Minutes of the Roanoke Rapids City Council

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids was held on **Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.** in the Council Chambers at the Lloyd Andrews City Meeting Hall.

Present: Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor
Sandra W. Bryant, Mayor Pro Tem

W. Keith Bell)
Andy Jackson)
Rex Stainback)
Curtis Strickland)

Council Members

Kelly Traynham, City Manager
Geoffrey Davis, City Attorney
Traci Storey, City Clerk
Lawrence Wiggins, Police Chief
Krista Rourk, Acting Deputy Finance Director
Christina Caudle, Human Resources Director
Kelly Daughtry, Parks & Recreation Director
Doug Love, Interim Public Works Director
Richard Cook, Fire Chief
Ashley Thomas, Main Street Director
Kristyn Anderson, Planning & Development Director

Mayor Doughtie called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Doughtie provided an invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Adoption of Business Agenda

Mayor Doughtie asked Council members if there were any known conflicts of interest with respect to the matters before them this evening and called for a motion.

Motion was made by Councilman Stainback, seconded by Councilman Bell, and unanimously carried to adopt the business agenda as presented.

Special Recognitions

Fire Department

Fire Chief Cook recognized the following Promotions:

Bryan Hollowell began his employment with the City of Roanoke Rapids on September 2, 2008, working with Public Works. On March 17, 2009, he transferred to the Fire Department. Bryan was promoted to Engineer on January 15, 2013, and to Lieutenant on July 12, 2016. He holds credentials as a North Carolina Emergency Medical Technician; Firefighter I & II; Driver/Operator – Pumps and Aerials; Fire Officer I & II; Fire Instructor; and Fire Investigation Technician. He thanked Bryan for his years of service and dedication to the City of Roanoke Rapids and announced his promotion to Assistant Chief of Operations. Bryan's wife, Jordan, and his daughters, Elle and Aubry pinned his new badge.

Will Harris began his career with the Roanoke Rapids Fire Department on November 27, 2017. He was promoted to Engineer on January 19, 2020. He holds credentials as a North Carolina Emergency Medical Technician; Firefighter I & II; Driver/Operator – Pumps and Aerials; Fire Officer I & II; and is a Qualified Fire Instructor. Will also serves as chairman of our Training Committee. He announced the promotion of Will to the rank of Lieutenant. Will's brother, Marc Harris, also a firefighter with Gaston Fire and Rescue, pinned Will's new badge.

Chris Boykin graduated from the Nash Fire Academy in December 2023 and began his career with the Roanoke Rapids Fire Department on April 22, 2024. He is a North Carolina certified Firefighter I & II and is currently working toward his Driver/Operator—Pumps and Aerials certifications. He announced the promotion of Chris to the rank of Engineer. Chris's fiancée Shyanne Price pinned his new badge.

Jared Lynch began his career with the Roanoke Rapids Fire Department on May 19, 2014, working his way up to Engineer and step-up Lieutenant prior to his departure in October 2023. The department proudly welcomed Jared's return on February 9, 2026. He holds credentials as a North Carolina Emergency Medical Responder; Firefighter I & II; and Driver/Operator—Pumps and Aerials. He announced the promotion of Jared to the rank of Engineer. Jared's mom, Trina Lynch, pinned his new badge.

Chief Cook recognized the following New Hires:

Seth Mahaffey graduated from the Nash Fire Academy in June 2022 and began his career with the Roanoke Rapids Fire Department on March 9, 2026. He is

credentialed as a North Carolina Emergency Medical Technician and Firefighter I & II. He introduced Firefighter Seth Mahaffey. Battalion Chief Tim Gray pinned his new badge.

Mathew Pierce began his career with the Roanoke Rapids Fire Department on August 23, 2026. He is credentialed as a North Carolina Emergency Medical Technician and Firefighter I & II. He introduced Firefighter Mathew Pierce. Mathew's wife, Morgan Pierce, pinned his new badge.

Chief Cook stated he had one more item of business he wanted to talk about. As they know they have been having more issues with vacant buildings inside the city of Roanoke Rapids. These buildings pose a threat to the firefighters and in some cases a threat to the public. They've had cases with squatters inside the buildings. Yesterday, he along with some police officers, were in two buildings obtaining evidence. It was not safe for them to be in there. He's sure nobody here has crawled around in a smoke-filled room and tried to navigate their way through something like that in 70 lbs. of gear. With there being more of these buildings, they are getting harder to identify.

He said the 2018 version of the International Fire Code which is the version that North Carolina is currently using, does state the Fire Marshal has the authority to inspect the building and if they deem unsafe, it can be marked. He held up a sign with a large red "X" on it and said this is how the building should be marked at every entrance. It is reflective. The Fire Department intends to start next week with inspections and posting these signs. The reason is when officers pull up and see this sign, they know it is a "no go" building. Unless they absolutely have to or see somebody, they are going to try and save them; that is what they are trained to do. They are not going to enter the building unless they have to because it is unsafe. In years past, they knew they had buildings that were "no go" buildings and they did not enter them. The problem with that is there are more buildings and it is hard to keep track. There are several buildings in the 200 block of Roanoke Avenue that are not safe for them to go in. They recently had an incident where power was being stolen from one building to another. He didn't know why it didn't cause a fire, but it was caught. They've tried to secure those buildings. Last week they put a chain on the former People's Theatre. Yesterday morning he was called and the chain had been cut. They are doing everything they can to keep people out because they do not want to risk the lives of the firefighters or officers. He said the signs were their remedy to that. They will continue to do everything they can to keep people out of the buildings because it is not safe. These signs will be posted so when firefighters and emergency personnel respond to a fire at one of the buildings in the middle of the night, they will see it is a "no go" building.

Mayor Doughtie asked if it was just for commercial buildings. Chief Cook replied yes, the Fire Code does not address residential structures. As history has shown, when firefighters die or get injured, it is in buildings like that. People that may be in those buildings do not typically run out and tell them they were in there but they're okay like they teach people to do because they were not supposed to be in there. Usually, they are a result of starting the fire whether it was accidental or deliberate. He stated he wanted to make everyone aware that they plan to start the process of inspecting and putting up signs the next week.

Public Comment (Scheduled)

Ephraim Brodsky

Mr. Brodsky began by reading a poem titled *First They Came* written by Martin Niemöller, a German pastor who lived through the Third Reich and who, in his lasting regret, waited too long to speak.

He stated he was Jewish and this poem is not history to him; it is a family story. His mother's name is Shifra. She was named after her paternal grandmother – also Shifra – was hanged in the woods near her home in Poland by Nazi sympathizers during WWII. Her crime was being Jewish. She did not die in a camp. She died close to home, in a place she knew, among people in her community who had decided that she no longer deserved to live.

He said his son's name is Joseph. He is named after Shifra's husband, her Joseph, who survived the Holocaust. He survived not because the world was just, but because the villagers around him were afraid to come for him. He had been a decorated war hero in WWI. He had fought for his country and killed many men. And so, they hesitated. That hesitation was the difference between his life and his death. He said he carries those names with him every single day. And because he carries them, he cannot be silent when hate speech is allowed to stand without consequence in this community. He wants to be historically clear about something because clarity matters. Adolf Hitler did not begin with the Jews. The Nazi regime's machinery of persecution and murder was built in stages. It began with people the regime labeled defectives: people with physical and mental disabilities who were subjected to forced sterilization and, ultimately, to systematic killing. It expanded to include gay men, who were imprisoned and sent to concentration camps. It swept up Roma people, the gypsies who were persecuted, deported, and murdered in numbers that Europe is still reckoning with. The genocide of European Jews – what they now call the Holocaust – was not the spark. It was the direct result of a society that had already learned, step by step, to dehumanize people in categories. That is what unchecked rhetoric does. It does not stay where it starts. It teaches cruelty and then it spreads. That is why he

was here tonight. The mayor's wife made racist and xenophobic comments. She has not apologized. Not once. Not in any form. And Mayor Emery Doughtie, the elected leader of this city, waited a full week before offering a response that, by any honest measure, was too little, too late, and too carefully worded to mean very much at all. That is not leadership. That is damage control. And this community deserves to know the difference.

He stated Mayor Doughtie, "Your time is up." He also wanted to speak directly to Council. Their silence is not neutrality. Silence in the face of racist rhetoric is a choice, and this community sees it. Your combined statement doesn't mention the mayor's wife by name or even her comments, it is simply a generic statement that didn't really let anyone know where you stand on this specific issue. When talk of dissolving the police department came about, each one of them made a point to take an individual stand and make public statements in open session supporting the municipal police force. It is really telling that none of them were brave enough to attach your names to a comment directly condemning the mayor's wife or the lack of leadership the mayor showed by staying silent for a full week while the national media picked up this story and ran with it, further disgracing the city. He said he wanted all of them to take a step back and think. Would they handle this the same way if their spouse said what Yvonne Doughtie said? Would they handle this the same way if their spouse had years' worth of anti-Muslim xenophobic rhetoric plastered all over their public Facebook profile? There is no path forward for Roanoke Rapids with Emery Doughtie as mayor. A leader who cannot promptly, clearly, and sincerely condemn hate speech – including hate speech from within his own household – has forfeited the trust this office requires.

He stated he will be back. He will be back at the next meeting, and the one after that, and every meeting that follows, until Mayor Doughtie resigns or is removed. Because Niemöller's great regret was that he waited. He prefers to live his life without regrets.

Public Comment (Unscheduled)

Amanda Briggs

Ms. Briggs stated she was the President/CEO of the Lake Gaston Regional Chamber of Commerce. She hit heavy on regional because she's not just Lake Gaston; she covers five counties. One of those being Halifax. She announced about two hours ago, she got off the phone with Congressman Don Davis. He is coming to the Lake Gaston area on Friday, September 4th at 9:30 a.m. at the Chamber office to do a Meet and Greet with small business owners. It is not a campaign stop. He is literally coming to hear from the small business owners. She invited anyone who would like to come and

attend, share successes, share struggles, or anything that they would like to talk to him about, please do so.

Jim Garrett

Mr. Garrett congratulated the mayor. He said that was quite a heroic demonstration standing up for his wife. She's a private citizen and she has no bearing on his job and thinks it's commendable. He asked the city manager to resign because it's a clear double standard in their leadership. The mayor's wife is a private citizen. She made comments on Facebook. The city manager issued an official statement about these comments and all of them signed it. Now a city employee, the city librarian, has entered the same fight. She identified herself as the librarian. She criticized the mayor. She said the mayor should give away all of his pay, and she supported calls for his resignation. The city should have a clear policy separating personal politics from city employment. He's not seen any statement distancing themselves from the comments that Mr. Brodsky's wife, who is the city librarian, made on Facebook. The city manager can publicly address the speech of a private citizen like the mayor's wife. Why is there no clear standard when city employees bring their position to the same controversy? The manager decided to start policing Facebook and her job to hold everyone accountable. The manager has a record of inconsistent leadership. He has lost confidence in the city manager and is asking for her resignation or for them to replace her.

Approval of City Council Minutes

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bryant, seconded by Councilman Jackson, and unanimously carried to approve the August 18, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting minutes as drafted.

New Business

Budget Ordinance (Sponsorship for Main Street Program)

Acting Deputy Finance Director Rourk reported the Main Street program received a donation/sponsorship from Brightspeed in the amount of $15,000. She presented the following ordinance for their consideration:

Ordinance No. 2026.42
CITY OF ROANOKE RAPIDS
BUDGET AMENDMENT

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE RAPIDS:

SECTION 1. The following additional amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation of City Government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, according to the following schedule:

SCHEDULE A – PROJECT FUND REVENUES

Main Street Department – Donations/Sponsorship – Brightspeed	
Project Revenues – Main Street (100-35501-000-000000)	**$15,000.00**
FUND PROJECT TOTAL	**$15,000.00**

SECTION 2. The following additional revenues and reductions in appropriations are available for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, in order to meet the foregoing appropriations, according to the following schedule:

SCHEDULE B – PROJECT FUND EXPENDITURES

Main Street Department – Donations/Sponsorship – Brightspeed	
Project Expenditures – Main Street (100-54076-160-000000)	**$15,000.00**
FUND PROJECT TOTAL	**$15,000.00**

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

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Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor

Motion was made by Councilman Bell, seconded by Councilman Strickland, and unanimously carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2026.42 in the amount of $15,000 for sponsorship to the Main Street Program.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Traynham presented and reviewed the following report:

Community

- *Twilight Festival, Friday, September 18th at Centennial Park*
- *The Halifax County Board of Commissioners will hold its September 21 meeting at 5:30 PM in the Lloyd Andrews City Meeting Hall, Roanoke Rapids*
- *NCDOT Fall Litter Sweep, September 12-26. Resources are available for NCDOT roadways. She encouraged and asked community groups to help clean up litter in the city within that timeframe.*

Main Street

- *First Fridays will be celebrated monthly beginning Friday, 9/4 from 6:00-8:00 PM*

Police Department

- *Community Meeting was held last night August 31 at Chaloner Rec, 6:30 PM. They had record attendance and good conversations were had. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 19 at First Pentecostal Church on Becker Drive.*
- *Police Club Cornhole Tournament – September 19 at TJ Davis to benefit Christmas for Kids.*

Planning & Development

- *Cross Creek Subdivision – infrastructure near completion for a new single-family residential section. At an upcoming meeting, they will ask City Council to consider accepting the streets.*

Parks & Recreation

- *Registration is open for the Roanoke Canal 5k Run & Walk to be held on Saturday, September 19. The race will start/end at Dominion Day Use Park (end of Oakwood Ave). A registration link is available at www.roanokecanal.com.*
- *Senior Center upcoming events:*
  - *Grief Support with Nancy Hux at 2:00 PM, 9/3 & 9/17*
  - *Hearing Life Screens, 9/9*
  - *Medicare Appointments, 9/21*
  - *ECU Health Screens, 9/29*
  - *Aging Expo at Kirkwood Adams Civic Center, October 1st*

Fire

- *September is Lymphoma Awareness Month, and the department will maintain the tradition of wearing **slime green** to increase awareness of firefighter cancer risks. It is also Suicide Awareness Month, they have some wrist bands to remind folks and to promote 988 Help Line for those in crisis.*

Public Works

- *Preparing vehicles and equipment for loose leaf collection, begins November 1*
- *Secured vacant residential structures at 217 Monroe and 126 Wilkins streets*

Administration/HR/Finance

- *Facilitating the issuance of NC General Assembly directed law enforcement bonuses*
- *Preparing for FY26 Audit Services*
- *City will observe the Labor Day Holiday on Monday, September 7*

City Council

- *Next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 15 at 5:30 PM*

City Manager Traynham called upon Main Street Director Thomas to share information about First Fridays and the Brightspeed sponsorship.

Main Street Director Thomas reported the $15,000 budget amendment approved earlier tonight was from Brightspeed. They are grateful that Brightspeed sees what they are trying to do here in Roanoke Rapids, specifically in the Main Street District. She called Amanda Briggs up to the podium and introduced her as the chairperson of the Main Street Advisory Committee. The funds received will support district programming, marketing, district activation and public spaces, event resources and pilot projects.

Ms. Briggs added that Brightspeed partnered with Main Street for their first Fourth of July celebration. They were essential in helping them provide a fun, family-friendly atmosphere. They are in discussion about whether they are going to continue this tradition. There were a lot more people who attended than they anticipated. They could not have done it without Brightspeed and are very appreciative of them.

Main Street Director Thomas said to continue to activate the historic district, they will be having First Fridays. The series is for September, October and November. Their first event will be held this Friday, from 6 – 8 p.m. at the 1026 Roanoke Avenue greenspace. It will feature Seven Springs Winery, Joe's to Go and Blend of Flavors. It's a community-oriented event that will bring people together to enjoy one another and it also looks at economic vitality to show people the 1026 space is available to rent. The space is available to rent for $40 per day. It has a beautiful water feature and lights overhead. There will also be wine tasting and karaoke. She referred to the flyer and stated there are posts on Facebook as well. She invited everyone to attend the event on Friday, as well as on October 2nd and November 6th. Each one has a different theme. September's theme is Sips, Spurs & Salsa; October 2nd is Mixtapes & Moscato; November 6th is Motown & Merlot.

Mayor Doughtie stated the Police Community Meeting at Chaloner Recreation Center the other night had a good group of people there; it was pretty much full. People asked a lot of good questions, and it was very easy to discern that the individuals that were there were very interested. They've had some comments about defunding or doing away with the Police Department. Councilman Strickland and Council Bell were also there. In his opinion, it seemed like they were very much interested in enhancing the Police Department if anything, much less doing away with it. People were sincere about the difficulties that they had experienced, and it wasn't just in one area of town. He has been to a couple of meetings, and he thought this was by far the best one. The Chief and Captains that were there provided good information for the people. He felt like he got something out of it and believed the people that came did also. He thinks if they can continue those meetings they will continue to have better attendance.

Mayor Doughtie asked how people get materials for the Fall Litter Sweep. City Manager Traynham replied they can request through the county NCDOT maintenance office. He asked if Public Works could suggest some areas that really need clean up. One that pops in his head is where Hinson Street connects to 10th Street. He thought this would be a good project, and they would get an immediate benefit from it.

Councilman Jackson asked City Manager Traynham for the status of demolition at 2nd and Roanoke Avenue. She replied they have an order for the demolition and removal. The owner of the property has not complied with that order. City Council

has the authority to complete remediation, which would be demolition in this case. The Planning Department did solicit bids back in April and received a bid of $500,000 for the demolition. Currently, that project is not funded.

Councilman Jackson asked what they needed to do to fund it. City Manager Traynham replied appropriations by City Council in the form of a budget amendment.

Mayor Doughtie said when Congressman Don Davis came to visit Roanoke Rapids back several months ago, he stated he could not help them because it was a private building. He asked what would happen if they reached out to the owners and purchased it from them and it would become the City's building. It would at least open it up for the opportunity to receive funding. He asked if that was possible.

Attorney Davis stated that is a dangerous choice for City Council unless they were 100% certain they would get that funding. He thinks it would be trivial for them to take it into their possession but then suddenly they would have that liability. As it is now, if the building were to fall down today, it is not the City's problem because it's not their property. Just because something happens in the City of Roanoke Rapids, it is not the City or liability carrier's problem. If the City owns that building, it is absolutely their problem. Without that guarantee of funding, he strongly discouraged that from becoming City property because they would be accepting a huge liability.

He continued to say the City through various statutes has the authority to condemn and clean up a lot of properties that are derelict or have become a public nuisance that are in need of demolition or repair. But that would very quickly bankrupt the City because the costs fall on them. They could do a budget amendment and take $500,000 out of fund balance to demolish the building; he would not suggest that. The adopted budget is what it is and there is not really any give there so there is only one other place they could get funding this fiscal year and that is the fund balance. In a longer-term program, the City could raise taxes to fund demolition efforts. Unless there is some kind of outside grant or somebody is going to give that money to the City, that is money that would be spent by the City that is not going to come back. The idea to demolish a building and essentially create a vacant lot; what is the value of a vacant lot on the corner of 2nd and Roanoke Avenue have? Probably not very much and definitely not $500,000.

Attorney Davis said with aging buildings like this, it is one of the reasons modern building codes are so important. They require developers to build buildings in a certain way, so they have a normal life span. They won't have to worry about buildings during that life span becoming derelict because of poor construction. Those buildings on Roanoke Avenue are very old. When they were built, he was not sure what someone

had in mind for their normal life span. Obviously, it has come to the end of that. He believes they all agree the building needs to be demolished. With the level of asbestos in the building there is no other solution. Unless the State creates some kind of program or some wealthy benevolent billionaire wants to give them money to take care of it, the only way the City funds that demolition is either using savings or creating new revenue to that level. That is the dilemma they are in. He understands people want solutions for that. Sometimes they may think since they have not seen any solution there it's because they haven't found the magic bullet or there is a magic bullet that the City is choosing not to use; that is not the case. If they had some way of solving this problem, he is certain the City would go down that road and do it.

City Manager Traynham added that administration continues to look for and pursue remedies for that building. It has changed ownership since City Council adopted the ordinance on it. The owner of record has corresponded with the Planning Department maybe one time, but now they have been unresponsive.

Councilman Stainback asked how many bids were submitted for demolition of the building. City Manager Traynham replied possibly two. He asked if there was any hope to get more bids. She said they could rebid the project and see what the return is. They have advertised it for bid a few times. Because of the anticipated costs, they have to follow State procurement processes and receive a certain number of bids. If they do not receive that certain number, they must readvertise upset bid. It could be a lengthy process that they are willing to pursue on it. Stand-alone homes or buildings are much easier but when there are shared walls there are structural conditions they have to be aware of and concerned about in those scenarios.

Councilman Stainback asked if they could get a consensus on that to bid it out again.

Councilman Strickland asked if they just advertised it for bid or did they contact contractors to bid on it. City Manager Traynham stated it has to be a formal bid procedure, advertisement and scope of work. They would follow the general statute guidance. She said Council action is not necessarily required since they had already ordered the demolition and clearance. Again, they can pursue that with the cost of advertising.

Councilman Stainback said he thought he heard the cost was $250,000. City Manager Traynham replied that cost was shared several years ago. The majority of the costs are for the disposal of the material. It's a lot of brick, metal and wood, assuming contamination, that must go to an asbestos receiving landfill under certain treatment conditions.

Attorney Davis said when the City Manager says assuming contamination, it's not they assume its contaminated, the law requires them to say it's contaminated because they know some of the structure is contaminated so they have to treat all the materials that come from that site as they are contaminated.

City Manager Traynham said the condition of the building does not allow a full asbestos survey to be conducted where all the materials could be tested. Under the routine process, the removal of asbestos is required before someone can be issued a demolition permit. Due to the unsafe conditions of the building, they are not able to go in and effectively remove the asbestos containing materials prior to starting demolition activities, so everything has to be treated as asbestos through approved methods with environmental services.

Mayor Doughtie stated he understands the walls are eight bricks thick so it's probably not going to fall when the roof continues to go down. They may be looking at 30-40 more years unless they get a violent storm or something. Everybody wants to know what's going on downtown. He thinks they need to continue to try every angle to see if there is some money to come from somewhere.

Councilman Jackson asked City Manager Traynham about her follow up on the Brownfield cleanup and assessment grant. She replied as part of the Brownfield Coalition, there will be a meeting next week where they will discuss the 2027 application period.

Councilman Jackson asked her if there was any reason why they were declined funding for 2024 - 2026. City Manager Traynham explained it is a very competitive program through the United States Environmental Protection Agency in regional applications. People all over the United States review different locations. The City's applications have been competitive but there is not enough money to serve all. Those grant applications are typically for a 3–5-year period of performance. The City works with the Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments because the regional applications are determined to be the most successful option. There is feedback that has been shared with the applicant so they will learn more about what they need to do to improve the application. Again, it is a very competitive program. Buildings all across the United States are experiencing similar conditions. They were built 100+ years ago. The owners fail to maintain them and then neglect their properties so that is how they end up where they are.

Attorney Davis said to keep in mind that this problem is not unique to Roanoke Rapids. It is a problem that a lot of towns this size and smaller have. They have a significant number of commercial structures that were built in the middle part of the

20th century, and they've just reached the end of their lifespan. Cities like them have built out and moved away from their main streets because of the costs of remediating buildings as opposed to the cost to build something new. They end up in these situations where they have an aging main street that the costs make it prohibitive for the owners to remediate. They've talked before about when a building is held by an LLC and that is the only asset. The City would love to go after the individuals involved in the LLC, but generally they cannot do that for a liability such as this. If courts allowed them to pierce the corporate veil in scenarios like this, they wouldn't have LLCs; there would be no point in that corporate protection. Is that fair, is that right? In this case, it really does hurt a city like theirs. A corporate entity can own a piece of property like this with no other assets and say they don't have any other assets, just liabilities. That constrains the City's ability to be able to recover anything. They cannot drag the members of that LLC and throw them in jail or threaten them in any way to get them to do that. That's not something legally they have tools to do in this state or country.

Mayor Pro Tem Bryant said she has talked with a couple of Council members about the upcoming Fall Litter Sweep. She thinks it would be a great opportunity for them to assist the citizens in getting areas cleaned up. She asked Interim Public Works Director Love if he could provide bags from the county. City Manager Traynham said it would be through NCDOT for State roads. Mayor Pro Tem Bryant continued to say she would like to put the word out. If they have organizations that are willing to do some community cleanup during that time. They've designated September 12th – 26th. Please let her know personally because they have other Council members, Councilman Bell and Councilman Stainback, who have agreed to participate. They would be happy to come out and help do some work to beautify the city. She was not sure how much difference it would make, but if it's only two or three yards that they get done, it's going to make it look better than not doing anything. She again invited other community groups to join in and let them know if they need bags. They can set a schedule as to where they want to work some of those days.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Councilman Stainback, seconded by Councilman Bell, and unanimously carried to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Traci V. Storey

Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

Approved by Council Action on: September 15, 2026