



Minutes of the Roanoke Rapids City Council

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids was held on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 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)
Carol H. Cowen)
Wayne Smith)
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
Chuck Hasty, Police Chief
Kelly Lasky, Planning & Development Director
John Simeon, Parks & Recreation Director
Larry Chalker, Public Works Director
Stacy Coggins, Fire Chief

Council Members

Absent: Christina Caudle, Main Street Director

Mayor Doughtie stated the Roanoke Rapids High School Army JROTC were not in attendance to post colors as planned and hoped they would be back another time.

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

Adoption of Business Agenda

Mayor Doughtie asked Council members about 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 Councilman Bobbitt and unanimously carried to adopt the business agenda for March 7, 2017.

Special Recognition

Recognition of Reserve Sergeant Richie R. White

Police Chief Hasty recognized Reserve Sergeant Richie White for recently completing the Tactical Training Certificate Program at the North Carolina Justice Academy and presented him with a plaque.

Reserve Sergeant White thanked the City of Roanoke Rapids and said it was special for him to receive the certificate. He announced he would be taking over the Tactical program for the department next week.

Public Comment (Unscheduled)

Kaileb Harrison

Mr. Harrison said after the last meeting he went home and talked to his mom. He said his grandma and grandpa swam at the Chaloner pool, and he and his mother did as well. He stated he would like to go down in history as someone that helped keep the pool open. He said hopefully someday he could tell his kids how with the help of this community, they made a difference. He thanked the Mayor for sending him a letter after speaking at the last Council meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee stated Kaileb was going to be a future leader in the community. He commended him on his courage to speak before the Council and for his passion and perseverance. Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee presented Mr. Harrison with a City Seal lapel pin.

Approval of Council Minutes

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Bobbitt and unanimously carried to approve the February 21, 2017 Regular Meeting Council Minutes and the February 27, 2017 Special Meeting Council Minutes as written.

Old Business

Chaloner Pool Funding

Councilwoman Scarbrough made a motion; seconded by Councilwoman Cowen to adopt the following Budget Amendment/Ordinance No. 2017.01 to

appropriate \$300,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance for the purpose of funding the Chaloner Pool Repair Project:

Ordinance No. 2017.01

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, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017, according to the following schedule:

SCHEDULE A – PROJECT FUND REVENUES

Fund Balance – Chaloner Pool Repair Project	\$300,000
Project Revenues	_____
FUND PROJECT TOTAL	\$300,000

SECTION 2. The following additional revenues and reductions in appropriations are available for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017, in order to meet the foregoing appropriations, according to the following schedule:

SCHEDULE B – PROJECT FUND EXPENDITURES

Project Fund – Chaloner Pool Repair Project	\$300,000
Project Expenditures	_____
FUND PROJECT TOTAL	\$300,000

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor

Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

Adopted this 7th day of March, 2017.

Councilman Smith thanked the citizens of the Chaloner area for their patience. He thanked the City Manager and the City Attorney for their hard work that allowed them to get the project going. He stated he knew he was the one that really fought it hard, but he was never against the pool; he was against the funding, but they found a way to do it.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee thanked Council for reconsidering. He also thanked the citizens for their support and all they had done. He stated it had been a long road, but he knew Council would come through. He said they worked hard to make it happen. He said the pool was a vital part of the community; it was a family oriented place where people felt safe. He said it was a place where birthday parties and baby showers were held and he even heard someone was baptized in the pool. He thanked everyone that had been for the project.

With no further comments, Mayor Doughtie called for a vote. All voted in favor, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Doughtie thanked Council for a lot of hard work to see it through and to move forward with the project.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Scherer recognized Chief Hasty for his initiative in putting on the Fair and Impartial Policing seminar last week. He reported representatives from both our police department and local law enforcement agencies, along with community members, attended the seminar. It was a proactive event to help in producing fair and impartial policing among our officers, along with helping to identify what elements of a comprehensive program are needed to help identify and overcome any possible implicit bias by our officers.

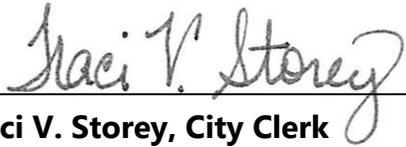
He announced the library patrons now have access to e-books, downloadable audio books, and streaming videos through OverDrive. We are a part of the NC KIDS Digital Library which contains nearly 4,000 titles for children from Kindergarten through Fourth Grade. We also have joined E-INC network and have an electronic collection for all ages. These can be accessed with a valid Roanoke Rapids Public Library card and setting up a four digit pin number. This is a major accomplishment for our library and has been a goal in their five-year plan.

City Manager Scherer said the Parks and Recreation Department would be putting on an event called SkateJam on Saturday, March 18th from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Roanoke Rapids Skate-BMX Park. There will be free food, music, games and door prizes. Skaters will have the opportunity to ride the park solo and show off their skills. For more information contact the Department.

He reported Site Selection Magazine has named the Roanoke Rapids area as one of the Top 100 Micropolitans in the United States for 2016. The Roanoke Rapids Micropolitan Area, which encompasses Halifax and Northampton Counties, received an overall ranking of #32 based on the number of new or expanding economic development projects. Site Selection is a trade publication for site-selection consultants, corporate decision-makers, and economic developers.

<p>Other Business/Comments by Council Members</p>
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There being no further business, motion was made by Councilwoman Scarbrough, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee and unanimously carried to adjourn.



Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

Approved by Council Action on: March 21, 2017