

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA JANUARY 22, 2024



You Wouldn't Expect

By Marilynn Barner Anselmi
Directed by Brooke Edwards

Performances: February 1-3 at 7:30 p.m. and February 4 at 2 p.m.

Location: Powers Recital Hall in the Dunn Center @
North Carolina Wesleyan University

Description: Almost 8,000 North Carolinians were forcibly sterilized under the NC Eugenics Program. This is their story.



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


KEITH ROGERS JR., CITY MANAGER

KIM BATTS, CITY CLERK

ELTON DANIELS, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

NYKI HILL, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

RICHARD J. ROSE, CITY ATTORNEY





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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 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 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, JANUARY 22, 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 September 11, 2023
[View](#)
Recommended Action: Approve Minutes
5. Consideration of additions or deletions to the agenda
6. Community Update - City Manager Keith Rogers Jr.
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. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - A. Consideration of the Following Tax Releases and/or Refunds: [View](#)
 - Schedule A - Report of taxes under \$100 approved for release and/or refund by the City Manager; and
 - Schedule B - Report of taxes over \$100 recommended for release and/or refund by the City Council

City Manager Recommendation: Approve Tax Releases and/or Refunds

B. Consideration of Petition for Annexation No. 335 - 1951 Old Wilson Road (contiguous) [View](#)

*City Manager Recommendation: 1) Acknowledge Receipt of Petition; and
2) Adopt Resolution Ordering City Clerk to Investigate Sufficiency of
Petition*

Recommended Action: Approve Consent Agenda inclusive of:

- 1) Approve Tax Releases and/or Refunds;
- 2) Acknowledge Receipt of Petition; and
- 3) Adopt Resolution

9. **Public Hearing** Relative to the Following Rezoning Request Recommended for Approval and Found in Compliance with the Comprehensive Plan by the Planning Board: [View](#)

- Request by Omar Bayyari Mohammad (A.M.E. Automotive & Services Express) to rezone a ±1.44-acre site at 14500 US 64 Alt. West Hwy. from B-1 (Neighborhood Commercial District) to B-5CD (Conditional Commercial Services District) - *with a condition that salvage operations and junk yards are prohibited on the subject property*

***Item was postponed from January 8, 2024 City Council Meeting*

City Manager Recommendation: Postpone Item to February 12, 2024 City Council Meeting

10. **Public Hearing** Relative to Filing an Application for Approval of an Installment Financing Contract to the Local Government Commission for the Construction and Equipping of Fire Station #2 [View](#)


Recommended Action: 1) Receive Public Comment; and
2) Authorize Staff to Submit Application for the Installment Financing Contract listed above

11. **Public Hearing** Relative to a Downtown Major Development Grant for 201 S. Washington Street (\$500,000) [View](#)

Recommended Action: 1) Receive Public Comment;
2) Approve Downtown Major Investment Award
3) Authorize Mayor or City Manager and City Clerk to Execute Agreement on behalf of the City (pending legal review); and
4) Adopt Budget Ordinance

12. **Public Hearing** Relative to a Downtown Major Development Grant for 204 – 232 SW Main Street (\$500,000) [View](#)

Recommended Action: 1) Receive Public Comment;
2) Approve Downtown Major Investment Award
3) Authorize Mayor or City Manager and City Clerk to Execute Agreement on behalf of the City (pending legal review); and
4) Adopt Budget Ordinance

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13. A. **Public Hearing** Relative Authorizing the Acquisition of Real Property for Economic Development Purposes pursuant to NCGS 158-7.1(c) [336 acres located in an area bounded on the west by North Old Carriage Road, on the north by U.S. 64, on the east by Interstate 95, and on the south by Dozier Road and Sunset Avenue] total costs, including closing costs and expenses associated with financing, will be no greater than \$17,000,000 [View](#)

Recommended Action: 1) Receive Public Comment
2) Close Public Hearing

- B. **Public Hearing** Relative to Execution and Delivery of an Installment Financing Contract to Finance Property Acquisition pursuant to NCGS 160A-20(g) - financing with PNC Bank for 59-month term, first year of financing (interest only) rate to be set 2 weeks prior to closing [currently estimated to be 5.7%]; the proposed financing is for \$15,413,000, with \$15,200,000 reserved for land acquisition and \$213,000 applied to financing costs - total costs, including the negotiation of the non-optioned parcel, will be no greater than \$17,000,000 [View](#)

Recommended Action: 1) Receive Public Comment;
2) Close Public Hearing; and
3) Adopt Resolution Authorizing the Acquisition of Real Property for Economic Development Purposes and the Execution and Delivery of an Installment Financing Contract to Finance such Acquisition for items 13A and 13B

- C. Consideration of Project Ordinance appropriating \$17,000,000 into the Economic Development Fund to cover expenditures of land and all other necessary costs, derived from appropriation of Installment Financing (\$15,413,300) and General Fund Balance (\$1,587,000) to cover the expenditures associated with property acquisition and associated costs [View](#)

Recommended Action: Adopt Project Ordinance

14. Consideration of Ordinance Amending Chapter 14 of the Code of the City of Rocky Mount Entitled, "Miscellaneous Offenses": [View](#)

To Provide for the Criminal Enforcement of Certain City Ordinances

Recommended Action: Introduce Ordinance Amending Chapter 14 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rocky Mount to Provide for the Criminal Enforcement of Certain City Ordinances (Ordinance will return for final City Council Approval 2-12-2024)

