

**Work Session Agenda
Staunton City Council
Caucus Room
November 10, 2016
5:45 p.m.**

Invocation/Moment of Silence—Harrington

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------|---|
| 5:45 p.m. | 1. | Consideration of Work Session and Regular Meeting Agendas |
| 5:50 p.m. | 2. | Discussion of High School Project |
| 6:35 p.m. | 3. | Discussion of 2017 Legislative Program |
| 5:55 p.m. | | Break |
| 6:50 p.m. | 4. | Closed Meeting for Discussion or Consideration of the Possible Acquisition of Real Property for Public Purposes and/or of the Possible Disposition of Publicly Held Real Property Related to Education and Other Facilities Pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(3) |
| 7:15 p.m. | | Break |

**Regular Meeting Agenda
Staunton City Council
Council Chambers
November 10, 2016
7:30 p.m.**

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor's Report

Proclamation—Small Business Saturday

Additional Items by Members of Council

Approval of Minutes

Work Session and Regular Meeting of October 27, 2016

REGULAR MEETING

A. Public Hearing and Consideration of a Request by Karen Hudson to Rezone 8 S. St. Clair Street from B-1, Local Business District, to R-4, High Density Residential District

B. Annual Report of Library

Matters from the City Manager

Matters from the Public

Adjournment

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, VA

Meeting Date:	November 10, 2016	City Council
Item #	1	
Ordinance #		
Department:	City Council	
Subject:	Work Session and Regular Meeting Agendas	

Background: Consistent with Procedural Memorandum No. 3, recently amended by Council at its organizational meeting on July 1, 2016, 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 Session, the addition/deletion of _____].

City Manager: Stephen F. Owen

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Matters from the City Manager

Matters from the Public

Adjournment

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, VA

Meeting Date:	November 10, 2016	Mayor Carolyn Dull
Item #	2	
Ordinance #		
Department:	City Council	
Subject:	High School Project	

Background: At the request of Mayor Dull, this item has been added to City Council's work session agenda for continuation of Council's discussion at its prior work sessions. Discussion materials will be provided to members of Council during the work session.

City Manager's Recommendation: Not applicable.

Suggested Motion: Not applicable.

City Manager: Stephen F. Owen

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, VA

Meeting Date:	November 10, 2016	Staff Member: Steve Owen
Item #	3	
Ordinance #		
Department:	City Manager	
Subject:	2017 Legislative Program	

Background: Each year, City Council adopts a legislative program which is transmitted to the Governor, local General Assembly members, the Virginia Municipal League (VML), and Virginia First Cities. A draft resolution setting forth the 2017 program, with proposed changes to last year's program shown in italicized red text, is attached for Council's consideration. Also attached, for Council's reference, is VML's 2017 legislative program.

City Manager's Recommendation: Discuss and provide input on the draft 2017 Legislative Program so that it may be amended and adopted at City Council's meeting in December.

City Manager: Stephen F. Owen

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE
CITY OF STAUNTON'S
2017 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, governing from a position closest to the City's citizens and desiring to make City government more responsive to Staunton citizens, believe it is important to advise the City's representatives in the Virginia General Assembly of the City's legislative positions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Staunton that the legislative principles adopted by the Virginia Municipal League (VML) are hereby endorsed:

The Governor and General Assembly should not:

- Restrict further local revenue authority or sources.
- Impose new funding requirements or expand existing ones on services delivered by local governments.
- Shift state funding responsibilities onto local governments.
- Impose state fees, taxes or surcharges on local government services.
- Place additional **unfunded mandates and** other administrative burdens on local governments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council respectfully requests that the General Assembly **support** legislation regarding the following issues:

A. Education

1. The General Assembly should fully fund public education—funding all mandated programs and services of education on the basis of realistic costs; increasing Standards of Quality funding, coming from general fund revenues, appropriated to elementary and secondary education; providing for flexibility in the use of those funds to meet unique local needs; and supporting specialized training, professional development and extended contracts for staff in challenged schools.
2. The General Assembly should fully fund the Virginia Preschool Initiative, removing and/or significantly reducing the required local share, demonstrating its commitment and investment in arguably the greatest resource we have—our children.
3. The General Assembly should continue to support the revisions of the system of accountability to encompass balanced assessments and expand the implementation of problem based assessments for greater validity, more cost effective sampling techniques, and continue the implementation of expedited test retakes to more accurately reflect student achievement, sense of inquiry, and love of learning.

B. Pediatric Cancer Research

City Council is appalled by the lack of cancer research coordination, the glacially slow FDA new treatment approval process, and the totally inadequate level of federal funding for pediatric cancer research. Less than 4% of all cancer research spending is for pediatric cancer and only two treatments are currently approved by the FDA. Council requests that the Virginia General Assembly petition the federal government to make pediatric cancer a real priority in order to save the lives of countless children who cannot speak for themselves or vote.

C. Certificate of Public Need (per request from Augusta Health)

Council supports Virginia's Certificate of Public Need (COPN) program as an important component of the Commonwealth's health care system and encourages the General Assembly to retain COPN in its current form with process reforms similar to those recommended by the state work group led by the Secretary of Health and Human Services in 2015. Any legislation to deregulate COPN must be coupled with policies to promote access to care, ensure provision of essential human services, fund graduate medical education and maintain the fiscal stability of Virginia's community hospitals.

D. Stormwater Local Assistance Funding

The Commonwealth of Virginia and its MS4 communities are required under the Chesapeake Bay TMDL to meet specific reductions in stormwater pollution. Recent cost estimates for such compliance exceed \$10 billion, with the majority of the costs falling on local governments. Last year, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) granted only **\$8.5 million** in Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF) funding to local governments, to defray their costs of compliance. This year, DEQ states that only **\$20 million** will be granted through the SLAF program. City Council requests that the Commonwealth increase SLAF funding to at least \$50 million.

E. Transportation

1. City Council supports improvements to railroad infrastructure to increase freight shipment capacity and reduce truck traffic and impacts on Interstate 81.
2. City Council supports a Primary Seatbelt Law, which research and other states' experiences have proven will save lives.
3. City Council supports a ban on handheld cell phone use by operators of moving motor vehicles.

4. City Council supports the use of non-motorized transportation for health, energy conservation and cost reasons for all Virginians, including trails, pathways and green corridors as an essential element of Virginia's transportation system.

F. Libraries

City Council supports efforts to *maintain and* increase State Aid to Public Libraries to strengthen funding for public library materials and programs that target childhood literacy and STEM instruction.

G. Virginia State Parks

City Council encourages the Governor and General Assembly to support additional land acquisition for state parks, outdoor recreation and natural areas. Towards that end, should the federal government expand the authorization of offshore energy exploration, City Council supports a plan to reinvest a portion of the royalties in the conservation of land for public access for outdoor recreation.

H. Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and Commonwealth Resilience Fund

Staunton City Council joins VML in supporting the Commonwealth of Virginia's application for membership to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory (RGGI) to cap and trade CO₂ emissions from power plants to specifically address the impacts of sea-level rise and climate change using an estimated \$200 million in annual auction revenues through 2030, and to comply with the EPA's Clean Power Plan.

I. Solar Tax Incentives

City Council supports state tax incentives for private homeowners, businesses and the solar energy industry to incentivize an increase in the use of clean solar energy systems, to reduce dependence on extractive fossil fuels and emissions and increase energy independence.

J. Predatory Lending

The City of Staunton has been joined in its six-year long fight against predatory lending by VML, Virginia Association of Counties and Virginia First Cities, as well as 98 individual city, town and county governments. Despite the efforts of countless civil rights organizations, hundreds of churches, and dozens of newspaper editorial boards, legal aid societies and senior advocates, the protection the City seeks for its citizens is ignored. In spite of a Virginia Supreme Court ruling that called these practices "a vicious cycle of debt" and produced evidence that an estimated 9 million illegal loans had been made in the Commonwealth between 2002 and 2009, the General Assembly refuses to act to provide protections to Virginia families that the federal government provides for military members and their families.

The cost to the Commonwealth is staggering. The capital flight from Virginia is estimated to be over \$150 million every year. Allowing lenders to charge fees and interest amounting to 200%-680% APR is crippling the efforts of charities and social services trying to get people back on their feet. The damage to the economy of Virginia is incalculable.

City Council asks now for three things:

- A return to the usury law (36% interest rate cap inclusive of all fees) that Virginia had prior to 2002.
- Vigorous enforcement of the ban on illegal internet loans by the Attorney General.
- If the Senate and the House refuse to act, swift approval by the General Assembly of a statewide referendum on an interest rate cap.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that City Council respectfully requests that the General Assembly **oppose** the following legislation:

A. *AirBnB*

Virginia localities vary widely in size and character and should not all be grouped as the same to satisfy the desires of any one corporation or business enterprise. Accordingly, City Council opposes statewide legislation concerning limited residential lodging in Virginia.

B. Eminent Domain by Private Utilities for Surveying

City Council opposes the eminent domain rights extended to Dominion Virginia Power and other private utilities to enter onto private property without the consent of the landowner for the purpose of surveying for proposed projects before agreements have been reached with such property owners.

C. Stormwater Utility Exemptions for Churches *and Railroads*

City Council opposes legislation which would exempt places of worship from the payment of local stormwater utility fees. Passage of the bill would certainly result in exemption requests from other classes of property owners (including non-profit organizations and the federal and state governments). If considered favorably, those requests would further diminish fee collections. Council believes that places of worship should be required to pay fees for stormwater utility service, just as they pay for other utility services (including telephone, cable television, electric, gas, water and sewer services). As noted above, localities in Virginia already have limited financial resources available to comply with significant federal and state stormwater requirements. Any state-mandated reductions to stormwater utility fee collections—a

limited source of funds for local governments to finance costly, mandated projects—will subject localities to additional financial burdens.

Similarly, City Council opposes legislation that would mandate local stormwater utility program exemptions or credits for any other specific uses or properties such as land and buildings owned by private railroads.

The Clerk of Council shall mail or deliver a copy of this Resolution to the Governor, the City's representatives in the General Assembly, other selected members of the General Assembly and area local governments; to the Virginia Municipal League, Virginia Association of Counties and Virginia First Cities and to other interested persons, as appropriate.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2016.

Carolyn W. Dull, Mayor

Linda L. Little, Clerk of Council



2017 VML Legislative Program

Education Funding

A strong public school system is essential to economic development and prosperity. The state must be a reliable funding partner in accordance with the Virginia Constitution and state statutes. The Standards of Quality should recognize the resources, including positions, required for a high-quality public education system. VML opposes changes in methodology and changes in the division of financial responsibility that result in a shift of funding responsibility from the state to localities.

Further, VML opposes policies that lower state contributions but do nothing to address the cost of meeting the requirements of the Standards of Accreditation and Standards of Learning.

Any approach to improving low-performing schools must include adequate state financial support. VML supports increased state funding for the Virginia Preschool Initiative, the K-3 reduced class size program and Early Reading Intervention program. VML also supports increased state stipends for highly effective teachers in high-poverty schools, and other innovative programs for teachers and students.

State and Local Government Fiscal Relationship

Governance at the local level becomes ever more challenging as the Commonwealth and the Federal government add new programs, or modify existing program guidelines, and promulgate complex regulations and higher standards for local governments to implement. It is not uncommon for the state and federal governments to either underfund their share of the costs or to ignore them altogether.

To that end, the Virginia Municipal League holds as essential these principles on local taxing and budget authority.

- Specific local revenue authority and sources cannot be further restricted without first granting and providing alternative revenue authority with reliable, sustainable revenue sources. This includes, without limitation, the BPOL and M&T taxes.
- Local governments should be involved in any discussions relating to local taxing authority including legislation that exempts specific industries from local taxes and fees.
- Local general fund revenue and special funds cannot be confiscated or re-directed to the state treasury.
- Placing additional administrative burdens on local governments without sufficient resources or administrative flexibility jeopardizes the quality of services delivered at the local level. Local governments cannot be expected to bear the expenses related to the imposition of new funding requirements or the expansion of existing ones on services delivered at the local level without a commensurate increase of state financial assistance or new local taxing authority.
- Shifting traditional state funding responsibilities onto local governments for services including public education, law enforcement, and public safety activities and any core services affecting local government, is bad fiscal policy, resulting in stress on local finances without reductions in overall program costs.

- Imposing state fees, taxes or surcharges on local government services impedes transparency at both the state and local level.
- Any efforts at tax reform must begin with a thorough examination of state tax reform and the financing of state services. The State should reform its own tax structure before taking on the topic of local taxes. State and/or local tax changes should not negatively affect local revenues.
- State budget cuts to state mandated and other high priority programs should specify the programs to be affected by the cuts.

The Commonwealth should:

- Enter into a dialogue with local governments to examine state requirements and service expansions that can be suspended or modified to alleviate to the degree possible the financial burden on state and local taxpayers.
- Examine models in other states that allow for modernizing state and local taxing authority.
- Develop spending and revenue priorities that support economic development, public safety, education and other public goals. State tax credits, tax deductions and tax relief policies must receive the same scrutiny as spending programs as part of the prioritization process.
- In times of revenue crises, review ways to increase revenues to meet constitutional and statutory obligations to Virginia citizens after all other actions have been taken.
- Include local government representatives on any “blue ribbon” commission or other body established by the state that has as its purpose changes to local revenue authority or governance.

State Assistance to Local Police Departments (HB 599)

Almost 70 percent of Virginians live in communities served by police departments. The state created a program of financial assistance to local police departments, but has increasingly de-emphasized this funding obligation as a priority. VML calls for the state to honor its commitment to public safety by funding the program as stipulated in the Code of Virginia.

Taxing, Licensing, and Regulating Internet-based Businesses and Services

If the Commonwealth should take action to regulate private enterprises employing a business model that emphasizes the use of the Internet to either provide retail or facilitate lodging or ride-sharing services, then local government interests should be acknowledged and localities should be included in the decision-making. As general principles, VML believes state and local policies should (1) encourage a level playing field for competing services in the market place; (2) seek to preserve and/or replace local and state tax revenues; (3) ensure safety, reliability, and access for consumers, providers, and the public; and (4) protect local government’s ability to regulate businesses whether they are traditional, electronic, Internet-based, virtual or otherwise.

Transportation and Transit Funding

VML recognizes the importance and critical support provided by the Commonwealth for local and regional transportation and transit capital needs. To that end, VML believes the projected decline in state funding over the upcoming biennia will negatively affect the movement

of people and goods, thereby hindering economic development, jeopardizing public safety and degrading the quality of life in our localities.

The state should continue to financially support transportation and transit capital needs, exploring all options including the issuance of Commonwealth bonds. VML supports adequate funding of the Smart Scale (HB 2) program in addressing transportation and transit needs.

Access to Healthy Food

VML supports approaches (including but not limited to the Virginia Grocery Investment Fund) to provide financial and technical support for businesses to expand and ensure greater access to healthy food for residents of the Commonwealth.

Roadway Maintenance Payments; Bicycle Lanes

VML supports the ability of cities and towns that receive roadway maintenance payments from the Commonwealth based on moving-lane miles of roadway to not see their payments reduced if moving-lane miles of roadway are converted to bicycle-only lanes. Municipalities will not reduce their funding after a conversion.

Landscape Materials

VML supports the ability of localities to regulate the use of specific landscape cover materials or the retrofit of existing landscape cover materials for the health, safety, and welfare of their citizens.

Local Authority to Regulate Plastic Bags

VML requests that the General Assembly grant localities the authority to regulate and curtail the use of retail plastic bags. This authority would provide local governments an additional tool to reduce litter and improve local water quality.

Lottery for Localities

VML requests that the General Assembly authorize the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the feasibility of dedicating additional lottery dollars to local governments. As part of the study, JLARC should identify and evaluate the potential impacts of the "Lottery for Localities" proposal on other state financial aid programs, including school funding, and the proposal's possible financial impact on lottery sales.

Municipal Net Metering

VML requests that the General Assembly grant local governments the right to aggregate the electric load of their buildings, facilities, and any other governmental operations for the purpose of net energy metering. Additionally, VML requests that the General Assembly raise the net-metering limit from 1,000 kilowatts to 2,000 kilowatts for non-residential customers.

Price Floor for Regional Gas Taxes

VML supports an amendment to Virginia Code § 58.1-2295 that would establish a protective floor price for the 2.1 percent regional gas tax, such as was done for the statewide fuels tax in §58.1-2217. Such a floor concept is essential to provide a more stable, dedicated revenue source needed for long-term financing of regional projects.

Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative & Commonwealth Resilience Fund

VML urges the General Assembly to address greenhouse gas emissions targets through a Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory (RGGI) carbon credit auction, and/or a carbon emissions tax. All proceeds derived from the auction of credits should be used to establish the “Commonwealth Resilience Fund,” a special state-dedicated fund to assist localities in addressing flooding, energy efficiency improvements, and economic development.

State Corporation Commission Jurisdiction over Local Utilities

Because the State Corporation Commission lacks jurisdiction over local government utilities under the Virginia Constitution, the General Assembly should not enact any legislation that purports to grant the SCC any regulatory powers over local utilities.

Stormwater Utility Charges

VML opposes further amendments to the regulation of stormwater that would require a locality to waive stormwater charges.

Water Quality Funding / Wastewater Discharge and Pollutant Allocation Limits

VML requests that the General Assembly provide sufficient appropriations to the Water Quality Improvement Fund (WQIF) to fulfill point source upgrade contracts with local governments as well as cost-share payments to farm operators for the implementation of agricultural best management practices. Additionally, VML requests that the General Assembly provide sufficient appropriations, including dedicated revenues to the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF) to address costs associated with permit requirements tied to federal Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) and new EPA regulations.

VML opposes any legislation that would reduce or limit local government’s sewage discharge capacity, including nutrient allocations, as such capacity and allocations are critical to our members’ economic development efforts.

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, VA

Meeting Date:	November 10, 2016	City Council
Item #	4	
Ordinance #		
Department:		
Subject:	Closed Meeting for Discussion or Consideration of the Possible Acquisition of Real Property for Public Purposes and/or of the Possible Disposition of Publicly Held Real Property Related to Education and Other Facilities	

Suggested Motion:

Before the closed meeting: I move to enter a closed meeting for discussion or consideration of the possible acquisition of real property for public purposes and/or of the possible disposition of publicly held real property related to existing and future education and other facilities, pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(3).

Second. Discussion. Vote – Clerk of Council to poll members of Council.

After the closed meeting: I move that Council reconvene in an open meeting and certify to the best of each member's knowledge that only lawfully exempted public business matters were discussed and that only public business matters as identified in the closed meeting motion were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting.

Second. Discussion. Vote – Clerk of Council to poll members of Council.



Proclamation

Before The Staunton City Council

Small Business Saturday

WHEREAS, the City of Staunton, Virginia, celebrates our local small businesses and the contribution they make to our local economy and community; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Staunton area support their local businesses and recognize that such local businesses create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the City of Staunton, Virginia, supports local businesses by, among other initiatives and activities, having a downtown service district and partnering with the Staunton Downtown Development Association; and

WHEREAS, the City of Staunton, Virginia joins with other localities in Virginia and across the nation in recognizing the importance of local businesses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that I, Carolyn W. Dull, Mayor of Staunton, on behalf of the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, do hereby designate Saturday, November 26, 2016, as Small Business Saturday, and urge the residents of our Staunton community, our regional community, and communities across the country, to support small business and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

Dated this 10th day of November, 2016.

Carolyn W. Dull, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Linda L. Little, CMC
Clerk of Council

City Council
WORK SESSION
October 27, 2016
5:30 p.m.

Council Members Present: Mayor Dull, Vice Mayor Kier, Council Members Curren, Harrington, Holmes, Oakes and Obenschain.

The Mayor called the work session of City Council to order. The invocation/moment of silence was given by Mayor Dull.

1. Consideration of Work Session and Regular Meeting Agendas

Consistent with Procedural Memorandum No. 3, amended by Council at its organization meeting on July 1, 2016, the agendas were presented for Council consideration.

Dr. Harrington moved to approve the Work Session and the Regular Meeting agendas as presented.

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

Dr. Harrington	aye	Ms. Oakes	aye
Mr. Obenschain	aye	Dr. Curren	aye
Vice Mayor Kier	aye	Mr. Holmes	aye
Mayor Dull	aye		

2. Discussion of High School Project

Mr. Owen stated that Council started talking about the high school project about two weeks ago and staff has been trying to compile some scenarios from questions received from Council.

Jeanne Colvin presented Council with various scenarios from a cost of \$35 million up to \$60 million. Also discussed were scenarios with increases in real estate, meals and personal property taxes. She noted that the taxes would need to be increased by 2018. Also presented to Council was a comparison of various taxes with the surrounding cities and counties.

Discussion ensued.

3. Closed Meeting for Discussion or Consideration of the Possible Acquisition of Real Property for Public Purposes and/or of the Possible Disposition of Publicly Held Real Property Related to Education and Other Facilities Pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(3)

Ms. Oakes moved to enter a closed meeting for discussion or consideration of the possible acquisition of real property for public purposes and/or of the possible disposition of publicly held real property related to existing and future education and other facilities, pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(3).

The motion was seconded by Dr. Harrington and carried unanimously as follows:

Mr. Obenschain	aye	Dr. Curren	aye
Vice Mayor Kier	aye	Mr. Holmes	aye
Mayor Dull	aye	Dr. Harrington	aye
Ms. Oakes	aye		

Ms. Oakes moved that Council reconvene in an open meeting and certify to the best of each member's knowledge that only lawfully exempted public business matters were discussed and that only public business matters as identified in the closed meeting motion were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting.

The motion was seconded by Dr. Curren and carried unanimously as follows:

Vice Mayor Kier	aye	Mr. Holmes	aye
Mayor Dull	aye	Dr. Harrington	aye
Ms. Oakes	aye	Mr. Obenschain	aye
Dr. Curren	aye		

The work session adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Linda L. Little, CMC
Clerk of Council

REGULAR MEETING OF STAUNTON CITY COUNCIL
Thursday, October 27, 2016
7:30 p.m.
Council Chambers

PRESENT: **Carolyn W. Dull, Mayor**
 Ophie A. Kier, Vice Mayor
 Erik D. Curren
 James J. Harrington
 R. Terry Holmes
 Andrea W. Oakes
 Walter J. Obenschain

ABSENT: **Steven L. Rosenberg, Deputy City Manager**

ALSO PRESENT: **Stephen F. Owen, City Manager**
 Douglas L. Guynn, City Attorney
 Linda L. Little, Clerk of Council

Mayor Dull called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor had nothing to report.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Vice Mayor Kier stated that the Nominations Committee met recently and moved to appoint Michael Norris to the Industrial Development Authority of the County of Stafford and the City of Staunton for a term beginning immediately and to expire June 30, 2020, and to appoint Courtland Robinson to a rotating seat to represent Staunton on the Industrial Development Authority of the County of Stafford and the City of Staunton for a term beginning immediately and to expire June 30, 2019, and in addition, to re-appoint Council members to their current various boards and commissions for another two years, as follows:

Erik Curren	Food Policy Council
	Ag-Forestal Advisory Committee
	Tourism Advisory Board
	Virginia Municipal League – Environmental Commission
Carolyn Dull	Nominations Committee
	CAPSAW
Jim Harrington	Nominations Committee
	SAW Metropolitan Planning Organization – Policy Board
	Planning Commission

	Staunton Downtown Development Association
	Virginia Municipal League – General Laws Commission
Terry Holmes	Redevelopment & Housing Authority
	Historic Preservation Commission
	Virginia Municipal League – Finance Commission
Ophie Kier	Nominations Committee
	Economic Development Authority
	Virginia First Cities
	Virginia Municipal League – Economic Dev. Commission
Andrea Oakes	CAPSAW
	Valley Program for Aging Services
	Cable TV Commission
	Food Policy Council
	Virginia Municipal League – Human Services Commission
Walt Obenschain	School Board
	Youth Commission
	Lewis Creek Advisory Committee
	Virginia Municipal League – Transportation Commission

The motion was seconded by Dr. Harrington and carried unanimously as follows:

Dr. Harrington	aye	Ms. Oakes	aye
Dr. Curren	aye	Vice Mayor Kier	aye
Mr. Obenschain	aye	Mayor Dull	aye
Mr. Holmes	aye		

Ms. Oakes stated that all of Council was very proud to represent the City of Staunton and the Augusta County Board of Supervisors and City Council of the City of Waynesboro were very proud to represent their localities, and that the three localities work well together. She noted that when she is complimented about Staunton she is proud, but also proud when she is complimented about Augusta County as well as Waynesboro, because the three localities together are a community in the Shenandoah Valley. She stated that she would like to thank the citizens of Augusta County for considering the important issue of the referendum on the courthouse. She wanted to thank them for giving it such thought and consideration and remembering we are a community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Oakes moved to approve the work session and regular meeting minutes of October 13, 2016.

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

Mayor Dull	aye	Mr. Holmes	aye
Dr. Harrington	aye	Ms. Oakes	aye
Dr. Curren	aye	Vice Mayor Kier	aye
Mr. Obenschain	aye		

REGULAR MEETING**A. Recognition of Chris Ashby and Samuel Burns for Years of Service to the City of Staunton**

Mr. Steve Owen, City Manager, stated that he would like to acknowledge the long careers of Chris Ashby in Public Works and Samuel Burns in Engineering. He called upon Tom Sliwoski, Director of Public Works, and Nickie Mills, City Engineer, to present certificates to Mr. Ashby and Mr. Burns.

B. Transportation Capital Improvement Projects Update

Mr. Steve Owen, City Manager, called on City Engineer Nickie Mills to provide updates on the following transportation capital projects:

- Central Avenue Streetscape Project
- Smartscale Grant Application for Staunton Crossing Extension
- Smartscale Grant Application for Richmond Road Diet and Traffic Circle
- Smartscale Grant Application for Richmond Road-Statler Boulevard Intersection Improvements

Central Avenue Streetscape Project: In 2009, the City of Staunton received a Transportation Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$1,074,676 for the Central Avenue Streetscape Project. The estimated total project cost was \$1,343,345, with a local match in the amount of \$268,669, previously approved by City Council. The latest cost projection is for a total project cost of \$1,669,827. Staff expects to use Greenville Avenue Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) six-year plan funds to make up the shortfall.

The Transportation Enhancement Grant program is administered by VDOT. Enhancement activities are activities or improvements which increase the value or worth of a project or make it more aesthetically pleasing. They should provide a “quality-of-life” benefit. A project is “enhanced” by doing something that is not a common transportation practice. The City has received several such grants previously, including grants for similar projects on South Augusta and South Market streets. The project will also benefit from a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, in the amount of \$75,000, which will fund the installation of permeable pavers.

The current project will enhance the portion of Central Avenue from Frederick Street to Pump Street. The enhancements planned are streetscape elements including: underground wiring, brick

sidewalks, brick crosswalks, historic light poles and landscaping. Draper Aden Associates has designed the project, consistent with the City's *Streetscape Plan*. Input on the design has also been provided by the Staunton Downtown Development Association's Design Committee. This committee worked with the City to assist in the design of the initial streetscape as well as the formal plan.

Smartscale Grant Application for Staunton Crossing Extension: A grant application has been submitted to VDOT for Crossing Way. The proposed project will extend Crossing Way through the Staunton Crossing development site and connect to Valley Center Drive. Project elements include:

- 3,960 linear feet of street between Crossing Way and Valley Center Drive with a posted 35 mph speed limit;
- construction of a roundabout;
- construction of a 100 space park and ride facility and transit stop;
- construction of an electric car charging station;
- construction of a bus shelter; and
- construction of a 10' shared use path with buffer.

The total estimated project cost is \$8,765,000. Engineering is anticipated to start in 2017, with construction from 2021 through 2023.

Smartscale Grant Application for Richmond Road Diet and Traffic Circle: A grant application has also been submitted to VDOT for Richmond Road Diet and Traffic Circle that will create an urban boulevard with a new roundabout, all within an urban form to reinforce a transition into downtown Staunton and calm traffic. Improvements include:

- transition of existing Richmond Avenue travel lanes from 4-lane, divided, to 2-lane, divided, both east and westbound;
- transition of existing Greenville Avenue travel lanes from 5-lane, undivided, to 2-lane, divided;
- improvement of access management at each existing median cut;
- construction of 12' shared use path with 5' grass buffer from curb on Richmond Avenue;
- transition of shared use path to existing sidewalk at Commerce Road and at Richmond Avenue;
- construction of 5' sidewalk adjacent to The Villages at Staunton development on Richmond Avenue;
- improvement of pedestrian facilities at intersection of Commerce Road and Greenville Avenue with pedestrian signal heads and crosswalks;
- landscaping;
- improvement of turning movements into The Villages at Staunton by providing a full-width left turn lane from Richmond Avenue into the development;
- enhancement of pedestrian and traffic movement at the intersection of Greenville Avenue, Garber Street and Richmond Avenue by a combination of geometric layout and pedestrian signals within a new roundabout;
- improvement of delay/operations at the Greenville Avenue and Richmond Avenue intersection; and
- improvement of signalization at the Greenville Avenue and Commerce Road intersection.

The total estimated project cost is \$2,245,800. Engineering is expected to begin in 2021, with construction from 2024 through 2026.

Smartscale Grant Application for Richmond Avenue - Statler Boulevard Intersection Improvements: This grant application has been submitted to VDOT for intersection improvements at Richmond Avenue and Statler Boulevard. The project will address concerns with safety and traffic congestion, and pedestrian safety. Project elements include:

- addition of a second southbound left turn lane from Statler Boulevard onto Richmond Avenue by converting the southbound through lane to a through-left combination with split-phased signal operation, and reconstruction of traffic signal with mast arm poles, pedestrian signals and luminaires;
- median modifications on Richmond Avenue to include reconstruction of median on Richmond Avenue to accommodate the dual left turn movement from Statler Boulevard; and
- installation of raised concrete island for pedestrian refuge and right turn channelization to make right turns a free flow movement from Richmond Avenue to Statler Boulevard.

Total estimated project cost is \$573,000. Engineering is scheduled in 2021, with construction following in from 2024 to 2026.

Matters from the City Manager

Mr. Owen had nothing to report.

Matters from the Public

Mr. Baldwin Jennings, 332 Sharon Lane, thanked the City Manager and staff for the overlook in Woodrow Park on Sears Hill.

Ms. Clayton Brooks, 891 Preston Drive, was present to support building a new high school. She presented Council with a petition with 61 signatures.

Ms. Lori Swortzel, an administrator at Robert E. Lee High School, introduced students Kyle LeGore and Joshua Smith, who made a presentation to Council favoring construction of a new high school.

Mr. Jared Hatcher, 1220 N. Augusta Street, stated that he was a 1989 graduate of Robert E. Lee High School and teaches and coaches at Lee. He noted that it was time to tear down the old school and build a new one.

Ms. Denise Lowman, 1618 N. Augusta Street, was present in favor of a new high school.

Ms. Christine Hawley, 322 N. Waverley Street, President of the Staunton Education Association, was present in support of the School Board's recommendation for a new high school.

Mr. Frances Newman, 1318 Ashby Street, stated that raising a few taxpayers taxes will not support a new high school.

Ms. Christine Poulson, 315 Sherwood Avenue, asked Council to consider creating a financing scenario for the option that was recommend by the School Board, which will be a new building on a new site.

Mr. Mark Rowicki, Principal at Robert E. Lee High School, stated that inadequate spaces and access to technology are a large problem for teachers and students. He also stated that it would be great to have a high school with the athletic complex all in one location.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Linda L. Little, CMC
Clerk of Council

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, VA

Meeting Date:	November 10, 2016	Staff Members: Sharon Angle Tim Hartless
Item #	A	
Ordinance #		
Department:	Planning and Inspections	
Subject:	Public Hearing and Consideration of a Request by Karen Hudson to Rezone 8 S. St. Clair Street from B-1, Local Business District, to R-4, High Density Residential District	

Background: Karen Hudson is requesting to rezone 8 S. St. Clair Street from B-1, Local Business District, to R-4, High Density Residential District. A location map, map of the current zoning, map of proposed zoning, and draft ordinance of rezoning of the requested area are attached. As shown on Attachment 1, the property is located on the west side of S. St. Clair Street in the block between W. Johnson Street and W. Beverley Street. The surrounding properties are residential in character and use, with small lot size and placement of buildings typical of other residences built during the same time (i.e., located close to the front of the parcel). During its review, staff did not identify any issues with this request.

The purpose of the rezoning is to adjust the zoning classification of the property to reflect its existing use, so that the property is no longer non-conforming. The "Generalized Land Use and Development Guide", *Staunton, Virginia Comprehensive Plan 2010 – 2030*, designates this property as Neighborhood Residential, with no specific density shown. Because of the small size of the lot proposed to be rezoned and the residential character of the majority of adjacent parcels, the lot is better suited to a residential classification to encourage its continued residential use.

Attachment 2 illustrates the zoning of the area surrounding the property. Adjacent zoning is B-1, Local Business District, and R-4, High Density Residential District.

At the Planning Commission public hearing, on October 19, 2016, no one spoke in opposition to the request. The Planning Commission, based on the proposed rezoning's compliance with the

Comprehensive Plan and consistency with good zoning practice, unanimously recommended approval of the proposed rezoning.

Attachments:

1. Location Map
2. Map of Current Zoning
3. Map of Proposed Zoning
4. Draft Ordinance of Rezoning

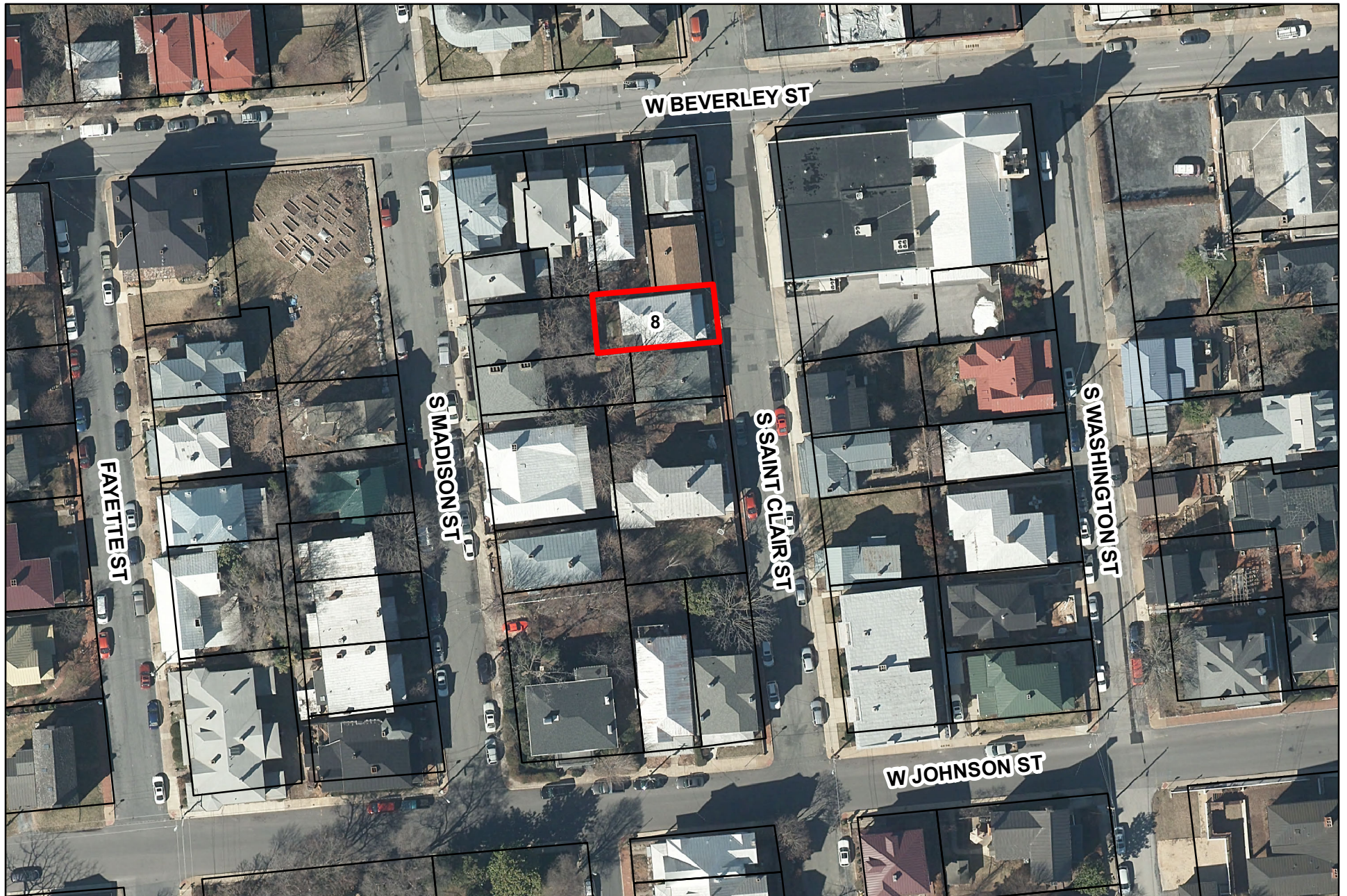
City Manager's Recommendation: Conduct the public hearing. Recommend City Council accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Suggested Motion (to be made after the public hearing is conducted): I move that Council approve the rezonings and adopt the ordinance as submitted.

City Manager: Stephen F. Owen

Attachment 1

Location Map



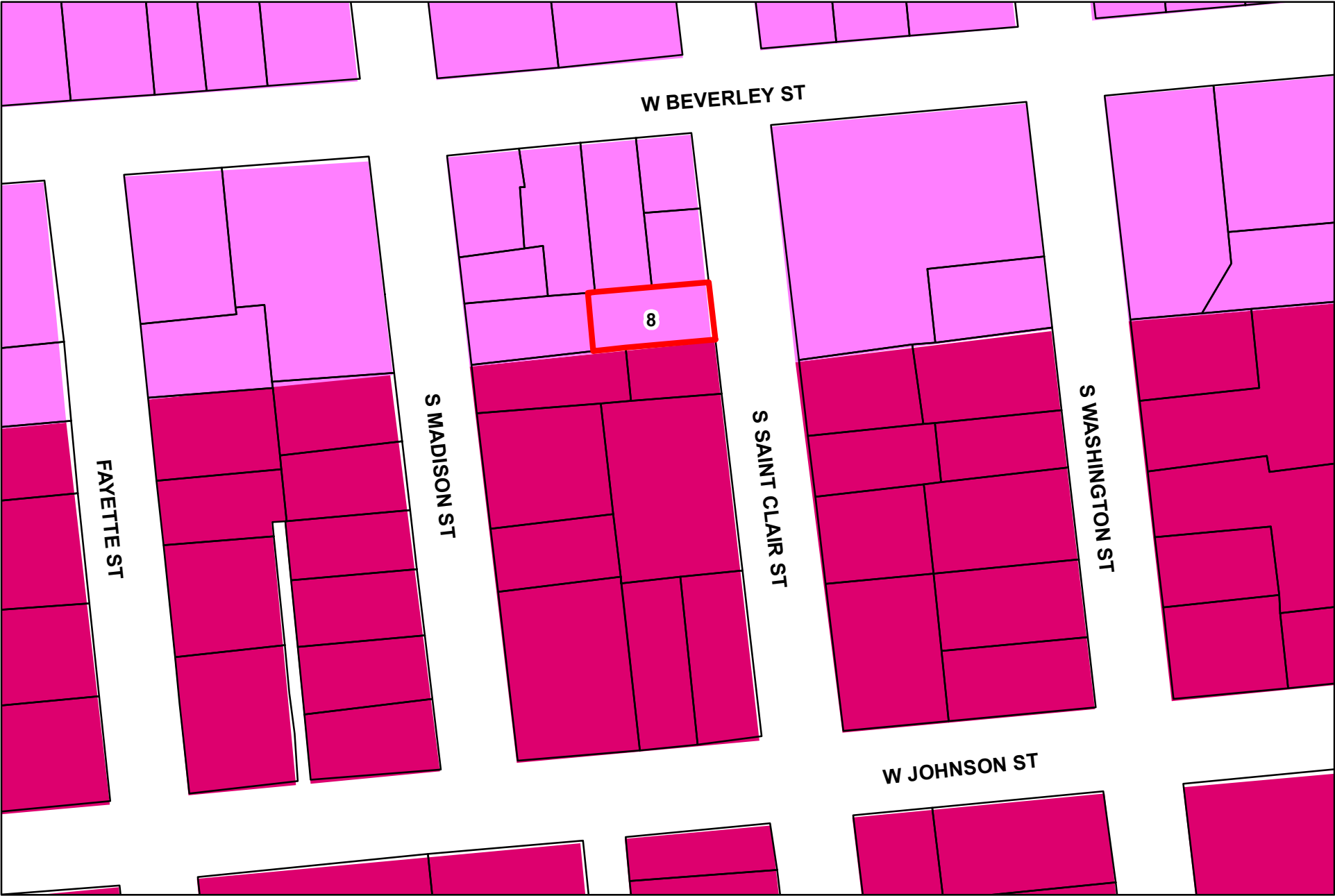
Zoning		B-2	HE-1	I-2	P-1	R-2	R-3(conditional)
B-1	B-2(conditional)	I-1	I-2(conditional)	P-1(conditional)	R-2(conditional)	R-3	R-4
B-1(conditional)	B-3	I-1(conditional)	I-3(conditional)	R-1			

0 25 50 100 Feet

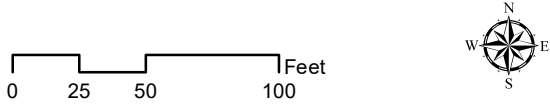


Attachment 2

Current Zoning

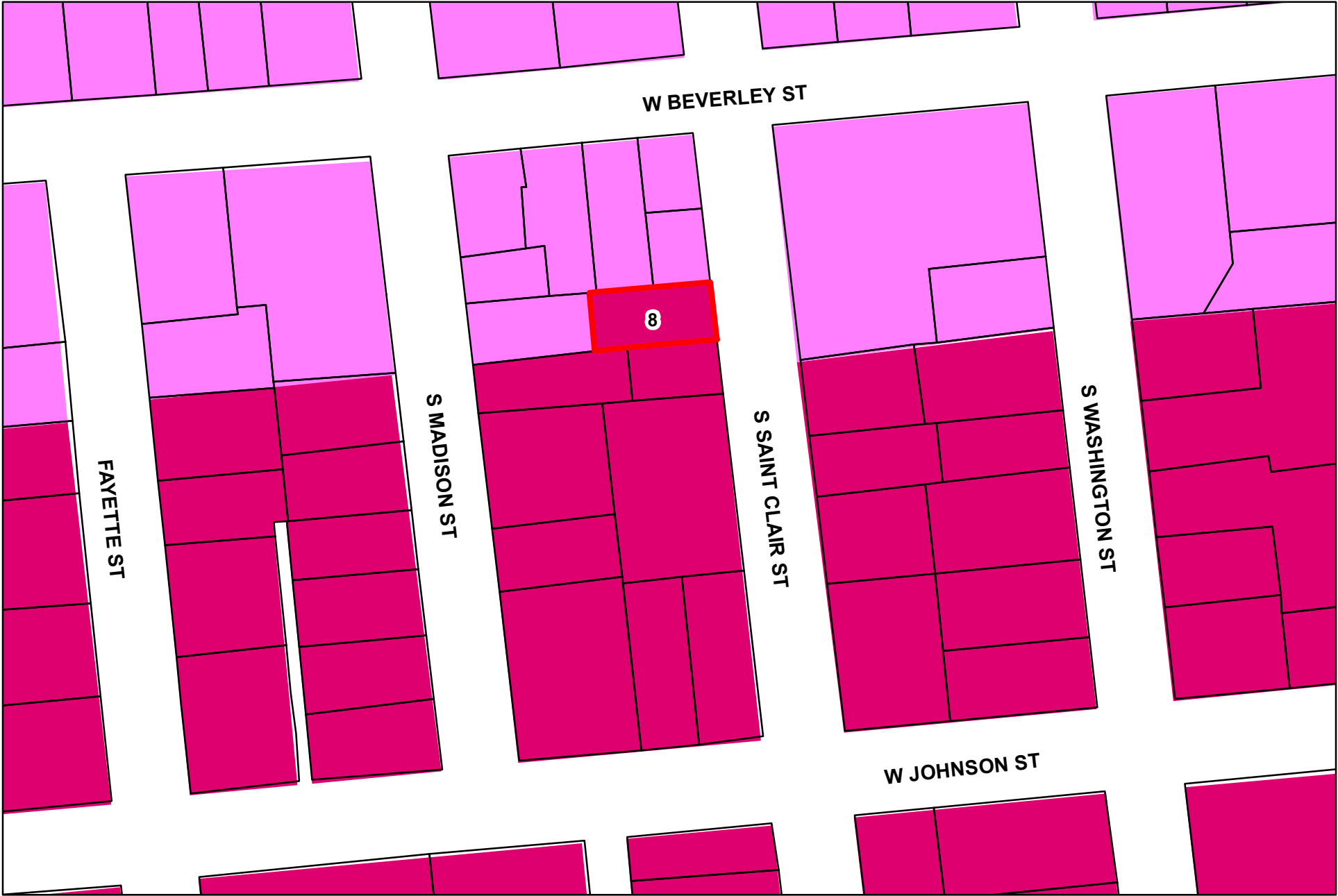


Zoning		B-2	HE-1	I-2	P-1	R-2	R-3(conditional)
B-1	B-2(conditional)	I-1	I-2(conditional)	P-1(conditional)	R-2(conditional)	R-4	
B-1(conditional)	B-3	I-1(conditional)	I-3(conditional)	R-1	R-3		

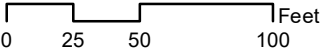


Attachment 3

Proposed Rezoning



Zoning		B-2	HE-1	I-2	P-1	R-2	R-3(conditional)
B-1	B-2(conditional)	I-1	I-2(conditional)	P-1(conditional)	R-2(conditional)	R-4	
B-1(conditional)	B-3	I-1(conditional)	I-3(conditional)	R-1	R-3		



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Ordinance No. 2016-

**AN ORDINANCE REZONING
FROM B-1 LOCAL BUSINESS TO R-4 HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL
THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND
LOCATED AT 8 SOUTH ST. CLAIR STREET, STAUNTON, VIRGINIA
SHOWN AS PORTION LOT 5 BLOCK Y (PID 5256)**

WHEREAS, it appears by deed dated October 22, 1996, recorded in Deed Book 379 Page 22, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the City of Staunton, Virginia, and shown on a plat dated October 21, 1996, prepared by L.W. Knighting, L.S., Staunton, Virginia, entitled Physical Survey House No. 8 S. St. Clair Street, Staunton, VA. Karen P. Hudson acquired such property from Dorothy L. McCray; and

WHEREAS, Karen P. Hudson has applied to the City of Staunton for a zoning classification change for such property from B-1 Local Business to R-4 High Density Residential; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Staunton has properly heard the matter and recommended the proposed zoning; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been properly advertised, heard and considered.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, that the above described real estate known as 8 S. Saint Clair St (Parcel 5256), Staunton, Virginia, is **HEREBY REZONED** from B-1 Local Business to R-4 High Density Residential, as provided in the Staunton City Code.

Introduced:

Adopted:

Effective Date:

Carolyn W. Dull, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Linda L. Little, CMC
Clerk of Council

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, VA

Meeting Date:	November 10, 2016	Ruth Arnold, Library Director Members of Library Advisory Board
Item #	B	
Ordinance #		
Department:	Library	
Subject:	Staunton Public Library Highlights 2015-2016	

Background: Ruth Arnold, Library Director, has prepared the attached annual report of activities for the past fiscal year and will present the report.

City Manager's Recommendation: Not applicable.

Suggested Motion: Not applicable.

City Manager: Stephen F. Owen



www.stauntonlibrary.org

Highlights of 2015-2016

- Completed RFID project
- Sunday hours restored September-May
- Filled Youth Services Librarian position (vacant since 2009)
- Launched Hoopla, a streaming media service for Library patrons
- Virginia Public Library Directors Association Awards

➡ **Outstanding Children's Program for Jumpin' Jamboree**

➡ **Outstanding Library Staff Member to Steve Tabscott, Library Assistant I, for his service & dedication for over 25 years**



Statistical Summary

July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

Library Circulation: **388,678**

Talking Book Center Circulation: **16,768**

Downloaded Items: **13,054**

Visitors: **200,018**

New Patrons Registered: **1,615**

Internet and Wireless Sessions: **20,118**

Volunteer Hours: **5,478**

Meeting Room Use (groups): **505**

Genealogy Room Use: **725**

Children's Program Attendance: **13,195**

Summer Reading Game participants: **856**

Items Added to Collection: **9,101**

Library Director:

Ruth Arnold

Library Advisory Board:

Linda Reviea - Chair

Dan Swift - Vice-Chair

Mac Warford - Secretary

Christy Davis

Brenda Mead



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