



CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Monday, November 24, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Work Session, 6:00 PM

Council Chambers Conference Room, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, Salem,
Virginia 24153

Regular Session, 6:30 PM, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, Salem, Virginia 24153

WORK SESSION

1. Call to Order

A work session of the Council of the City of Salem, Virginia, was held in the Council Chambers Conference Room, City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, Salem, Virginia, on November 24, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., there being present the following members of said Council to wit: Renée Ferris Turk, Mayor; Anne Marie Green, Vice-Mayor; Council members; Byron Randolph Foley, H. Hunter Holliday, and John Saunders; with Renée Ferris Turk, Mayor, presiding; together with Chris Dorsey, City Manager; Rob Light, Assistant City Manager and Clerk of Council; Rosie Jordan, Director of Finance; Dr. Curtis Hicks, Superintendent of Salem City Schools; Mandy Hall, Chief Financial Officer; Hunter Routt, Director of Administrative Services; Crystal Williams, Assistant to the City Manager; and Laura Lea Harris, Deputy Clerk of Council; and the following business was transacted;

Mayor Turk reported that this date, place, and time had been set in order for the Council to hold a work session; and

2. New Business

A. Discussion Items

- 1) Review School FY25 Fund Balance Requests and FY 27-32 Capital Improvement Plan - Dr. Curtis Hicks

Mrs. Hall presented an overview of the division's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The Capital Reserve balance was noted as well as grant amounts that had been awarded. She shared proposed projects for Fiscal Year 2026 and the proposed six-year CIP Plan.

Members of Council asked questions and commented during the discussion. Questions were responded to by Dr. Hicks, Mrs. Hall, and Mrs. Routt.

Discussion was held about the City of Salem's potential participation in a regional opioid grant. Council asked staff to send a letter of support.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor Turk adjourned the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

1. Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Salem, Virginia, was called to order at 6:30 p.m., there being present the following members to wit: Renée Ferris Turk, Mayor; Anne Marie Green, Vice-Mayor; Councilmembers: Byron Randolph Foley, Hunter Holliday, and John Saunders; with Renée Ferris Turk, Mayor, presiding together with Chris Dorsey, City Manager; Rob Light, Assistant City Manager and Clerk of Council; Rosie Jordan, Director of Finance; Chuck Van Allman, Director of Community Development; Mike Stevens, Director of Communications; and Jim Guynn, City Attorney.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Bid Opening, Awards, Recognitions

A. Salem High School - State Championship - Golf

Consider the adoption of Resolution 1512 honoring Salem High School Golfer Ashnoor Kaur for her State Championship in 2025.

Mayor Turk shared that Council would like to recognize Salem High School golfer, Ashnoor Kaur, for her state championship. She asked that Ashnoor and Coach Blaine Hancock come forward. Mayor Turk read Resolution 1512 for those in attendance this evening. Ashnoor was presented with a copy of the resolution and a Salem City Championship pin. City Council expressed congratulations, and pictures were taken by Mike Stevens.

Randy Foley motioned to adopt Resolution 1512 honoring Salem High School golfer, Ashnoor Kaur, for her state championship. Anne Marie Green seconded the motion.

Ayes: John Saunders, Hunter Holliday, Randy Foley, Anne Marie Green, Renée Turk

Nays: None

Abstaining: None

Mayor Turk expressed appreciation for local students, noting pride in their

achievements across academics, athletics, and other activities, and commending their dedication and hard work.

4. Consent Agenda

A. Citizen Comments

Comments from the public, limited to five minutes, on matters not already having a public hearing at the same meeting.

Skyler Wood, 413 Idaho Street, addressed Council regarding ongoing traffic-safety concerns on this street. He expressed appreciation for the Police Department's prompt response to earlier complaints, including enforcement efforts and recently installed speed-display signage, which initially reduced speeding. He reported that speeding has resumed. Mr. Wood requested Council's consideration of additional traffic-calming measures and offered suggestions. He asked what options the City might pursue to improve safety. He also expressed concern about pedestrian access to the Greenway between Elizabeth Avenue and Virginia Avenue.

Councilman Foley asked Mr. Light to confirm if discussion had been held regarding potential work on the intersection at the top.

Mr. Light responded that the intent is to make a connection back to Main Street and that staff is currently working on this. He explained that this would be a spur to connect it to Main Street and that this would require a crossing to get back to the other side. This would likely need to take place on the cemetery side due to topography and utilities.

William Lambert, 114 Niblick Drive, expressed concern regarding a stormwater issue affecting several neighboring properties. He provided photos documenting the issues and noted that they have previously emailed Council members about the problem. He acknowledged receiving a recent update from staff indicating that a camera inspection of the storm drain is planned to determine the extent of the damage and appropriate repairs. Mr. Lambert requested that the City provide a firm schedule or target date for the inspection and subsequent corrective action.

Mayor Turk responded that scheduling would fall under the purview of the Director of the department and Council would not have this information. She noted that he had done the right thing by emailing and notifying the appropriate personnel. She also noted for the benefit of citizens that there is a process available on the City website for reporting problems.

City Manager Dorsey noted that the subdivision was platted in 1972 and confirmed that the drainage infrastructure lies within City easements. He stated that staff is assessing access options to the affected area, including verifying that no structures or heavy items have been built on the easement as that could contribute to pipe failure or obstruct repair efforts. Mr. Dorsey acknowledged awareness of the issue and indicated that staff is working on this and that staff will maintain communication with

the affected residents as the City moves forward. He indicated that he believed Mr. Sutphin had been out to speak with the citizens about this issue.

Councilman Foley observed that it was great to see younger residents coming out this evening to speak to Council.

Mayor Turk echoed this sentiment and reiterated that both citizens had taken correct action in notifying the departments that oversee the specific issues involved.

B. Minutes

Consider acceptance of the November 10, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes.

The minutes were approved as written.

5. Old Business

A. Amendment to City Code - Chapter 78

Consider adoption of ordinance on second reading amending Chapter 78 – Subdivisions – Articles I – Generally, Section 78-103; Article II – Administration, Sections 78-200, 201, 204, and 206; Article III – Definitions, Section 78-300; Article IV – Review of plats, Sections 78-400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 416, 421; Article V – Security for the construction of public improvements, Sections, 78-501 and 503; Article VI – Requirements for design standards and public improvements, Sections 78-600, 602, 606, 607, 611, 615, 617, 625, 629, 634, and 642; and Article VII – Vacation of plats, Sections 78-701 and 706 of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA pertaining to plan review by designated agent and timeframe of local approvals. (Adopted on first reading at the November 10, 2025, meeting.)

Randy Foley motioned to adopt the ordinance on second reading amending Chapter 78 as specified in the agenda packet. Hunter Holliday seconded the motion.

Ayes: John Saunders, Hunter Holliday, Randy Foley, Anne Marie Green, Renée Turk

Nays: None

Abstaining: None

B. Amendment to City Code - Chapter 106

Consider adoption of ordinance on second reading amending Chapter 106 – Zoning, Article II – District Regulations, Section 106-232 pertaining to Industrial park overlay district; Article III – Use and design standards, Section 106-318 pertaining to Urban agriculture; Article IV – Development standards, Section 106-400 pertaining to site plans, 402 pertaining to nonconforming uses and sites, 406 pertaining to plot plans; Article V – Administration, Section 106-520 pertaining to amendments to ordinance, 524 pertaining to special exception permits and use not provided for permits; Article VI – Definitions and Use Types, and Section 106-600 pertaining to site plans, of the CODE

OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA. (Adopted on first reading at the November 10, 2025, meeting.)

Randy Foley motioned to adopt the ordinance on second reading, amending Chapter 106 as specified in the agenda packet. Anne Marie Green seconded the motion.

Ayes: John Saunders, Hunter Holliday, Randy Foley, Anne Marie Green, Renée Turk

Nays: None

Abstaining: None

C. Amendment to City Code - Chapter 82

Consider adoption of ordinance on second reading amending Sections 82-136 through 82-147 Article V, Chapter 82, of The CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA, pertaining to Transient Occupancy Tax. (Adopted on first reading at the November 10, 2025, meeting.)

Hunter Holliday motioned to adopt the ordinance on second reading amending Sections 82-136 through 82-147 Article V, of Chapter 82. John Saunders seconded the motion.

Ayes: John Saunders, Hunter Holliday, Randy Foley, Anne Marie Green, Renée Turk

Nays: None

Abstaining: None

D. Amendment to City Code - Chapter 94

Consider adoption of ordinance on second reading amending Chapter 94, Nuisances, Section 94-3, Declaration of nuisances; abatement required, pertaining to trees of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA. (Adopted on first reading at the November 10, 2025, meeting.)

Anne Marie Green motioned to adopt the ordinance on second reading, amending Chapter 94, Nuisances, Section 94-3, Declaration of nuisances; abatement required, pertaining to trees. Hunter Holliday seconded the motion.

Ayes: John Saunders, Hunter Holliday, Randy Foley, Anne Marie Green, Renée Turk

Nays: None

Abstaining: None

E. Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance

Consider adoption of ordinance on second reading for the request of Pillis Enterprises Inc., property owner, to rezone the property located at 522 South Market Street (Tax Map #s 160 - 4 - 2) from RSF Residential Single-Family District to HBD Highway Business District. (Adopted on first reading at the November 10, 2025, meeting.)

Randy Foley motioned to adopt the ordinance on second reading for the request of Pillis Enterprises Inc., property owner, to rezone the property located at 522 South Market Street (Tax Map #s 160 - 4 - 2) from RSF Residential Single-Family District to

HBD Highway Business District. Hunter Holliday seconded the motion.

Ayes: John Saunders, Hunter Holliday, Randy Foley, Anne Marie Green, Renée Turk

Nays: None

Abstaining: None

6. New Business

A. Appropriation of Funds

Request to amend the School General Fund, Grants Fund, School Capital Projects Fund, and School Reserve Fund budgets as approved by the School Board on October 14, 2025. **Audit - Finance Committee**

The budget for various School funds was amended for fiscal year 2025-2026 by the School Board at their meeting on October 14, 2025. The Board amended the budgets to appropriate \$1,962,838 from the unallocated capital reserve funds. The memo included in the agenda packet covers the various appropriation changes. Also included is the CIP document for the six-year period, fiscal years 2027 – 2032.

Randy Foley motioned to approve the School Board's appropriation changes of \$55,136 to the School General Fund, \$97,666 to the School Grants Fund, \$202,400 to the School Reserve Fund and \$1,627,636 to the School Capital Projects Fund per the reports attached in the agenda packet. He also motioned approval of the six-year CIP document submitted by the School Board. Anne Marie Green seconded the motion.

Mayor Turk noted that Council had received a presentation on this information and that they had worked with the School Board on this. Council had the opportunity to review this information and ask questions.

Ayes: John Saunders, Hunter Holliday, Randy Foley, Anne Marie Green, Renée Turk

Nays: None

Abstaining: None

B. Performance Agreement - LOS POLLOS AMIGOS, INC. (dba Wings Etc.)

Consider a request authorizing the City Manager to finalize and execute a local performance agreement between LOS POLLOS AMIGOS INC. (dba Wings Etc.), the City of Salem, and the Economic Development Authority of the City of Salem.

Mayor Turk asked Tommy Miller, Director of Economic Development, for information on this item.

Mr. Miller reported that the City has been working for over a year with the owners of Los Pollos (locally referred to as Wings, Etc.), located on Wildwood in the former Original El Rodeo/Bonanza building. The business has made substantial site-plan improvements to bring the property up to current code standards. To support this

reinvestment in a priority commercial corridor, staff announced that the City is proceeding with a \$30,000 meals-tax grant to assist the project.

Randy Foley motioned to authorize the City Manager to finalize and execute the local performance agreement between LOS POLLOS AMIGOS INC. (dba Wings Etc.), the City of Salem, and the Economic Development Authority of the City of Salem. Hunter Holliday seconded the motion.

Ayes: John Saunders, Hunter Holliday, Randy Foley, Anne Marie Green, Renée Turk

Nays: None

Abstaining: None

C. Performance Agreement - McClung Lumber Company, Incorporated

Consider a request authorizing the City Manager to finalize and execute a local performance agreement between McClung Lumber Company Incorporated, the City of Salem, and the Economic Development Authority of the City of Salem.

Mr. Miller reported that McClung Lumber, a long-established local business with new leadership and investors, has been working to diversify its customer base and expand operations. To support this growth, the company recently acquired an adjacent building and invested in new equipment, resulting in additional capital needs. To encourage the business's continued expansion and retention within the community, the City is awarding McClung Lumber a \$10,000 personal property tax grant.

Anne Marie Green motioned to authorize the City Manager to finalize and execute a local performance agreement between McClung Lumber Company Incorporated, the City of Salem, and the Economic Development Authority of the City of Salem. Randy Foley seconded the motion.

Ayes: John Saunders, Hunter Holliday, Randy Foley, Anne Marie Green, Renée Turk

Nays: None

Abstaining: None

D. Boards and Commissions

Consider appointments to various boards and commissions.

Randy Foley motioned to reappoint Rev. Todd Hester for a three-year term ending December 31, 2028, as a City-appointed representative to the Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare Board; and to ratify the reappointment of Patrick Kenney by Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare as an at-large member for a three-year term ending December 31, 2028; Also motion to recommend David Prosser for Circuit Court reappointment for a three-year term ending November 30, 2028, to the Board of Equalization of Real Estate Assessments; Also motion to reappoint Deputy Chief Matt Rickman for a three-year term ending December 31, 2028, to the Western Virginia Emergency Medical Services Council. John Saunders seconded the motion.

Ayes: John Saunders, Hunter Holliday, Randy Foley, Anne Marie Green, Renée Turk
Nays: None
Abstaining: None

7. Closed Session

Hold a closed session in accordance with Section 2.2-3711 (A)(7) of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, for consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body.

Anne Marie Green motioned to that, in accordance with Section 2.2-3711 A of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, Council hereby convenes to closed session at 6:58 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the following specific matter: Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. Randy Foley seconded the motion.

Ayes: John Saunders, Hunter Holliday, Randy Foley, Anne Marie Green, Renée Turk
Nays: None
Abstaining: None

Mayor Turk noted that no action would be taken this evening.

Anne Marie Green motioned to reconvene at 7:19 p.m. in accordance with Section 2.2-3712 D. of the Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended to date. Council certifies that in closed session only items lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such items identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered by the Council. Randy Foley seconded the motion.

Ayes: John Saunders, Hunter Holliday, Randy Foley, Anne Marie Green, Renée Turk

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Submitted by:



H. Robert Light
Clerk of Council

Approved by:



Renée Ferris Turk
Mayor