ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL-REGULAR SESSION

February 6, 2017

9:00 a.m.

The Council of the City of Roanoke met in regular session on Monday, February 6, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., in the Council Chamber, Room 450, fourth floor, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, with Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr., presiding, pursuant to Chapter 2, <u>Administration</u>, Article II, <u>City Council</u>, Section 2-15, <u>Rules of Procedure</u>, Rule 1, <u>Regular Meetings</u>, Rule 1, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, and pursuant to Resolution No. 40579-070516 adopted by the Council on Tuesday, July 5, 2016.

PRESENT: Council Members Raphael E. Ferris (arrived late), John A. Garland, Anita J. Price, David B. Trinkle, William D. Bestpitch, Michelle L. Dykstra and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

ABSENT: None-0.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Christopher P. Morrill, City Manager; Daniel J. Callaghan, City Attorney; Barbara A. Dameron, Director of Finance; and Stephanie M. Moon Reynolds, City Clerk.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

At this point, Council Member Ferris entered the meeting (9:01a.m.).

ITEMS FOR ACTIONS:

CITY COUNCIL: A communication from Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr., requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by Council, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, was before the body.

(See communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved that Council concur in the request of the Mayor as abovementioned. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dykstra and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

CITY COUNCIL: A communication from the City Manager requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss a proposal for the disposition of Cityowned property located at 2750 Hoover Street, N. W., where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating strategy of the public body, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(3), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, was before the body.

(See communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved that Council concur in the request of the City Manager as abovementioned. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dykstra and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

ITEMS LISTED ON THE 2:00 P.M. COUNCIL DOCKET REQUIRING DISCUSSION/CLARIFICATION AND ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE 2:00 P.M. AGENDA: NONE.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL: NONE.

BRIEFINGS:

Mental Health Services - Roanoke City Jail:

Sheriff Tim Allen gave a brief overview of mental health services, highlighting the following items:

- Demographics
 Average Daily Inmate Population 536
 324 inmates were on medication
 (Roughly 62% of the inmate population
 173 inmates on psychotropic medication
 (53% of all inmates on medication
- Jail Mental Health Staffing
 Psychiatrist 14 hours per week
 Mental Health Coordinator 24 hours per week
 Mental Health Professional 16 hours per week
 Mental Health Professional 10 hours per week
 Professional Counselor 8 hours per week
 (Combined = 72 hours of mental health coverage per week)

Jail – Mental Health Cost

Mental Health Provider and Psychiatrist - \$190,473.00 in 2016 Psychotropic Medication - \$104,000.00 in 2016

Agencies that Assist

Blue Ridge Behavioral Health

- Basic Services
- Discharge planning and referrals upon release
- Discharge planners provide both individual and group counseling to better assess client needs
- Alpha Program

Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare (BRBH) currently has a case manager for the Alpha Program who meets with every inmate leaving Alpha to return to the community

These inmates include those who had co-occurring disorders and may be on medications and/or psychological appointments

The case manager works with clients on issues of housing, employment, and continuity of mental health care. The case manager starts to meet with them in their last 30 days of Alpha

Staff Intervention

Inmates Placed on Suicide Watch (Annual Totals in 2015 – 204; and 2016 –

- Transportation
 - Mental Health Transports (2015 412; and 2016 395)
 - Out of Jurisdiction (2015 279; and 2016 360)
 - Miles Traveled (2015 143,376; and 2016 174,553)
- Financial Impact

Transports require two deputies

(Multiple transports at one time)

(Nights, weekends and holidays)

Departmental Overtime Expenses

(2015 - \$40,000.00)

(2016 - \$45,000.00)

*These expenses were directly related to mental health and neither identified nor accounted for in the jail budget.

Training

Critical Incident Training for staff (CIT)

State of Virginia to impose all staff be certified in CIT

(40 hour basic CIT certification)

(CIT training cost - \$65.00, per person)

(Mental Health First Aid Cost: \$45.00, per person)

Conclusion

Impact on staff

(See copy of presentation on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Sheriff Allen remarked that the Jail implemented a program to address re-offense among those with a mental illness that offered inmates a discharge plan that would connect them with mental health services and necessities, such as housing, which service has shown promising results. He stated that an area of concern was providing transportation to people in custody, primarily driving inmates to a hospital after they have been issued a temporary detention order, adding this service has taken deputies all over the State.

Mayor Lea inquired about reimbursement from the State of Virginia for training in mental health services; whereupon, Sheriff Allen indicated that no grant funds were available, adding that the department uses independent transport to relieve staff in pilot program.

In response to an inquiry of Council Member Garland regarding the contracted services from Blue Ridge Behavioral Health, Sheriff Allen confirmed that Blue Ridge Behavioral Health does provide a number of services to the inmates and Jail staff is trained to also administer these services.

Regarding the role of Catawba Hospital and its services, the Sheriff replied that Catawba is important as it relates to the location in the region and he supports them remaining open and to have funding provided. However, he pointed out that funding has been reduced and mostly applied to support services, outpatient services, and skill building for mental health.

Following additional comments by the Council Members, the Mayor expressed appreciation for the presentation and advised that the remarks would be received and filed.

Annual Public Safety Updates for CY2016

Roanoke Fire/EMS – 2016 Performance Indicators

Fire Chief David Hoback gave a brief overview regarding yearly performance of the Fire-EMS Department:

- Department Activities 2016
 Community Events
 Prevention Activities
- Fire Marshal Inspections 2016
 Total 6,571
- Demand For Service
- Structure Fires Travel Time Performance 2012 2016
- Significant Fires 2012 2016
- Cause of House/Building Fires
- Arson History- 2010 2016

- Annual Fire Loss History 2012 2016
- Structure Fires Confined Fire to Floor of Origin 2012 2016
- Critical Advanced Life Support Response Time Performance 2012 2016
- Basic Life Support Response Time Performance 2012 2016
- EMS Demand for Service Trend 2007-2016
- EMS Demand for Service Time of Day 0:00-22:00
- EMS Demand System Impact 2013 2016
- Recruitment and Diversity Regional Hiring Process Regional Recruit School Web Site
- Activities for 2017
 Re-Accreditation May 2017
 EMS 2020
 Continue Enhance Recruitment Initiatives
 Training
 Design new Fire-EMS Station 7

(See copy of presentation on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

During discussion, Council Member Trinkle acknowledged a partnership with Carilion Clinic, Inc.

In response to an inquiry by Council Member Dykstra about the Inspection Program, Chief Hoback explained that staff visits an establishment to install fire alarms, meets and educate homeowners.

In regard to recruitment, Vice-Mayor Price asked about reducing the age limit to age 18; whereupon, Chief Hoback stated that the Fire Department begins recruiting students in their sophomore and junior year of high school, with an end goal of issuing Emergency Medical Technician and Job Certifications for this age group. She also inquired about community partnerships/collaboration/accessibility in developing healthy relationships. Chief Hoback noted staff will be briefing the Roanoke City School Board and will begin at the sophomore and junior year educating students on public safety opportunities prior graduation, such as possible training on emergency technician level could lead to a meaningful employment, adding the goal is to hire students on a part-time basis.

Council Bestpitch wondered out of the 72 fire incidents, how many citizens had smoke detectors installed; and Council Member Ferris asked how critical is it to change out smoke detectors every ten years was. Chief Hoback responded that sensors in smoke detectors go bad after approximately 10 years, and urged the public to change the batteries every six months.

Following additional questions and/or comments by the Council Members, the Mayor expressed appreciation to the Fire Chief and advised that the presentation would be received and filed.

Roanoke Police Annual Report:

Police Chief Tim Jones distributed the Annual Report for 2016, highlighting the following items:

- 21st Century Policing Concepts Building Trust and Legitimacy Community based initiatives0
- Constitutional Safeguards
 Freedom of expression
 Collaboration with community
 Policies and strategies
- Use of Technology and Social Media Engage and educate
- Basic Academy Status
- 72st Basic Academy (10 graduates, December 16, 2016)
 *30% female 110% minority
 73rd Basic Academy (January 3, 201 17 recruits
 *17% female 23% minority
- Community Policing and Crime Reduction
 Seeking outcomes that promote "least harm" resolutions
 Multi-disciplinary approach to community issues
 Working with the communities to identify problems and concerns
- By the Numbers Citywide CY2016
- 10 Year Part 1 Crime Trend
- Victim/Offender Association
- 2015 vs. 2016 Crime Comparison
- Yearly Comparison
- Victim Risk Factors
- Robberies
- Opiate Impact
- Stolen Guns
- Part 1 Forecast for 2017
- 2017 Priorities
 Response to mental health issues
 Downtown
 Crime reduction

(See copy of Annual Report and presentation on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Chief Jones reported that the City experienced an uptick in crime last year and said after a steady decline over the past several decades, there was an 11 percent increase from 2015 to 2016; from 2015 to 2016, the number of reported aggravated assaults increased from 137 to 159, robberies increased from 67 to 117, larcenies increased from 3,218 to 3,599, and stolen vehicles rose from 185 to 223. He also shared that there was also an increase in the number of stolen guns from 139 to 158.

The Police Chief attributed much of the crime increase to the opioid crisis and whereby people are robbing and stealing to support the drug habit. He pointed out that the Police Department created the Hope Initiative to address drug abuse in the Roanoke Valley; whereas, the program invites those struggling with addiction to go to the Bradley Free Clinic or Roanoke Police Department to get into treatment without fear of arrest, adding the initiative helped 54 people receive aid last year.

Council Member Ferris commented that it was important to highlight that the City is a safe place to live and believes mental health issues are a culprit in the number of incarcerations, which includes other jurisdictions across the south portion of Virginia.

Council Member Bestpitch asked for clarification on the definition of homicide versus murder; whereby, Chief Jones shared that homicide was blunt force trauma incidents causing murder, manslaughter, and refers to one human being killing another; and murder is willful deliberate intention to end another's life.

Vice-Mayor Price announced that there will be a community meeting on February 8 at 6:00 p.m. at the Goodwill Center to discuss inner-city community issues, adding that this initiative would not be possible without the Police Department's resources.

Following additional questions and/or comments by the Council Members, the Mayor expressed appreciation to the Police Chief and advised that the remarks would be received and filed.

FY 2018 Budget/Financial Planning Work Session

Amelia C. Merchant, Director, Management and Budget; and Barbara A. Dameron, Director of Finance, briefed the Council on the development of the FY 2017 – 2018 budget process, as follows:

- Approach to Budgeting
- Operating Budget Development
- Capital Planning

(See copy of presentation on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Ms. Merchant and Ms. Dameron highlighted the following:

- Historical Reductions to Balance the Budget
 *\$30.5 million reductions since FY2007
- Inflation Adjusted Adopted General Fund Budget Comparison
- City of Roanoke Priorities
- Price of Government Revenue Estimate by Major Category Fiscal Year 2018
 *Decrease of 0.9% when comparing the FY18 estimate to the FY17 Adopted Budget

The Director of Finance explained each major category of the budget and indicated the significance of each to the overall budget. She pointed out that property taxes represented 42 percent of the budget and included real estate tax, personal property tax and the associated interest and penalties in that category. She continued stating that intergovernmental was 25 percent with the largest being social service funding from the State, but also included street maintenance and law enforcement funding, 21 percent of the budget was other local taxes such as prepared meals and business and occupational licenses, lodging, admissions as well as utility and communication taxes. The sale tax category represented 7 percent of the budget and the other revenue category included permits, court fees and charges for services such as recreational programs.

Projected Revenue by Major Category Fiscal Year 2018

Ms. Dameron briefly described the current and potential growth/decline in each category and noted that the largest increase was related to the employee health services and to a smaller portion the School's share of the Child Services Act.

Net FY2018 Local Tax Impact

She continued stating that the net impact was approximately \$765,000.00 which was made up of the local transient occupancy tax provision variance of \$1.6 million, the Roanoke City Schools expenditure adjustments of \$632,500.00, the Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitor Bureau at \$168,750.00 which is the 3/8 percent sent to the agency, and the district taxes collected at \$36,000.00.

In response to inquiry from Council Member Garland for clarification with regard to the decline in the business tax in comparison to the improving City economy, business, transient occupancy tax and the new hotel downtown, the Director of Finance advised that in terms of lodging it could be many things and not necessarily the number of rooms, but if hotels compete for rooms they may push the pricing down to create an impact as well as lodging was an interesting, seasonal tax which begins to rise in March and fall again in November, December and January which was taken into account when making projections.

Following brief dialogue with regard to how revenue projections were calculated, the Director of Finance advised that as data was received from the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office, it was reviewed and compared to several years of data as well as what was trending within the state and nation in terms of economic impacts.

- Preliminary Identified FY 2017 2018 Expenditure Adjustments
 - *Medical \$1,212,939.00
 - *Retirement \$834,875.00
 - *Reserves \$250,000.00
 - *Debt Service \$250,000.00
 - *FLSA \$202,848.00 (implementation on hold)
 - *Employee Compensation \$1,940,500.00
- Current Steps in Budget Development Process
 - *Recognition of approximately \$5 million of known cost increases in addition to revenue contraction
 - *Distribution of reductions totaling \$5 million
 - *Supplementals allowed request restoration of proposed reductions
 - *Inflationary cost increases and new supplementals submitted separately
 - *Management and Budget staff review at object code level by department
 - *Priority Teams currently reviewing all offers to rank and make funding recommendations

Ms. Merchant explained the current steps of the budget development process and advised that the process was changed to ask departments to submit their budgets \$5 million less than the current adopted budget. She noted that all departments, Council-appointed Officials and others were cooperative in submitting reductions with the impacted notes of the service implications and added that departments were afforded the opportunity to submit supplemental offers of critical portions of the budget they felt they could not endure another fiscal year without.

Balancing Summary*Variance – (\$5,783,527.00)

Following brief explanation by Ms. Merchant of the balancing summary dynamics, Council Member Garland inquired as to the expectations of the Council Members and the extent of the budget review Council would conduct after the due diligence of City staff; whereupon, the City Manager explained that the budget analysts and priority teams make sure what is presented is the most efficient way for the City to provide services and what the impacts would be with any needed cuts—the Council was recommended to focus on the service level and ranking of the services to evaluate, which services should be provided going forward. He added that the line item budget could be reviewed with any Council Member, at any time, or a list of the upcoming budget meetings could be provided and Council can choose to attend any or all meetings.

Council Member Dykstra commented that Council, as policymakers, need to look ten to 20 years ahead and forecast what can be done to help guide the City, citizens and departments to look toward the future; and trust that the Administration and the Budgeting for Outcomes process has taken into account that the City is operating on a tight budget.

- Next Steps
 - *Priority Teams to complete extensive review and make prioritization and expenditure recommendations to Budget Committee
 - *Budget Committee Review
 - *March 6, 2017:
 - -Update on Price of Government
 - -Offer Rankings
 - -Balancing Strategies
- Capital Project Planning
 - *Maintain Current Capital Assets
 - -bridge renovation
 - -curb, gutter and sidewalk
 - -storm drains
 - *Infrastructure Investment for Livability and Economic Development
 - -bridge replacement
 - -streetscape projects
 - -storm drains
 - -civic center
 - -school maintenance
 - *Targeted Livability Investments
 - -Parks and Recreation Master Plan
 - -libraries
 - (Investments made within parameters of debt policy)
- Current Debt Issuance Plan FY 2017 2021 (Adding \$250,000.00 each year to have sufficient debt service funding for current CIP)

With regarding to debt service funding, Ms. Merchant explained that in the current budgeted debt service plan, \$250,000.00 needed to be added each year in order to afford the plan and any new or additional project needs were above and beyond what was currently budgeted.

The City Manager added that if the debt percentage was raised up to 9.9 percent, it would result in higher annual debt service costs and additional cuts in the budget would have to be made to allow for increase to infrastructure funds.

- Debt Service as a Percent of Total Expenditures
 - *FY2017 through 2021 updated for issuance of WVRIFA in 2017
 - *Assumes Zero percent increase in operating expenditures FY2018 2021 using FY2017 projected expenditures as the base year
 - *Includes planned Debt Issuance FY2017 2021
- Schools
 - *School improvements
 - *Additional \$7.7 million needed for both FY2018 and FY2019 for Fallon Park Elementary, the Hurt Park gym and maintenance upgrades
 - *Continued commitment of \$5,000,000.00 of debt capacity reserved for school projects
 - *Planned spending includes renovation of elementary schools (TBD) and maintenance upgrades

Council Member Dykstra commented that the City applied for the Choice Neighborhood Grant for the Hurt Park Gymnasium Project specifically and asked if that grant was off the table or an option in the future; whereupon, the City Manager advised that he hoped so, but was not sure If the current federal administration would continue investment in the Choice Neighborhoods Program.

Following brief discussion on the possible renovations of Fallon Park Elementary School and Hurt Park Elementary Gymnasium, Council Member Trinkle requested a briefing on the matters; whereupon, the City Manager replied in the affirmative.

Council Member Ferris asked the Director of Finance to draft another expenditure graph factoring in the additional requested capital expenditures that would impact the 10 percent debt service limit.

- Bridge Maintenance, Repair and Renovation Program
 - *Project Funding
 - *Additional funding need of \$11 million identified for Main Street/Wasena replacement in FY2022
 - *\$440,131.00 annual cash funding in current operating budget
 - *Will seek revenue sharing funding

Ms. Merchant advised that for the replacement of the Main Street or Wasena Avenue Bridge in Fiscal Years 2021 – 2022, in Fiscal Year 2022, \$11 million would be needed to complete the Main Street/Wasena Bridge. She pointed out that currently there was \$440,131.00 in the operating budget to support the bridge maintenance and renovation and revenue sharing funds would be sought if available. The City Manager added that the hope is to budget the entire amount in future years and have VDOT assist with the costs, but plan to spend the entire amount.

- Library Master Plan
 - *Project Funding
 - *Branch expansion and renovations for Melrose, Countryside Storefront branch, South Roanoke e-branch as well as the completion of the Main Library renovations
 - *Additional funding of \$1.3 million needed for Melrose renovations and \$300,000.00 for upgrades at Gainsboro Branch.
- Parks and Recreation Master Plan
 - *Project Funding
 - *Parks and Recreation Master Plan update to be presented during future briefing
 - *Roanoke River Greenway
 - -Needs additional \$3.5 million
 - -RSTP allocation of \$1.5 million
 - *Tinker Creek Greenway
 - -FY2018 and FY2019 funding designated for extension of Greenway
 - -RSTP funds of \$1.5 million allocated to project
 - -VDOT Urban funds can be reallocated from Orange Avenue Improvement Project \$3.1 million
- Fire Facility Master Plan
 - *Project funding
 - *Revised estimates by Station:
 - -Station 7 (Memorial Avenue, S. W. \$5.4 million)
 - -Station 2 (Noble Avenue, N. W. \$8.4 million)
 - -Station 8 (Crystal Spring Avenue, S. W. \$9.9 million)
- 911 Center
 - *Project Funding
 - *Construction of new 911 Center
 - *Revised expense projection of \$7.5 million
- Additional FY 2018 2022 Identified Capital Needs
 - *RCPS
 - -Additional \$15.4 million for replacement of Fallon Park Elementary School
 - *Bridge renovation
 - -Additional \$11 million in FY2022 for Main Street/Wasena bridge replacement
 - *Library Master Plan
 - -Additional \$1.3 million for Melrose renovation and \$300,000.00 for Gainsboro branch upgrades
 - *Fire Facility Master Plan
 - -Station #2 (Noble Avenue, N. W./\$8.4 million)
 - -Station #8 (Crystal Spring Avenue, S. W./\$9.9 million)
 - *Public Works Service Center
 - -\$1.2 million over multiple fiscal years
 - *RCIT Project Improvements
 - -Road improvements and other project costs/\$1.5 million with project completion by FY2021

- *Fire-EMS Airpacks \$1.4 million
- -applied for grant funding
- *Passenger Rail
- -based on Amtrak requirements of approximately 5,000 square feet, future station/\$2.5 million by FY2022
- *Downtown Master Plan
- *Fleet Capital Replacements
- -Multi-year approach for Solid Waste and Fire-EMS vehicular replacements
- -Debt service to be paid from annual Fleet Capital funding
- *Williamson Road improvements/\$6.5 millions
- *Technology
- -revenue system/\$1.5 million
- -digital radio (\$3.5 million; FY2018/\$0.5 million;
- FY2019/\$1.5 million/FY2020/\$1.5 million
- -Telephone system replacement/\$520,000.00

She reviewed the additional capital needs stating that, \$2.5 million would be needed by FY2022 for an approximately 5,000 square foot passenger station and \$6.5 million was a preliminary figure in terms of the improvements on Williamson Road to be further explored at a future date.

- Potential FY 2018 Capital Projects (Cash Funded)
 - *Bridge maintenance \$40,131.00
 - *YMCA (5th of five allocations) \$100,000.00
 - *Virginia Museum of Transportation (4th of 5 allocations) \$100,000.00
 - *Jefferson Center (4th of 5 allocations) \$100,000.00

TOTAL - \$740,131.00

- Next Steps
 - *March 6
 - -Follow up Information
 - -Update on Capital project planning

Council Member Bestpitch commented that additional funding for the revenue system needed to be a priority as well as the air packs for the Fire/EMS Department which is critical.

In response to Council Member Ferris' inquiry with regard to the plan for additional repairs needed at the Berglund Center, the Assistant City Manager for Operations advised that repairs included coliseum renovations, multiple restrooms, Performing Arts Theater restrooms, stage refurbish and back of the house. He added that from a strategy standpoint, given the investment that Council has made with respect to upgrades at the Berglund Center, additional investments could probably be delayed for a couple of years; whereupon, Council Member Ferris echoed Council Member Bestpitch's previous comments and suggested that the repairs not be eliminated, but be postponed for a few of years.

There being no additional comments regarding the budget briefing, Mayor Lea thanked Ms. Merchant and Ms. Dameron for the presentation and advised that the remarks would be received and filed.

At 1:06 p.m., the Mayor declared the Council Meeting in recess for a Closed Meeting to be held in the Council's Conference Room, Room 451, and thereafter to be reconvened at 2:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber.

At 2:00 p.m., the Council meeting reconvened in the Council Chamber, with Mayor Lea presiding.

PRESENT: Council Members Raphael E. Ferris, John A. Garland, Anita J. Price, David B. Trinkle, William D. Bestpitch, Michelle L. Dykstra and Mayor Sherman P. Lea, Sr.-7.

ABSENT: None-0.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Christopher P. Morrill, City Manager; Daniel J. Callaghan, City Attorney; Barbara A. Dameron, Director of Finance; and Stephanie M. Moon Reynolds, City Clerk.

The Invocation was delivered by The Reverend Kenneth Lane, Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mayor Lea.

PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: NONE.

HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTER: The Mayor advised that City Council sets this time as a priority for citizens to be heard, and that all matters will be referred to the City Manager for response, recommendation or report to Council, as he may deem appropriate.

TRANSPORTATION: John H. Turner, 2505 Avenel Avenue, S. W., appeared before the Council to request City Council's assistance with expansion of the Valley Metro bus route to Garst Mill Road in Roanoke County.

Without objection by the Council, the Mayor advised that the request would be referred to the City Manager for further discussion with Roanoke County officials and the General Manager of Valley Metro.

MISCELLANEOUS: Robert Gravely, 3360 Hershberger Road, N. W., appeared before the Council and shared thoughts on ways to boost the economy in the City of Roanoke.

MISCELLANEOUS: Brian McConnell, 32 Elm Avenue, S. W., Apt #303, appeared before the Council to seek support of a <u>Community-based Action Workshop</u>, A Year in the Life-Community Building Forum and Lab on Tuesday, February 21 at Freedom First Credit Union.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Mayor advised that all matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Members of Council and will be enacted by one motion in the form, or forms, listed on the Consent Agenda, and if discussion are desired, the item would be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

MINUTES: Minutes of the regular meetings of the Council held on Monday, October 3, 2016, Monday, October 17, 2016 and Monday, November 7, 2016, were before the body.

(See Minutes on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Ferris moved that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with and approved as recorded. The motion was seconded by Council Member Trinkle and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: A communication from the Director of Finance transmitting the Financial Report for the month ended December 31, 2016, was before the Council.

(See copy of Financial Report on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Ferris moved that the Financial Report be received and filed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Trinkle and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

OATHS OF OFFICE-LOCAL OFFICE ON AGING ADVISORY BOARD: Report of qualification of Cindy L. McFall as the City of Roanoke's representative to the Local Office on Aging Advisory Board for a one-year term of office ending February 28, 2018, was before the Council.

(See Oath or Affirmation of Office on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Ferris moved that the report of qualification be received and filed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Trinkle and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

BROADBAND AUTHORITY: Frank Smith, President and Chief Executive Officer, Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority appeared before the Council and shared information about the organizations' activities, highlighting recent accomplishments and future projects:

(See copy of presentation on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Mr. Smith advised that phase one was completed on schedule and within budget as of May 2016; preparations were being made for the next 25 miles of the network to be built; and the network was world class consisting of pure fiber optic glass which allowed for the use of existing resources as well as expansion.

He further advised that there had been a lot of trade press from special interest groups concerning the financial stability of municipal broadband; and pointed out that the Broadband Authority was committed to the community, so with transparency and honesty was how matters were executed and financially the Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority was sound and their financial records were always open to the public.

He concluded stating that the Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority provided on time, quality response as a Courier grade network which was not outdated; tax dollars were invested; revenue was being generated and the Authority worked with local entities to provide support services as a part of the community looking to try new things and new projects in an effort to serve the underserved.

In response to an inquiry from Council Member Bestpitch with regard to the appropriate minimum level of broadband and what the Authority provided compared to ten megabits per second, Mr. Smith replied that the Broadband Authority provided a dedicated circuit and five rings, so if one ring was cut it automatically rerouted, not to interrupt service.

Council Member Dykstra commented that to serve the underserved, it becomes vitally important that there not be a profit motive, but be a motive for service capacity and added that was what the Broadband Authority was achieving for the region, as well as improving economic development, education and providing fast speeds. She also noted that proposed House Bill 2108 had been drastically modified since its introduction, so progress had been made, but it was not over yet.

Extensive discussion ensued with regard to House Bill 2108 and the Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority; whereupon, Council Member Ferris commented that the City of Salem and Roanoke County supported the City's position on House Bill 2108 and was on board with the Broadband Authority. He urged citizens to contact area legislators and stress that the General Assembly should not dictate how local taxpayers' monies are to be spent.

There being no additional questions and/or comments by the Council Members, Mayor Lea thanked Mr. Smith for an informative presentation and advised that the update would be received and filed.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS AND COMMENTS OF CITY MANAGER:

CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS: NONE.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

GRANTS-POLICE-BUDGET: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance and appropriation of the 2017 Violence Against Women Act (V-STOP) Grant from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services to fund the Police Department's existing Domestic Violence Specialist position.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Vice-Mayor Price offered the following resolution:

(#40749-020617) A RESOLUTION authorizing the acceptance of the 2017 V-STOP Grant made to the City of Roanoke by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, and authorizing execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 78, page 681.)

Vice-Mayor Price moved the adoption of Resolution No. 40749-020617. The motion was seconded by Council Member Trinkle.

Following commendations by the Mayor regarding the existing Domestic Violence position, Resolution No. 40749-020617 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

Vice-Mayor Price offered the following budget ordinance:

(#40750-020617) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the Commonwealth of Virginia for the Police Department Domestic Violence Program Grant (VSTOP), amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2016 - 2017 Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 78, page 681.)

Vice-Mayor Price moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 40750-020617. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dykstra and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

GRANTS-POLICE-BUDGET-EQUIPMENT: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance and appropriation of the FY 2017 Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) – Policing in the 21st Century (Less Lethal Equipment Grant) from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services for the Roanoke City Police Department to purchase a variety of less lethal force equipment.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Trinkle offered the following resolution:

(#40751-020617) A RESOLUTION authorizing the acceptance of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services for less lethal equipment, and authorizing execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 78, page 682.)

Council Member Trinkle moved the adoption of Resolution No. 40751-020617. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ferris.

Following comments by the Mayor about the grant being design to minimize human life, which says a lot about the Police Department, Resolution No. 40751-020617 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

Council Member Ferris offered the following budget ordinance:

(#40752-020617) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the Commonwealth of Virginia for the Byrne/JAG Policing in the 21st Century Less Lethal Equipment Grant, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2016 - 2017 Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 78, page 683.)

Council Member Ferris moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 40752-020617. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dykstra.

Following remarks by Council Member Dykstra regarding the assistance provided by the grants, Budget Ordinance No. 40752-020617 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

BUDGET-GRANTS-POLICE-YOUTH-RECREATION: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance and appropriation of the FY 2017 Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) – Policing in the 21st Century (Police Youth Projects, Basketball League Grant) from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services to the Roanoke City Police Department for enhancing police/youth engagement in schools, and after-school programming.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following resolution:

(#40753-020617) A RESOLUTION authorizing the acceptance of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program made to the City of Roanoke by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services for police youth projects and basketball league, and authorizing execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 78, page 684.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved the adoption of Resolution No. 40753-020617. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Price.

Following comments by Council Member Bestpitch regarding the Mayor's leadership and grant funds to be used to make a difference in the lives of youth during the summer months, Resolution No. 40753-020617 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following budget ordinance:

(#40754-020617) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the Commonwealth of Virginia for the Byrne/JAG Policing in the 21st Century Basketball League Youth Project Grant, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2016 - 2017 Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 78, page 685.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 40754-020617. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Price and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

BUDGET-GRANTS-POLICE-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance and appropriation of the FY 2017 Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) — Policing in the 21st Century (Workplace Violence Prevention Grant) from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services for the Roanoke City Police Department to hire Sigma Threat Management Consultants to conduct training for local law enforcement agencies on workplace violence prevention.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Trinkle offered the following resolution:

(#40755-020617) A RESOLUTION authorizing the acceptance of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program made to the City of Roanoke by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services for workplace violence prevention, and authorizing execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 78, page 686.)

Council Member Trinkle moved the adoption of Resolution No. 40755-020617. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ferris and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

Council Member Ferris offered the following budget ordinance:

(#40756-020617) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the Commonwealth of Virginia for the Byrne/JAG Policing in the 21st Century Workplace Violence Prevention Grant, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2016 - 2017 Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 78, page 687.)

Council Member Ferris moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 40756-020617. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dykstra and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

BUDGET-GRANTS-HOUSING: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acceptance and appropriation of funds for a supportive services grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to the City of Roanoke Homeless Assistance Team for a one year period beginning February 1, 2017.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following resolution:

(#40757-020617) A RESOLUTION authorizing acceptance of a supportive services grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to the City of Roanoke, Virginia, on behalf of the Department of Social Services' Homeless Assistance Team, and authorizing execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 78, page 688.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved the adoption of Resolution No. 40757-020617. The motion was seconded by Council Member Trinkle.

Following accolades by Council Member Bestpitch on efforts by Carol Tuning, Human Services Coordinator, to monitor the homelessness in the City; and calling attention to his efforts to work with non-profits and Veterans homelessness, Resolution No. 40757-020617 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following budget ordinance:

(#40758-020617) AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Homeless Assistance Team Grant, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2016 - 2017 Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 78, page 689.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved the adoption of Budget Ordinance No. 40758-020617. The motion was seconded by Council Member Trinkle and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

SOLID WASTE: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending adoption of the City of Roanoke's updated Solid Waste Management Plan.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Ferris offered the following resolution:

(#40759-020617) A RESOLUTION regarding the adoption of a Solid Waste Management Plan for the City of Roanoke.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 78, page 690.)

Council Member Ferris moved the adoption of Resolution No. 40759-020617. The motion was seconded by Council Member Trinkle and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

BRIDGES: The City Manager submitted a written communication recommending acquisition of real property rights for the Berkley Road Bridge Reconstruction Project.

(For full text, see communication on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

Council Member Bestpitch offered the following ordinance:

(#40760-020617) AN ORDINANCE providing for the acquisition of real property rights needed by the City in connection with the Berkley Road Bridge Reconstruction Project ("Project"); authorizing City staff to acquire such property rights by negotiation for the City; authorizing the City Manager to execute appropriate acquisition documents; and dispensing with the second reading of this Ordinance by title.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 78, page 691.)

Council Member Bestpitch moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 40760-020617. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ferris and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

COMMENTS OF CITY MANAGER:

The City Manager offered the following comments:

Roanoke Police Programs Recognized as Bright Ideas:

- The Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, recently recognized the City's Citizen-Centric Policing Model and its Growth Through Opportunity (GTO) Cadet Program as part of its 2017 Bright Ideas initiative, which honors innovative public programs from across the country striving to improve services, solve problems, and work on behalf of citizens.
- The Roanoke Police Department implemented a citizen-centric policing model built on the four tenets of procedural justice: citizen voice, fairness and neutrality, dignity, and respect.
- The GTO Cadet Program was designed to give adults with special needs the
 opportunity to receive career training and life skills as they transition to
 gaining independence. Participants volunteer for up to 12 hours a week as
 support staff for the Roanoke Police Department, Roanoke Fire-EMS
 Department and Sheriff's Office.
- Bright Ideas are showcased on the Ash Center's Government Innovators Network, an online platform for practitioners and policymakers to share innovative public policy solutions.

Roanoke Wins National Safe and Sustainable Snowfighting Award:

- For the fifth year in a row, the City's Public Works Department has won the Safe and Sustainable Snowfighting Award from the Salt Institute for excellence in environmental consciousness and effective management in the storage of winter road salt.
- Award recipients must meet or exceed nearly 70 different criteria covering storage, equipment, safety, environmental protection, and service.
- The Salt Institute honored a total of 87 transportation facilities across the United States and Canada with the award. Roanoke was one of only two facilities recognized in Virginia.

Big Lick SOUP Coming in March:

- The next Big Lick SOUP event is scheduled for Thursday, March 2, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., at Soaring Ridge Brewery located at 523 Shenandoah Avenue, N. W.
- Big Lick SOUP (Supporting Outstanding Urban Projects) is a grassroots, micro-grant opportunity to fund innovative community projects combined with a community meal.
- Attendees make a small donation at the door and, once there, will listen to four ideas pitched for improving the Roanoke community.
- After hearing the pitches attendees vote on the project idea they like the best, and the project with the most votes will receive all of the money raised at the door, to turn their project idea into reality.
- Big Lick SOUP is held twice during the year. Applications can be sent by email to BigLickSOUP@gmail.com.

2017 Leadership College:

- Begins Thursday, March 16, 2017
- Sponsored by the Office of Neighborhood Services
- Classes meet each Thursday evening from 6:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building for nine weeks.
- Leadership College is an interactive, practical, and engaging series of discussions, lectures, role plays, team building, and related field work that will help you:
 - o Learn best practices in organizing your community
 - o Learn how to access city services
 - o Personally meet those who provide city services
 - o Understand city procedures and policies

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: NONE.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.

INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS: NONE.

MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

INQUIRIES AND/OR COMMENTS BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL:

LEGISLATION: Council Member Ferris, Chair, Legislative Committee, expressed appreciation to area legislators and Council Member Garland for advancing the City's 2017 Legislative Program.

POLICE-HUMAN SERVICES: Vice-Mayor Price announced that Feeding America Southwest Virginia (FASWVA), Goodwill Industries of the Valleys and the Roanoke City Police Department will be hosting a community conversation regarding FASWVA's proposed Community Solutions Center Development Project under consideration for the Melrose area in northwest Roanoke on Thursday, February 9 at 6:00 p.m., in Goodwill's Community Room at 2502 Melrose Avenue, N. W., adding as community input and support will be paramount to the success of this proposed project.

At 3:27 p.m., Mayor Lea declared the Council meeting in recess for continuation of a Closed Session in the Council's Conference Room, Room 451, fourth floor, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building.

At 3:57 p.m., the Council meeting reconvened in the Council Chamber, with Mayor Lea presiding and all Members of Council in attendance.

VACANCIES ON CERTAIN AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES APPOINTED BY COUNCIL:

COUNCIL: With respect to the Closed Meeting just concluded, Council Member Bestpitch moved that each Member of City Council certify to the best of his or her knowledge that: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in any motion by which any Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by City Council. The motion was seconded by Council Member Trinkle and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

NAYS: None-0.

ROANOKE VALLEY-ALLEGHANY REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY COMMITTEE: The Mayor called attention to the expiration of the three-year terms of office of Wayne Bowers (Technical Advisor), Council Members Raphael E. Ferris (Elected Official) and John A. Garland (Elected Official) and Terri F. Workman (Private Sector) as City representatives of the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee ending March 31, 2017; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations.

Council Member Garland placed in nomination the names of Brandon Turner, and Council Members Raphael Ferris and John Garland.

There being no further nominations, Mr. Turner was appointed to replace Wayne Bowers as the Technical Advisor and Council Members Ferris and John A. Garland were reappointed as Elected Officials of the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee for three-year terms of office, each ending, March 31, 2020, by the following vote:

FOR MR. TURNER AND COUNCIL MEMBERS FERRIS AND GARLAND: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

HOTEL ROANOKE CONFERENCE CENTER COMMISSION: The Mayor called attention to the expiration of the four-year term of office of Christopher P. Morrill as the City Employee representative of the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center Commission ending April 12, 2017; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations.

Council Member Garland placed in nomination the name of Christopher P. Morrill.

There being no further nomination, Mr. Morrill was reappointed as the City Employee representative of the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center Commission for a four-year term of office ending April 12, 2021, by the following vote:

FOR MR. MORRILL: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

PERSONNEL AND EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES COMMISSION: The Mayor called attention to a vacancy created by the expiration of the three year term of office of Stephen S. Willis as a Citizen at Large representative of the Personnel and Employment Practices Commission ending June 30, 2016; inasmuch as Mr. Willis having served three consecutive term of office, he is not eligible for reappointment, whereupon Mayor Lea opened the floor for nominations.

Council Member Garland placed in nomination the name of Gloria Manns.

There being no further nominations, Ms. Manns was appointed to replace Mr. Willis as a Citizen at Large representative of the Personnel and Employment Practices Commission for a term ending June 30, 2019, by the following vote:

FOR MS. MANNS: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS: The Mayor called attention to the expiration of the three-year term of office of Terry Cundiff as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals ending December 31, 2016; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations.

Council Member Garland placed in nomination the name of Walter I. Rutherfoord.

There being no further nominations, Mr. Rutherfoord was appointed to replace Mr. Cundiff as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals for a term of office ending December 31, 2019, by the following vote:

FOR MR. RUTHERFOORD: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD: The Mayor called attention to a vacancy created by the resignation of Susan Reese as a member of the Human Services Advisory Board for a term of office ending November 30, 2018; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations.

Council Member Garland placed in nomination the name of The Reverend Gary Heaton.

There being no further nominations, Reverend Heaton was appointed as a member of the Human Services Advisory Board to fill the unexpired term of office of Susan Reese ending November 30, 2018, by the following vote:

FOR REVEREND HEATON: Council Members Ferris, Garland, Price, Trinkle, Bestpitch, Dykstra and Mayor Lea-7.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Mayor declared the regular meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

APPROVED

ATTEST:

Stephanie M. Moon Reynolds, MMC City Clerk

Sherman P. Lea, Sr. Mayor