

## 1. Agenda

### Documents:

[2024-08-26 - SHORT AGENDA WITH LINKS \(PDF\).PDF](#)

[2024-08-26 - ACTION AGENDA \(PDF\).PDF](#)

# CITY COUNCIL AGENDA AUGUST 26, 2024

ROCKY MOUNT, NC  
THE CENTER OF IT ALL



*4th Annual*  
**END OF SUMMER CELEBRATION**  
**"GOGO FESTIVAL"**

**Saturday, August 31 • 4-8 p.m.**

*Featuring Junkyard Band*



**Martin Luther King, Jr. Park • 800 E Virginia Street**

Presented by Councilmembers  
Andre Knight and Reuben Blackwell



Andre Knight  
Ward 1



Reuben Blackwell  
Ward 2

[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)*





ROCKY MOUNT  
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

## **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!



**ROCKY MOUNT**  
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

**AGENDA FOR A REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT TO BE HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 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:
    - A. Minutes of a Regular scheduled City Council Meeting held [View](#)
      - May 13, 2024; and
      - June 10, 2024
    - B. Minutes of a Regular Rescheduled Committee of the Whole Meeting Held May 13, 2024 [View](#)
      - Rocky Mount Event Center Performance 3rd Quarter, Fiscal Year 2024 – Ken Hunter;  
*Information only; no formal action;*
      - Considerations for Legislative Development Decisions Zoning Map Amendments- Jep Rose;  
*Information only; no formal action;*
- Recommended Action: Approve Minutes
5. Consideration of additions or deletions to the agenda
  6. Community Update – Interim City Manager Peter F. Varney
  7. Petitions to be Received from the Public

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



**8. CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Consideration of Request from Brad Kerr, Director of Public Works, for Approval of an Ordinance Approving Temporary Street Closure for the American Red Cross 2024 “Touch the Truck” event on Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 8:00am to 3:00pm (*ordinance adoption requirement of NCDOT standards*): [View](#)

- Nash Streets between South Church Street and Southwest Main Street

*City Manager Recommendation: Adopt Ordinance*

B. Consideration of Project Ordinance appropriating \$43,093 in the Public Safety Fund for implementation of award of Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative (No local match funds are required) [View](#)

*City Manager Recommendation: Adopt Ordinance*

C. Consideration of Project Ordinances for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Grants for Tar River Transit (*total Appropriations \$3,148,419*) [View](#)

- Urban Operating (UOP25): \$1,788,726
- Urban Capital (UCA25): \$1,292,900
- Transit Planning (TPL25): \$66,793

*City Manager Recommendation: Adopt Ordinances*

D. Consideration of Electric Service Agreements:


1. Connect Holding II, LLC d/b/a Brightspeed – Reduces contract demand of 2,000 kilowatts to 1,400 kilowatts – Estimated reduction in contract demand will reduce Energy Resources revenue by \$31,380 annually [View](#)
2. Hubbell Lenoir City, Inc. – Reduce contract demand from 2,000 kilowatts to 1,000 kilowatts – ESA will change their existing billing rate from Large General Service (LGS) to Industrial (IND) – Estimated reduction in contract demand will reduce Energy Resources revenue by approximately \$84,604 annually [View](#)

*City Manager Recommendation: 1) Approve Electric Service Agreement; and  
2) Authorize Mayor and City Clerk to Execute Contracts on  
Behalf of the City*

E. Consideration of Resolution in support of Speed limit reduction on Goldrock Road (In support of North Carolina Department of Transportation [NCDOT] reducing the speed limit along Goldrock Road to from 45 MPH to 35 MPH from Benvenue Road to Thomas A. Betts Parkway) [View](#)

*City Manager Recommendation: Adopt Resolution*



- 
- F. Consideration of RFP 320-231022RP Re-Bid - Power Transformer for Substation 10 – award and issue a purchase order to Virginia Transformer in the amount of \$1,436,075 [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 Resolution to Update Banking Authorizations at PNC Bank (resolution names the Interim City Manager and the Finance Director as primary authorizers) for Depository Accounts and Treasury Management Services [View](#)

*City Manager Recommendation: Adopt Resolution and Authorize the Mayor and City Manager to Execute Same on Behalf of the City*

Recommended Action: Approve Consent Agenda inclusive of:


- 1) Approve Temporary Street Closure;
- 2) Adopt Ordinances and Resolutions;
- 3) Approve Electric Service Agreements;
- 4) Authorize Mayor and City Clerk to Execute Contracts on Behalf of the City; and
- 5) Award Re-Bid as Recommended
- 6) Authorize the Purchasing Division to Issue Purchase Order and Execute Bid Documents in Accordance with the Council's Award

9. **Public Hearing** Relative to the Following Land Development Code Amendments Recommended for Approval and Found in Compliance with the Comprehensive Plan by the Planning Board: [View](#)
- Amending the City of Rocky Mount Land Development Code Chapter 7, Section 709 – Signs, and Chapter 11, Section 1104 – Nonconforming signs

Recommended Action: 1) Receive Public Comment;  
2) Adopt Ordinance

10. Consideration of Resolution Authorizing an Upset Bid Process for Property Owned by the City at 227 Dunn Street (\$7,350) [View](#)

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution Authorizing an Upset Bid Process (authorizes City Clerk to Advertise Offer for Upset Bids Pursuant to G.S. 160A-269; and, if no qualifying upset bid received; Resolution includes restrictions that will be written into the deed that ensure the property is developed in a way that provides affordable housing)





11. Consideration of Resolution authorizing interfund loans in the amount of \$4,000,000 from the Electric Fund and \$1,850,000 from the Gas Fund for the construction/replacement of the Old Mill Road Pump Station; and 2) Consideration of FY 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance Amendment appropriating \$4,000,000 from the Electric Fund and 1,850,000 from the Gas Fund to the Sewer Fund for the Interfund Loans (*annual interest rate that will be paid will be 4% - 10-year period for repayment – Electric and Gas Funds will receive \$1,257,408 in interest payments from the Sewer Fund*) [View](#)

Recommended Action: 1) Adopt Resolution; and  
2) Adopt Ordinance

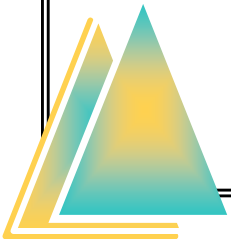
12. Consideration of contract continuation with enhancements and innovations with Axon/FUSUS - total amount of contract extension is \$4,850,607.61 over five (5) years (enhancements include: additional licenses for sworn and non-sworn officers, tasers, drones and interview rooms to increase the public safety suite of capabilities for carrying out law enforcement) [View](#)

Recommended Action: Approve Contract Extension and Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to Execute the Contract on Behalf of the City.

13. 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](#)

Recommended Action: Postpone until September 9, 2024 City Council Meeting

14. Closed Session:
  - Personnel





ROCKY MOUNT  
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

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

**ACTION AGENDA FOR A REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 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:
  - A. Minutes of a Regular scheduled City Council Meeting held
    - May 13, 2024; and
    - June 10, 2024
  - B. Minutes of a Regular Rescheduled Committee of the Whole Meeting Held May 13, 2024
    - Rocky Mount Event Center Performance 3rd Quarter, Fiscal Year 2024 – Ken Hunter; *Information only; no formal action;*
    - Considerations for Legislative Development Decisions Zoning Map Amendments- Jep Rose; *Information only; no formal action;*
- A~ Recommended Action: Approve Minutes
- A~ 5. Consideration of additions or deletions to the agenda:
  - Presentation of Certificate to Mother Essie Dancy on the Occasion of her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday
  - Request to postpone Item 12 until September 9, 2024 City Council meeting
6. Community Update – Interim City Manager Peter F. Varney

7. Petitions to be Received from the Public

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

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

- ***Gloria Davis***
- ***Theresa Alston Stokes***
- ***Curmilus Dancy***
- ***Nathlyn Ohree***

8. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Consideration of Request from Brad Kerr, Director of Public Works, for Approval of an Ordinance Approving Temporary Street Closure for the American Red Cross 2024 “Touch the Truck” event on Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 8:00am to 3:00pm (*ordinance adoption requirement of NCDOT standards*):

- Nash Streets between South Church Street and Southwest Main Street

*City Manager Recommendation: Adopt Ordinance*

B. Consideration of Project Ordinance appropriating \$43,093 in the Public Safety Fund for implementation of award of Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative (No local match funds are required)

*City Manager Recommendation: Adopt Ordinance*

C. Consideration of Project Ordinances for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Grants for Tar River Transit (*total Appropriations \$3,148,419*)

- Urban Operating (UOP25): \$1,788,726
- Urban Capital (UCA25): \$1,292,900
- Transit Planning (TPL25): \$66,793

*City Manager Recommendation: Adopt Ordinances*

D. Consideration of Electric Service Agreements:

1. Connect Holding II, LLC d/b/a Brightspeed – Reduces contract demand of 2,000 kilowatts to 1,400 kilowatts – Estimated reduction in contract demand will reduce Energy Resources revenue by \$31,380 annually
2. Hubbell Lenoir City, Inc. – Reduce contract demand from 2,000 kilowatts to 1,000 kilowatts – ESA will change their existing billing rate from Large General Service (LGS) to Industrial (IND) – Estimated reduction in contract demand will reduce Energy Resources revenue by approximately \$84,604 annually

*City Manager Recommendation: 1) Approve Electric Service Agreement; and  
2) Authorize Mayor and City Clerk to Execute Contracts on  
Behalf of the City*

- E. Consideration of Resolution in support of Speed limit reduction on Goldrock Road (In support of North Carolina Department of Transportation [NCDOT] reducing the speed limit along Goldrock Road to from 45 MPH to 35 MPH from Benvenue Road to Thomas A. Betts Parkway)

*City Manager Recommendation: Adopt Resolution*

- F. Consideration of RFP 320-231022RP Re-Bid - Power Transformer for Substation 10 – award and issue a purchase order to Virginia Transformer in the amount of \$1,436,075

*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 Resolution to Update Banking Authorizations at PNC Bank (resolution names the Interim City Manager and the Finance Director as primary authorizers) for Depository Accounts and Treasury Management Services

*City Manager Recommendation: Adopt Resolution and Authorize the Mayor and City Manager to Execute Same on Behalf of the City*

A ~ Recommended Action: Approve Consent Agenda inclusive of:

- 1) Approve Temporary Street Closure;
- 2) Adopt Ordinances and Resolutions;
- 3) Approve Electric Service Agreements;
- 4) Authorize Mayor and City Clerk to Execute Contracts on Behalf of the City; and
- 5) Award Re-Bid as Recommended
- 6) Authorize the Purchasing Division to Issue Purchase Order and Execute Bid Documents in Accordance with the Council's Award

9. **Public Hearing** Relative to the Following Land Development Code Amendments Recommended for Approval and Found in Compliance with the Comprehensive Plan by the Planning Board:

- Amending the City of Rocky Mount Land Development Code Chapter 7, Section 709 – Signs, and Chapter 11, Section 1104 – Nonconforming signs

A ~ Recommended Action: 1) Receive Public Comment;  
2) Adopt Ordinance

10. Consideration of Resolution Authorizing an Upset Bid Process for Property Owned by the City at 227 Dunn Street (\$7,350)

A ~ Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution Authorizing an Upset Bid Process (authorizes City Clerk to Advertise Offer for Upset Bids Pursuant to G.S. 160A-269; and, if no qualifying upset bid received; Resolution includes restrictions that will be written into the deed that ensure the property is developed in a way that provides affordable housing)

11. Consideration of Resolution authorizing interfund loans in the amount of \$4,000,000 from the Electric Fund and \$1,850,000 from the Gas Fund for the construction/replacement of the Old Mill Road Pump Station; and 2) Consideration of FY 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance Amendment appropriating \$4,000,000 from the Electric Fund and 1,850,000 from the Gas Fund to the Sewer Fund for the Interfund Loans (*annual interest rate that will be paid will be 4% - 10-year period for repayment – Electric and Gas Funds will receive \$1,257,408 in interest payments from the Sewer Fund*)

A ~ Recommended Action: 1) Adopt Resolution; and  
2) Adopt Ordinance

12. Consideration of contract continuation with enhancements and innovations with Axon/FUSUS - total amount of contract extension is \$4,850,607.61 over five (5) years (enhancements include: additional licenses for sworn and non-sworn officers, tasers, drones and interview rooms to increase the public safety suite of capabilities for carrying out law enforcement)

D\* Recommended Action: Approve Contract Extension and Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to Execute the Contract on Behalf of the City.

*\* Item deferred until September 9, 2024 City Council meeting*

13. 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)

A ~ Recommended Action: Postpone until September 9, 2024 City Council Meeting

14. Closed Session:

- Personnel