of the limits and times of the parade, and implementation of adequate traffic control to guide through vehicles around the parade route.

ADOPTED this 20th day of September 2022.

Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor

ATTEST:

Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

Motion was made by Councilman Stainback, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee and unanimously carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2022.20 declaring a road closure for the Christmas Parade on December 4, 2022.

Consideration of Resolution Authorizing Advertisement for Sealed Bids for Sale of Certain Property (Roanoke Rapids Theatre)

City Manager Traynham stated in August 2022, City Council approved a resolution authorizing the sealed bid sale of the Roanoke Rapids Theatre property. The NC General Statutes require the City to publish an advertisement in the local newspaper to run for a minimum of 30 days prior to any bid opening. She reported they ran the ad four times and when the deadline of 12 noon on September 12, 2022 arrived, they received no bids.

She said it was time to think about their next steps. As mentioned by Attorney Davis, they do have one or two options. The General Statutes do require competitive sales for real property. They can do sealed bids and under the sealed bid process they would have the upset bid process. They also could do a public auction. Both of those do require everything to be conducted in a public forum where bids are announced publicly and recorded.

City Manager Traynham stated the other alternative is an Economic Development process under the NCGS 158-7.1 that would require a lot of due diligence at this point

and they could look into it. However, her recommendation tonight was to consider Resolution No. 2022.04 to conduct a second sealed bid process. The resolution states

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they would accept sealed bids until Wednesday, October 26, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. Shortly after, they would open bids in a public setting at the City Hall in the Conference Room. The bids would be read aloud and recorded. Staff would then conduct any due diligence and present the information to City Council during a proposed Special Meeting on November 1, 2022 in lieu of the Work Session in order for City Council to take action on any bids.

She presented the Resolution No. 2022.04 which slightly differs from Resolution No. 2022.03 in that the dates have been modified from the September deadline to the October deadline.

City Manager Traynham stated she believed at this time continuing the sealed bid process would allow the City to continue with the momentum that has been gained. The first process was not long enough and the word of receiving no bids generated more interest not just locally but regionally. She assured that sealed bids do remain sealed. They will go into a lockbox at City Hall where they will be locked and sealed. There would be no tampering of those bids.

She said another consideration for City Council would be to amend the resolution drafted to include a minimum bid amount. She did not believe a minimum bid would say the amount was the sales price but would be a start.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee said in his opinion the minimum bid would make someone consider just going above that minimum whatever it may be. He asked if City Council had the option to reject any bid and then going through another type process.

City Manager Traynham said they had to utilize a process allowed by NC General Statutes. There are pros and cons in establishing a minimum bid. It is not required but sometimes it says to someone not to submit less than this amount. It does not say this is what they must accept or what it is worth, it is simply a threshold.

Mayor Doughtie stated they always had the option of saying yes or no. He asked City Manager Traynham if there were obligated to accept a bid. She replied under the general statutes, they would have to award the bid to the highest responsive responsible bidder or reject all bids.

Attorney Davis added that if City Council set a minimum bid, he would consider it as a floor and not necessarily if someone bid that it would be satisfactory.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee said it seems like the other times they went through this process, he believed they discussed when the bid come through that the sale is

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complete. For example, last time it was about \$3M so they need to get paid the \$3M without going through the process of the City owning it.

Attorney Davis stated for the public's information, the last time the Theatre was sold in 2016, they went through this process and accepted an amount. As part of that the City conveyed the Theatre to G&T Holdings (purchaser). Instead of G&T Holdings paying cash for the Theatre or the alternative of them going out to get a traditional lender such as a bank, they essentially had the City serve in that role. The City maintained the promissory note on it so that is what kept the City in that situation. They were essentially functioning as the mortgagor. He shares Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee's thoughts and as the City Attorney he thinks it would be better scenario if the City does not agree to something like that in the future. If a potential buyer were to pay cash or get traditional financing, the City would be out of it and there would be no way the Theatre would come back into the City's possession at that point.

City Manager Traynham explained a situation where a bidder offers a cash price but someone else may offer a higher price with stipulations or conditions attached. That is why it is not just to award to the highest bidder but rather to the highest responsive, responsible bidder.

Attorney Davis added that if there were any stipulations as part of a bid, those stipulations were going to be public. Then they would be presented at the City Council meeting for Council to take action on them. He said if they go through the sealed bid process again, he would discourage City Council from entertaining negotiations with potential interested parties. Having discussions outside of the sealed bid process are immaterial because there is no way that can come before City Council for action. The reason it is set up like this is so everyone has a fair opportunity and there are not any back room deals. It all takes place in a public forum. This is a substantial piece of property here in the city of substantial value to the City and the City has invested a substantial amount of money in this property over the last 20 years.

City Manager Traynham stated that if City Council does accept a bid on November 1st, then they have to go through the 10-day upset bid period. They would have to advertise so any additional bids that may be submitted on top of the bid received have to go in increments of either 5% or 10%. There is structure in place for the qualifying upset bid process as well. They will explain more about that once they get there.

Mayor Doughtie said the City Attorney mentioned the last time the Theatre sold for about \$3M. He did not believe anyone here thinks it has gone up exponentially since

then. If they put a minimum bid figure on the bid process, a business person is going to look at that and have some idea of what the City can get for the property. He feels

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very strongly about the City wanting the property to be in private ownership because it is costing the City thousands of dollars a month to keep it and not getting any tax revenue off of it. It was meant to be a hub to try to grow Exit 171. It is going to take someone with a vision and the know how to do that. The City is not in the property development business. He said the first time it sold, it sold for about \$11M by Mr. Gatling. They've had different people in there leasing the building. The City has always had to incur the costs until this last sale several years ago. It has been a considerable cost to the tax payers over the years. Thankfully after 13 years on this Council they can finally see a light to pay that debt off. They can do more for people and businesses and get back to the things the City is supposed to do which is providing services and keeping people safe in the community.

Councilman Smith stated he thinks City Council needs to look at this really well. The cost to the City so far over the 13-15 years they've had it, the citizens have paid a little over \$21M. That is tax money they have wasted in the City of Roanoke Rapids. It is costing the City money every single day they keep it. It cost for utilities, and maintenance and they need to think about getting the Theatre out of the City's hands and get someone willing to bid on it. The City may not get what they want for it, but sometimes you have to bite the bullet to get out to the public so they can make a go of something. He feels like they need to get it settled tonight so they can move forward in getting rid of the Theatre.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee stated he was in full agreement with Resolution 2022.04, but he would probably not vote yes to anything less than what they did last time if they do look at setting a dollar value. Councilman Smith said he believed they needed to set a minimum bid.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee stated he thinks anything less than what they looked last time especially with the interest, would be detrimental to the City. He has no problem with a minimum, but feels it should not be any less than what they looked at last time.

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Stainback to adopt Resolution No. 2022.04 authorizing the sealed bid sale of the Roanoke Rapids Theatre property to include a minimum bid of \$1,500,000.00. Councilman Smith, Councilman Stainback and Councilman Daughtry voted in favor of the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee and Councilwoman Bryant voted against. Motion carried by a 3-2 vote.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADVERTISEMENT

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**FOR SEALED BIDS FOR THE SALE OF
CERTAIN PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids desires to dispose of certain surplus property of the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids that:

1. The following described property is hereby declared to be surplus to the needs of the City:

Roanoke Rapids Theatre

Located at 500 Carolina Crossroads Pkwy, Roanoke Rapids, said property described more completely as:

All that certain lot, tract or parcel of land, and all improvements thereon, lying and being situate in the City of Roanoke Rapids, Weldon Township, Halifax County, North Carolina, being shown and designated as Lot 1, containing 8.822 acres, according to the map or plate entitled "Plat Showing Revision of Lot #1, Carolina Crossroads Music and Entertainment District, Phase One., dated April 26, 2006, prepared by Jonathan C. Waters, Professional Land Surveyor, recorded in Plat Cabinet 6, Slide 143-O, Halifax Public Registry; and being the identical property conveyed to B & C Roanoke, LLC, by deed of Roanoke Rapids Entertainment, LLC, dated June 21, 2006, and recorded in Book 2138, Page 464, Halifax Public Registry. Reference to said plat and deed is hereby made for greater certainty of description.

This description also includes all fixtures, appurtenances, related equipment and items of personal property, which are located at the Roanoke Rapids Theatre.

2. The City will accept sealed bids for the property until **3:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 26, 2022; a qualifying bid must be one of at least the Minimum Bid set at One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000.00)**. Sealed bids shall be delivered to the office of the City Manager, 2nd floor, Roanoke Rapids City Hall, 1040 Roanoke Avenue, Roanoke Rapids, NC.

3. At 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 26, 2022, all bids received shall be opened in public at Roanoke Rapids City Hall and the amount of each bid recorded. The record of bids shall be reported to the City Council at a Special Meeting on Tuesday, November 1, 2022.

4. The City Clerk shall cause a notice to be published in accordance with G.S. 160A-268.

5. To be responsible a bid must be accompanied by a bid deposit of five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid. A bid deposit may take the form of cash, a cashier's check, a certified check, or a surety bond.

The deposit of the bidder to whom the award is made will be held until sale of the property is closed; if that bidder refuses at any time to close the sale, the deposit will be forfeited to the City. The deposits of

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other bidders will be returned at the time the City Council awards the property to the highest responsible bidder.

6. In addition, to be responsible, a bidder must be current on payment of all property taxes owed to the City.

7. The Roanoke Rapids City Council has the right to reject any or all bids.

ADOPTED this the 20th day of September, 2022.

Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor

ATTEST:

Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

City Manager's Report

City Manager Traynham reported the signal upgrades approved in the City's budget for 7th Street and Park Avenue have been completed.

She announced the Fire Department was awarded an AFG (Assistance to Firefighter Grant) from FEMA in the amount of \$476,000 towards the purchase of a new fire truck. Two fire trucks have been a long-term need of the City. The City has placed an order for one of the trucks to meet that need. The City's portion for a second truck will be approximately \$130,000. She thanked the Fire Department for their efforts as well as Chief Patrick and Assistant Chief Cook in that grant application and process. They have applied for this grant several years to help supplement funds for a fire truck and after many rejections, they finally received a yes this year. She thanked Congressman G.K. Butterfield and Senator Thom Tillis for their letters of support in favor of the grant. She thanked Council members for their efforts in reaching out to legislators in Washington asking for support for the City's significant need.

City Manager Traynham also announced the Hope for Hardy organization will host the Twilight Festival on Friday, September 23, 2022 beginning at 5:00 p.m. Early activities will take place in the uptown district (1,000, 900, 800 blocks of Roanoke Avenue). Then activities will move down to Centennial Park where there will be a concert to finish up around 10:30 p.m. There will be a 1200 ping pong ball drop in

the 800 and 900 block area. They will have incentives such as gift cards and a grand prize will be announced at the end of the concert.

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Finance Director's Report

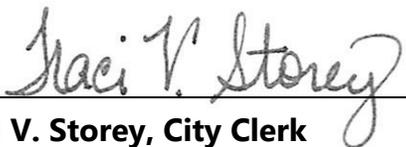
Finance Director Johnson presented the financial report for the period ending August 31, 2022. The General Fund year to date receipts totaled \$558,024.17 which represents 2.9% of the adopted budget. In August of 2021 it was 2.6%. This is typical for August because the City does not usually receive revenues until September such as Ad Valorem, Sales & Use and Utility Franchise taxes.

She said General Fund year to date expenditures totaled \$3,059,244.14 which represents 15.6% of the adopted budget. It was 16.1% in August 2021. This is due to renewing annual contracts, subscriptions and seems to be the normal trend for July and August.

Finance Director Johnson stated the audit is halfway completed. The auditors will be back on September 26, 2022 to complete the second half which is mainly payroll. They will return in early October to complete an additional State testing required by the Local Government Commission. Mr. Redman will present the audit to City Council once it is approved by the LGC.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee, seconded by Councilman Smith and unanimously carried to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.



Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

Approved by Council Action on: October 18, 2022