



# **Minutes of the Roanoke Rapids City Council**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids was held on **Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 5:15 p.m.** in the Council Chambers at the Lloyd Andrews City Meeting Hall.

**Present:** Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor  
Carl Ferebee, Mayor Pro Tem  
Ernest C. Bobbitt)  
Suetta S. Scarbrough)  
Wayne Smith)

## **Council Members**

Joseph Scherer, MPA, MS, City Manager  
Gilbert Chichester, City Attorney  
Traci Storey, City Clerk  
Kathy Kearney, Deputy City Clerk/Human Resources Manager  
Leigh Etheridge, Finance Director  
Bobby Martin, Interim Police Chief  
Kelly Lasky, Planning & Development Director  
John Simeon, Parks & Recreation Director  
Larry Chalker, Public Works Director  
Jason Patrick, Fire Chief  
Christina Caudle, Main Street Director

Mayor Doughtie called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with prayer.

## **Adoption of Business Agenda**

Mayor Doughtie stated it has been called to his attention that Item 6 – Public Hearing for CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Program needed to be removed from the agenda. It will be rescheduled to the June 4, 2019 City Council meeting.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Councilman Bobbitt and unanimously carried to adopt the business agenda for May 21, 2019 with Item 6 removed.

## Unscheduled Public Comment

### David Harvey

David Harvey with the NAACP expressed his condolences for the loss Councilwoman Cowen. He stated he was here tonight to get an update on the Chaloner pool project. He recalled it had been about a year ago when the pool project was voted down. He went by there today and it is leveled off. He understood the City will be putting in a splash pad and other things. He also recalled last year they were looking to have something in place by the end of the school year this year. He asked for an update on the timeframe and what exactly would be going out there.

Mayor Doughtie asked Parks & Recreation Director Simeon if he would give an update.

Parks & Recreation Director Simeon stated they were making some headway at the Chaloner Recreation Center. The splash pad materials had been delivered and are on site. The installers for the splash pad should be here in the next couple of days. Both the playground equipment and installers will be here on Thursday to start the installation of the playground equipment. Everything is ready for the construction phase. After the splash pad and playground equipment is completed, they will be redoing the sport court, installing a concrete walking track, a new parking lot and parking lot lights. Unfortunately, there has been a lot of rain which is out of our control, but he thinks they are starting to see a little light there. The installers are starting to finish up some the jobs they had gotten behind on due to the weather. They hope to start this week and make good progress. He said at this point he was not comfortable giving a definitive answer on when because there are so many perimeters that take place with construction and weather has a lot to do with that also. He was pleased to announce that construction would start on Thursday.

Mr. Harvey asked Parks & Recreation Director Simeon if he believed they would see the project to fruition this summer. He replied he did. He invited the media to come out on Thursday or Friday to take pictures. Mr. Harvey asked what time. He replied he was not sure since the truck was coming from Alabama and the installers were coming from Apex, NC.

Mayor Doughtie asked if there was a lot involved in getting the splash pad up and running if it was not completed until the end of the summer. Mr. Harvey also asked if it would be in place all the time. Parks & Recreation Director Simeon replied the splash pad would be turned on and set for a certain number of hours. And it was

as easy as going up there and turning it on. He said if they have really nice weather Labor Day weekend or if the City knows someone is having a family reunion, or even if there are nice days in October, they would be able turn it on in about five minutes. He added that was the nice thing about these splash pads, even in the Spring, they would be able to turn them on. He was looking forward to next year. Pools, with the lifeguards who are mainly college students and the kids don't get out of school until a certain time, there is a very small window. With a splash pad, there could be 8-9 months of activity.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee said they had initially talked about it being completed by the summer, not the end of the summer. Parks & Recreation Director Simeon said once the installers get here and he gets a better feel, he would have a better idea. Generally, the playground and splash pad takes 2-3 weeks – it is a pretty quick turnaround. The effort after that will be the parking lot, concrete and Dominion coming in to put in the streetlights.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked if he was saying that part needs to be completed before the other part is actually in operation. Parks & Recreation Director Simeon said if they can clear the site of construction materials and equipment, they might be able to do some of that. He met with Rightmyer today and asked them if they would work in line with the installers and do the sport court which was away from this part and they are checking on that. He was trying everything he could to speed it up.

Councilman Smith asked Parks & Recreation Director Simeon if he would be able to give a complete update on when things would be done by the next Council meeting. He replied yes, he would be able to give a much better answer at that point.

### **Mike Green**

Mr. Green with the Roanoke Canal Commission gave the following activity report for the Roanoke Canal Museum for the first four months of 2019.

#### Museum Attendance

January – 190, February – 194, March – 322, April – 236; Total: 942 people

#### Bicycle Loan Program

January – 14, February – 12, March – 17, April 32; Total: 75 participants

He said recently the Canal Museum and Trail hosted the Canal Half Marathon

which has been absent from Roanoke Rapids for three years. They had 103 runners in the marathon.

He announced they have the following upcoming events:

- This afternoon they have a trail walk along the Canal Trail to help identify some of the common species of trees.
- Two (2) Preschool Story Times in conjunction with the Library on every 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. One will be on May 29<sup>th</sup> where they will have a nutritionist, Lori Morris, to help teach healthy eating habits. On July 31<sup>st</sup>, the Roanoke Rapids Public Works Department will bring some of their heavy equipment so the kids can see that.
- July 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. they will have a Night at the Museum which is a continuing series for kids. They have outdoors activities, crafts and pizza.
- T.A.C.O. (Take A Child Outside) Week which is a national program that happens every year. The dates for this year is September 24-30, 2019. There will be multiple events throughout the week including Taco Tuesday where kids get to make a taco over the campfire.

Mr. Green said these were the things happening at the Canal Museum and encouraged everyone to come down and look around, things are always changing there.

Councilwoman Scarbrough asked of the 942 visitors how many are from out of town or did he have any way of knowing that information. Mr. Green replied he knows they have a lot of out of town people coming through talking to Ryan Newsome. They are drawn in by the new signage or they see a billboard on I-95; and they have locals too. He was not sure of the percentage, but maybe he could talk with Mr. Newsome and figure out how to determine that moving forward.

Parks & Recreation Director Simeon added they do have a sign-in log so they do have records of who comes in and out and where they are from. He said they could add that to the monthly report if that was something they would like to see. Councilwoman Scarbrough stated she was interested in that information. She also complimented him on the recreational brochure and said it was excellent information.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Approval of Council Minutes</b></p>
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Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee, seconded by Councilwoman Scarbrough and unanimously carried to approve the May 7, 2019 Special Meeting

(Budget Work Session), May 7, 2019 Regular Council Meeting and May 9, 2019 Special Meeting (Budget Work Session) minutes as drafted.

## **Committee Appointments**

### **Planning Board & Board of Adjustment**

City Clerk Storey reported Colby Lyles has submitted an application for appointment to the Roanoke Rapids Area Planning Board and Board of Adjustment. This appointment will fill a vacancy with the term expiring June 1, 2022. She noted a copy of Mr. Lyles' application and a list of the current membership were attached for their review. She respectfully asked Council to appoint Mr. Lyles to the Roanoke Rapids Area Planning Board and Board of Adjustment.

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Bobbitt and unanimously carried to appoint Colby Lyles to the Roanoke Rapids Area Planning Board and Board of Adjustment.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked if this was an appointment or reappointment. Clerk Storey replied that it is an appointment. She added that there are several vacancies on the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment. Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked if they advertised vacancies on the board. City Clerk Storey replied it is advertised on the City's website, the City Channel and Planning & Development Director Lasky also tries to get the word out.

Mayor Doughtie asked if the ETJ was one mile outside the City Limits. Planning & Development Director replied there were certain designated growth areas primary Bolling Road west of Roanoke Rapids, the residential area near the Theatre and south of Hwy. 158 along Hwy. 48. Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee said he thought it was a one-mile radius. Planning and Development Director Lasky replied that was the maximum it could be. The City's ETJ is not a one-mile offset. Mayor Doughtie said the furthest someone could live outside was one-mile. Planning & Development Director replied no, they had to live within the Planning & Zoning Jurisdiction which is shown on the zoning map. He said if someone was interested then the best thing to tell them is to come to City Hall and find out.

## **New Business**

### **Presentation of Proposed Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget and Summary**

City Manager Scherer gave the Proposed FY 2019-2020 Budget Summary with a PowerPoint presentation:

In accordance with the NC Local Government Fiscal Control Act, the recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 is presented for your consideration. The budget document represents balanced revenues and expenditures. Achieving a balanced budget remains a challenge to provide effective services to our citizens.

The General Fund operating budget includes revenues and expenditures each totaling \$16,809,139.

The property tax rate is recommended to remain at \$.651/\$100 of valuation.

I am recommending the following action for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget:

- Funding for employee benefits at the current level, and a One-Time bonus of \$500.00 for all Full Time employees; \$250.00 for Permanent Part Time staff as of June 30, 2019.
- The property tax rate remain at the rate of \$.651/\$100 of valuation.
- Increase in Residential Solid Waste Fee to \$220.00 from \$215.29.
- Increase in Commercial Solid Waste Fee to \$20.00 from \$17.94.
- Additional resources for Street Infrastructure Maintenance.
- The 2019-2020 budget allows the City to continue to provide quality services at the minimum acceptable levels.

### **Economic Outlook**

Previous annual budgets required a very careful approach to balancing low revenue forecasts against increased operational costs due to rise in the cost of doing business (fuel, materials, etc.)

This year's budget attempts to address some of the more critical needs in street maintenance and facilities fire safety, against flat revenue forecasts. With a local revenue-neutral economy, the City Administration has made and must continue to make significant cuts in our budget and seek to create new revenues where possible.

Per the Duke CFO Global Outlook, the Optimism Index for the U.S. Economy continues its downward trend, falling to 65 this quarter, down one point from December's 66 and down five points from the value in September 2018. The survey's CFO Optimism Index has historically been an accurate predictor of future hiring and overall GDP growth.

Sixty-seven percent of U.S. CFOs believe that the U.S. will be in recession by the third quarter of 2020, and 84 percent believe that a recession will have begun by the first quarter of 2021. The survey found 38 percent of CFOs predicting a recession by the first quarter of 2020.

The U.S. Federal Reserve does not expect to raise interest rates for the rest of 2019 amid slower economic growth. Fed members changed their outlook for 2019 from the two rate increases predicted in December to no movement.

Numerous factors indicate a more complex economic reality in cities across North Carolina as slowing housing markets, stagnating wages and the impact of the 2017 Federal tax reform legislation influence the outlook of many city finance predictions. In FY 2017, 10 years after the Great Recession, local revenues grew only 1.25 percent over the previous year compared to expenditures, which grew 2.16 percent.

Halifax County continues to be rated a Tier 1 Economically Distressed County. The County unemployment rate for March 2019 was 5.8% while the State average was 4%. A year ago, the County unemployment rate was 6.2%. The City has seen some increased interest in the development of commercial and retail properties.

Smaller cities, too, have a poorer fiscal outlook than their larger counterparts. This can be attributed to differences to population and industrial losses that began before, but were accelerated by, the Great Recession.

Roanoke Rapids unemployment rate as of April 2019 was 5.8%, a decrease of .4% compared to April 2018. The State rate was 4% as of April 2019.

- County Income Per Capita: \$35,105 (State: \$45,522)
- Median Household Income: \$34,027 (State: \$52,752)
- Poverty Level 27% State 15.4%

### **Goals**

Improve PW ability to accomplish better street maintenance and sustainable street and alley repairs.

Provide employees with relevant monetary and other benefits that are financially practical for the City.

Continue to provide quality services and amenities

Revenue – Major Sources

- Ad Valorem (Property Tax)
- Sales Tax
- Utility Franchise Tax
- Solid Waste User Fees

Ad Valorem (Property Tax)

- City’s primary source of revenue
- 41.6% of total General Fund Budget
- Projected 2019 tax levy \$6,997,737

Tax rates and prior year budgeted amounts are listed below:

(receipts for FY 2018 is based on a 98.99% collection rate)

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019-20
0.624	0.624	0.651	0.651	0.651	0.651	0.651
6,977,275	6,872,871	7,332,371	6,805,041	6,602,661	6,655,115	6,997,737

Sales Tax Revenues:

- City’s second largest source of revenue
- 20.2% of the total General Fund Budget
- Proposed sales tax revenues for 2019/2020 totals \$3,403,130
- Approximate 1% increase overall between Articles compared to 2018/2019 appropriation – based on YTD actual revenues

Appropriated Sales Tax Revenues are listed below:

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
2,005,894	2,090,541	2,817,600	2,954,907	3,353,527	3,387,062	3,403,130

Utility Franchise Tax

- City’s third major source of revenue
- 8.6% of the total General Fund budget
- Proposed franchise tax revenues for 2019/2020 totals \$1,447,529.

Appropriated Revenues for Utility Franchise Taxes

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,320,569	1,470,344	1,475,132	1,447,529



Solid Waste Fees

- Solid waste user fees are the fourth largest source of revenue
- These fees are designated to cover the actual cost of providing this service
- Projected Revenue: \$1,488,002

We are recommending an increase in residential solid waste user fees to \$220.00 from \$215.29, annually.

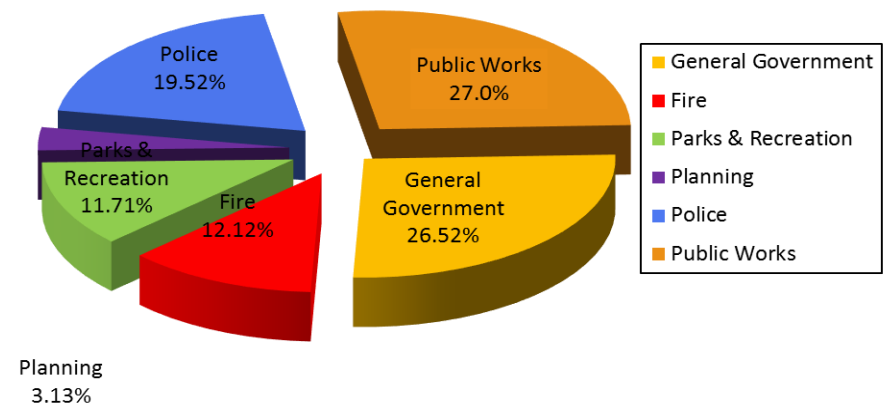
We are also recommending an increase in Commercial Solid Waste Fees to \$20.00 from \$17.94, monthly.

Additional revenue would be budgeted to cover the costs of landfill and tipping fee increases.

**Solid Waste Fees**

Fiscal Year	Solid Waste Fee
2019-2020	220.00
2018-2019	215.29
2017-2018	204.50
2016-2017	204.50
2015-2016	204.50
2014-2015	204.50
2013-2014	199.25

**Departmental Summary General Fund Operating**



Departmental Summary – General Fund Operating

Department	Amount
General Government	\$ 4,412,576.00
Fire	\$ 2,045,295.00
Parks & Recreation	\$ 1,975,265.00
Planning	\$ 528,658.00
Police	\$ 3,292,139.00
Public Works	\$ 4,555,206.00
Total Fund Summary	\$16,809,139.00

**Personnel & Employee Benefits**

Personnel

- Add (1) Planning & Development Administrative Support Staff
- Police and Fire report minimal vacancies
- Recommending a one-time \$500.00 bonus for all Full-Time employees

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
139	134	134	134	141	142	142	147	153	154

Employee Benefit Package

Benefit	Annual Cost	
Group Health Insurance	\$ 1,518,324	
Dental	\$ 52,275	
Life Insurance	\$ 7,995	
Longevity	\$ 63,284	
Christmas Bonus	\$ 44,545	
Employee's Assistance Program	\$ 3,933	
Health Reimbursement Account	\$ 74,000	\$2,000 towards deductible
3% 401k Employer Match	\$ 88,000	

**Community Contributions**

Outside Agency Requests

Agency	Amount	Status
Rescue Squad	\$ 17,000.00	Funded
Beautification Committee	\$ 1,500.00	Funded
Boys & Girls Clubs	\$ 2,000.00	Funded
Halifax-Northampton County Airport	\$ 25,000.00	Funded

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked how did these numbers relate to last year. City Manager Scherer replied all are the same except the Boys & Girls Club have asked for additional funding. He understands that they have increased their numbers significantly. They are looking at 40 or more children this coming year and may go up to 50-60 children.

Mayor Doughtie stated that was a lot of children for that facility. City Manager Scherer said they have a new person there and they have become more active in soliciting children to participate from the schools and trying to find activities for them. He added the regional Boys & Girls Club representative will be at the next City Council meeting to address some of those issues and discuss their activities.

Councilman Smith asked what was the amount of rent they pay for that building. City Manager Scherer replied \$400 per month which is what each of the agencies in the building average. City Manager Scherer continued with the budget summary.

**Summary**

There are other funding issues that will be part of our budgetary activities this year. We have requested funding from the County Tourism and Visitors Bureau for Canal Trail maintenance and bridge replacement, along with funding to complete Stage 2 of our Wayfinding Signage project. We will continue to aggressively pursue appropriate grant opportunities as they become available, especially for neighborhood revitalization programs.

Councilman Smith asked how much of the City's money is in Tourism's budget. City Manager Scherer replied it was roughly \$140,000. Councilman Smith asked if they spent that much. City Manager Scherer said he believed they did and they provided the quarterly reports to Council.

Despite the immediate funding challenges the City of Roanoke Rapids faces, we are confident that our long-term prospects for improvement remain good. As we move forward, we remain committed to providing quality services to all our citizens!

The Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget is balanced in accordance with the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act. While it does not fund all of our departmental needs, it does address the City Council's goals and priorities. We have attempted to address these while maintaining our current tax rates. As always, we will continue to explore ways we can minimize our costs and improve efficiencies.

I'd like to thank the City Administration staff for their efforts in preparing this proposed budget. In this financially difficult times, they continue to be innovative and resourceful in addressing budgetary priorities within our limited financial resources. I offer a special thank you to Leigh Etheridge and her staff, who worked hard to provide the financial information needed to prepare this proposed budget.

### **What's Next?**

Public Hearing: 5:15 p.m. June 4, 2019 in Andrews Building

Adoption of the 2019-2020 Budget: 5:15 p.m. June 18, 2019 in Andrews Building

He noted the proposed budget is available on the City's website and a detailed copy of the proposed budget is available in the City Clerk's Office for public inspection.

Councilman Smith said when they worked on the budget they were over budget and asked how much did departments have to cut to meet the requirements. City Manager Scherer replied after determining what of the major projects that they considered a priority for funding, they asked them to cut 2.6% from each of department to help balance the budget. He stated it was a very lean budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee thanked everyone for their part in it. With the economy going like it is he knows it was tough to cut back. He said at some point he would like for them to compare with smaller cities the size of Roanoke Rapids that we may be competing with to get things coming our way.

Mayor Doughtie said after the representative comes next meeting, he would like to see how the City can help the Boys & Girls Club be more efficient and effective, to serve more children and see if the City would try to have some of those services available for those children at T.J. Davis Recreation Center. City Manager Scherer said they did have a meeting with the representatives of the Boys & Girls Club and they took a look at the space the City was going to provide to them. Given the

number of children they planned to have the space would not accommodate what they would need. They did not have the space for them at T.J. Davis between the number of children and materials, they said it would not work for them. He said he knew the Boys & Girls Club was looking at other larger spaces to relocate.

Councilman Smith asked if the Boys & Girls Club were the only tenants in the New Resources building. City Manager Scherer replied no, the CADA office and W.I.C. (Women In Crisis) Office from the Halifax County Social Services were in the building. The Police Department has a sub-station there too.

Mayor Doughtie asked if they had any information on the funding and loan on that building. City Manager Scherer said Public Works Director Chalker was working on that report and would have that for him next week. He would provide the information to Council.

#### **Consideration of Action to Set Public Hearing Date on Proposed FY 2019-2020 Budget**

City Manager Scherer asked Council to set a public hearing date for the proposed budget at the next City Council meeting on June 4, 2019 to seek public input from the citizens.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee, seconded by Councilman Bobbitt and unanimously carried to set a public hearing on the proposed FY 2019-2020 budget at the June 4, 2019 City Council meeting.

#### **Consideration of Traffic Code Amendments**

Interim Police Chief Martin stated there were some safety concerns in two areas for the police department. One was 5<sup>th</sup> and Hamilton Streets. They have had several crashes in that area over the past few weeks. He was proposing to place stop signs at that intersection which would make it a 4-way stop. They have conducted radar patrols in that area and have seen the speeds increase from the stoplight to the stop sign at 1<sup>st</sup> and Hamilton which they believe is contributing to the crashes. The second area is at W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street at the back alley between Cedar and Rapids Streets. There has been some complaints that as they pull out of the back alley, people are parked there not allowing drivers to see to the left and sometimes to the right which could cause collisions. They would like to place no parking - tow away zone signs at that location.

Councilman Smith asked if the no parking signs would be on the south side of 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Interim Police Chief Martin replied that was correct.

Mayor Doughtie asked if they had tried to issue any municipal speeding tickets on Hamilton Street. Interim Police Chief Martin replied in the last two weeks they have issued sixty (60) City Ordinance tickets. They could average 15-20 everyday if he put an officer there all day. He said this should break up that speed with the 4-way stop sign.

Councilman Smith asked if the tickets the Police Department were issuing go to the school system. Interim Chief Martin said the City Ordinances will if they do not come and pay them. When the City pursues them anything they pursue after initially not paying it will go to the school system. Anything that comes in before goes to the General Fund to the City of Roanoke Rapids.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked if they were seeing some improvement with the police presence. Interim Chief Martin said people are paying attention now more so than they were. Between the wrecks that they had that were pretty significant they put into motion a plan to put an officer there to be visible. A lot of time visibility will stop the speeding. Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked what the speed limit was there. He replied 25 mph and the average speed is 38-40 mph coming from the stoplight reaching 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

Mayor Doughtie stated a 4-way stop sign can be dangerous too. Interim Chief Martin said it can but if they monitor it the same way they have been monitoring the area without it, he thinks once they get used to it, it will prove to reduce the collisions in that area.

City Manager Scherer said if the amendments are approved and they install the stop signs, there will be signs further back from the intersection warning people that a stop sign is coming up where there was not one before. They will have the stop bars painted and other warning signs so people will get used to the new traffic pattern.

Interim Chief Martin presented the following traffic code amendments (Ordinance No.: 2019.03):

### **Ordinance No. 2019.03**

#### **TRAFFIC CODE AMENDMENTS**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE TRAFFIC CODE OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE RAPIDS, NORTH CAROLINA.**

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE RAPIDS, NORTH CAROLINA that:**

**SECTION 1.** The Roanoke Rapids Traffic Code is amended to install “Stop” Signs at the intersection of Hamilton St. and 5<sup>th</sup> St. (traveling North and South) making this intersection a four way stop.

**SECTION 2.** The Roanoke Rapids Traffic Code is amended to install “No Parking” Signs with “tow away zone” on W. 6<sup>th</sup> St. Street at the back alley between Cedar St. and Rapids St. G.S. 20-162(a), City Ordinance 72.10

**SECTION 3.** This ordinance shall become effective upon the installation of the appropriate signage.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee, seconded by Councilman Smith and unanimously carried to adopt the Traffic Code Amendments (Ordinance No. 2019.03).

### **City Manager’s Report**

City Manager Scherer reported he and Ms. Lasky met with Larry Catalano, the Roanoke Rapids Graded School District Assistant Superintendent yesterday in regard to an article in the newspaper last week.

The article was on the school board meeting and the main point of the article was about the board having concerns over the zoning of properties across the street in front of the high school on Hamilton Street. It appears from the article the board may have had some misconceptions about what uses are permitted in the business zone of the area in question. Some board members wanted to make sure that no businesses could be located in this area that could be inappropriate for the students.

The area in question is zoned B-3. Ms. Lasky reviewed the permitted uses for this zone and provided Mr. Catalano a list of these as well. The B-3 zone is primarily for office, clerical and other services not primarily related to goods or merchandise. It does not allow for the location or establishment for sales and rental of goods, merchandise and equipment. Therefore, no businesses that sell goods or services that may be inappropriate for the high school students can be located across from the high school campus.

We did inform Mr. Catalano that the school board could submit a petition to have a particular piece of property rezoned but it would require the property owner or owners to be involved in the process. Mr. Catalano was to communicate this information to the school board and see if the material provided by Ms. Lasky would satisfy the board's concerns.

Mayor Doughtie stated Council agreed earlier to forego the departmental reports but would like to hear the financial report.

### Finance Director's Report

Finance Director Etheridge gave the following financial report for the month ending April 30, 2019. During the month of April, the Finance Department issued 75 purchase orders, wrote 81 payroll checks, 321 direct deposit vouchers and 251 accounts payable checks.

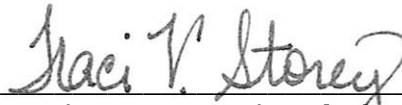
She reported the operating statement for the month of April shows the General Fund year to date receipts totaled \$13,986,704. The percentage of actual monies collected of adopted budgeted figures total 76.6%. General Fund year to date expenditures totaled \$13,783,643. The percentage of actual monies expended of adopted budgeted figures total 75.5%. After the month of April, 83.39% of the budget year has been completed. As a result, year to date revenues exceeded expenditures by \$203,060.72.

She said during the month of April, the City received: Ad Valorem & Solid Waste Tax Revenue and Sales & Use Taxes for the service month of February.

Finance Director Etheridge said this is our lowest quarter for revenues and cash collections. We all have to be mindful with day-to-day expenditures in our fourth quarter to remain favorable as we end the fiscal year. This is the time of fiscal year where we must decrease our spending levels.

### Other Business

There being no further business, motion was made Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Bobbitt and unanimously carried to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

  
Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

Approved by Council Action on: June 4, 2019