

The Closed Session Meeting of the Petersburg City Council was held on Thursday, June 26, 2025, at the Petersburg Public Library. Mayor Parham called the Closed Session Meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. The meeting link is <https://petersburgva.new.swagit.com/videos/345960>.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Charles Cuthbert
Council Member Howard Myers
Council Member Arnold Westbrook
Vice Mayor Darrin Hill
Mayor Samuel Parham

Absent: Council Member Marlow Jones (Late)
Council Member Smith-Lee

Present from City Administration:
City Manager John March Altman, Jr.
City Attorney Anthony Williams
City Clerk Tangi Hill

2. CLOSED SESSION

The purpose of this meeting is to convene in the closed session pursuant to:

- a. §2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia for the Purpose of Discussion or Consideration of the Acquisition of Real Property for a Public Purpose and the Disposition of Publicly Held Real Property Where Discussion in an Open Meeting Would Adversely Affect the Bargaining Position or Negotiating Strategy of the Public Body, Specifically Including But Not Limited to the Acquisition and Disposition of Real Property; and
- b. §2.2-3711(A)(29) of the Code of Virginia for the Purpose of Discussion Regarding the Subject of Award of a Public Contract Involving the Expenditure of Public Funds, and Discussion of the Terms or Scope of Such Contract, Where Discussion in an Open Session Would Adversely Affect the Bargaining Position or Negotiating Strategy of the Public Body; and
- c. §2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia for the Purpose of Discussion Pertaining to Performance, Assignment, and Appointment of Specific Public Employees of the City of Petersburg, Specifically Including But Not Limited to Discussion of the Performance, Assignment, and Appointment of a Specific Public Officer of the City of Petersburg

Vice Mayor Hill made a motion to enter into Closed Session for the purpose stated. Council Member Westbrook seconded the motion.

There was no discussion on the motion. The motion was approved on roll call vote.

On roll call vote, voting Yes: Cuthbert, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, and Parham; No: N/A; Abstain: N/A.

The Council entered Closed Session at 12:36 p.m.

Council Member Jones arrived at 12:38 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

Mr. Williams stated, "The Mayor would entertain a motion to conclude the closed session called today to certify in accordance with §2.2-3712 that the Code of Virginia that to the best of each members knowledge that only public business matter lawfully exempted from the opening meeting requirements were discussed and that only such public business matters were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened, heard, discussed, or considered. If any member believes that there was a departure from the foregoing requirements should state prior to the vote indicating the substance for departure in which he believes has occurred. This requires a roll call vote Mr. Mayor."

Vice Mayor Hill made a motion to return the City Council to the open session and certify the purposes of the closed session. Council Member Westbrook seconded the motion.

There was no discussion on the motion. The motion was approved on a roll call vote.

On a roll call vote, voting Yes: Cuthbert, Jones, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, and Parham; No: N/A; Abstain: N/A.

2025-RES-030

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING, AS REQUIRED BY THE CODE OF VIRGINIA, SECTION 2.2-3712, THAT TO THE BEST OF EACH MEMBER'S KNOWLEDGE, ONLY PUBLIC BUSINESS MATTERS LAWFULLY EXEMPTED FROM OPEN MEETING REQUIREMENTS OF VIRGINIA LAW WERE DISCUSSED IN THE CLOSED SESSION, AND ONLY SUCH PUBLIC BUSINESS MATTERS AS WERE IDENTIFIED IN THE MOTION CONVENING THE CLOSED SESSION WERE HEARD, DISCUSSED, OR CONSIDERED

The City Council returned to the open session at 1:53p.m.

Mayor Parham entertained a motion to suspend the rules of Council.

Vice Mayor Hill made a motion to suspend the rules of the Council. Council Member Myers seconded the motion. All members of the Council present voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Mayor Parham entertained a motion to add an Ordinance to Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate a Master Development Agreement Between the City and a Selected Developer for the Conveyance of Real Property in Furtherance of the 801 S Adams Street Project.

Vice Mayor Hill made a motion to add an Ordinance to Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate a Master Development Agreement Between the City and a Selected Developer for the Conveyance of Real Property in Furtherance of the 801 S Adams Street Project. Council Member Westbrook seconded the motion. All members of the Council present voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Mayor Parham entertained a motion for the adoption of an Ordinance to Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate a Master Development Agreement Between the City and a Selected Developer for the Conveyance of Real Property in Furtherance of the 801 S Adams Street Project.

Vice Mayor Hill made a motion to adopt an Ordinance to Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate a Master Development Agreement Between the City and a Selected Developer for the Conveyance of Real Property in Furtherance of the 801 S Adams Street Project. Council Member Myers seconded the motion.

Council Member Cuthbert stated that he wanted to have some debate on the motion. He added that he felt that they were entitled to that. He stated that he was going to vote against this motion. His reason for doing so was that the language of the ordinance is too vague and consequently is going to get the City into legal trouble. He added that this ordinance was drafted without input from the City Attorney, and we are going to get ourselves into trouble by adopting this ordinance. He reiterated that he was going to vote against it. He closed by thanking the Mayor.

On roll call vote, voting Yes: Jones, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, and Parham; No: Cuthbert; Abstain: N/A.

The motion was approved on a roll call vote.

**2025-ORD- 42 AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER
TO NEGOTIATE A MASTER DEVELOPMENT
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND A SELECTED
DEVELOPER FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF REAL
PROPERTY IN FURTHERANCE OF THE 801 S ADAMS
STREET PROJECT**

Vice Mayor Hill called for a point of order.

Council Member Cuthbert asked that Clerk to record his vote as a no. City Clerk Hill confirmed that she did record his vote as a no.

Vice Mayor Hill stated that it's amazing. The way we try to do things is perfectly in order. Everybody is entitled to their opinion on things. We just discussed this matter and for you to give an outside entity almost ammunition against the City is terrible. Vice Mayor Hill stated that he wanted to go on the record for saying that. He closed by thanking the Mayor.

Mayor Parham stated that it is. He thanked the City Council for this vote to keep 801 South Adams Street moving. He wanted to let the people know that the people have spoken that they want to see this project move forward.

3. ADJOURNMENT:

City Council adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Adopted: 07/01/2025

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul Pridemore", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tange R. Hill", written over a horizontal line.

City Clerk