

# CITY COUNCIL AGENDA OCTOBER 14, 2019



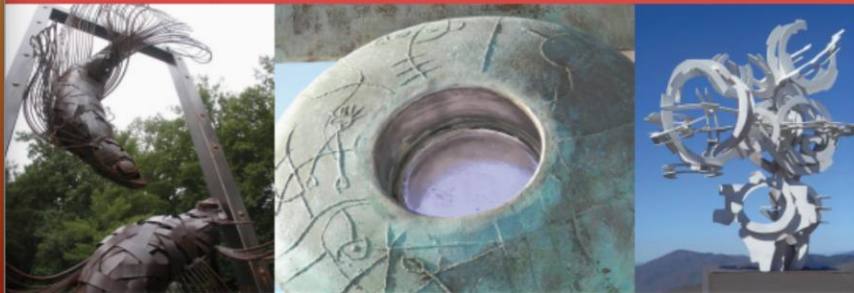
To Contemplate What Lies Behind Us: Susan Fecho

## The Maria V. Howard Arts Center's FALL 2019 EXHIBITIONS

Watercolor Society of North Carolina's Annual Juried Exhibition



Sculpture Salmagundi XXIII: juried by Jason Smith



*Now through December 29<sup>th</sup> at the Imperial Center*



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

DAVID W. COMBS

#### CITY COUNCIL

TOM ROGERS, MAYOR PRO TEM  
(Ward 5)

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

E. LOIS WATKINS (Ward 4)  
W. B. BULLOCK (Ward 6)  
CHRIS MILLER (Ward 7)

#### CITY STAFF

ROCHELLE D. SMALL-TONEY, *City Manager*  
PAMELA O. CASEY, *City Clerk*  
CHRIS BESCHLER, *Assistant City Manager*  
NATASHA HAMPTON, *Assistant City Manager*  
TAMEKA KENAN-NORMAN, *Chief Communications & Marketing Officer*  
RICHARD J. ROSE, *City Attorney*





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**AGENDA FOR A REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT TO BE HELD MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE GEORGE W. DUDLEY CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE FREDERICK E. TURNAGE MUNICIPAL BUILDING.**

1. Meeting Called to Order by the Mayor.
2. Prayer.
3. Roll Call by the City Clerk.
4. Approval of the Minutes of a Regular Scheduled Meeting of the City Council Held September 23, 2019. [View](#)  
  
Recommended Action: Approve Minutes.
5. Community Update – City Manager Rochelle D. Small-Toney
6. Presentations and Recognitions: [View](#)
  - a. Presentation of Proclamation Proclaiming the Month of October 2019 as Disability Awareness Employment Month to Human Relations Director, Archie Jones, Members of the Mayor’s Commission on Persons with Disabilities and Human Relations Staff; and
  - b. Presentation of Proclamation Proclaiming October 28, 2019 as “Honoring the Nation’s First Responders Day” in the City of Rocky Mount to Fire Chief Corey Mercer and Police Chief George Robinson.
7. 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.*
8. Consideration of Ratification of Letter to US Department of Housing and Urban Development and Environmental Review for Activity/Project(s) Categorically Excluded Subject to Section 58.5 (CDBG Housing Repair and HOME Investment Partnership Programs; see list of properties attached [29 activities/projects]). [View](#)  
  
Recommended Action: Ratify Execution by the Mayor of Letter and US Department of Housing and Urban Development Environmental Review for Each Activity/Project.





9. Consideration of Project Ordinance Appropriating Funds in the Public Safety Grants Fund for Receipt of Assistance to Firefighters Grant (\$154,091 = FEMA - \$138,681; Local Match [General Fund] - \$15,410). [View](#)

Recommended Action: Adopt Ordinance.

10. Consideration of 1) approval of receipt of FY 2019 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG); and 2) Project Ordinance Appropriating Funds in the Public Safety Fund (Total \$37,794 - City share [60%] = \$22,676; Nash County share [40%] = \$15,118). [View](#)

Recommended Action: 1) Approve Receipt of Grant Funds Including Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Grant Award and Special Conditions; and  
2) Adopt Ordinance.

11. Consideration of Preliminary Assessment Roll Prepared to Recover Costs Incurred by the City in Connection with Housing Code Enforcement on the Following Properties: [View](#)

- a. 415 S. Mercer Street
- b. 300/302 Middle Street
- c. 4144 Sunset Avenue

Recommended Action: 1) Adopt Resolution of Determination of Cost of Repair/Demolition of Substandard Housing and Structures;  
2) Adopt Resolution of Preliminary Assessment Roll; and  
3) Schedule Public Hearing for November 11, 2019.

12. Consideration of FY 2020 5303 Metropolitan Planning Program Grant from the North Carolina Department of Transportation/Public Transportation Division (City designated Federal Transit Administration recipient for the Rocky Mount Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization) for Various Planning Activities for the Transit Department (TOTAL \$39,000 - FTA = \$31,200; State = \$3,900; Local Match = \$3,900). [View](#)

Recommended Action: Approve Grant Agreement and Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to Execute Required Documentation and Certifications.

13. Consideration of Requests for Water Service Outside the City Limits (due to proximity to City limits and feasibility of providing additional City services, properties are not good candidates for annexation at this time):

- a. 3780 Briarwood Drive; [View](#)
- b. 1019 Stillbrook Court; [View](#) and
- c. 3480 Aspen Road [View](#)





Recommended Action: 1) Approve Requests (subject to payment of required privilege and connection fees as established in Administrative Policy No. X.2.9); and  
2) Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Annexation and Water Service Agreements on behalf of the City.

14. Consideration of Ordinance Amending Chapter 10, Article III, Division 2 of the City Code (reduces the maximum allowable height of weeds or grass to 12 inches; reduces the minimum allowable distance of growth from the property line of a structure to 75 feet or 1 parcel width, whichever is less). [View](#)

Recommended Action: Adopt Ordinance.

15. Consideration of Scheduling a Special Called Committee of the Whole (COW) Meeting for Wednesday, October 23, 2019 @ 2:00 p.m. for the Purpose of Going into a Closed Session for Discussion Relative to a Personnel Matter.

