



CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
Council Chambers, 715 Princess Anne Street
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401

HON. MARY KATHERINE GREENLAW, MAYOR
HON. CHARLIE L. FRYE, JR., VICE -MAYOR, WARD FOUR
HON. KERRY P. DEVINE, AT-LARGE
HON. MATTHEW J. KELLY, AT-LARGE
HON. JASON N. GRAHAM, WARD ONE
HON. WILLIAM C. WITHERS, JR., WARD TWO
HON. DR. TIMOTHY P. DUFFY, WARD THREE

June 22, 2021

The Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held a regular session on Tuesday, June 22, 2021, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

City Council Present. Mayor Mary Katherine Greenlaw. Vice-Mayor Charlie L. Frye, Jr., Council members Kerry P. Devine, Dr. Timothy P. Duffy, Jason N. Graham, Matthew J. Kelly and William C. Withers, Jr.

Also Present. City Manager Timothy P. Baroody, Assistant City Manager Mark Whitley, City Attorney Kathleen Dooley, Community Planning and Building Services Director Charles Johnston, Senior Planner Michael Craig, Community Development Planner William Suggs, Historic Resources Planner Kate Schwartz, Director of Transit Jamie Jackson and Clerk of Council Tonya B. Lacey.

Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance. Council was led in prayer by Vice-Mayor Charlie L. Frye, Jr., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilor Jason N. Graham.

Officer Recognized. Mayor Greenlaw recognized the presence of Lieutenant Rashawn Coles, at this evening's meeting.

Proclamation for Edwin Allen, Retired Fire Chief for 47 Years of Service. Mayor Greenlaw presented Chief Allen with a proclamation thanking and congratulating him for his selfless and dedicated contributions to the City and she extended to him, his wife Sharon and daughters the very best wishes for continued success and happiness with future endeavors.

Current Fire Chief Jones said it was his honor to present Fire Chief Allen with his fire helmet that he wore while fighting fires.

Chief Allen stated that Fredericksburg was his home and he said the citizen of Fredericksburg should be proud of their employees. He said the men and women of both the Fire and Police Departments were the most dedicated people. He spoke of all the support he has had throughout the years. He also thanked his wife and daughters for their support.

Rappahannock Health District Update – Dr. Olugbenga O. Obasanjo (Dr O.) – Health Director, Rappahannock Health District and Allison Balmes-John – Population Health Coordinator/Public Information Officer (D21-__). Dr. O stated that he started April 12 as the new Health Director. He introduced himself stating that went to medical school in Nigeria and went to John Hopkins for his Master’s and Doctorate in Epidemiology. He did a residency in preventive medicine. Dr. O worked with the Gates Foundation, the Federal Drug Administration and he ended up in Prince William County Health District. The past seven years he worked in Georgia’s Health District.

Allison Balmes-John gave a COVID-19 update stating there were two cases reported in Fredericksburg within the past two weeks. The percent positivity was 2.15.

She reported that 43.9% were vaccinated with at least one dose, 38.5 were fully vaccinated. Mr. Balmes-John stated that 53.3% of 18 and up had received at least one dose, and 47% were fully vaccinated. The vaccination rates increase with age with the 80 plus being 86.6% vaccinated. The highest rates among ethnicity was among the Hispanic/Latino population with the lowest among the Black/African Americans. Ms. Balmes-John noted that the race/ethnicity data was missing for 48% of the people in Fredericksburg because they were missing information from the Federal Government.

The Rappahannock Area Health district continues to offer vaccines at the Health Department on Wednesday mornings and they were scheduling mobile clinics in the community through the end of the month. There were twelve additional vaccination sites within the City of Fredericksburg. She said Virginia hit 70 percent vaccinated and they were shifting away from large vaccination sites.

Council presented ideas on how to get the word out to the younger community by using social media and an idea of doing something similar to Door Dash as well as allowing schools to circulate the Health Department flyer to students and parents.

Council offered to help in any way they could.

Consent Agenda Accepted for Transmittal as Recommended (D21-__ thru D21-__). Councilor Kelly moved approval of the City Manager's consent agenda;

motion was seconded by Councilor Graham and passed by the following recorded votes.

Ayes (7). Councilors Greenlaw, Frye, Devine, Duffy, Graham, Kelly and Withers. Nays (0).

- Resolution 21-52, Amending the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget to Appropriate State Funds for Police Recruitment and Retention in the City Grants Fund
- Resolution 21-53, Authorizing the City Manager to Renew a Lease with Smith Run Center Condominium for Use as a Parking Area
- Transmittal of Board and Commissions Minutes
 - Architectural Review Board – March 8, 2021
 - Architectural Review Board – March 22, 2021
 - Architectural Review Board – April 12, 2021
 - Architectural Review Board – April 26, 2021
 - Clean and Green Commission – February 1, 2021
 - Clean and Green Commission – March 1, 2021
 - Economic Development Authority – April 12, 2021
 - Economic Development Authority – May 3, 2021
 - Economic Development Authority – May 10, 2021
 - Economic Development Authority – June 1, 2021 (D21-__).

Public Hearing (D21-__ thru D21-__). The regular session was recessed in order to conduct scheduled public hearings and immediately reconvened upon their conclusion.

Citizen Comment. The following comments were given or submitted to be read during the citizen comment portion of this evening's meeting.

Adam Lynch, Friends of the Rappahannock, spoke in support of the efforts to begin a plastic bag tax. He spoke of how they have been picking the bags out of the river for over 35 years. He offered F.O.R.'s help when considering changing the rules.

Laurie Bendall, 1104 Century Oak Drive, secretary for the Great Oaks Homeowner's Association. Ms. Bendall came back to say that Royal Farms opened without any signs preventing left hand turns on Route 3 but a sign was installed shortly thereafter. She reported that although there was a sign only 69% obeyed the sign. She requested an update on what was going to be done to the Royal Farms egress.

Council Agenda Presented. The following items were presented to Council for discussion.

- 8A. Midnight Madness – Vice-Mayor Frye
- 8B. Board and Commission Updates – Housing Advisory Committee, PRTC, Rappahannock Juvenile Detention, R-Board, Rappahannock River Basin, Recreation Commission, Rappahannock Group Home Commission, Town & Gown, Virginia Railway Express, School Working Group, School ECE Taskforce, Fredericksburg Arts Commission

Midnight Madness – Vice-Mayor Frye thanked the Council for support in this initiative as well as the Schools, Police Department and Recreation Department. He noted this was a time to get kids off the streets and doing something fun and

constructive. They are able to interact with the Police, school employees and Parks and Recreation employees on a different level. He announced that this year it would only run the month of July starting July 9.

Councilor Duffy complimented the Police, Parks and Recreation and school employees. He said they were all out there to have fun with the kids.

Board and Commission Updates.

Housing Advisory Committee – Councilor Frye reported that they would be regrouping with Mr. Sugg now that he had been hired. He noted that they approve emergency home repairs, home buying assistance and architectural barriers.

Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) – Councilor Kelly reported that the Commuter Choice Funding Program that the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission receives concession funds that have to be spent on transit related projects in the corridor and the Board approved the latest two-year project list and the Fredericksburg Region received four projects receiving funding and Fred is receiving \$1.2 Million for a new bus.

Rappahannock Juvenile Detention Commission (RDJ) - Assistant City Manager Whitley noted that the RJD was a regional commission and the current counts were low and they would be installing a new roof on their building soon.

Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste (R-Board) – Councilor Kelly noted that the R-Board passed its budget and \$8.6 million was being spent to take care of trash/recycling. There would be no City fee increases. He noted that they have built relations with commercial haulers and they were moving forward with the expansion of the composting

program. He also noted that Belman was run by the City and now it was being run by R-Board, saving the City money.

Rappahannock River Basin – Councilor Wither reported that there were six delegates and six senators on this and they look for good ideas for the betterment and protection of the river.

Recreation Commission – Councilor Duffy stated that it was exciting to see things getting back to normal with activities, with the rebranding and fourth of July activities. He said they were pleased with the transition of Picnic in the Park to Memorial Park and staff was currently planning for the Christmas Parade. He said the Commission also celebrated Jane Shelhorse’s retirement at their last meeting.

Regional Group Home Commission – Councilor Duffy explained that this was a regional home, Fredericksburg serves as the fiscal agent of the organization. They provide programs and services for court involved youth. The home also provides emergency and long term residential services who are awaiting disposition of cases. The students attend school of their locality. The program helps to move students who are moving in the wrong direction into the right direction. He noted that a new director was hired and the Commission was very excited for the new director.

Town and Gown Committee – Councilor Duffy stated that over the last five years they have developed a close working relationship with the University. He said there was a parking plan in place when the student return. He also thanked the City Manager for his working relationship with Dr. Paino.

Virginia Railway Express Operations Board – Councilor Kelly reported that the VRE was running on a full schedule as of June 21 and they were recognized as a green travel leader for their disinfecting measures. The ridership was trending upward. There was an additional 5-6 train slots coming up and they were possibly going to run southbound trains.

City/School Working Group – they were discussing school capacity and a potential new school. The schools have not decided what type of school they want.

Fredericksburg Arts Commission – Councilor Devine reported that as things were opening up the Arts were hoping to fund more event. They partnered with the schools and art teachers to buy supplies for students to have at home during COVID. On first Friday's the Arts Trolley would be running and the public sculpture program fund would run into next year. She also reported that there were openings on the Commission.

Adoption of Minutes. Councilor Devine moved approval of the December 8, December 11, and December 12, 2020 Work Sessions and the June 8, 2021 Public Hearing and Regular Session minutes; motion was seconded by Councilor Withers and passed by the following recorded votes. Ayes (7). Councilors Greenlaw, Frye, Devine, Duffy, Graham, Kelly and Withers. Nays (0).

Appointment to Recreation Commission – Sue Sargeant, Eric Keeler (D21-__). After the recorded vote taken, Sue Sargeant and Eric Keeler were reappointed to serve on the Recreation Commission with a vote resulting between applicants Eric Keeler, Sue Sargeant, Cynthia Hoffman, Robert Belcourt, Kevin Hughes,

Avery LaBelle, Lindsay Dickinson, Matthew Muggeridge. Keeler (7). Greenlaw, Frye, Devine, Duffy, Graham, Kelly, Withers. Sargeant (6) Greenlaw, Devine, Duffy, Graham, Kelly, Withers. Hoffman (0). Belcourt (0). Hughes (0). LaBelle (0). Dickinson (1). Frye. Muggeridge (0).

Appointment to Board of Social Services – Catherine Lloyd, Thomas

Schiff (D21-__). After the recorded vote taken, Catherine Lloyd and Thomas Schiff were appointed to serve on the Board of Social Services with a vote resulting between applicants Thomas Schiff, Shannon Lally, Catherine Lloyd. Schiff (7). Greenlaw, Frye, Devine, Duffy, Graham, Kelly, Withers. Lally (1). Greenlaw. Lloyd (6). Frye, Devine, Duffy, Graham, Kelly, Withers.

Appointment to Economic Development Authority – Mary Beth

Black, Travis Batts, Natalie Patterson, William Pasenelli (D21-__). After the recorded vote taken, Mary Beth Black was reappointed to serve on the Economic Development Authority with a vote resulting between applicants Mary Beth Black, Travis Batts, Natalie Patterson, William Pasenelli. Black (6). Greenlaw, Devine, Duffy, Graham, Kelly, Withers. Batts (0). Patterson (0). Pasenelli (1). Frye.

Ordinance 21-18, Second Read Approved, Restoring the Salaries of the Mayor and Members of City Council to Pre-COVID Levels (D21-__).

After staff presentation Councilor Devine made a motion to approve Ordinance 21-18, on second read, restoring the salaries of the Mayor and members of City Council to pre-COVID levels; motion was seconded by Councilor Withers and passed by the following

recorded vote Ayes (6). Councilors Greenlaw, Frye, Devine, Duffy, Graham and Withers.

Nays (1). Councilor Kelly.

Adopting New Historic District Design Guidelines (D21-__). Staff gave a brief presentation and asked the Council not to take action until the July 13 meeting in order to give staff time to incorporate suggestions made by the consultant hired by Historic Fredericksburg Foundation Inc.

Resolution 21-54, First Read Approved, Authorizing the City Manager to Add Full-time Positions for Fredericksburg Regional Transit (D21-__).

After a brief presentation from staff, council spoke highly of Ms. Jackson and her efforts of taking on transportation.

Councilor Graham made a motion to approve Resolution 21-54, on first read, authorizing the City Manager to add full-time positions for Fredericksburg Regional Transit; motion was seconded by Councilor Kelly and passed by the following recorded votes. Ayes (7). Councilors Greenlaw, Frye, Devine, Duffy, Graham, Kelly and Withers. Nays (0).

Resolution 21-54, Second Read Approved, Authorizing the City Manager to Add Full-time Positions for Fredericksburg Regional Transit (D21-__). Councilor Graham made a motion to approve Resolution 21-54, on second read, authorizing the City Manager to add full-time positions for Fredericksburg Regional Transit; motion was seconded by Councilor Kelly and passed by the following recorded

votes. Ayes (7). Councilors Greenlaw, Frye, Devine, Duffy, Graham, Kelly and Withers.
Nays (0).

City Manager's Report and Council Calendar (D21-__ thru D21-__).

City Manager Baroody directed the Council's attention to the Manager's Update: Midnight Madness, Traffic Safety Initiative, Fred Nats July 4th Drawing, Weekend Downtown Shuttle Returns, July 4th Events, Fredericksburg Police Department Hiring, Parks, Recreation and Events Annual Kid's Fishing Derby, CARES Utility Relief Fund for Water and Wastewater Service Billed by the City of Fredericksburg, Picnic in the Park, Board and Commission Openings, Fredericksburg Farmer's Market, COVID-19 Vaccines Update, FXBG Diverse City, Upcoming Council Meetings, Summer Programs, and Fred Focus.

Councilor Withers thanked Mr. Baroody for going out on the holiday and having the sign installed at the Royal Farms on Route 3. He reminded the Community that the City could not fix everything and he asked Mr. Baroody to give a quick update.

Mr. Baroody reported that there was a follow-up meeting with Virginia Department of Transportation to try and push an expedited median. The meeting would consist of Public Works, Transit Director/Transportation Administrator Ms. Jackson, Planning and VDOT.

Councilor Withers asked citizens to give the City Manager some time to work this issue out.

Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Mayor Greenlaw declared the meeting officially adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Mary Katherine Greenlaw, Mayor

Tonya B. Lacey, Clerk of Council, MMC