



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

RICHARD E. JOYNER, MAYOR PRO TEM
(Ward 3)

ANDRÉ D. KNIGHT (Ward 1)

REUBEN C. BLACKWELL, IV (Ward 2)

T. J. WALKER, JR. (Ward 4)

LIGE DAUGHTRIDGE (Ward 5)

W. B. BULLOCK (Ward 6)

CHRISTINE CARROLL MILLER (Ward 7)

CITY STAFF

ROCHELLE D. SMALL-TONEY, *City Manager*

PAMELA O. CASEY, *City Clerk*

NATASHA HAMPTON, *Assistant City Manager*

ELTON DANIELS, *Assistant City Manager*

DOROTHY BROWN SMITH, *Communications & Marketing Consultant*

RICHARD J. ROSE, *City Attorney*





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 thanks you for expressing your views and opinions. The City Council values all citizen input.

This is an opportunity to raise a question or present a request 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 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!