

The Second Regular October Meeting of Danville City Council convened on the above date at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers located on the Fourth floor of the Municipal Building. The following Council Members were present: L. G. "Larry" Campbell Jr., John B. Gilstrap, Alonzo L. Jones, Vice-Mayor T. David Luther, Gary P. Miller, Albert K. "Buddy" Rawley Jr., Mayor Sherman M. Saunders, Fred O. Shanks III and Adam J. Tomer (9).

Staff members present were City Manager Joseph C. King, Deputy City Manager David A. Parrish, City Attorney W. Clarke Whitfield Jr., and City Clerk Annette Y. Crane.

Department/Division Directors present were Transportation Services Director Marc Adelman, Finance Director Barbara Dameron, Human Services Director Gwendolyn Edwards, Broadband Manager Jason Grey, Information Technology Supervisor Joyce Obstler, Economic Development Director Jeremy Stratton, and Budget Director Cynthia Thomasson.

Mayor Saunders presided.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Council Member Gilstrap offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mayor Saunders presented a certificate to Coordinator of Adult and Career Education for Danville Public Schools Jackie Rochford and Danville Community College Middle College Director Donald Pippin. Mayor Saunders proclaimed the week of October 18-23, 2010 as "GED and Career Pathways Awareness Week."

Ms. Rochford accepted the Proclamation on behalf of Danville Public School Adult Education Program, Danville Community College Middle College Program and the Workforce Services Board and the local Workforce Services Program.

Mr. Pippin explained the Middle College worked with high school dropouts between the ages of 18-24. The College's number one priority is getting students GED prepped, providing career readiness certificates (CRC) and motivating students toward post-secondary education. Mr. Pippin reported that DCC is ranked no. 1 in the State for the number of CRCs issued. Since 2005, twenty-two at-risk students had received post-secondary credentials, either at the associates degree or job readiness certificate level. Presently, four of the students are either attending Averett University or other four-year institutions.

Both thanked Mayor Saunders for the proclamation.

ADDITION TO AGENDA

Mayor Saunders requested a Resolution reappointing Happy Slayton to the Industrial Development Authority be placed on the Council Agenda as Item VIII E. There were no voiced objections from Council Members.

MINUTES

Upon Motion by Vice-Mayor Luther and second by Council Member Campbell, Minutes of the October 7, 2010 Regular Council Meeting were approved as presented. Draft copies had been distributed to Council Members prior to the Meeting.

BUDGET ADOPTION-FY 2011- VICTIM WITNESS PROGRAM

Upon Motion by Council Member Rawley and second by Council Member Miller, Ordinance No. 2010-10.05 presented by its First Reading on October 7, 2010 amending the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Appropriation Ordinance to provide for a grant from the State for a Victim Witness Program in the amount of \$50,363 and appropriating same was adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Campbell, Gilstrap, Jones, Luther, Miller, Rawley,
Saunders, Shanks, and Tomer (9)
NAY: None (0).

BUDGET ADOPTION-FY 2011-INCREASE TRANSIT DRIVERS TO 14

Council Member Jones moved adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-10.06

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2011 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY INCREASING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED POSITIONS FOR TRANSIT DRIVER TO 14.

Council Member Rawley seconded the Motion.

In response to Mr. Shanks, Transportation Services Director Marc Adelman said he was requesting that approximately \$25,000 be transferred from part-time salaries to full-time salaries in order to increase the full-time staff of transit drivers to 14. Mr. Adelman said the transfer would not impact the total appropriations for mass transit. He advised with expanded bus services, increased ridership, and increased turnover in part-time employees were creating difficulties with running the buses efficiently and on time. He said overtime pay had increased due to a shortage of drivers.

Council Members agreed the City's mass transit service was an asset to the City and commended Mr. Adelman for running such an efficient operation.

Mr. Shanks and Mr. Tomer expressed concern about adding an additional full-time employee during these difficult economic times. Mr. Shanks said he learned during the recent Virginia Municipal League (VML) Annual Conference that some localities were laying off full-time employees in order to balance budgets. He said the City's management team had done an excellent job with the City's budget and has not had to resort to those kinds of tactics. He said he was concerned the present economy was not finished doing what it was going to do. Mr. Shanks asked that Council consider not approving the increase in staff for Mass Transit and take a look at positions that may not be filled presently or those that are currently held by employees who may be retiring soon. He stated he was not opposed to adding the full-time employee, but felt the position could be filled by vacancies in the City's pool of employees.

Rev. Campbell felt adding an additional full-time driver would be a good move, stating that part-time employees sometimes would find a permanent position elsewhere after being trained by the City -- that in itself costs the City money in the long run.

Mr. Gilstrap commented there was a big difference in adding personnel and adding dollars. He said in this instance the City was not adding any dollars, but simply making it easier for the City's excellent mass transit division to provide services to the public without increasing the budget. Mr. Luther agreed.

In response to Mr. Tomer, Mr. Adelman said approximately 67% of the overtime budget has been used during the first quarter of this budget year. Mr. Tomer said he shared some of Mr. Shanks' concerns since tax revenues were down.

Mr. Adelman stated there were also safety issues involved, especially when a driver had worked a regular shift and then had to be called to fill in when another driver failed to show or out of work for other reasons. Mr. Jones agreed with Mr. Adelman. He said as a former member of the Danville School Board, he heard about many of the same problems with part-time school bus drivers.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

VOTE: 7-2
AYE: Campbell, Gilstrap, Jones, Luther, Miller, Rawley, and
Saunders (7)
NAY: Shanks and Tomer (2).

AMEND CHAPTER 22-CITY CODE - "OBSCENITY"

Mr. Gilstrap moved adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-10.07

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REORDAINING CHAPTER 22, ENTITLED "OBSCENITY", OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, TO UPDATE THE CITY CODE TO COMPLY WITH THE STATE CODE.

Mr. Jones seconded the Motion.

Mayor Saunders asked if the obscenity code allowed the City to address graffiti on public and/or private property. City Attorney Whitfield advised that type of offense would be a criminal matter, since it is considered damage to property.

Mayor Saunders recalled that during a recent economic development formal announcement that had brought international visitors to the City, there had been offensive graffiti on a wall in the background that proved to be very embarrassing. He asked City Manager King to bring information to Council for consideration relating to what could be done, if anything, to address such graffiti.

In response to Rev. Campbell, City Attorney Whitfield stated that pants hanging down would not be covered under the obscenity law as stated, although the law did address exposing private body parts.

The Motion carried by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Campbell, Gilstrap, Jones, Luther, Miller, Rawley, Saunders, Shanks, and Tomer (9)
NAY: None (0).

DESIGNATE DANVILLE RECOVERY ZONE - AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

Vice-Mayor Luther moved adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-10.09

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AS A "RECOVERY ZONE" PURSUANT TO THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009.

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

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Campbell, Gilstrap, Jones, Luther, Miller, Rawley, Saunders, Shanks, and Tomer (9)
NAY: None (0).

BUDGET AMENDMENT-FY 2011-COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES ACT FUNDS

Upon Motion by Council Member Rawley and second by Council Member Gilstrap, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-10.08

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2011 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY APPROPRIATING COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES ACT FUNDS AND PROVIDING LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$5,200,000

was presented by its First Reading, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

REAPPOINTMENT HAPPY SLAYTON TO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Vice-Mayor Luther moved adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-10.10

A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING HENRY I. "HAPPY" SLAYTON JR. AS A MEMBER OF THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.

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

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Campbell, Gilstrap, Jones, Luther, Miller, Rawley,
Saunders, Shanks, and Tomer (9)
NAY: None (0).

COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager King announced a Meeting of the *Coalition for a Safe Danville* is scheduled for Tuesday, October 26, from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research.

There were no communications from the City Attorney.

City Clerk Crane reminded everyone that the next regular Council Meeting would be held on Thursday, November 4. Tuesday, November 2 is Election Day.

ROLL CALL

Rev. Campbell, Mr. Jones, and Dr. Miller commended the YWCA for establishing a battered women's shelter at the facility. Dr. Miller said in order to be a world class city, a battered women's shelter was necessary.

Dr. Miller reported that City Manager King, Department Directors, Mr. Rawley and he had toured the City's high-crime areas recently. The tour was in conjunction with the Safe and Sound Neighborhoods program that is now underway. A remote meeting of City Council is being considered to indicate to residents that City Council cares about what is happening in their respective neighborhoods. Mr. Rawley agreed.

Mr. Shanks reiterated that during the recent VML conference, it was made clear that the majority of Virginia cities would see an increase in real estate taxes and would lay off employees. He said the City has a very responsible management team and had made several difficult decisions that he hoped would pay big dividends.

Mr. Tomer advised he would be voting more and more against issues that would put the City's finances in jeopardy. Mr. Tomer expressed concern about next year's budget and said that was the impetus for his voting against the mass transit full-time employee.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

APPROVED:

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CLERK