

1. Agenda

Documents:

[2024-09-23 - SHORT AGENDA WITH LINKS \(PDF\).PDF](#)

[2024-09-23 - ACTION AGENDA \(PDF\).PDF](#)

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

SEPTEMBER 23, 2024



Public Power & Public Natural Gas Week October 6-12, 2024

Visit your Rocky Mount Public Utilities at the **BBQ Throw Down** on Oct. 12, 2024 from 11:00 am to 6 pm at The Rocky Mount Event Center. Activities at the BBQ Throw Down include: Safety Demonstrations • Prizes • Giveaways • Kids Activities • Plinko

Eastern Carolina BBQ Throw Down October 11-12, 2024

From 5-9:00 p.m. on Oct. 11, the festival will kick off with a Kids Zone, food vendors, live music and more. The fun begins at 11:00 a.m. and lasts until 6 p.m. on Saturday Oct. 12, with food and commercial vendors, as well as, the BBQ competition, with a grand prize of \$5,000.



ROCKY MOUNT, NC
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

[View Main Agenda](#)



ROCKY MOUNT CITY COUNCIL VISION STATEMENT

Rocky Mount is a City composed of people of diverse backgrounds, heritages, and interests with a shared sense of values, stewardship and community.

It is a City where all citizens have the opportunity to realize their full potential through individual initiative and community support.

Its citizens enjoy and value the benefits of efficient, cost-effective and responsive public services, a strong and diversified economy, and superior cultural and educational resources.

Rocky Mount recognizes and appreciates its history while responding to the challenges and opportunities of regional and global change in a proactive and realistic manner.





W E L C O M E !

We are pleased you are attending a Rocky Mount City Council meeting. You are now participating in the process of representative government. We appreciate your interest and hope you and your fellow citizens will attend often. Democracy cannot endure without an informed electorate.

Rocky Mount has the Council-Manager form of local government. Policy is set by the Mayor and Council, who are elected by the people. The policy is implemented by the City Manager, who is appointed by the Council. The Council decides what is to be done. The City Manager, operating through the entire City staff, does it. This separation of policy-making and policy administration is considered the most economical and efficient form of City government.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The City Council meets in regular session twice each month in the George W. Dudley City Council Chamber of the Frederick E. Turnage Municipal Building. These meetings are open to the public and are held on the following schedule:

2nd Monday - 7:00 p.m.

4th Monday - 4:00 p.m.

At these meetings, the City's business is conducted and ordinances and resolutions, the laws of Rocky Mount, are enacted. Ordinances take effect upon their adoption when approved by a majority of the Council. All ordinances must be in writing. They are introduced at one meeting and adopted at a subsequent meeting. The Council may, however, by an affirmative vote of five (5) members, adopt an ordinance at the same meeting it is introduced. The Council frequently uses this procedure.

Councilmembers receive the agenda for a Council meeting, together with detailed background material, on the Thursday prior to each regular meeting. This gives them the opportunity to study each item on the agenda prior to the meeting and consult with the City Manager or City staff members. If no additional pertinent facts are presented at the meeting, items are often acted upon without further discussion, particularly in routine matters. This procedure helps Council meetings to move more expeditiously.

INFORMAL WORK SESSIONS OR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Council generally conducts a work session or COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE meeting at 5:00 p.m. prior to the first regular monthly meeting. The COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE is the entire City Council meeting as a committee to discuss matters requiring more in-depth explanation, study or discussion. The Committee frequently makes recommendations to the City Council, however, no recommendations made by the COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE are final until accepted by the Council in a regular meeting.

These meetings are open to the public.





HOW A CITIZEN CAN BE HEARD

Citizens may appear before the Council to be heard on any subject related to City government, or any individual matter which may involve City government. A provision is made on each City Council agenda for **PETITIONS TO BE RECEIVED FROM THE PUBLIC**. At this time, citizens are encouraged to bring to the Council's attention matters that are not otherwise specifically listed on the agenda. If the matter you are interested in is specifically listed on the agenda, you are asked to address that issue when it is being considered. If you desire to be heard, you are asked to advise the Mayor in which item you are interested at the time it appears on the agenda. You will be requested to use the speakers stand, give your name and address and identify any group which you represent. Citizens addressing the Council on any matter shall not abuse their privilege and shall confine themselves to the question under debate, and avoid all personal or indecorous language. The City Clerk prepares the minutes of the meetings. After approval by the Council, these become the official record of the proceedings. The entire meeting is tape recorded for accuracy in preparing the minutes.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Prior to the enactment of some ordinances or resolutions, the law requires that the City Council conduct a public hearing in order that the public may have an opportunity to be heard. The most common of these are zoning ordinance changes, the ordering of public improvements and determination of assessments. Most public hearings are conducted in the general course of a regular meeting and are usually scheduled for the evening meeting of the City Council on the second Monday of each month to afford more citizens an opportunity to attend.

MAYOR

C. SAUNDERS ROBERSON, JR.

CITY COUNCIL

LIGE DAUGHTRIDGE, MAYOR PRO TEM
(WARD 5)

ANDRÉ D. KNIGHT (WARD 1)
REUBEN C. BLACKWELL, IV (WARD 2)
RICHARD E. JOYNER (WARD 3)

T. J. WALKER, JR (WARD 4)
TOM HARRIS (WARD 6)
JABARIS D. WALKER (WARD 7)

CITY STAFF

PETER F. VARNEY, *INTERIM CITY MANAGER*
KIM BATTS, *CITY CLERK*
ELTON DANIELS, *ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER*
NYKI HILL, *ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER*
COLIN MCGRATH, *CITY ATTORNEY (INTERIM)*





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PUBLIC PETITIONS

The Public Petitions portion of the City Council meeting is an opportunity for public comment; and the City Council appreciates your attendance and values all citizen input.

This is an opportunity to express views and concerns about the City of Rocky Mount to the Council; however, in most cases Councilmembers will not respond to public comments but may refer a matter to the City Manager or staff for follow up.

Time will be monitored in order to give everyone an opportunity to speak and speakers will have three minutes.

Please be aware that sign-in sheets must be presented to the Security Officer prior to the opening of the City Council meeting.

If an organized group is present to speak on a common issue, please designate one person to present the group's comments.

If your comments are in regard to an item that is the subject of a public hearing, please wait until that item is introduced to speak. Time will also be monitored.

If your comments are in regard to an evidentiary hearing additional time may be granted.

The City Council requests that you PLEASE ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:

- **Complete a sign-in sheet;**
- **Address comments to the Council as a whole and not to individual Councilmembers or City staff;**
- **Speak from the podium in a civil, non-argumentative and respectful manner;**
- **Personal attacks which have the potential to disrupt the meeting will not be tolerated and you will be asked to sit down or be removed from the meeting;**
- **Keep comments to three minutes**

Thank you!





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AGENDA FOR A REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT TO BE HELD MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2024 AT 4:00 P.M. IN THE GEORGE W. DUDLEY CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE FREDERICK E. TURNAGE MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

The City will be using YouTube to livestream the City Council meeting. To view the meeting click here:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/CITYTV19>

1. Meeting Called to Order by the Mayor
2. Prayer
3. Roll Call by the City Clerk
4. Consideration of the Minutes of a Regular Scheduled City Council Meeting held July 8, 2024 [View](#)
Recommended Action: Approve Minutes
5. Consideration of additions or deletions to the agenda
6. Community Update – Interim City Manager Peter F. Varney
7. Presentations and Recognitions: [View](#)
 - Presentation of Proclamation Proclaiming the Week of October 6-12, 2024 as Public Power and Public Natural Gas Week in the City of Rocky Mount to Chris Beschler, Director of Energy Resources, and Energy Resources Staff
 - Presentation of 2023 North Carolina Public Power Award of Excellence to Chris Beschler, Director of Energy Resources, by Roy Jones, CEO of ElectriCities of North Carolina
 - Presentation of Proclamation Proclaiming the Week of September 23-27, 2024 as Stormwater Awareness Week in the City of Rocky Mount to Public Works Director Brad Kerr





8. Petitions to be Received from the Public

Note: Please complete Citizen Sign-In Sheet and provide to Security Officer prior to speaking. Please limit presentations to three (3) minutes. Time will be monitored.

9. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Consideration of Tax Releases and/or Refunds: [View](#)

- Schedule A – taxes under \$100 approved for release and/or refund by the City Manager; and
- Schedule B – taxes over \$100 recommended for release and/or refund by the City Council

City Manager Recommendation: Approve Tax Releases

B. Notification to Council of Intent and Request for Authorization to Apply for FY 2024 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for the Purchase of community engagement software (\$11,890.20; Nash County share - \$27,743.80/City share - \$39,634) [View](#)

*City Manager Recommendation: 1) Authorize Staff to Apply for Grant; and
2) Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to Execute Documentation and Certifications, including Subsequent Grant Agreement on Behalf of the City*

C. Consideration of Declaring Certain Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing Disposal by Electronic Auction via Auctions International [View](#)

City Manager Recommendation: Adopt Resolution Declaring Property Surplus and Authorizing Disposal by Electronic Auction

D. Consideration of Certified Statement and Letter from the City Manager to North Carolina Department of Transportation Certifying FY 2024 Funds (\$224,999) were Expensed by Fiscal Year End (6/30/2024) and that FY 2025 Funds (\$592,000) will be spent by the End of FY 2025 (requirement of State Maintenance Assistance Program [SMAP] funding application for Transit) [View](#)

*City Manager Recommendation: 1) Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to Execute the Required Certification on Behalf of the City; and
2) Authorize the Interim City Manager to Execute Letter of Intent*





- E. Consideration of Resolution Declaring the City’s Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures made for the Replacement of Equipment required in connection with FY 2025 Installment Financing - \$1,683,000 [View](#)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
1.	Substation 10 Power Transformer	Electric	\$1,436,500
2.	Articulating Telescopic Aerial Device with Material Handling	Electric	\$246,500
Total Estimated Cost			\$1,683,000

City Manager Recommendation: Adopt Resolution

- F. Consideration of RFP 320-230124AG Re Bid - Mobile Command Unit Upgrades and Outfitting – award and issue a purchase order to Fire Connections Inc. in the amount of \$209,897.81 [View](#)

*City Manager Recommendation: 1) Award Re-Bid as recommended; and
2) Authorize the Purchasing Division to Issue Purchase Order and Execute Bid Documents in Accordance with the Council’s Award*

- G. Consideration of Down East HOME Consortium (DEHC) Program Year 2023 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation and Report (CAPER) [View](#)

City Manager Recommendation: Approve Report and Authorize Submission to HUD

- H. Consideration of CDBG & HOME Funding Agreement (The City of Rocky Mount is expected to receive \$495,363 in CDBG Funding and the Down East Home Consortium will receive \$395,420.05 in HOME Funding) [View](#)

City Manager Recommendation: Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to Execute Funding Agreement on Behalf of the City

- I. Acknowledge Receipt of Application for Funding Assistance through the Downtown Major Investment Incentive Program and Schedule Public Hearing for October 14, 2024 City Council Meeting (*Authorize City Clerk to Publish Notice of Public Hearing*) [View](#)

*City Manager Recommendation: 1) Acknowledge Receipt of Application; and
2) Authorize City Clerk to Publish Notice of Public Hearing to be held October 14, 2024*





Recommended Action: Approve Consent Agenda inclusive of:

- 1) Approve Tax Releases;
- 2) Authorize Staff to Apply for Grant;
- 3) Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to Execute Documentation and Certifications, including Subsequent Grant Agreement on Behalf of the City;
- 4) Adopt Resolutions;
- 5) Authorize the Interim City Manager to Execute Letter of Intent;
- 6) Award Re-Bid as Recommended;
- 7) Authorize the Purchasing Division to Issue Purchase Order and Execute Bid Documents in Accordance with the Council's Award; and
- 8) Approve Report and Authorize Submission to HUD

10. **Public Hearing** Relative to FY 2026 Section 5310, 5311 and 5339 Community Transportation Grants for funding through the North Carolina Department of Transportation (will fund a portion of administrative, operating and capital expenses incurred by Tar River Transit – total funding = \$1,051,794/local match = \$206,819) [View](#)

Recommended Action: 1) Receive Public Comment;
2) Adopt Resolution; and
3) Authorize the City Manager, Mayor and City Clerk to Execute Required Documentation and Certifications, including Subsequent Grant Agreement(s)

11. Consideration of five-year Contract with Modeshift, Inc. for Electronic Farebox System (Initial costs of \$227,800 will be fully funded utilizing Federal and State Capital American Rescue Plan - Annual Subscription Costs will be as follows: Year 2 - \$195,365; Year 3 - \$200,250; Year 4 - \$205,256; and Year 5 – \$210,287 paid by Tar River Transit – total 5-year cost will be \$1,038,958) [View](#)

Recommended Action: 1) Award contract as recommended;
2) Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to Execute Contract on Behalf of the City

12. Consideration of Resolution Authorizing Lease Agreement with Asif Daher, doing business as, Yaba Group, Inc. for City-Owned Property at 207 East Thomas Street (5-year lease with automatic renewal for one (1) successive term of five (5) years; annual rent = \$42,000 - renewed lease will increase rent 5% to \$44,100 annually; initial term August 26, 2024 – August 26, 2029 – renewal term will be August 26, 2029 – August 26, 2034; lease was advertised pursuant to G.S. 160A-272) [View](#)

***Item was postponed from August 26, 2024 and September 9, 2024 City Council Meetings*

Recommended Action: Postpone until October 14, 2024 City Council Meeting





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A	=	APPROVAL	C	=	REFERRED TO COMMITTEE
AD	=	APPROVAL DENIED	T	=	TABLED
NA	=	NO ACTION	RA	=	REMOVED FROM AGENDA
D	=	DEFERRED	I	=	INTRODUCED
R	=	REFERRED	RW	=	REQUEST WITHDRAWN
O	=	OTHER	RCA	=	REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION AGENDA FOR A REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT HELD MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2024 AT 4:00 P.M. IN THE GEORGE W. DUDLEY CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE FREDERICK E. TURNAGE MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

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1. Meeting Called to Order by the Mayor
2. Prayer
3. Roll Call by the City Clerk
4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Scheduled City Council meeting held July 8, 2024
A~ Recommended Action: Approve Minutes
5. Consideration of additions or deletions to the agenda:
 - *Request to remove Item 11 from the agenda for discussion at the Committee of the Whole*
6. Community Update – Interim City Manager Peter F. Varney
7. Presentations and Recognitions:
 - Presentation of Proclamation Proclaiming the Week of October 6-12, 2024 as Public Power and Public Natural Gas Week in the City of Rocky Mount to Chris Beschler, Director of Energy Resources, and Energy Resources Staff
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8. Petitions to be Received from the Public

The following individuals spoke (more details to be included in minutes):

- *Dr. Kim Koo*
- *Richard Petway*
- *Sydney Meeks*
- *Nathlyn Ohree*

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- RA~** Recommended Action: 1) ~~Award contract as recommended;~~
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- ** Item was removed from agenda in open meeting for discussion at the Committee of the Whole*
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