

**Work Session Agenda
Staunton City Council
Rita S. Wilson Council Chambers
February 22, 2024
5:30 p.m.**

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------|--|
| 5:30 p.m. | 1. | Consideration of Work Session and Regular Meeting Agendas |
| 5:35 p.m. | 2. | Discussion of a Request for a Sister City Partnership |
| 5:50 p.m. | 3. | Update from Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Regarding Lewis Street Transit Hub Improvement Project, BRITE Transit System, and Afton Express |
| 6:10 p.m. | 4. | Review of Water and Sewer Funds, Rates, and Capital Projects |
| 6:35 p.m. | | Break Until Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m. |

**Regular Meeting Agenda
Staunton City Council
Rita S. Wilson Council Chambers
February 22, 2024
7:00 p.m.**

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation/Moment of Silence – Edwards

Mayor's Report

Additional Items by Members of Council

REGULAR MEETING

A. Consent Agenda

A.1. Approval of Minutes

Work Session and Regular Meeting of February 8, 2024

Special Meeting of February 9, 2024 (Minutes and Retreat Report)

A.2. Resolution Re-establishing Staggered Terms for the Staunton Board of Equalization

A.3. Consideration of Transfer of Already Appropriated Funds within the Capital Improvement Fund

A.4. Consideration of Application for Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services FY 2025 School Resource Officer Incentive Grant Program

A.5. Consideration of Proclamation to be Presented in Council Chambers at the March 14, 2024 City Council Meeting—Brain Injury Awareness Month

All items will be voted on in one (1) motion. If so requested by any member of Council, an item placed on the consent agenda shall be removed and taken up as a separate matter at the end of the Regular Meeting.

- B. Discussion and Consideration of Resolution Requesting the Virginia General Assembly and Governor Youngkin Adopt a Statute Authorizing Localities to Conduct a Referendum on an Additional One Percent Sales Tax to be Used for School Construction or Renovation Projects**
- C. Resolution Requesting the Virginia General Assembly and Governor Youngkin Provide Localities with Authority to Permit or Deny the Placement of Electronic Gaming Devices within the Locality**
- D. Update on Virginia Department of Transportation Projects**
- E. Discussion of the Proposed FY2025 – FY2029 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)**

Matters from the City Manager

Matters from the Public*

Adjournment

***Public Participation** For instructions on how to participate in a Public Hearing and Matters from the Public portions of the City Council meeting visit www.staunton.va.us/council.

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	City Council
Item #	1	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Integrity Engagement	
Subject:	Work Session and Regular Meeting Agendas	

Background: Consistent with Procedural Memorandum No. 3, attached are draft meeting agendas for City Council's consideration and for approval as Council prefers.

Suggested Motion: I move to approve the Work Session agenda and the Regular Meeting agenda [as presented] [with the following changes: as to the Work Session, the addition/deletion of _____; as to the Regular Meeting, the addition/deletion of _____].

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, VA

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	Leslie Beauregard City Manager
Item #	2	
Department:	City Manager’s Office	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Excellence; Inclusion & Equity Strategic Area: Responsive, Efficient Government	
Subject:	Discussion of a Request for a Sister City Partnership	

Background: On January 13, 2024, Mr. Bruce Fox emailed the City Manager requesting that the City pursue a Sister City partnership with Gersthofen, Germany. Mr. Fox is associated with the Stonewall Brigade Band, and in 2022, a community band from Gersthofen visited Staunton to perform a combined concert with the Stonewall Brigade. The All Gersthofen Band will be returning in June 2024.

As has been the case with previous requests for Sister City partnerships, Mr. Fred Blanton, Virginia State Representative with Sister Cities International, will attend the meeting and speak to the process and how past requests were handled. Mr. Fox will also attend, as well as other members of the Stonewall Brigade Band.

Attachment: Email from Mr. Bruce Fox requesting Sister City partnership

City Manager's Recommendation: Not applicable.

Suggestion Motion: Not applicable.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

From: [Leslie M. Beauregard](#)
To: [Leslie M. Beauregard](#)
Subject: FW: Sister City with Gersthofen, Germany
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 9:23:30 AM

From: Bruce Fox <brucefox78@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 13, 2024 10:53 AM
To: Leslie M. Beauregard <beauregardlm@ci.staunton.va.us>
Subject: Sister City with Gersthofen, Germany

Hello Leslie,

I am a member of the Stonewall Brigade Band and am currently organizing a trip in June, 2024 for the band to perform a combined concert with a community band from Gersthofen, Germany. This is the same group that visited Staunton in September, 2022 when we did a combined concert here. The group from Germany is a band that I was a member of while I lived there 2017-2020.

As a result of the visit in 2022, there are many lasting friendships between the two cities. As a representative of the Stonewall Brigade Band I think it would be nice to pursue a sister city status with Gersthofen. I have a counterpart in Gersthofen who is in touch with their city hall regarding the same. There is already an official welcome and dedication from the Gersthofen mayor (Bürgermeister) scheduled in the afternoon of June 15 and this could be a highlight of that dedication, especially if the Staunton Mayor was also in attendance.

If this is something you would like Staunton to pursue, please let me know what I need to do to help facilitate. Here is a link to the Gersthofen website and Facebook page: <https://gersthofen.de/>, <https://www.facebook.com/stadtgersthofen>

Best regards,
Bruce Fox

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, VA

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	Amanda Kaufman Assistant City Manager
Item #	3	
Department:	City Manager’s Office	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Inclusion & Equity; Excellence Strategic Areas: Infrastructure; Economic Development; Responsive, Efficient Government	
Subject:	Update from Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Regarding Lewis Street Transit Hub Improvement Project, BRITE Transit System, and Afton Express	

Background: The Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission (CSPDC) will be making infrastructure improvements to the Lewis Street Transit Hub over the spring and summer. City staff have partnered with the CSPDC to identify a temporary hub location while Lewis Street is under construction. Ann Cundy, the CSPDC's Director of Transportation, will provide Council with an update on this project and plans for the temporary hub operations. She will be joined by Paula Melester, Regional Planner and Devon Thompson, Transit Planner to also provide brief updates on the operations of the BRITE transit system and the Afton Express.

Attachment: A map of the temporary transit hub location will be provided during the work session.

City Manager's Recommendation: Not applicable.

Suggested Motion: Not applicable.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	Jessie L. Moyers Chief Finance Officer
Item #	4	
Department:	Finance	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Excellence Strategic Area: Responsible, Efficient Government	
Subject:	Review of Water and Sewer Funds, Rates, and Capital Projects	

Background: Chief Finance Officer, Jessie Moyers, will present a review the water and sewer funds, including a rate analysis, operating expenditures review, and planned capital improvements for each fund.

Attachment: Not applicable.

City Manager's Recommendation: Not applicable.

Suggested Motion: Not applicable

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	City Council
Item #:	A	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Strategic Area: Responsive, Efficient Government	
Subject:	Consent Agenda	

Background: As provided in [Council Procedure Memorandum No. 14](#), it is the policy of City Council to have the City Manager place routine, noncontroversial items on a Consent Agenda. Briefings for each item included on the Consent Agenda have been prepared in the manner and format of regular business items on the agenda, with each item described in sufficient detail to provide the public with an appropriate understanding of such item. All matters listed on the Consent Agenda will be enacted by one motion and as a single item. There will be no separate discussion of an item. If discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of a member of City Council and considered separately at the end of the regular meeting agenda.

The Mayor will inquire whether any member of City Council desires to remove any item from the Consent Agenda and to place such item on the regular meeting agenda for separate consideration.

Suggested Motion (if no items removed): I move to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Suggestion Motion (if one or more items removed): I move to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of item(s) _____, and that item(s)_____ be moved to the end of the regular agenda for discussion and a separate vote.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	City Council
Item #	A.1	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Integrity Engagement	
Subject:	Approval of Minutes	

Background: Draft meeting minutes are attached for City Council's consideration and for approval as Council prefers.

Attachment:

Attachment 1 – Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2024

Attachment 2 – Special Meeting of February 9, 2024 (Minutes and Retreat Report)

Suggested Motions: I move to approve the work session and regular meeting minutes of February 8, 2024, and the special meeting minutes of February 9, 2024 [as presented] [with the following changes: _____].

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard



City Council
WORK SESSION
February 8, 2024
5:00 p.m.

Council Members present: Mayor Claffey, Vice Mayor Darby, and Councilors Arrowood, Campbell, Edwards, Robertson, and Woods.

Mayor Claffey called the meeting to order: Mayor Claffey called this meeting of Staunton City Council to order.

1. Consideration of Work Session and Regular Meeting Agendas

Consistent with Procedural Memorandum No. 3, the agendas were presented for Council consideration.

Ms. Woods moved to approve the work session and regular meeting agendas as presented.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Edwards and carried as follows:

Ms. Edwards	aye	Mr. Robertson	aye
Mr. Arrowood	aye	Vice Mayor Darby	aye
Ms. Woods	aye	Mayor Claffey	aye
Mr. Campbell	aye		

2. Review of Staunton Historic District Design Guidelines

Senior Planner Rodney Rhodes, Director of the Historic Staunton Foundation Frank Strassler, and Chair of the Staunton Historic Preservation Commission Deneen Brannock provided City Council with an overview of the adopted Historic District Design Guidelines.

3. Update on Staunton's Pathway to Affordable Housing and Housing for Working Families

Housing Planner Rebecca Joyce provided information on the housing tasks that have been completed since her last update, and discussed upcoming tasks that will take place through the spring of 2024. Jeremy Crute, Senior Planner from the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission also provided an update on the Central Shenandoah Regional Housing Study, including some results and strategies that have emerged and a timeline for the wrap-up of the planning process.

50 **4. Review of the Purpose and Goal for Comprehensive Plans and the Potential Process**
51 **and Possible Timeline for Updating the Staunton, VA Comprehensive Plan 2018-2040**
52

53 Mr. Rhodes provided City Council with an overview of Comprehensive Plans and a potential path
54 forward in updating the Staunton Comprehensive Plan. He noted that the Comprehensive Plan
55 addresses various items including affordable housing. It follows a structured approach with goals,
56 objectives, and actions to implement the community's vision, with a focus on realistic and
57 achievable outcomes. The plan also includes a future land use map defining preferred land uses
58 and involves citizen engagement to ensure buy-in and effectiveness of the plan. Regular review
59 and updates every five years are crucial in adapting to changing needs and circumstances. Options
60 range from in-house efforts to utilizing external consultants and the Central Shenandoah Planning
61 District Commission. Mr. Rhodes noted that the update is scheduled to begin in July of 2024.
62

63 Discussion ensued regarding the timeline for updating the Comprehensive Plan, and Mayor
64 Claffey instructed Assistant City Manager Amanda Kaufman to assemble a steering committee for
65 the update as soon as possible. Council expressed desire to see work on the update begin as soon
66 as possible.
67

68 **5. Update from City Treasurer on Judicial Sale of Delinquent Properties**
69

70 City Treasurer Rick Johnson provided an update to the report and information he provided to City
71 Council at the September 28, 2023 work session. Specifically, the number of delinquent properties
72 currently in the city.
73

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75 The work session adjourned at 6:36 p.m.
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Kiley A. Kesecker
Clerk of Council

**REGULAR MEETING OF STAUNTON CITY COUNCIL****Thursday, February 8, 2024****7:00 p.m.****Rita S. Wilson Council Chambers**

PRESENT: Mayor Stephen W. Claffey
Vice Mayor Amy G. Darby
Brad D. Arrowood
Adam F. Campbell
Michele D. Edwards
Mark A. Robertson
Alice L. Woods

ABSENT: Leslie Beauregard, City Manager

ALSO PRESENT: Amanda Kaufman, Assistant City Manager
John Blair, City Attorney
Kiley Kesecker, Clerk of Council

Mayor Claffey called the meeting to order: Mayor Claffey called this meeting of Staunton City Council to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

The invocation/moment of silence was given by Pastor John Craft on the invitation of Vice Mayor Darby.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Claffey stated that the Green Street redesignation ceremony was a huge success and thanked those involved. He recently toured of the Valley Children's Advocacy Center and praised the work being done there. He also stated that there is a Council mini retreat scheduled for the following day, focusing on city direction and the State of the City speech, which will highlight recent successes and ongoing projects.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Vice Mayor Darby stated that she attended the Virginia Municipal League Local Government Day.

Ms. Woods stated she also attended Local Government Day and provided an update on the progress of House Bill 136 through the General Assembly.

Mr. Arrowood stated that he had a chance to work with Renewing Homes of Greater Augusta and provided some information on the program.

Mr. Campbell stated that he and Councilor Edwards participated in a classroom discussion at Mary Baldwin University on social work programs.

Ms. Edwards recognized several Mary Baldwin University students in attendance.

REGULAR MEETING

A. Consent Agenda

Mayor Claffey made the following statement:

“Per Procedure Memorandum No. 14, it is the policy of City Council to have routine, non-controversial items placed on a Consent Agenda. All items on the Consent Agenda will be voted on in one motion. If separate discussion of an item is requested by any member of Council, that item shall be removed and considered separately at the end of the regular meeting agenda.”

A.1. Approval of Meeting Minutes Work Session and Regular Meeting of January 25, 2024

A.2 FY 2024 Quarterly Financial Report

Mayor Claffey asked if any Councilmembers desired to remove any item from the Consent Agenda to be placed on the regular meeting agenda for separate consideration.

Vice Mayor Darby moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Robertson and carried as follows:

Ms. Woods	aye	Ms. Edwards	aye
Mr. Robertson	aye	Vice Mayor Darby	aye
Mr. Campbell	aye	Mayor Claffey	aye
Mr. Arrowood	aye		

B. Public Hearing and Consideration of an Amendment to Title 18, Zoning, of the Staunton City Code to add Chapter 18.47, TRD-1, Traditional Residential Development District

Senior Planner Rodney Rhodes stated that during the development of the Uniontown Neighborhood Action Plan, a physical neighborhood analysis noted that although the community preferred an R-2, Low Density Residential District designation, a significant number of the existing lots would not accommodate the minimum area and/or width requirements. The R-2 Low

Density Residential District requires a minimum lot area of 8,750 square feet and a minimum lot width at the front building line of 70 feet.

Rezoning lots that do not meet these requirements to the R-2 District would be problematic, and the standard dwelling setbacks could also be difficult for existing small lots, potentially requiring the issuance of variances before the lots could be developed. In order to accommodate the community's desire for a low-density, single-family zoning district, the Uniontown Neighborhood Action Plan recommended that the city adopt a new residential zoning district tailored to meet the specific needs of Uniontown. This aligns with the following objective in the Comprehensive Plan:

"Improve flexibility in older neighborhoods and redevelopment areas by examining lot size, set back, and parking requirements."

At the Planning Commission's August 17, 2023 meeting, the Uniontown Neighborhood Action Plan was presented, and the Commission authorized staff to proceed with drafting amendments to Title 18- Zoning of the Staunton City Code, to consider a new zoning district to accommodate the residential characteristics that are currently in Uniontown. The uses permitted in the proposed TRD-1 District mirror the uses permitted in the R-2 District.

Mr. Rhodes briefly reviewed the setback and lot size differences between the existing R-2 Single Family Residential District and the proposed TRD district. He continued, stating that the Draft TRD-1 Traditional Residential Development District was presented to the Planning Commission at the November 16, 2023 meeting. Commissioners were generally supportive of the draft, which was reviewed again at the December 21, 2023 meeting, and staff was able to address the questions raised by the Commissioners from the preceding meeting. The Commission then authorized staff to proceed with scheduling a public hearing. The new zoning district addresses the unique characteristics of most of the lots in Uniontown; however, some lots will need to be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Although the TRD-1 District was drafted with Uniontown in mind, if the district is approved, other areas of the city could apply for this zoning designation. If the TRD-1 District is approved by City Council, staff will commence the rezoning process for lots in Uniontown.

Mr. Rhodes closed by stating that at its January 18, 2024 meeting, the Planning Commission considered the zoning text amendment. During the public hearing, no one spoke in opposition to the proposed amendment. On a 4-0 vote, the Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval.

Mr. Arrowood asked if the 15 foot front setback includes porches. Mr. Rhodes stated that porches have a six foot exemption.

Councilmembers had no further questions.

Mayor Claffey stated the following:

"In a moment, I will open the Public Hearing. It is a time that Council sets aside to hear from citizens and others about a specific topic.

We ask that you please give your name, your address, and then keep your remarks at five minutes or less. When you reach the five-minute time limit, I will let you know that your time limit has expired.

For our Zoom participants, please raise your hand now if you wish to speak on this particular Public Hearing. If you raise your hand during this Public Hearing, you will also be able to raise your hand during this Council meeting for other Public Hearings and Matters of the Public. Please keep your comments to five minutes as well. Once everyone who wishes to speak has had an opportunity, I will then close the Public Hearing.

I will now open the Public Hearing, so if you wish to speak, please approach the podium. We will alternate between individuals physically present and those that have their hands raised via the Zoom platform.”

The public hearing was opened.

Stephen Poulson, no address given, spoke in support of the proposed amendment, on behalf of Building Bridges for the Greater Good.

Brenda Mead, 342 Sherwood Avenue, spoke in support of the proposed amendment.

With there being no one else wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Arrowood moved that City Council adopt the ordinance and approve the new zoning district, as recommended by the Planning Commission.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Woods and carried as follows:

Mr. Arrowood	aye	Mr. Campbell	aye
Ms. Edwards	aye	Vice Mayor Darby	aye
Ms. Woods	aye	Mayor Claffey	aye
Mr. Robertson	aye		

C. Public Hearing on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission Final Report and Recommendations

DEI Commission Chair Sabrina Burress presented a brief review of the final report.

Per the resolution adopted on February 24, 2022, City Council conducted a public hearing on the report and recommendations.

Mayor Claffey stated the following:

“I will now open the Public Hearing, so if you wish to speak, please approach the podium. We will alternate between individuals physically present and those that have their hands raised via the Zoom platform.”

The public hearing was opened.

Meghan Kramer, 2509 Chesapeake Street, spoke in support of the recommendations in the report.

Mary Miller, 471 Albemarle Avenue, described articles from the New England Journal of Medicine and expressed support for the recommendations in the report.

Kenneth Venable, 306 Ann Street, expressed full support for the report and emphasized the importance of swift implementation of its recommendations.

Dan Gunnels, 610 Buckingham Street, spoke in support of the recommendations in the report.

Lynn Caldwell, non-resident, stated support for the DEI Commission.

Brenda Mead, 342 Sherwood Avenue, spoke in support of the recommendations in the report.

Isaih Scotland, student at Mary Baldwin University, spoke in support of the DEI Commission.

With there being no one else wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

D. Consideration of a Request by Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Habitat for Humanity for the Waiver of Fees Related to the Construction of a Home at 908 Anderson Street Staunton, Virginia

Mr. Rhodes stated that by electronic mail dated January 25, 2024, Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Habitat for Humanity (“Habitat”) has requested the waiver of fees associated with the construction of a single-family home at 908 Anderson Street. The proposed home will be built for a low-moderate income family. Habitat homes are provided to families with a “no interest” or “zero equivalent” loan based on the appraised value of the home, making homeownership affordable for many people in our community who would otherwise not be able to afford a conventional mortgage. The Habitat program relies on donations of time and materials but also requires “sweat equity” from the families chosen for homes. Since Habitat’s inception locally in 1993, the organization has built over 75 new homes and completed critical home repairs on about 50 other homes in Staunton.

As set forth in Staunton City Code Sections 13.15.060(1)(d), 13.40.030(1)(d), and 15.10.120(3), a single-family residential project may be considered by City Council on a case-by-case basis for exemption from water and sewer connection and facility fees and building permit fees upon satisfaction of the following criteria:

- The project is on property in the City of Staunton, is owned by the organization, and the organization has a 501(c)(3) exemption recognized by the Internal Revenue Service.
- The project provides home ownership to residents within the City of Staunton, classified as low- and moderate-income individuals, as defined by current HUD Section 8 income standards.

- The organization administering the program requires the homeowner(s) to contribute a minimum of 200 hours in the construction of the subject single-family residence or being constructed by the organization for others.

Mr. Rhodes concluded by stating that staff has determined that the request meets the applicable criteria. The City Engineer investigated the site and found that there are existing water and sewer connections present and available, so there would be no water or sewer connections or facilities fees due if the existing connections in the field were used. The building permit fees associated with the construction of a single-family dwelling are subject to this waiver request. Staff estimates the total fees to be approximately \$800.

Mayor Claffey asked if Councilmembers had any questions.

Councilmembers had no comments or questions.

Mr. Campbell moved that City Council, pursuant to Staunton City Code Section 15.10.120, approve the waiver of City-imposed building permit fees associated with the construction by Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Habitat for Humanity of a single-family home at 908 Anderson Street.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Arrowood and carried as follows:

Mr. Campbell	aye	Mr. Arrowood	aye
Ms. Woods	aye	Vice Mayor Darby	aye
Mr. Robertson	aye	Mayor Claffey	aye
Ms. Edwards	aye		

E. Consideration of a Resolution to Modify Economic Development Authority Bonds for the Legacy at North Augusta

City Attorney John Blair stated that in 2011, the Frederick County Economic Development Authority issued Residential Care Facility Revenue Bonds to finance the acquisition costs of what is now known as The Legacy at North Augusta, situated at 1410A North Augusta Street. Since the facility falls within the jurisdiction of the City of Staunton, approval from the Staunton City Council was necessary, which it granted in 2011. In 2019, the Staunton Economic Development Authority issued Residential Care Facility Revenue Bonds for the construction costs of new assisted living units, as well as for the conversion and upgrades of existing units and kitchen facilities at The Legacy at North Augusta. Approval from City Council was again required, and it was obtained in 2019. The 2019 financing was initially structured as interim construction financing, with the intent to establish long-term financing conditions following the completion of capital improvements. It is now necessary to modify the 2011 and 2019 bonds to establish synchronized long-term financing arrangements.

On January 25, 2024, the Staunton Economic Development Authority conducted a public hearing and subsequently approved modifications to the 2011 and 2019 bonds to synchronize long-term financing of The Legacy at North Augusta project. Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code

requires that the governing body of the jurisdiction in which the project is located to approve the bonds and any modification of the bonds.

Thomas Bruno, bond attorney for McGuire Woods representing The Legacy at North Augusta, was present via Zoom to answer any questions that the Council may have about these bond modifications.

Mayor Claffey asked if Councilmembers had any questions.

Mayor Claffey asked what the rate of the bonds are. Mr. Bruno replied about 6.25 percent for 30 years.

Councilmembers had no other comments or questions.

Mr. Robertson moved to approve the bond modification resolution as presented.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Woods and carried as follows:

Mr. Arrowood	aye	Mr. Robertson	aye
Ms. Edwards	aye	Vice Mayor Darby	aye
Mr. Campbell	aye	Mayor Claffey	aye
Ms. Woods	aye		

(ATTACHMENT A)

MATTERS FROM THE ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

Ms. Kaufman presented updates and information on the following items:

- VDOT public hearing on shared-use path on Richmond Avenue
- Presidents' Day schedule changes
- Biannual National Community Survey

MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mayor Claffey read the following statement:

"This part of City Council's agenda is entitled matters from the public. It is a time that Council sets aside to hear from citizens and others about a wide variety of subjects. A copy of the Staunton City Council's 'Matters from the Public' rules are available in paper form at the Clerk's desk and online at the City of Staunton webpage. You are asked to familiarize yourself with those rules before commenting. Please come to the podium or begin your call, identify yourself and complete your remarks within five minutes."

Brenda Mead, 342 Sherwood Avenue, expressed support for infrastructure improvements in the Comprehensive Plan.

Annie Dixon, 610 New Hope Road, stated concerns with the Comprehensive Plan and expressed opposition to solar energy facilities in the city.

There was no one else present wishing to speak.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Kiley A. Kesecker
Clerk of Council

ATTACHMENT A

RESOLUTION TO AMEND SERIES 2011 AND 2019 BONDS FOR THE LEGACY AT NORTH AUGUSTA PROJECT BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA

February 8, 2024

A. The Economic Development Authority of the City of Staunton, Virginia (the "Staunton Authority") has received a request from The Legacy at North Augusta, Inc., a Virginia non-stock corporation (the "Borrower"), to effect certain modifications to its Residential Care Facility Revenue Bond (The Legacy at North Augusta Project), Series 2019 (the "Series 2019 Bonds"). The Staunton Authority has considered the application of the Borrower requesting such modifications (the "2019 Modifications").

B. The Economic Development Authority of the County of Frederick, Virginia (the "Frederick Authority") has received a request from the Borrower to effect certain modifications to its Residential Care Facility Revenue Bond (The Legacy at North Augusta Project), Series 2011 (the "Series 2011 Bonds" and, together with the Series 2019 Bonds, the "Bonds"). The Frederick Authority has considered the application of the Borrower requesting such modifications (the "2011 Modifications" and, together with the 2019 Modifications, the "Modifications").

C. The Borrower used the proceeds of the Series 2011 Bonds for the following purposes (collectively, the "2011 Project"): (i) financing a portion of the costs of acquiring a 108-unit independent living rental housing facility for seniors currently known as The Legacy at North Augusta and located at 1410A North Augusta Street, Staunton, Virginia (the "Facility"), (ii) financing certain capital improvements at the Facility, including but not limited to the costs of renovating and equipping of the Facility to convert all or a portion of the existing independent living units to assisted living units, (iii) financing a debt service reserve fund for the Series 2011 Bonds and (iv) financing the costs of issuing the Series 2011 Bonds and other eligible expenditures.

D. The Borrower used the proceeds of the Series 2019 Bonds for the following purposes (collectively, the "2019 Project" and, together with the 2011 Project, the "Project"): (i) financing the construction of an approximate 11,826 square foot, 3-story addition housing approximately ten (10) new, one bedroom assisted living units and financing the construction of a secure, assisted living memory care unit comprised of approximately 18 total units on the third floor of the Facility, (ii) financing certain capital improvements, including certain renovations of the existing Facility, including upgrades to the existing central kitchen facilities and the conversion of approximately six (6) two-bedroom assisted living units into 12 one bedroom and modified studio assisted living units, (iii) financing a debt service reserve fund and a funded interest fund for the Series 2019 Bonds and (iv) financing the costs of issuing the Series 2019 Bonds and other eligible expenditures.

E. Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") provides that the governmental unit having jurisdiction over the issuer of private activity bonds and over the area in which any facility financed with the proceeds of private activity bonds is located must approve the issuance of the bonds and Section 15.2-4906 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended (the "Virginia Code") sets forth the procedure for such approval.

F. Because (i) the Staunton Authority issues its bonds on behalf of the City of Staunton, Virginia (the "City"), (ii) the City Council of the City (the "City Council") constitutes the highest elected governmental unit of the City and (iii) the Facility is located in the City, Section 147(f) of the Code and Sections 15.2-4905 and 15.2-4906 of the Virginia Code require that the City Council approve the Modifications and concur with the inducement resolution adopted by the Frederick Authority (the "Frederick Authority Resolution") on February 1, 2024.

G. Prior to the consideration of the Frederick Authority Resolution, the Frederick Authority held a public hearing on February 1, 2024 on the 2011 Modifications, following reasonable notice, as required by Section 147(f) of the Code and Section 15.2-4906 of the Virginia Code.

H. The Board of Supervisors of the County of Frederick, Virginia (the "Frederick Board") is expected to approve the 2011 Modifications in accordance with Section 147(f) of the Code and Section 15.2-4906 of the Virginia Code on February 14, 2024.

I. The Staunton Authority held a public hearing on the Modifications, following reasonable notice, as required by Section 147(f) of the Code and Section 15.2-4906 of the Virginia Code, and adopted a resolution on January 25, 2024 (the "Staunton Authority Resolution") that recommended and requested that the City Council approve the Modifications and concur with the Frederick Authority Resolution, effective upon the approval of both the Frederick Authority and the Board of Supervisors of the County of Frederick, Virginia (the "Frederick Board").

J. A copy of (i) the Frederick Authority Resolution and a certificate of the public hearing held by the Frederick Authority, and (ii) the Staunton Authority Resolution and a certificate of the public hearing held by the Staunton Authority have been filed with the City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA:

1. The City Council approves the 2019 Modifications by the Staunton Authority for the benefit of the Borrower, as required by Section 147(f) of the Code and Section 15.2-4906 of the Virginia Code to permit the Staunton Authority to assist the Borrower in financing the 2019 Project.

2. The City Council approves the 2011 Modifications by the Frederick Authority for the benefit of the Borrower, as required by Section 147(f) of the Code and Section 15.2-4906 of the Virginia Code, to permit the Frederick Authority to assist the Borrower in financing the 2011 Project.

3. The City Council hereby concurs with the Frederick Authority Resolution, effective upon the approval of both the Frederick Authority and the Frederick Board for purposes of the Code and the Virginia Code.

4. The approval of the Modifications does not constitute an endorsement to a prospective purchaser of the Bonds of the creditworthiness of the Project or the Borrower.

5. As required by the Virginia Code, the Bonds shall not be deemed to constitute a debt or a pledge of the faith and credit or taxing power of the Commonwealth of Virginia or any political subdivision thereof, including the Staunton Authority, the City, the Frederick Authority and the County of Frederick, Virginia.

6. The Modifications may not be entered into pursuant to this resolution until such time as all governmental approvals as required by the Virginia Code and the Code have been obtained.

7. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia as of the date first set forth above.

(SEAL)

Clerk, City Council
City of Staunton, Virginia

**STAUNTON CITY COUNCIL MINI-RETREAT****Friday, February 9, 2024****9:00 a.m.****R.R. Smith Center**

PRESENT: Mayor Stephen W. Claffey
Vice Mayor Amy G. Darby
Brad D. Arrowood
Adam F. Campbell
Michele D. Edwards
Mark A. Robertson
Alice L. Woods

ALSO PRESENT: Thomas Bullock, Facilitator, Virginia Risk Sharing Association
Peter Stephenson, Facilitator, Virginia Risk Sharing Association
Leslie Beauregard, City Manager
Amanda Kaufman, Assistant City Manager
Kiley Kesecker, Clerk of Council
Josh Knight, Engagement & Communications Manager

Mayor Claffey called the retreat to order on Friday, February 9, 2024, at 9:07 a.m. and offered introductory remarks.

Facilitator Thomas Bullock introduced the agenda and his co-facilitator Peter Stephenson.

The retreat was conducted with the participation of Councilmembers and staff in attendance.

Mayor Claffey thanked everyone for their participation and Councilmembers shared optimistic remarks about the future.

A detailed report of the retreat is attached as **Attachment 1**.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the retreat adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Kiley A. Kesecker
Clerk of Council



VRSA
Virginia Risk Sharing Association



Staunton City Council Mini-Retreat Report

Friday, February 9, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The R.R. Smith Center, 2nd Floor Lecture Hall

20 S. New St., Staunton, VA

Retreat facilitation provided by VRSA:

- *Thomas Bullock, Director of Education and Training*
- *Peter Stephenson, Local Government Specialist*

Call to Order, Introductions and Activity

1. Introductions were made by facilitation team and participants
2. Expectations by end of the day
 - Be in an informal group setting; how we need to focus and what is the focus
 - Talk about shared goals and priorities
 - Learn more about each other
 - Being able to leave today and know where we are headed for the next year
 - Talk out the good things that Council has done rather than revisiting what was done in the past and did not work well

Activity – One Word to Describe Staunton

- Home
- Character
- Community
- Eclectic
- Magnetic
- Paradise



- Enthusiastic
- Friendly
- Comfort
- Special
- “Valley”

The Importance of Civility, VML Civility Pledge

- Thomas Bullock provided a presentation about civility in local government
- “Wicked Problems” – complex issues, lack a clear problem definition, conflicting values/perspectives; many stakeholders
- [VML Civility Pledge](#)

DEI Commission Final Report and Recommendations

[12/14/23 DEI Report and City Council Meeting Presentation](#)**

- Focus on community Building – core focus of government for many things we should be doing such as building communication and opportunities
- Create a permanent commission – maybe do a rebranding and not call it DEI? The commission evolves over time; encourage more engagement; 2-year cycle of a commission
- Important not to lose the thrust of DEI being part of it; goals of the city have to be for everyone but not want to water it down; not everyone has a great life here; there are gaps for certain populations; the focus should be towards those who do not currently benefit
- The focus should be on community, not on race. Not everyone feels like they are part of the community; we are diverse in a lot of ways; communication gap and



understanding by all and what's going on; engage everyone in looking at things differently

- **For example, Shop & Dine Out and looking at how accessible that is, or not. DEI could have thought about that and put that into focus;**

- DEI serves as a reminder that we need to think from other perspectives
- Making sure everyone has access to the same information; need to see more of our city staff be more reflective of our population
- Council supports the goals put forth in the report
- Discussion around the Commission being reduced in size with staggered terms
- Discussion around Staunton Equity Network – DEI Chair explained it would be more of a volunteer unofficial group of people who want to be involved; maybe in line to be reappointed to the Commission; those who have an interest in these issues; gives more people ownership
- City Council not interested in hiring a new position now. Can it be housed in a current department maybe? How can we integrate this in every department and value system as far as the way we do business?
- Staff to proceed with the recommendations but not hire a DEI position at this time; Council wants to create a permanent commission- all to be discussed at the DEI Commission meeting on 2/28.



Other Discussion Items

- Rotating DEI Commission meetings across various locations in the city.
- Most important areas to focus on:
 - Housing
 - Communication and engagement
 - Talk to commission themselves about the commission structure – number, staggered terms, etc.

State of the City Discussion

Positives

- First female city manager in Staunton; First male Clerk of Council; new top leadership in the City Manager's Office
- Uniontown plan completed; State legislation under review to address sewer/water connection fees
 - Creating an avenue for Uniontown - making them a part of our community
- Small business revitalization and Central Ave. – all happening in the last few years
- Strong economy happening now and will see returns in the near future
- Residential – inventory is up – more permits, new developments, running out of lots ready to go.
- ARPA funds utilization
- Chestnut Hills purchase for JDR courthouse and other uses
- Infill happening and enhancements with the parks – playground extension at MHP; houses being renovated
- Chestnut Hills good thing for the West End
- Town Hall meetings held by City Council members – met public where they are
- Council has collaborated very well – cannot overstate how important that has been



- Reports and updates about affordable housing have been very helpful
- Funding formula for city schools that fully funds the schools' needs
- Upcoming new animal shelter in Verona
- Great staffing coming on board – and still more to come
- New housing on Lacy B. King Dr.
- Developers – they are coming back and building again.
- Landfill, animal shelter – great regional efforts
- West End revitalization plan

Priorities

- Affordable housing
- Recommendation made that \$100K allocated to our citizens who are struggling paying utility bills
 - Giving back to the community in a monetary way to those organizations that helping the most vulnerable
- Mental health and substance abuse services
- More emphasis on regional collaboration to come up with solutions
- Public safety services
- Tourism regional collaboration
- Staunton Crossing
- Less government bureaucracy and streamlining processes
- Lower tax rates
- More focus on bike/ped plans and how to make the city less car centric
- Aging existing infrastructure
- Booker T. Washington needs help
- Go after grants
- Public engagement – helping residents understand the role of local government (Citizen University rebirth)
- Mutual understanding between school board/city council and their roles



- Senior services – state level funding source – not enough to have a VPAS office in Waynesboro – community center
- School funding – fully funding the schools and making sure that is communicated to citizens

Review City Vision, Values and The Staunton Plan

Vision – no changes

Values – no changes

Goal Areas

Infrastructure

1. Water

- **Gardner Springs Pump Station - when will that be completed – March 2025**
- What's next?
 - CIP executive summary should be done to make the CIP a more readable document
 - Long term plan for water infrastructure

2. Staunton Crossing

3. Walkable places

- Provide explanations for the public about VDOT
 - make information more publicly available
 - GIS team working on mapping the ongoing projects and making it more accessible to everyone

4. Stormwater

Economic Development – first things we think of is Staunton Crossing – Greenville corridor – can we publicly focus on other areas? – mention at meetings, social media and presentations to City Council

1. Staunton Crossing – targeted industries – things are happening



2. Retention and expansion of businesses – Business Visitation Outreach Program; too many restrictions or regulations on business; too many committees to review items – can we do that all at once?
3. Affordable Housing – Housing Steering Committee (regional)

Responsive Efficient Government

1. Effective communications
 - a. Create a budget in brief document
 - b. Make any PDF clickable/searchable

West End

1. How many surveys were completed?
332 unique stakeholders (survey/map)
463 comments
205 online survey results (+7 paper copies)
2. Upcoming meeting on March 5th – going to be a charette style format; suggestion made to post information online for those who cannot attend (dual format)

Built Environment

No comments on this

Plan Implementation/Define Measures of Success

- Are we doing the right things? What does success look like? Expectations? Good communication?
- Better onboarding for City Council Members:
 - Provide more education on the budget but NOT during the budget process.
 - Overview of Roberts Rules

CITY COUNCIL



Staunton, VA

AGENDA BRIEFING

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	John C. Blair, II City Attorney
Item #	A.2	
Department:	Finance/City Attorney	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Excellence Strategic Area: Responsive, Efficient Government	
Subject:	Resolution Re-establishing Staggered Terms for the Staunton Board of Equalization	

Background: The Code of Virginia states that the Staunton City Council may establish a permanent Board of Equalization. The Board of Equalization members are to be appointed by the Circuit Court for staggered terms. In the years since the Council established the Board of Equalization, the terms have become uniform.

The proposed Resolution would re-ratify a permanent Board of Equalization with staggered terms for its members consistent with the Code of Virginia.

Attachment: Proposed Resolution

City Manager's Recommendation: Adopt the Resolution as Presented

Suggestion Motion: I move that City Council adopt the resolution re-ratifying the Staunton Board of Equalization.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA that:

46 1. It **RE-RATIFIES** and **REAFFIRMS** that the City elected to create a three-
47 member permanent Board of Equalization whose appointment terms are to be staggered;
48

49 2. It directs the Clerk of Council to transmit immediately an attested copy of
50 this Resolution to the City Assessor; and
51

52 3. It further directs the City Assessor to notify the Circuit Court of the City of
53 Staunton, Virginia and request that the Court appoint one Board member to serve a term
54 of one year, one Board member to serve a term of two years, and one Board member to
55 serve a term of three years, with any reappointment or successor terms to be three years.
56

57 4. It further **RE-RATIFIES** and **REAFFIRMS** that the current alternate
58 member's term is set to expire June 26, 2025.
59

60 Introduced:

61 Adopted:

62 Effective:
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67 _____
68 Stephen W. Claffey, Mayor
69
70

71 ATTEST: _____
72 Kiley A. Kesecker,
73 Clerk of Council

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	Jessie Moyers Chief Finance Officer
Item #	A.3	
Department:	Finance	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Excellence Strategic Area: Responsive, Efficient Government	
Subject:	Approval of Transfer of Already Appropriated Funds within the Capital Improvement Fund	

Background: The item before City Council is approval of a transfer of already appropriated funds between projects in the Capital Improvement Fund. Approval of these transfers can be accomplished in one meeting, February 22, 2024, since this is a transfer of previously appropriated funds rather than an appropriation of funds.

The first set of the transfers is to move unused ARPA funds to the JDR Courthouse ARPA account. An additional \$422,773.74 will be added to the JDR Courthouse ARPA funding. The second set of transfers include old CIP accounts that need to be cleared.

Summary of the proposed transfers:

Project	Increase	Decrease
Clear ARPA Balances		
West End Small Area Plan		\$ (9,700.00)
Uniontown Small Area Study		\$ (13,257.46)
Recycling Center		\$ (20,630.78)
PW Dump Trucks		\$ (23,572.00)
MHP Paving		\$ (29,337.50)
Gypsy Hill Stream Restoration		\$ (346,726.00)
Library Roof	\$ 20,450.00	
JDR Courthouse	\$ 422,773.74	
Clean Up Old CIP Accounts		
Public Safety Building		\$ (661.00)
Bldg Maint Auto Equip		\$ (4,767.02)
Frontier Culture Project		\$ (11,949.24)
Undesignated		\$ (54,859.64)
Bessie Weller Safe Rt to School	\$ 3,413.90	
PD Bldg Renovation	\$ 68,823.00	

Attachment: Not applicable.

City Manager's Recommendation: Recommends the approval of the transfer of already appropriated funds within the Capital Improvement Fund.

Suggested Motion: I move to approve the transfer of already appropriated funds within the Capital Improvement Fund, as presented.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	Staff Member: Captain Chad Kauffman
Item #	A.4	
Department:	Police Department	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Excellence Engagement Strategic Area: Responsive, Efficient Government	
Subject:	Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services FY 2025 School Resource Officer Incentive Grant Program	

Background: The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is offering a new cycle of state grants to continue funding for School Resource Officer (SRO) positions to enhance and continue partnerships between local law enforcement agencies and school divisions. The Staunton Police Department has one SRO position at Shelburne Middle School currently funded by this grant program through June 30, 2024. Grantees are required to submit a new application for continued funding in FY 2025. The new round of funding requires localities to contribute matching funds based on the Composite Index of Local Ability to Pay. Staunton's rate is calculated at .3767, resulting in the following match requirement:

	City Share	DCJS Share	Total Compensation
Shelburne M.S. SRO	\$34, 628.00	\$57, 297.00	\$91, 925.00

Fiscal Impact: Because this grant requires a cash match, per City Council Procedure Memorandum No. 5, submitting an application for this grant requires approval by City Council. The Shelburne Middle School SRO position was initially filled by an existing patrol officer in the Department who would not otherwise be assigned as an SRO. The city share of the grant will be funded with the existing salary of the officer assigned to the school.

City Manager's Recommendation: Recommend that City Council authorize staff to apply for the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services FY 2025 School Resource Officer Incentive

Grant Program.

Suggested Motion: I move City Council authorize staff to apply for the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services FY 2025 School Resource Officer Incentive Grant Program.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	City Council
Item #	A.5	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Engagement Strategic Area: Responsive, Efficient Government	
Subject:	Consideration of Proclamation to be Presented in Council Chambers at the March 14, 2024 City Council Meeting—Brain Injury Awareness Month	

Background: Per [City Council Procedure Memorandum No. 19](#), all proclamations presented in Council Chambers must be approved by City Council at the preceding regular meeting.

The item before City Council is the approval of a request for a proclamation to be presented in Council Chambers at the March 14, 2024 Council meeting. The proclamation is in recognition of March, 2024 as **Brain Injury Awareness Month**. Should City Council approve this proclamation, it will be prepared for presentation at the beginning of the Regular Meeting on March 14.

Attachment: Not applicable

City Manager's Recommendation: Not applicable

Suggested Motion: I move to approve the requested proclamation in recognition of Brain Injury Awareness Month for presentation at the March 14, 2024 City Council meeting.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



Staunton, VA

AGENDA BRIEFING

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	John C. Blair, II City Attorney
Item #	B	
Department:	City Attorney	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Excellence Strategic Area: Responsive, Efficient Government	
Subject:	Resolution Requesting the Virginia General Assembly and Governor Youngkin Adopt a Statute Authorizing Localities to Conduct a Referendum on an Additional One Percent Sales Tax to be Used for School Construction or Renovation Projects	

Background: At the January 25, 2024 Staunton City Council/Staunton School Board joint budget work session, City Council indicated its desire to learn more about legislation in the General Assembly authorizing localities to conduct a referendum that would permit an additional one percent sales tax within the locality to go towards school construction or renovation projects.

As of the writing of this Briefing (February 13, 2024), there are two pieces of legislation which would authorize localities to conduct the sales tax referendum.

HB 805 and SB 14 would permit each city and county in Virginia to conduct a referendum to impose a one cent sales tax to be used for school construction or renovation projects. The city or county governing body would have the authority to adopt a resolution to conduct a referendum to impose an additional retail sales and use tax of up to one percent to go towards school construction or renovation projects. The referendum would either expire upon a date set by the governing body or on the date of bond expiration for school construction or renovation projects.

Attachment: Proposed Resolution

City Manager's Recommendation: For City Council to discuss the legislation and if there is support, and if so, to adopt the proposed resolution.

Suggestion Motion: I move that Council adopt the resolution requesting the Virginia General Assembly and Governor Youngkin adopt a statute authorizing localities to conduct a referendum on an additional one percent Sales Tax to be used for school construction or renovation projects.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

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**RESOLUTION
OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STAUNTON
REQUESTING THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND GOVERNOR
YOUNGKIN ADOPT A STATUTE AUTHORIZING LOCALITIES TO CONDUCT A
REFERENDUM ON ADOPTING AN ADDITIONAL ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE
TAX TO BE USED FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION PROJECTS**

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Virginia General Assembly is currently considering Senate Bill 14 and House Bill 805; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 14 and House Bill 805 provide cities and counties with the ability to request a referendum of a locality's voters to consider adopting an addition one percent sales and use tax to be applied toward school construction or renovation projects; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 14 and House Bill 805 provide additional financing ability for cities and counties, subject to voter approval, to build, repair, and replace school facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STAUNTON:

1. The Council of the City of Staunton hereby supports Senate Bill 14 and House Bill 805.

2. A copy of this Resolution shall be mailed by the Clerk of Council to Delegate Ellen Campbell, Senator Christopher Head, and Governor Glenn Youngkin.

Adopted this 22nd day of February, 2024.

Stephen W. Claffey, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Kiley A. Kesecker,
Clerk of Council

CITY COUNCIL



Staunton, VA

AGENDA BRIEFING

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	John C. Blair, II City Attorney
Item #	C	
Department:	City Attorney	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Excellence Strategic Area: Responsive, Efficient Government	
Subject:	Resolution Requesting the Virginia General Assembly and Governor Youngkin Provide Localities with Authority to Permit or Deny the Placement of Electronic Gaming Devices within the Locality	

Background: The use and legality of “skill games” has been an issue in Virginia for years. Different permutations of “skill game” machines have been present in Virginia for years, and the different fact patterns have resulted in Attorney General Opinions in 2010 and 2011. As Virginia’s gambling prohibition statute employed broad language, the legality of the various “skill game” machines were never particularly clear and depended on the facts of any particular scenario. In 2020, the Virginia General Assembly adopted legislation to specifically prohibit the use of these machines in the Commonwealth beginning in 2021. In 2021, a lawsuit was filed and an injunction was issued which prevented the enforcement of the General Assembly’s prohibition. In the Fall of 2023, the Supreme Court of Virginia dissolved the injunction. As a result of the Supreme Court’s ruling, localities, including the City of Staunton, began to enforce the prohibition in January of 2024.

In response to the Supreme Court’s decision, legislation in Virginia has been introduced to re-legalize skill games.

One of the bills to legalize “skill games” is House Bill 590 (this bill uses the term “electronic gaming devices” as the legal term for “skill games”). In February, alternative language in the form of a substitute was introduced. This substitute language provided that “skill game” machines could not be authorized for use in a locality unless the governing body adopted an ordinance permitting the machines use in the locality or the locality conducted a referendum in which a majority of voters approved of the machines use in the locality.

The Resolution before Council is not about whether the Council approves of the use of “skill games.” Rather, it is a Resolution asking the General Assembly and Governor Youngkin that if a bill is agreed upon to legalize “skill games” that the legislation includes language which mirrors the local authorization provisions contained in House Bill 590.

Attachment: Proposed Resolution

City Manager’s Recommendation: Adopt the resolution as presented

Suggestion Motion: I move that Council adopt the resolution requesting the General Assembly and Governor Youngkin to provide localities with authority to permit or deny the placement of Electronic Gaming Devices within the locality.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

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**RESOLUTION
OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STAUNTON
REQUESTING THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND GOVERNOR
YOUNGKIN INCLUDE LOCAL AUTHORITY IN ANY LEGISLATION THAT
MAY PERMIT THE USE OF ELECTRONIC GAMING DEVICES**

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Virginia General Assembly is currently considering legislation related to electronic gaming devices (colloquially referred to as “skill games”); and

WHEREAS, the Virginia House of Delegates passed House Bill 590 on February 12, 2024; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 590 contains legislative language that prohibits the Commonwealth of Virginia from granting a license for an enterprise to place and offer electronic gaming devices for play in a locality unless the locality’s governing body adopts an ordinance permitting electronic gaming devices in the locality or the locality conducts a referendum on whether electronic gaming devices shall be permitted in the locality and is approved by the locality’s voters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STAUNTON:

1. The Council of the City of Staunton does not support or oppose any legislation regarding the legality of electronic gaming devices in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

2. The Council of the City of Staunton requests that any legislation adopted by the Virginia General Assembly regarding the potential legalization of electronic gaming devices in the Commonwealth of Virginia includes the authority contained in House Bill 590 for localities to permit the placing and use of electronic gaming devices only upon the adoption of an ordinance by the locality’s governing body or the approval of the permitting of electronic gaming devices by a referendum approved by the locality’s voters.

3. A copy of this Resolution shall be mailed by the Clerk of Council to Delegate Ellen Campbell, Senator Christopher Head, and Governor Glenn Youngkin.

Adopted this 22nd day of February, 2024.

Stephen W. Claffey, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Kiley A. Kesecker,

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	Staff Member: Lyle Hartt
Item #	D	
Department:	Public Works	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Excellence & Engagement Strategic Areas: Infrastructure	
Subject:	Update on Virginia Department of Transportation Projects	

Background: City staff will provide City Council with an overview and update of multiple VDOT-funded projects that are currently underway in some phase or will be underway in the near future:

The projects include:

- Crossing Way Extension
- SGR Repaving:
 - West Beverley Street – Corporate Limits to Grubert Avenue
 - West Beverley Street – Grubert Avenue to West Frederick Street
 - North Jefferson Street & West Frederick Street
 - New Street
 - New Hope Road
- Richmond Avenue / Crossing Way Shared Use Path
- Commerce Road / Lewis Creek Greenway
- Richmond Avenue Road Diet & Roundabout
- Greenville Avenue Road Diet
- Edgewood Road Sidewalk
- North Augusta Street Sidewalk – Lambert Street to Terry Court
- North Augusta Street Sidewalk – Terry Court to Meadowbrook Road

- VHSIP High Visibility Crosswalks

Attachments: Not applicable

City Manager's Recommendation: Not applicable

Suggested Motion: Not applicable

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024	Jessie L. Moyers Chief Finance Officer
Item #	E	
Department:	Finance	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Excellence Strategic Area: Responsive, Efficient Government	
Subject:	Discussion of the Proposed FY2025 – FY2029 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)	

Background: Chief Finance Officer, Jessie Moyers, will introduce the proposed FY2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for all City funds and the School CIP Fund. The School Board reviewed the School CIP at their January 2024 meeting and adopted it at their February 12, 2024 school board meeting.

The Planning Commission conducted a public hearing and adopted the proposed CIP at their February 15, 2024 meeting.

A work session to further review the CIP will be held on April 4, 2024. Final consideration of the CIP is scheduled for City Council on April 25, 2024.

Attachment: [Proposed FY2025 – FY2029 Capital Improvement Plan](#)

City Manager's Recommendation: For review and discussion only.

Suggested Motion: Not applicable

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard