

**Work Session Agenda
Staunton City Council
Caucus Room
April 9, 2026
5:15 p.m.**

- 5:15 p.m. 1. Consideration of Work Session and Regular Meeting Agendas**
- 5:20 p.m. 2. Joint Work Session—FY 2027 School Board Budget**
- 5:45 p.m. Return to Council Chambers**

Rita S. Wilson Council Chambers

- 5:50 p.m. 3. Update and Discussion on Staunton Crossing Business Plan**
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner Break Until Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

**Regular Meeting Agenda
Staunton City Council
Rita S. Wilson Council Chambers
April 9, 2026
7:00 p.m.**

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation/Moment of Silence—Shepherd

Mayor’s Report

Additional Items by Members of Council

REGULAR MEETING

A. Consent Agenda

A.1. Approval of Minutes

Work Session and Regular Meeting of March 26, 2026

A.2 Consideration of Proclamation to be Presented in Council Chambers Recognizing Arbor Day 2026

A.3. Consideration of Proclamation to be Presented in Council Chambers Recognizing Economic Development Week

A.4. Consideration of Virginia Department of Transportation Blanket Resolution for Signature Authority and Funding Commitments

All items will be voted on in one (1) motion. If so requested by any member of Council, an item placed on the consent agenda shall be removed and taken up as a separate matter at the end of the Regular Meeting.

B. Discussion Followed by Public Hearing on Water User Fee, Sewer User Fee, Refuse User Fees, and Landfill Fees as Included in the FY 2027 Proposed Budget*

C. Discussion Followed by Public Hearing of an Ordinance to Establish a Budget for FY 2027 (July 1, 2026—June 30, 2027) and to Increase Excise Tax Rate on Sale of Cigarettes to \$.40 Per Pack*

Matters from the City Manager

Matters from the Public*

Adjournment

***Public Participation** For instructions on how to participate in a Public Hearing and Matters from the Public portions of the City Council meeting visit www.staunton.va.us/council.

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	April 9, 2026	City Council
Item #	1	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Integrity Engagement	
Subject:	Work Session and Regular Meeting Agendas	

Background: Consistent with Procedural Memorandum No. 3, attached are draft meeting agendas for City Council's consideration and for approval as Council prefers.

Suggested Motion: I move to approve the Work Session agenda and the Regular Meeting agenda [as presented] [with the following changes: as to the Work Session, the addition/deletion of _____; as to the Regular Meeting, the addition/deletion of _____].

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	April 9, 2026	Dr. Eric Irizarry School Superintendent Leslie Beauregard City Manager
Item #	2	
Department:	School Board City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Excellence Strategic Area: An Informed and Engaged Community	
Subject:	Joint Work Session—FY 2027 School Board Budget	

Background: City Council and Staunton City School Board will meet in a joint work session to discuss the proposed FY 2027 Staunton City Schools budget.

City Manager’s Recommendation: Not applicable.

Suggested Motion: Not applicable.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	April 9, 2026	Amanda DiMeo, Director of Economic Development Jessica Blythe, Assistant Director of Economic Development
Item #	3	
Department:	Economic Development	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Inclusion & Equity; Excellence, Engagement Strategic Areas: An Economically Vibrant Community; A Resilient and Sustainable Community	
Subject:	Update on Staunton Crossing Business Plan	

Background: In 2019, City Council approved the Staunton Crossing Business Plan, establishing a framework for site development, marketing, and infrastructure readiness. Since that time, several tasks identified in the plan have been completed, while others remain outstanding. Market conditions, industry trends, and site considerations have also evolved, prompting the need to reassess priorities and next steps related to the plan.

In February, the Economic Development Authority (EDA) received a presentation from the Timmons Group outlining the status of the 2019 plan and the need for an updated version. The EDA unanimously supported moving forward with this update. Tim Davey, who led development of the original plan, will attend the work session to provide an overview and assist with Council questions.

The session will also include discussion of target industries for Staunton Crossing and what additional policy or planning actions may be necessary to ensure the site is fully prepared.

Attachment: Presentation

City Manager's Recommendation: Not applicable.

Suggested Motion: Not applicable.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

STAUNTON CROSSING BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE



Original Business Plan Stakeholders

EDA

City Council

City Staff

Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP)

Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP)

Private Development Partners

Buckingham Branch Railroad



Current Target Industries

Advanced Manufacturing

Logistics/Transportation

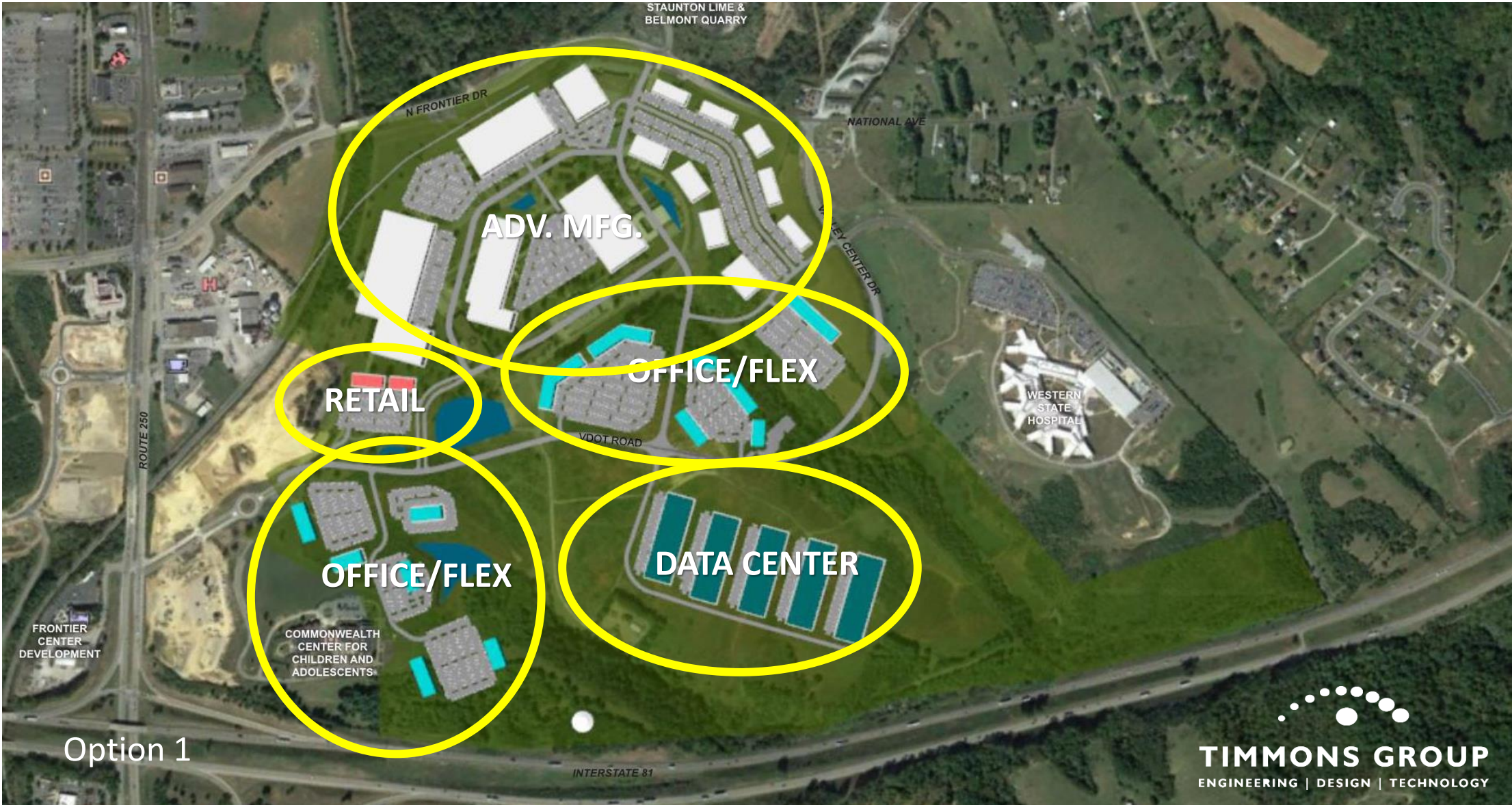
Food & Beverage/ Agricultural

Professional Services

Rail-Oriented Industry

Data Centers/Mission Critical

The Staunton Crossing Plan



Option 1

The Staunton Crossing Plan

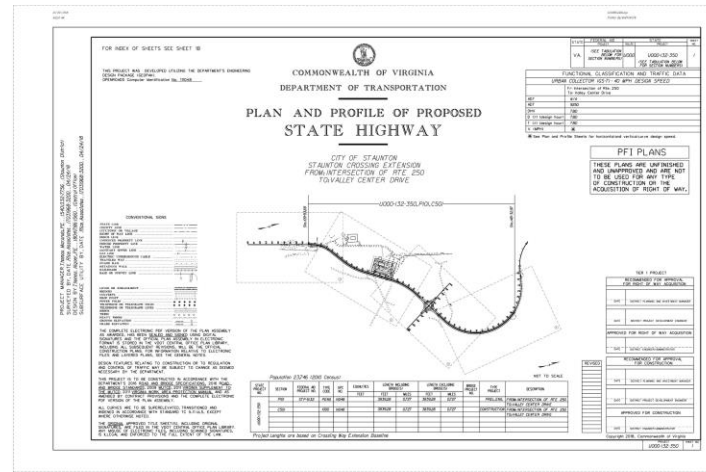
THE BIG PICTURE



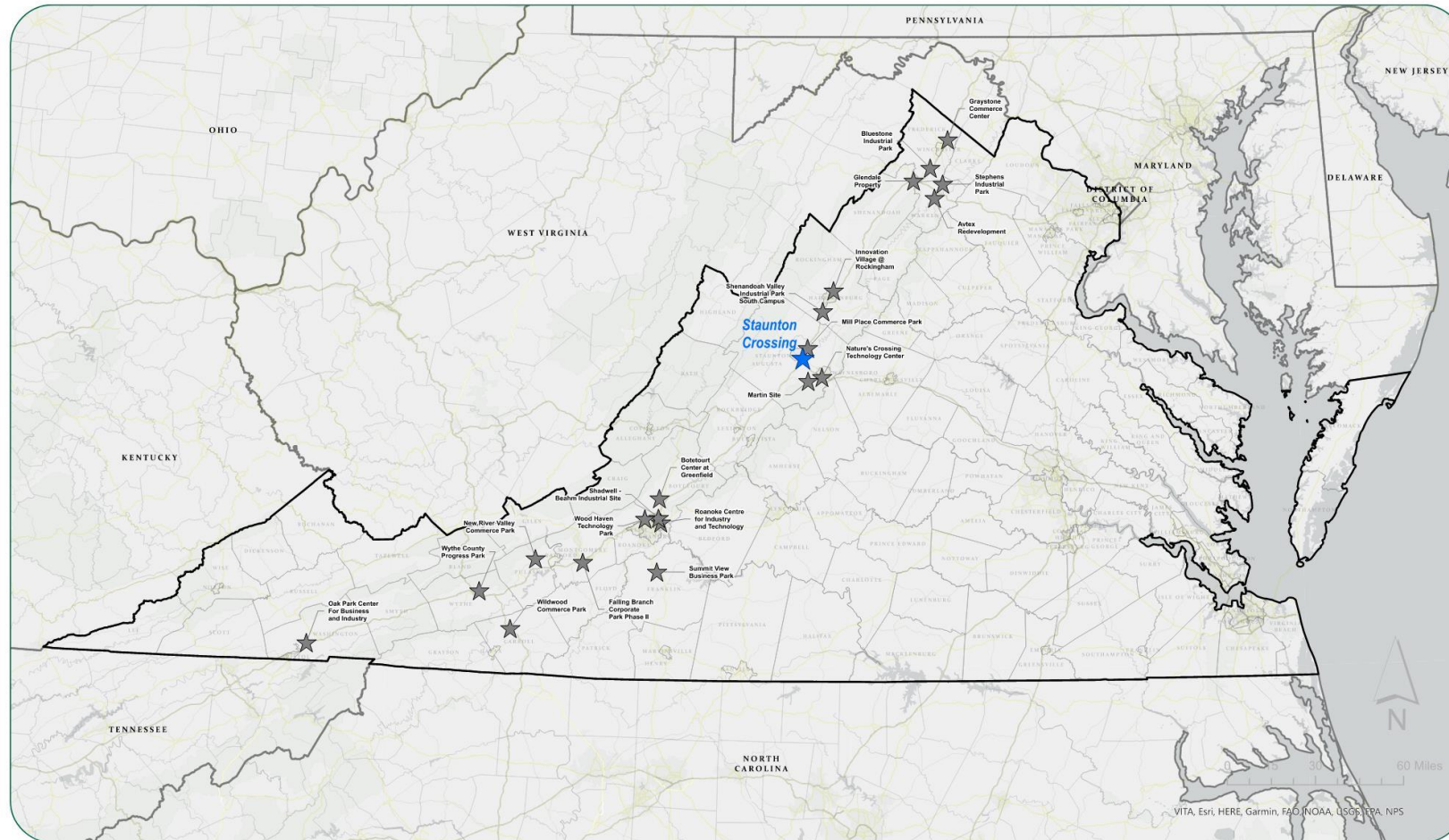
	TABLE 1	TABLE 2	TABLE 3	MASTER PLAN
TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE	2,115,000	2,047,500	2,497,500	1,840,000
\$\$ OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT	\$292,613,347	\$289,218,028	\$341,263,364	\$264,000,000
REAL ESTATE TAXES	\$2,831,488	\$2,793,040	\$3,295,261	\$2,152,000
MACH. & TOOL TAXES	\$707,400	\$1,275,750	\$1,545,750	\$1,885,000
JOB	2448	2869	1537	3250
TAXES PER ACRE	\$10,724	\$12,330	\$14,670	\$12,233
JOB PER ACRE	7.4	8.7	4.7	9.8

Original Recommendations

1. Demolish Existing Buildings
2. Build New VDOT Road
3. Brownfields Grant Funding
4. ROI Analysis
5. Tier 4 Site Readiness Certification
6. Develop Marketing Plan
7. Draft Design Guidelines Agreements
8. Draft Covenants & Restrictions
9. Data Center Strategies
10. Get Ready for Construction



Marketing Plan



Staunton Crossing - Competitor Sites
Augusta County, VA



Marketing Plan

High Priority

Site Readiness

Development Timeline

Emphasizing Unique
Characteristics

Medium Priority

Workforce and Training
Availability

Infrastructure
Availability and
Redundancy

Low Priority

Site Location

Visibility

Access to Market

Transportation
Ownership

Get Ready for Construction



Tier 4 Certified in 2026

\$9 Million Grant for Staunton Crossing Infrastructure

Aug. 9, 2024 –The City of Staunton has been awarded a \$9 million grant by the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) to fund infrastructure improvements at Staunton Crossing.

New Staunton Water Tower Rises Over I-81 as Construction Reaches Major Milestone

Nov. 25, 2025 – Holiday travelers driving I-81 this week may notice a striking new feature on Staunton’s skyline. The City of Staunton’s new 1-million-gallon elevated water storage tank at [Staunton Crossing](#) has reached a major construction milestone with the lift of its 264-ton steel bowl.

<https://www.facebook.com/timmonsgroup/videos/1239495318119278/>

Recommendations

- 1. Develop a diverse, internal marketing team for Staunton Crossing.*
- 2. Increase Staunton Crossing's online searchability targeted at site selection decision-makers.*
- 3. Create a target marketing portfolio.*
- 4. Building on current marketing material, create industry specific support material concentrating content on data most important to those industries targeted.*
- 5. Create a stronger presence for Staunton Crossing through social media outlets.*
- 6. Develop an ongoing campaign to disseminate news and updates focused on the development and activity related to Staunton Crossing.*
- 7. Host "on-site" visits to Staunton for site selection decision-makers which spotlight Staunton Crossing.*
- 8. Improve the physical site visibility and appearance of Staunton Crossing from I-81.*

Current Trends

1. **Pharmaceutical Manufacturing**
2. **Mission Critical/Data Centers/Supply Chain**
3. **On-site Energy Generation**
4. **AI Site Elimination vs. Site Selection**
5. **Where will my employees come from?**
6. **Where will my employees live?**
7. **Creative Tax Strategies**
8. **Strategic Target Marketing**
9. **Placemaking/Story Telling**
10. **GameDay Strategies**

Virginia is a Top State for Business (CNBC, 2025)

Virginia has placed in the top 5 states for eight years running. Major investments in education, infrastructure, business friendliness, quality of life, technology and innovation, and access to capital solidified Virginia's No. 4 spot. Virginia moved into the top 10 for the quality of life and technology and innovation categories, landed No. 2 for infrastructure and finished as the No. 1 state for education.

Recommendations

- 1. Review previously completed Business Plan and all efforts since it's completion including marketing updates, infrastructure improvements, prospect test-fits and visits, and debriefs from VEDP and/or SVP**
- 2. Prepare for and conduct a 60 minute kickoff work session to be scheduled as part of the EDA's monthly scheduled meetings to review the current plan and layout a plan for updates**
- 3. Revisit the goals of the current Business Plan and provide a re-fresh regarding the target jobs/acre and revenue/acre based on our experience with other similar projects.**
- 4. Review the target markets outlined in the Business Plan and work with the City, VEDP and SVP to make sure the property aligns with the updated marketing efforts and prospects anticipated in 2026 and beyond**
- 5. Provide a refreshed DRAFT of the Business Plan and updated master planning graphics at a regularly scheduled EDA meeting**
- 6. Provide an Updated Business Plan**

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	April 9, 2026	City Council
Item #:	A	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Integrity; Engagement Strategic Area: An Informed and Engaged Community	
Subject:	Consent Agenda	

Background: As provided in [Council Procedure Memorandum No. 14](#), it is the policy of City Council to have the City Manager place routine, noncontroversial items on a Consent Agenda. Briefings for each item included on the Consent Agenda have been prepared in the manner and format of regular business items on the agenda, with each item described in sufficient detail to provide the public with an appropriate understanding of such item. All matters listed on the Consent Agenda will be enacted by one motion and as a single item. There will be no separate discussion of an item. If discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of a member of City Council and considered separately at the end of the regular meeting agenda.

The Mayor will inquire whether any member of City Council desires to remove any item from the Consent Agenda and to place such item on the regular meeting agenda for separate consideration.

Suggested Motion (if no items removed): I move to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Suggestion Motion (if one or more items removed): I move to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of item(s) _____, and that item(s)_____ be moved to the end of the regular agenda for discussion and a separate vote.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	April 9, 2026	City Council
Item #	A.1	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Integrity Engagement	
Subject:	Approval of Minutes	

Background: Draft meeting minutes are attached for City Council's consideration and for approval as Council prefers.

Attachment:

Attachment 1 – Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2026 and Budget Work Session of April 2, 2026

Suggested Motions: I move to approve the work session and regular meeting minutes of November 13, 2025 [as presented] [with the following changes: _____.]

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard



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City Council
 WORK SESSION
 Rita S. Wilson City Council Chambers
 March 26, 2026
 5:15 p.m.

Council Members present: Mayor Edwards, Vice Mayor Arrowood, and Councilors Campbell, Overholtzer, Park, Shepherd, and Woods.

Mayor Edwards called this meeting of Staunton City Council to order.

1. Consideration of Work Session and Regular Meeting Agendas

Consistent with Procedural Memorandum No. 3, the agendas were presented for Council consideration.

Councilor Overholtzer moved to approve the work session and regular meeting agendas as presented.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Woods and carried as follows:

Ms. Park	aye	Mr. Shepherd	aye
Mr. Overholtzer	aye	Vice Mayor Arrowood	aye
Ms. Woods	aye	Mayor Edwards	aye
Mr. Campbell	aye		

2. Demonstration of Capital Projects Interactive Map

Josh Knight, Engagement and Communications Manager, presented the following information:

In collaboration with GIS Coordinator, Jessica Wright, the city has developed an interactive Capital Projects Map to provide a visual dashboard of Staunton’s infrastructure investments. This tool tracks projects through planning, construction, and completion phases based on the Capital Improvement Plan. Residents can filter data by construction year, department, and project type to access specific details, including project costs, timelines, and direct contact information.

46 The launch of this platform directly supports the city’s core value of fostering community
47 engagement. By providing residents with timely, accurate, and meaningful information about city
48 capital projects, this modern digital platform fulfills a priority in City Council’s Staunton Plan
49 under the strategic goal area of An Informed and Engaged Community.

50

51 Mr. Knight then offered a demonstration of the Interactive Map by using the Staunton Steam
52 Laundry Sanitary Sewer Project as an example.

53

54

55 Councilor Woods then stated she enjoyed seeing funding sources as part of the Interactive Map.

56

57 Vice-Mayor Arrowood then asked if it might be possible to get in more detail about specific
58 funding sources such as VDOT smart scale funding. He pointed out that some might see the cost
59 of the Edgewood sidewalk project and believe that the City is spending \$5 million when most of
60 that funding is not local funding.

61

62 Councilor Overholtzer asked if the paving schedule could be added to the Interactive Map.

63

64 Mr. Knight said he thought that could be accomplished.

65

66 Councilor Campbell asked if there might be one master Excel file that could be updated
67 automatically.

68

69 Mr. Knight said he would work with Jessica Wright on that issue.

70

71 Councilor Campbell complimented the project.

72

73 Mr. Knight concluded by thanking Jessica Wright for all of her work on the project.

74

75

76 **3. Discussion and Input on the Conceptual Site Plan for Remainder of the Juvenile and** 77 **Domestic Relations District Court Site**

78

79 Rodney Rhodes, Community Development Director, presented the following information:

80

81 Background: At the March 12, 2026 Work Session, staff presented to City Council a very
82 preliminary conceptual plan for the remainder of the former Chestnut Hills shopping center site
83 adjacent to the newly opened JDR District Courthouse on West Beverley Street.

84

85 During the work session, City Council provided initial feedback on the concept plan. At this
86 time, staff needs a consensus and concrete direction from City Council before we engage
87 Moseley Architects to create a Master Plan. Some of the feedback staff heard at the work session
88 on March 12th includes the following (staff comments are in italics):

89

90 1. Land Use, Site Optimization & City Needs

- 91 • Does the current concept represent the highest and best use of the property, particularly
92 given its relationship to the courthouse? This presents an opportunity to reassess long
93 term civic needs.
- 94
- 95 • Redevelopment of Former Building Footprints: The areas where buildings were
96 previously demolished may offer opportunities for new structures that support city
97 operations or community uses. (Developing this area would impact the trails, stormwater
98 facilities, and possibly the flexible open space – the most logical place to relocate an
99 enlarged bioretention facility.)
- 100
- 101 • Preservation of Beverley Street Frontage: The frontage along Beverley Street is a
102 valuable civic asset and should be maximized and preserved for public facing uses.

103 2. Access, Circulation, Pedestrian Infrastructure and Neighborhood Connectivity

- 104 • Secondary Exit to Beverley Street: Determine whether this exit should be retained,
105 modified, or repurposed under future site configurations. (Originally the eastern entrance
106 was considered as an access for court personnel; however, this was not pursued.
107 Therefore, it could be repurposed to provide additional green space along Beverley
108 Street.)
- 109
- 110 • Access to Beverley Court and Adjacent Neighborhoods: There is interest in exploring
111 additional pedestrian access points. (Any new connections would require acquisition of
112 easements.)
- 113 • Potential Sidewalk Connection via Stella Mia’s- Investigate whether a pedestrian
114 easement or cooperative agreement could be pursued to improve sidewalk continuity and
115 reduce pedestrian/vehicle conflict. Sidewalks should be located along the western edge of
116 the access road rather than routed through parking areas to enhance safety, ADA
117 compliance, and overall walkability. (In the past, Stella Mia’s was not receptive to
118 providing a pedestrian easement through their property and Columbia Gas now has an
119 easement along the western side of the access road.)
- 120
- 121 • The possibility of developing the front section of the paper alley should be reviewed to
122 determine whether it could provide additional usable space.
- 123
- 124 • Safe Routes to School (Grubert Project)- Is there an opportunity to integrate sidewalk
125 enhancements that would strengthen pedestrian safety and connectivity. (The concept
126 plan ties into the existing Safe Routes to School crosswalk; however, additional
127 improvements should be considered at this intersection.)

128 3. Open Space & Environmental Considerations

- 129 • Hillside Area- Due to steep grades, this portion of the site is best suited for passive open
130 space rather than development.
- 131
- 132 • A flexible open area that can support events, gatherings, and seasonal programming is
133 strongly supported. Drive through aisles may not be needed around the flexible open
134 space.

- 135 • Permeable Parking Surfaces- While costly, incorporating permeable materials in the
136 parking lot would support stormwater management goals and reduce heat island effects.

137 4. Parking Requirements & Courthouse Coordination

- 138 • Assessment of parking demand and code requirements is needed to determine the
139 appropriate number of spaces. (A parking assessment will be completed once a
140 determination is made on future uses of the site. Any parking plan for the site will need to
141 include the availability of 100 spaces for Stella Mia’s, as required by deed restrictions.)
142 • Evaluate proposed ideas/changes with Courthouse stakeholders for potential conflicts
143 regarding functions, security, access, deliveries, and emergency response.

144 5. Transit Considerations

- 145 • Courthouse Bus Stop - account for a future eastbound stop on West Beverley Street,
146 including space for a bench, shelter, and ADA compliant boarding area. (While the new
147 Bus Stop on the north side of Beverley Street should be sufficient to handle to current
148 demand, ridership should be monitored to determine when/if a new and improved bus
149 stop is warranted.)

150 As was reviewed at the March 12th Work Session, the development of a Master Plan for the
151 entire Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courthouse site was included in the scope of services
152 with Moseley Architects as they developed plans for the new courthouse. The plan would
153 provide a vision of what the entire Chestnut Hills site could look like and funding for the plan
154 was secured through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). However, due to the time
155 constraints placed on constructing the new courthouse, the development of the Master Plan was
156 not undertaken at the time that Moseley Architects developed the courthouse plans. The city now
157 intends to pursue a Master Plan for the site, utilizing the existing ARPA funds; however, the plan
158 needs to be completed by December 2026.

159
160 Mr. Rhodes centered the discussion around the first two questions concerning land use and the
161 redevelopment of the former building footprints.

162
163 Councilor Overholtzer asked what the total square footage of the former building pads is.

164
165 Mr. Rhodes stated 47,652 square feet.

166
167 Mayor Edwards asked about existing space need studies and their application, if any, to the site.

168
169 The City Manager responded that while space need studies for the Police and Fire Departments
170 have been completed, it does not appear that the site could accommodate either entity.

171
172 Councilor Campbell asked if the City needed a detention pond or could it use underground
173 storage.

174
175 Mr. Rhodes stated that while underground stormwater detention methods are good for quantity,
176 they are not good for quality measures of stormwater.

177

178 Councilor Park asked about potentially undergrounding the trail feature. Councilor Shepherd
179 pointed to a similar concept concerning parking at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

180
181 Councilor Campbell stated that he really liked the concept of Generations Park in Bridgewater as
182 a possible concept for the portion of the site near West Beverley Street.

183
184 Councilor Woods stated that she liked the potential shared space use.

185
186 Councilor Overholtzer states that the use of permeable pavers would decrease the space needed
187 for a stormwater detention pond.

188
189 After more discussion, the Council came to a consensus to preserve approximately half of the
190 former building pad sites for potential redevelopment into court service functions. The Council
191 urged the use of permeable pavers. It also asked to preserve as much space as possible for shared
192 space indoor and outdoor uses.

193
194 Councilor Overholtzer asked about next steps.

195
196 Mr. Rhodes stated that he would bring Council’s thoughts back to Moseley, the design firm
197 working on the master plan. He noted that the funds for the master plan have to be expended
198 before the conclusion of the calendar year.

199
200 Mayor Edwards asked if the plan would come back before Council prior to its completion.
201 The City Manager said she would bring a draft of the plan to Council before the end of the calendar
202 year, when the plan must be finalized.

203
204 **4. Closed Meeting for the Performance of the City Manager and Discussion of a Public**
205 **Contract**

206
207 Councilor Campbell moved to enter a closed meeting for (i) the discussion of the performance of
208 the Staunton City Manager pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1); and (ii) the
209 discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds for
210 fluoride infrastructure where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining
211 position or negotiating strategy of the public body pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-
212 3711(A)(29).

213
214 The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Arrowood and carried as follows:

215
216 Ms. Park aye Mr. Shepherd aye
217 Mr. Overholtzer aye Vice Mayor Arrowood aye
218 Ms. Woods aye Mayor Edwards aye
219 Mr. Campbell aye

220
221 The Council reconvened after the closed meeting.

222

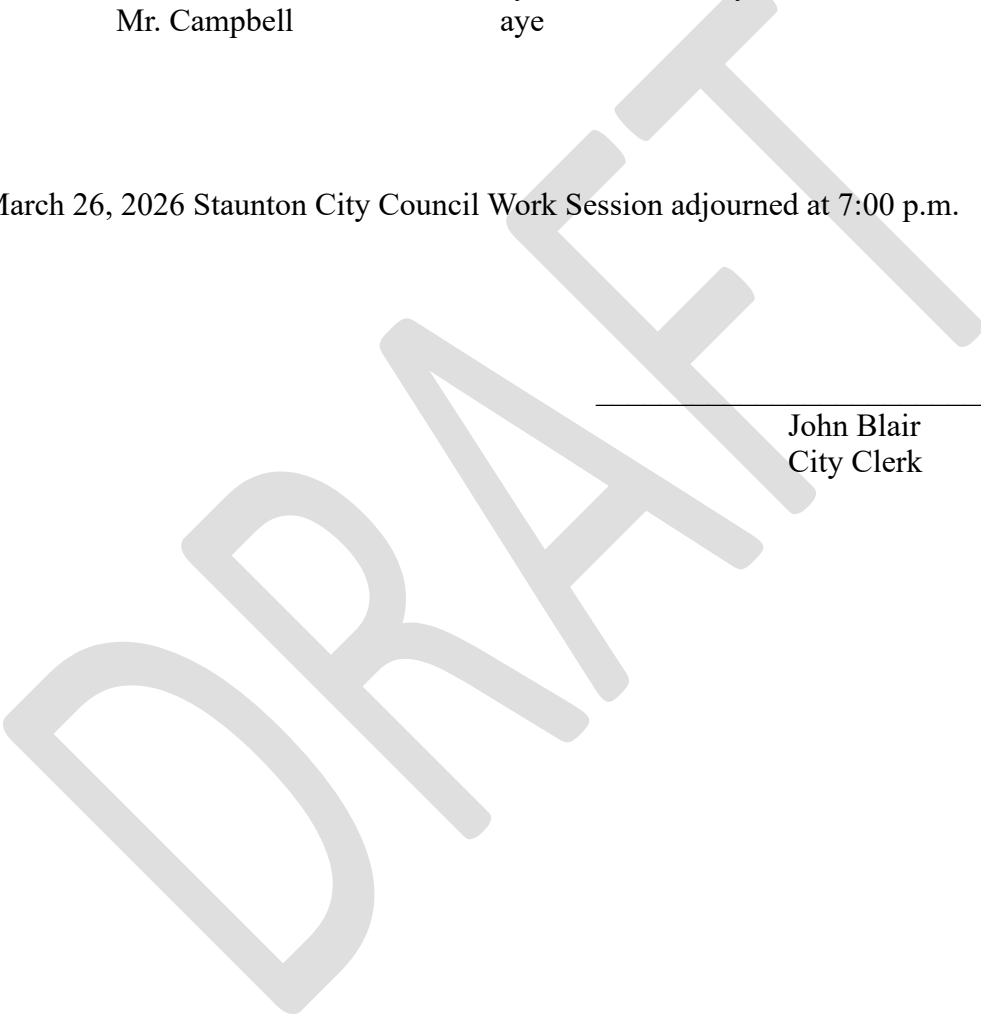
223 Councilor Campbell moved that Council reconvene in an open meeting and certify to the best of
224 each member’s knowledge that only lawfully exempted public business matters were discussed
225 and that only public business matters as identified in the closed meeting motion were heard,
226 discussed or considered in the meeting.

227
228 The motion was seconded by Councilor Overholtzer and carried as follows:

229				
230	Ms. Park	aye	Mr. Shepherd	aye
231	Mr. Overholtzer	aye	Vice Mayor Arrowood	aye
232	Ms. Woods	aye	Mayor Edwards	aye
233	Mr. Campbell	aye		

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237
238 The March 26, 2026 Staunton City Council Work Session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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243
244 _____
245 John Blair
City Clerk





REGULAR MEETING OF STAUNTON CITY COUNCIL
Thursday, March 26, 2026
7:00 p.m.
Rita S. Wilson Council Chambers

PRESENT: Mayor Michele D. Edwards
 Vice Mayor Brad D. Arrowood
 Adam F. Campbell
 Jeff L. Overholtzer
 Corrie R. Park
 Blake N. Shepherd
 Alice L. Woods

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Leslie Beauregard, City Manager
 Amanda DiMeo, Acting Assistant City Manager
 John Blair, City Attorney

Mayor Edwards called the meeting to order: Mayor Edwards called this meeting of Staunton City Council to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

The invocation/moment of silence was given by Councilor Park.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Edwards congratulated the School Board, Superintendent of Schools, and Mr. McCray for the recent School Transportation Hub grand opening. She also thanked all bus drivers and maintenance staff for providing safe transportation for Staunton students.

She also thanked residents for reaching out to her to express their concerns and ideas about the upcoming budget process.

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ADDITIONAL ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Councilor Overholtzer said that he was excited and thankful that the Staunton Farmers’ Market would be moving to West Beverley Street at the new Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courthouse for the 2026 calendar year as repairs proceed at the Wharf.

REGULAR MEETING

A. Consent Agenda (Note: A copy of all Ordinances and Resolutions approved on the Consent Agenda shall appear at the conclusion of these minutes.)

**A.1. Approval of Minutes
Work Session and Regular Meeting of March 12, 2026**

A.2. Consideration of Resolution to Dissolve the City of Staunton Cable Commission

A.3. Consideration of Resolution Approving City Council Summer Meeting Schedule for 2026

Mayor Edwards made the following statement:

“Per Procedure Memorandum No. 14, it is the policy of City Council to have routine, non-controversial items placed on a Consent Agenda. All items on the Consent Agenda will be voted on in one motion. If separate discussion of an item is requested by any member of Council, that item shall be removed and considered separately at the end of the regular meeting agenda.”

Mayor Edwards asked if any Councilmembers desired to remove any item from the Consent Agenda to be placed on the regular meeting agenda for separate consideration.

Councilor Park moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Overholtzer and carried as follows:

Ms. Woods	aye	Ms. Park	aye
Mr. Shepherd	aye	Vice Mayor Arrowood	aye
Mr. Campbell	aye	Mayor Edwards	aye
Mr. Overholtzer	aye		

B. Presentation of Proposed FY 2027 Budget

90 The City Manager and Jessie Moyers, the City's Chief Financial Officer, presented details of the
91 FY 2027 Proposed Budget to City Council including: . This presentation was the official kick off
92 to a series of public hearings and work sessions that will result in the scheduled consideration to
93 adopt the FY 2027 Operating and Capital Budget on April 23, 2026.

94

95 City Council was presented with the budget document, and all materials are posted on the City's
96 website at <https://www.ci.staunton.va.us/departments/finance/city-budget> .

97

98 The City Manager also presented the following schedule for the Council's consideration and
99 adoption of the FY 2027 Operating and Capital Budget:

100

101 FY 2027 Work Session and Public Hearing Schedule

102

103 March 26 Presentation of the FY 2027 Proposed Budget – 7:00 p.m.

104

105 April 2 Special Meeting - Budget Work Session – 5:00 p.m.

106

107 April 9 Budget Work Session (Joint with City Schools followed by City Only)– 5:00 p.m.
108 Public Hearing of FY 2027 Proposed Budget and Fee Increases – 7:00 p.m.

109

110 April 16 Special Meeting - Budget Work Session – 7:00 p.m. (Following Planning Commission
111 Meeting)

112

113 The City Manager stated that the budget does not propose any increases in the real estate, personal
114 property, meals, or lodging tax rates. It does propose increasing the tax on a pack of cigarettes
115 from thirty cents to forty cents resulting in a projected revenue increase of approximately
116 \$90,000.00.

117

118 The City Manager noted that there would be a 7.7% increase in local funding to the school division
119 if the proposed budget is adopted.

120

121 Ms. Moyers noted that one significant decrease in expenditures for the City and the Middle River
122 Regional Jail is that the Virginia Retirement System is lowering its required defined benefit rate
123 contribution from the City to 14.54%. Previously, the contribution rate was 16.77%.

124

125 The City Manager and Chief Financial Officer's entire presentation can be found at:

126

127 <https://www.ci.staunton.va.us/home/showpublisheddocument/13655/639101468350000000>

128

129 Councilor Overholtzer asked for clarification about the unfunded hazardous duty multiplier.

130

131 Ms. Moyers explained that it was a local option. While it would increase retirement benefits for
132 employees of the fire and police departments as well as the Sheriff's Office, it would result in a
133 higher annual cost for the City.

134

135 Mayor Edwards asked if a future Council could reverse a decision for the City to approve the
136 hazardous duty multiplier.

137

138 Ms. Moyers responded that once the City agreed to provide the hazardous duty multiplier, the
139 decisions would be revocable by a future Council.

140

141 Mayor Edwards asked for more details about the unfunded library computer request.

142

143 Ms. Moyers stated that the computers were nearing five years old, and that is close to their
144 replacement date.

145

146 Mayor Edwards asked about the \$900,000.00 debt sinking fund transfer.

147

148 Ms. Moyers stated that there is a debt service fund balance used for that payment. The balance is
149 scheduled to exhaust on the same year that the Staunton Crossing debt is scheduled to be retired.

150

151 Councilor Shepherd noted that even if the proposed utility fee increases are enacted that the City
152 would still have lower rates than surrounding localities.

153

154 Mayor Edwards asked what the average fee increases would be for a Staunton household.

155

156 The City Manager stated that it is in her budget message which states that the average water fund
157 fee increase would be \$15.84, \$28.80 for the sewer fund increase, and \$41.88 for the environmental
158 fund fee increase.

159

160 Councilor Overholtzer complimented the budget for being more inclusive of capital expenditures
161 rather than relying on potential carryover funding.

162

163 Councilor Campbell asked if the City should eliminate the parking fund.

164

165 Ms. Moyers said that unless operational changes are made, the parking fund would eventually be
166 eliminated and the expenditures would be incorporated into the general budget.

167

168 Councilor Campbell asked that staff provide more information about landfill finances and
169 expenditures at a future budget work session.

170

171 The City Manager said she would do so.

172

173 The City Manager also highlighted that the Fiscal Year 2026 budget received the Distinguished
174 Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association.

175

176 **MATTERS FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

177

178 Ms. Beauregard presented updates and information on the following items:

179

180 The Famers' Market will begin on April 4th at the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courthouse.
181 Forty vendors are expected at this year's Farmers' Market.

182
183 The Public Works Department will conduct its heavy trash collection from April 6 to April 17.
184 Residents are asked to have all heavy trash items at the curb no later than 6:30 a.m. on April 6.
185 Once crews pass through a neighborhood for heavy trash items, they will not return to that
186 neighborhood.

187
188 The Public Works Department will conduct its bulky brush collection beginning on April 20.
189 Residents are asked to have all bulk brush at the curb no later than 6:30 a.m. on April 20.

190
191 The Public Works Department will have a tire disposal event at Gypsy Hill Park Football Stadium
192 on April 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

193
194 There will be a Flood Resiliency Plan community listening session on April 15 from 6:00 p.m. to
195 7:30 p.m. at the second floor meeting room of the Staunton Public Library.

196
197 **MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC**

198
199 Mayor Edwards read the following statement:

200
201 "This part of City Council's agenda is entitled matters from the public. It is a time that Council
202 sets aside to hear from citizens and others about a wide variety of subjects. A copy of the Staunton
203 City Council's 'Matters from the Public' rules is available in paper form at the Clerk's desk and
204 online at the City of Staunton webpage. You are asked to familiarize yourself with those rules
205 before commenting. Please come to the podium or raise your hand, identify yourself, and complete
206 your remarks within five minutes."

207
208 No individuals offered public comment.

209
210
211 **ADJOURNMENT**

212
213 There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

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219

John C. Blair, II
Clerk of Council

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	April 9, 2026	City Council
Item #	A.2	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Engagement	
Subject:	Consideration of Proclamation to be Presented in Council Chambers Recognizing Arbor Day 2026	

Background: Per [City Council Procedure Memorandum No. 19](#), all proclamations presented in Council Chambers must be approved by City Council at the preceding regular meeting.

The item before City Council is the approval of a request for a proclamation to be presented in Council Chambers at the April 23, 2026 Council meeting. The proclamation is in recognition of **Arbor Day 2026**. Should Council approve this proclamation, it will be prepared for presentation at the beginning of the Regular Meeting on April 23, 2026.

Attachment: Not applicable

City Manager's Recommendation: Not applicable

Suggested Motion: I move to approve the requested proclamation in recognition of **Arbor Day 2026**, for presentation at the April 23, 2026 City Council meeting.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	April 9, 2026	City Council
Item #	A.3	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Engagement	
Subject:	Consideration of Proclamation to be Presented in Council Chambers Recognizing Economic Development Week	

Background: Per [City Council Procedure Memorandum No. 19](#), all proclamations presented in Council Chambers must be approved by City Council at the preceding regular meeting.

The item before City Council is the approval of a request for a proclamation to be presented in Council Chambers at the April 23, 2026 Council meeting. The proclamation is in recognition of **Economic Development Week**. Should Council approve this proclamation, it will be prepared for presentation at the beginning of the Regular Meeting on April 23, 2026.

Attachment: Not applicable

City Manager’s Recommendation: Not applicable

Suggested Motion: I move to approve the requested proclamation in recognition of **Economic Development Week**, for presentation at the April 23, 2026 City Council meeting.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	April 9, 2026	Lyle Hartt, City Engineer Susan Wilson, Transportation Planner
Item #	A.4	
Department:	Public Works— Engineering	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Excellence Strategic Area: An Economically Vibrant Community; A Resilient and Sustainable Community	
Subject:	Consideration of Virginia Department of Transportation Blanket Resolution for Signature Authority and Funding Commitments	

Background: The City regularly submits applications and subsequently enters into Agreements with Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for various projects. These often require specific resolutions for both application submittal and entering into an Agreement.

In an effort to streamline operations, VDOT has requested that localities adopt a resolution for blanket project funding commitment and for blanket signature authority, thus reducing the need for project specific resolutions. The City Council has previously adopted a resolution giving the City Manager this authority; however, VDOT requires that this be renewed at least every four (4) years and a renewal is currently needed.

Attachments:

- Attachment 1—Adopted 2022 Resolution for VDOT Blanket Approval
- Attachment 2—Proposed Resolution

City Manager’s Recommendation: Adoption of the proposed resolution, as presented.

Suggested Motion: I move that City Council adopt the proposed resolution authorizing the City

Manager or Acting/Interim City Manager to execute all agreements and/or addendums for any approved projects with the Virginia Department of Transportation.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA
FOR BLANKET PROJECT FUNDING COMMITMENT AND
FOR BLANKET SIGNATURE AUTHORITY FOR TRANSPORTATION
PROJECTS UNDER AGREEMENT WITH THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

Recitals

A. The City of Staunton administers transportation projects under agreement with the Virginia Department of Transportation;

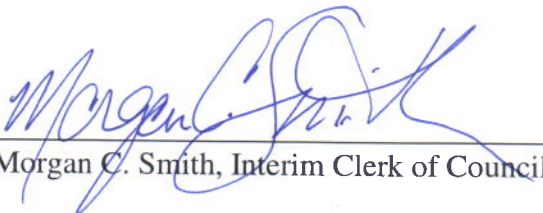
B. The City of Staunton desires to provide clear commitment for funding these transportation projects and clear signature authority for signing the Project Administration agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, that:

1. the City of Staunton hereby commits to fund its local share of preliminary engineering, right-of-way and construction (as applicable) of the project(s) under agreement with the Virginia Department of Transportation in accordance with the project financial document(s).
2. the City Manager or Acting/Interim City Manager is authorized to execute all agreements and/or addendums for any approved projects with the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Adopted this 24th day of February, 2022.

Attest:


Morgan C. Smith, Interim Clerk of Council


Andrea W. Oakes, Mayor

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Michele D. Edwards, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
John Blair, Clerk of Council

DRAFT

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	April 9, 2026	Leslie Beauregard City Manager
Item #	B	
Department:	City Manager's Office Finance Department	Jessie Moyers Chief Financial Officer
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Excellence; Integrity; Inclusion & Equity; Engagement; Environmental Consciousness Strategic Areas: An Economically Vibrant Community; A Resilient and Sustainable Community; A Healthy Community; An Informed and Engaged Community	
Subject:	Discussion Followed by Public Hearing on Water User Fee, Sewer User Fee, Refuse User Fees, and Landfill Fees as Included in the FY 2027 Proposed Budget	

Background : The FY2027 budget proposes fee increases in three areas in order to fund critical infrastructure projects now and in the future: Water Fund, Sewer Fund and the Environmental Fund. A preliminary report on these proposed increases was provided to City Council at the [March 12, 2026 Work Session](#), followed by the introduction of the FY 2027 Proposed Budget on [March 26, 2027](#).

Details of each of these proposals are below:

Proposed Changes to the Water Usage Fee

The FY2027 budget proposal includes a 5.4% water rate increase, effective July 1, 2026, for water consumption. Residential bi-monthly customers will be billed at the new rate beginning with utility

bills issued on September 10. Monthly customers will be impacted with the new rate beginning with the July utility bills. The increase will generate \$208,000 in additional water user fee revenue. The rate is proposed to increase to \$4.28/100 cubic feet from \$4.06/100 cubic feet. The minimum charge per two months by each regular user of City water is proposed to increase from \$20.30 to \$21.40. The bulk water rate is also proposed to increase from \$10.50 to \$11.00 per 750 gallons of water purchased in bulk quantities from the treatment plant. The minimum charge for bulk water purchases of less than 1,500 gallons during a month is proposed to increase from \$21.00 to \$22.00. The proposed increase would cost a family of four an additional \$2.64 per bi-monthly billing cycle, based on an average bi-monthly consumption of 12/100 cubic feet, or \$15.84 annually. Rates were last increased effective July 1, 2024, for fiscal year 2025.

The increase is necessary to cover the increasing operating costs and to unfreeze two equipment operator positions that were frozen in FY2023. Even the 5% rate increase does not generate sufficient revenue to cover the total capital expenditures for the Water Fund. The total FY2027 Water Fund budget is \$8,318,365, a decrease of \$1,888,610 over the FY2026 adopted budget. FY2027 budget includes capital expenditures of \$3,240,000 including \$450,000 for water line replacements, \$2,500,000 for the construction phase of the Richmond Ave phase I project, and \$290,000 to paint the Franklin Hills #1 water storage tank.

Proposed Changes to the Sewer Usage Fee

The FY2025 budget proposal includes a 7.14% sewer rate increase, effective July 1, 2026, for sewage disposal services. Residential bi-monthly customers will be billed at the new rate beginning with utility bills issued on September 10. Monthly customers will be impacted with the new rate beginning with the July utility bills. The increase will generate \$309,000 in additional water user fee revenue. The rate is proposed to increase to \$6.00/100 cubic feet from \$5.60/100 cubic feet. The minimum charge per two months by each regular user of City water is proposed to increase from \$28.00 to \$30.00. Rates have only been increased twice over the last 13 years.

The proposed increase would cost a family of four an additional \$4.80 per bi-monthly billing cycle, based on an average bi-monthly consumption of 12/100 cubic feet, or \$28.80 annually.

The increase is necessary to cover the increasing operating costs, unfreeze one equipment operator position that was frozen in FY2023, and capital costs to replace/ repair major sewer system infrastructure assets. Even the 7.14% rate increase does not generate sufficient revenue to cover the total cash expense of \$5,361,881.

The total FY2027 Sewer Fund budget is \$5,361,881, a decrease of \$1,332,937 over the FY2026 adopted budget. The FY2027 budget included capital projects that totaled \$1,198,024. The FY2027 budget includes capital expenditures of \$250,000 for sewer line replacements, \$150,000 for Lewis Creek PER, \$500,000 for the New Hope Rd evaluation and study, and \$248,024 for plant machinery at the Middle River Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Proposed Changes to the Environmental Fees

The FY2027 budget proposal includes an increase in the environmental fund of 14.5%, which increases the residential refuse fee from \$24.01 per month to \$27.50 per month. The commercial refuse fees will also increase by 14.5%. The fee increases will generate approximately \$450,000 in additional revenue. The proposed increase will allow the city to replace one refuse truck in FY2027 and help to fund the landfill capital needs. The fund will still run a deficit of \$208,484 after the 14.5% increase in revenue.

In addition, the Augusta Regional Landfill have proposed increases to the landfill tipping and disposals fees. The commercial and industrial waste tipping fee will increase from \$52 per ton to \$65 per ton. Other landfill fee increases can be found on Attachment #3.

In summary

The financial impact to the minimum bill (not including stormwater) will be \$10.08 every two months and an average bill of 12 hundred cubic feet (approx. 9,000 gallons) will be \$14.42 every two months.

	Current Minimum Bill	Proposed Minimum Bill	Current Avg Bill Based on 12 HCF	Proposed Avg Bill Based on 12 HCF
Water	\$ 20.30	\$ 21.40	\$ 48.72	\$ 51.36
Sewer	28.00	30.00	67.20	72.00
Refuse	48.02	55.00	48.02	55.00
Tax	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Total	\$ 100.32	\$ 110.40	\$ 167.94	\$ 182.36

The attached draft ordinances to adjust the water user fee, sewer user fee, environmental fees, and the landfill fees, effective July 1, 2026, will be presented at City Council’s regular meeting on April 9, 2026 followed by a public hearing. The public hearing was properly advertised on March 25 and April 1, 2026. The ordinances are scheduled for Council’s consideration during the meeting on April 23, 2026.

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 - Draft FY 2027 Water User Fee Ordinance
- Attachment 2 - Draft FY 2027 Sewer Use Fee Ordinance
- Attachment 3 - Draft FY 2027 Refuse Use Fee Ordinance
- Attachment 4 - Draft FY 2027 Landfill Fee Ordinance
- Attachment 5 - Notice of Public Hearing

City Manager’s Recommendation: Conduct the public hearing.

Suggested Motion: Not applicable.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

Ordinance No. 2026 - _____

**AN ORDINANCE
AMENDING, RESTATING AND REORDAINING
SECTION 13.20.020, RATES GENERALLY,
OF CHAPTER 13.20, USE CHARGES,
OF TITLE 13, ENVIRONMENT,
OF THE STAUNTON CITY CODE**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, that Section 13.20.020 of the Staunton City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

13.20.020 Rates generally.

(1) Except as hereinafter set forth, for the use of water through a connection with meter attachment, the rate and method of assessment shall be according to meter measurement, as follows:

The user fee shall be \$4.28 per 100 cubic feet of metered water entering the premises.

(2) There shall be paid each two months, as prescribed, by each regular user of city water a minimum charge per two months of \$21.40.

(3) For a fractional part of a two-month period, a bill will be rendered for the actual consumption of water, as indicated by the meter. Where deemed necessary by the chief finance officer, rates may be computed on a monthly basis equal to one-half of the above rates.

(4) The rate at which water will be sold outside the corporate limits of the city shall be one and one-half times the rate at which water is sold inside the corporate limits, with the exception of any contracts in effect specifying a different rate.

(5) The bulk water rate to miscellaneous water customers will be \$11.00 per 750 gallons of water purchased.

(6) There shall be paid a minimum charge of \$22.00 for bulk water purchases during the month of less than 1,500 gallons for the month.

In all other respects, the provisions of Chapter 13.20 of the Staunton City Code remain the same and are hereby restated, confirmed and reordained.

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Effective: July 1, 2026

Michele D. Edwards, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
John C. Blair, II
Clerk of Council

DRAFT

Ordinance No. 2026 - __

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING STAUNTON CITY CODE SECTION 13.45.030-AMOUNT.

Recitals

A. The Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia is authorized to implement sewer charges pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2-2119.

B. The City's Chief Financial Officer is recommending increases in sewer rates to stabilize the Sewer Fund.

C. This matter has been properly heard and considered.

D. These recitals are deemed an integral part of this ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, that Section 13.45.030 of Chapter 13.45 Sewer User Fee, of Title 13, Environment, of the Staunton City Code is hereby amended as follows:

**Chapter 13.45
SEWER USER FEE**

...

13.45.030 Amount.

(1) The user fee shall be \$6.00 per each 100 cubic feet of metered water entering the premises. The owner of any premises may, at his option and expense, install a separate meter designed to measure the wastewater actually entering the city system of sanitary sewers. Subject to the inspection and approval of the separate meter by the city, the rate of \$5.60 per 100 cubic feet will be applied to the metered flow of wastewater into the sewer system. There shall be paid each two months, as prescribed, by each user of the city sewer system a minimum charge per two months of \$30.00.

(2) Users of the city sewer system within the corporate limits of the city who do not have city water service shall be charged a flat rate of \$60.00 each two months, with the exception of any existing contracts in effect specifying a different rate.

(3) The rate at which wastewater disposal services will be provided outside the corporate limits of the city shall be one and one-half the regular city rate, with the exception of any existing contracts in effect specifying a different rate.

(4) No sewer user fee will be charged for metered water supplies through an outside and separate water service which has been installed at the owner's expense for the exclusive

47 use of construction, lawn irrigation, and plant watering, and from which water cannot be
48 reasonably expected to enter the sanitary sewer system. Refer to SCC 13.15.040(3).

49

50 (5) No sewer user fee will be charged for a portion of metered water entering the
51 premises under the following conditions:

52

53 (a) Whenever the owner or occupant of a lot or premises is installing a new lawn or a new
54 landscaping scheme upon the lot or premises and watering of the same is necessary for
55 the initial gestation and growth of the same, the owner or occupant may obtain relief from
56 the sewer user fee under the following conditions:

57

58 (i) The project must be the establishment of a new lawn of at least 1,800 square feet, the
59 cost of which exceeds \$1,500; or

60

61 (ii) The complete renovation of a previously established lawn of at least 1,800 square
62 feet, the cost of which exceeds \$1,500; or

63

64 (iii) A new landscaping plan or a renovation of an existing landscaping plan, the cost of
65 which exceeds \$2,000.

66

67 (b) An owner or occupant seeking relief under this section shall make application therefor
68 at the water billing department of the city of Staunton and present to the water billing
69 department such evidence, including receipts for seeding, plantings, etc., as requested by
70 the water billing department to determine whether or not the applicant qualifies for relief.
71 Upon approval by the water billing department of the request, the water used during the
72 time concerned, to the extent that it exceeds the average amount of water used by the
73 premises for the immediate past 12 months (or such lesser period of time that the
74 premises were used or occupied), shall not be used in computing the sewer user fee set
75 forth herein. In the event there is no past history available with regard to water usage for
76 the subject premises, the water billing department shall determine an average water bill
77 for the subject premises based on estimations for similarly sized dwellings or buildings in
78 making its computations hereunder.

79

80 (c) No such relief shall be issued for the watering of vegetable gardens or for any other
81 use except as set forth herein, and the relief granted hereunder shall be granted only for a
82 period of time not to exceed 60 days and such relief shall not be granted with respect to
83 the same premises more than once in each calendar year.

84

85 (6) For any premises used exclusively as an industrial laundry for which it is impractical
86 to separately measure the wastewater by meter, as determined by the city manager or
87 designee, the user fee charge for an account shall be reduced by credit equal to 15 percent
88 of the charge otherwise applicable. For purposes solely of this provision, an "industrial
89 laundry" shall mean an establishment engaged on a non-retail contract basis in operating
90 a mechanical laundry, with steam as a significant processing byproduct, for cleaning by
91 washing with water various clothing, fabrics, and other similar items, when during a

92 bimonthly billing period metered water on the premises for the particular account exceeds
93 1,000 hundred cubic feet.

94

95 (7) Upon prior written request and certification submitted by the owner to the city's
96 finance department, for a period of 90 days after connection of service or until the
97 issuance of a certificate of occupancy, whichever is earlier, no sewer user fee shall be
98 charged as to any premises on which a new dwelling is being constructed on an
99 unimproved lot.

100

101 (8.) The owner of a pool may be eligible for a pool adjustment credit to their sewer user
102 fee pursuant to the following conditions:

103

104 (a.) An owner of an in-ground pool shall receive a sewer user fee adjustment if
105 documentation satisfactory to the Chief Financial Officer is presented that the pool is
106 newly constructed and needed to be filled with water or if pool repairs required the pool
107 to be emptied of water and filled again.

108

109 The amount of the adjustment will be a reduction in the sewer user fee to the average
110 sewer usage fee of the preceding six billing periods on the account that includes the pool.

111

112 (b.) An owner of an above-ground pool shall receive a sewer user fee adjustment if
113 documentation satisfactory to the Chief Financial Officer is presented that the pool is
114 newly constructed and needed to be filled with water, if pool repairs required the pool to
115 be emptied of water and filled again, or if the pool needed to be emptied onto the ground
116 and the process of emptying the pool did not use a drain system.

117

118 The amount of the adjustment will be a reduction in the sewer user fee to the average
119 sewer usage fee of the preceding six billing periods on the account that includes the pool.

120

121 The pool adjustment credit will not be available for partial fills of in-ground or above-
122 ground pools nor will it be available for the filling of hot tubs or jacuzzis.

123

124 The pool adjustment credit will not be available for a fill of in-ground or above-ground
125 pools of less than five thousand (5,000) gallons.

126

127 The Chief Financial Officer is authorized to establish policies and procedures to
128 administer the pool adjustment credit.

129

130 In all other respects, the provisions of Title 13, Environment, of the Staunton City
131 Code remain the same and are hereby restated, confirmed and reordained.

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134 Introduced:

135 Adopted:

136 Effective Date: July 1, 2026

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Michele D. Edwards, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
John C. Blair,
Acting Clerk of Council

DRAFT

Ordinance No. 2026 - __

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING STAUNTON CITY CODE SECTION 8.30.110-
FEES-PRESCRIBED.

Recitals

A. The Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia is authorized to establish solid waste fees for the collection of solid waste pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2-928.

B. The Chief Financial Officer is recommending an increase in solid waste fees in order to stabilize the City's Environmental Proprietary Fund.

C. This matter has been properly heard and considered.

D. These recitals are deemed an integral part of this ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, that Section 8.30.110 of Chapter 8.30 Solid Waste, of Title 8, Health and Safety, of the Staunton City Code is hereby amended as follows:

**Chapter 8.30
SOLID WASTE**

...

8.30.110 Fees – Prescribed.

(1) Residential. For a mandatory fee of \$ 27.50 per month for each single-family unit (to include each unit in a multifamily structure), the city shall provide one weekly pickup of refuse from each residential unit in the city, whether inside or outside the central business district, the basis of computation of the fee being a single-family unit. The fee for refuse collection service for all other than single-family units shall be in an amount adequate to cover all costs to the city for such service, such amount to be established by the director of public works as part of the city's solid waste policy, with the approval of the city manager, but such fee shall not be less than \$ 27.50 per month per unit.

(2) Light Commercial. The mandatory fee for refuse collection service to light commercial customers, whether inside or outside the central business district, shall be \$ 62.44per month. The light commercial designation shall apply to those customers which place the equivalent of four or fewer bags/containers of refuse at the curb for collection.

(3) Heavy Commercial. The mandatory fee for refuse collection service to heavy commercial customers within the central business district shall be \$ 167.84and \$ 132.10 for those outside the central business district. The heavy commercial designation shall apply to those customers which place the equivalent of five or more bags/containers at the curb for collection. All full-time restaurants shall be deemed heavy commercial customers.

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(4) Special Unscheduled Pickup. When refuse is stored or placed curbside in a manner not otherwise in accordance with the city’s solid waste policy, it shall be deemed a request for a special unscheduled pickup and a crew may be dispatched to collect the refuse. The fee for pickup shall be in an amount adequate to cover all costs to the city for such service, such amount to be established by the director of public works as part of the city’s solid waste policy, with approval of the city manager, but such fee shall not be less than \$ 138.32 and shall be charged to the property owner or tenant.

(5) Collection Outside City Limits. The fee for refuse collection service rendered outside of the city limits shall be in an amount equal to 200 percent of the fee charged for such service in the city limits.

(6) Exemption, Deferral, Modification or Waiver of Fee.

(a) By ordinance, persons may be exempted, deferred, or charged a lesser amount from paying any charges and fees authorized for the collection and disposal of garbage and refuse only if based on the income criteria, as provided by Section 58.1-3211 of the Code of Virginia.

(b) The director of public works may waive all or part of the fees for any multifamily structure or commercial customer if contractual arrangements are made and maintained by that customer for adequate containerized service as determined satisfactory by the director of public works.

(c) The Chief Financial Officer may waive this fee for any multifamily residential structure if it is determined that the structure is vacant and that the only water usage of the structure is to operate a hydronic heating system. The Chief Financial Officer may establish policies and procedures to administer this waiver.

In all other respects, the provisions of Title 8, Health and Safety, of the Staunton City Code remain the same and are hereby restated, confirmed and reordained.

Introduced:
Adopted:
Effective Date: July 1, 2026

Michele D. Edwards, Mayor

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ATTEST: _____

John C. Blair,
Acting Clerk of Council

DRAFT

Ordinance No. 2026 -

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING, RESTATING AND REORDAINING SECTION 8.30.060, SERVICE CHARGES FOR USE OF SANITARY LANDFILL OF CHAPTER 8.30, SOLID WASTE, OF TITLE 8, HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA, TO INCREASE AND MODIFY FEES FOR DISPOSAL OF VARIOUS WASTE AND OTHER REFUSE MATERIALS AT THE JOINTLY-OWNED AUGUSTA REGIONAL LANDFILL

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 15.2-928, in part, authorizes the City of Staunton, Virginia, to provide and operate, within or outside its boundaries, solid waste management facilities and appurtenances for the collection, management, recycling and disposal of solid waste, recyclable materials, and other refuse of the residents and businesses of the locality and to charge and collect compensation for such services;

WHEREAS, by its enactment of § 8.30.060 of the Code of the City of Staunton, Virginia, which establishes fees for the use of the Augusta Regional Landfill, operated for the benefit of the City of Staunton, the County of Augusta, and the City of Waynesboro, Virginia, the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia has previously exercised such authority; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City of Staunton to modify selective fees imposed by the city for the disposal of various waste and other refuse materials at the Augusta Regional Landfill, just as expected to be done by the other two localities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, that Section 8.30.060 of the Code of the City of Staunton, Virginia, be, and hereby is, amended, to read as follows:

8.30.060 Service charges for use of sanitary landfill.

(1) There are hereby imposed charges for disposal of solid waste at any landfill owned or operated by or for the city in accordance with the following schedule:

Table with 2 columns: Description of waste type and Fee per unit. Includes Passenger tires (\$5.00), Passenger tires on a rim (\$8.00), Truck tires (\$15.00), Heavy equipment-tractor tires (agriculture use \$15.00, by the ton \$250.00), Yard waste (\$50.00), Commercial or industrial waste (\$65.00), and Construction demolition debris (\$65.00).

47 Residential waste,
48 privately hauled by passenger car or pickup truck..... No charge.
49 Mulch and wood chips \$20.00 per ton.
50 Clean fill dirt No charge.
51 Freon Bearing Appliance:.....\$15.00.

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54 This ordinance shall become effective July 1, 2026.

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In all other respects, the provisions of Chapter 8.30 of the Staunton City Code remain the same and are hereby restated, confirmed and reordained.

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62 Michele D. Edwards, Mayor

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65 ATTEST: _____

66 John C. Blair, II,
67 Clerk of Council

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On Thursday, the 9th day of April 2026, the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia (the “City”), will hold a public hearing to receive comments on the following proposed rate changes pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 15.2-107 and 15.2-2109 et seq.:

Water User Fee – from \$4.06 per 100 cubic feet to \$4.28 per 100 cubic feet

City Water Minimum Charge – from \$20.30 per two months to \$21.40 per two months

Bulk Water Rate – from \$10.50 per 750 gallons to \$11.00 per 750 gallons

Bulk Water Minimum Charge – from \$21.00 per month to \$22.00 per month

Sewer User Fee – from \$5.60 per 100 cubic feet to \$6.00 per 100 cubic feet

City Sewer Minimum Charge – from \$28.00 per two months to \$30.00 per two months

Flat City Sewer Rate (no water service) – from \$56.00 for two months to \$60.00 for two months

Residential Refuse Fee – from \$24.01 per month to \$27.50 per month

Light Commercial Refuse Fee – from \$54.51 per month to \$62.44 per month

Light Commercial Refuse Fee OCBD – from \$54.51 per month to \$62.44 per month

Heavy Commercial Refuse Fee Outside CBD – from \$115.32 per month to \$132.10 per month

Heavy Commercial Refuse Fee Inside CBD – from \$146.52 per month to \$167.84 per month

Refuse Special Pick up – from \$120.75 per request to \$138.32 per request

Refuse Outside City – from \$48.02 per month to \$55.00 per month

Landfill Commercial and Industrial Waste tipping fee – from \$52 per ton to \$65

Landfill Commercial Hauled Residential Waste tipping fee – from \$25 per ton to \$38 per ton

Landfill Yard Waste tipping fee – from \$35 per ton to \$50 per ton

Landfill Freon Bearing Appliance Fee – from \$12 per appliance to \$15 per appliance

Landfill Passenger Tire tipping fee – from \$4 per tire to \$5 per tire

Landfill Passenger Tire on Rim tipping fee – from \$6 per tire to \$8 per tire

Landfill Commercial and Ag Tire tipping fee – from \$12 per tire to \$15 per tire

Landfill Off Road/Heavy Equipment Tire tipping fee – from \$215 per ton to \$250 per ton

The public hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, will be conducted during the regular meeting of the Council beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Rita S. Wilson Council Chambers of City Hall, 116 West Beverley Street, first floor, Staunton, Virginia 24401.

All persons wishing to be heard at the public hearings are invited to attend. The public may also participate in the public hearings by Zoom, or by phone. Specific instructions to participate by Zoom or by phone can be found at: <https://www.ci.staunton.va.us/government/city-council>.

Those interested in listening to the meeting may do so via live stream from the City's website or by listening to the public access television Channel (Comcast Channel 7). Hearing impaired persons desiring to participate in the public hearings should contact the Executive Assistant to the City Manager by email at smithmc@ci.staunton.va.us to request an interpreter.

Copies of the proposed ordinances are available for inspection during normal working hours at the office of the Clerk of Council and at the office of the City Manager. The ordinances are also available online at <https://www.ci.staunton.va.us/agendas-minutes>.

John C. Blair
Clerk of Council, City of Staunton, Virginia

*******Please run this advertisement in newspaper of local circulation twice –
Wednesday, March 25, and Wednesday, April 1, 2026.**

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, VA

Meeting Date:	April 9, 2026	Leslie Beauregard City Manager Jessie Moyers Chief Finance Officer
Item #	C	
Department:	City Manager Finance Department	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Excellence; Integrity; Inclusion & Equity; Engagement; Environmental Consciousness Strategic Areas: An Economically Vibrant Community; A Resilient and Sustainable Community; A Healthy Community; An Informed and Engaged Community	
Subject:	Discussion Followed by Public Hearing of an Ordinance to Establish a Budget for FY 2027 (July 1, 2026—June 30, 2027) and to Increase Excise Tax Rate on Sale of Cigarettes to \$.40 Per Pack	

Background: The [FY 2027 City Manager’s Proposed Budget](#) was presented at the regular meeting on March 26, 2026. A public hearing of the budget ordinance, and the increase in the excise tax rate on the sale of cigarettes, is scheduled for the regular meeting on April 9, 2026. Notice of the public hearing, attached, was advertised in *The News Leader* on March 25, 2026 and April 1, 2026. Prior to the public hearing, there will be a joint budget work session with Staunton City Schools and a city only review of the FY 2027 Proposed Budget.

In addition, in the FY2027 budget there is a proposed increase in the excise tax on the sale of cigarettes to \$.40 per pack from the current \$.30 per pack. This results in an estimated additional revenue of \$90,000, of which \$15,000 will fund a pilot programs and education geared to reducing refuse and increase recycling.

Attachments:

- Attachment 1—FY 2027 Budget Ordinance
- Attachment 2—Cigarette Tax Ordinance

Attachment 3—Notice of Public Hearing

City Manager's Recommendation: Conduct the public hearing.

Suggested Motion: Not applicable.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

Ordinance No. 2026-

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES FOR SUCH FISCAL YEAR, SUBJECT TO FUTURE APPROPRIATION AMENDMENT; ESTABLISHING A TAX RATE ON TAXABLE PERSONAL PROPERTY, REAL ESTATE AND PROPERTY OF PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS; ESTABLISHING AND IMPOSING A SERVICE CHARGE ON CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY EXEMPT FROM TAXATION; AND CONTINUING IN EFFECT ALL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA, RELATING TO TAXES, LICENSES, FEES, SERVICE CHARGES, COSTS AND OTHER CHARGES AND ALL ORDINANCES RELATING TO THE TIME OF PAYMENT THEREOF AND COLLECTION THEREOF, EXCEPT AS HEREIN SPECIFICALLY MODIFIED

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, as follows:

SECTION 1. The following budget, annexed and incorporated by reference, totaling **\$168,486,888** for the City of Staunton, Virginia for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 is hereby proposed, approved and adopted:

(SEE ATTACHED BUDGET, incorporated by reference)

SECTION 2. Public revenues of the City of Staunton, Virginia are hereby appropriated for public purposes for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, as set forth in the appropriate Section of such budget.

SECTION 3.

3.1. The tax rate for all real estate, including real estate owned by public service corporations, subject to tax for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2026, shall be and is fixed at \$0.91 per \$100.00 of assessed value of such property per year, with assessed values being established through biennial reassessments pursuant to Section 58.1-3253 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, as of January of every odd numbered year.

3.2. The tax rate for all real property and improvements located in the Downtown Service District is subject to an additional tax for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2026, which shall be and is fixed at \$0.15 (fifteen cents) per \$100.00 of assessed value of such property for calendar year 2026. Assessed values for the Downtown Service District shall be established through biennial reassessments pursuant to Section 58.1-3253 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, as of January 1 of every odd numbered year. These rates shall continue until modified by action of the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia.

SECTION 4.

4.1. The tax rate for all personal property, including vehicles owned by public service corporations (but excluding machinery and tools, referenced and defined in Section 58.1-3507 of the Code of Virginia, as amended), subject to tax for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2026, shall be fixed at \$2.90 per \$100.00 of assessed value per year.

4.2. The tax rate for machinery and tools as defined in Section 58.1-3507 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, subject to tax for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2026 shall be and is fixed at \$1.24 per \$100.00 of assessed value per year.

SECTION 5. For the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, certain categories of property exempted from taxation under Section 58.1-3600 et seq. of the Code of Virginia, as amended, shall be assessed and have imposed a fee or service charge based on the assessed value of the real estate and the amount which the City of Staunton expended in the year preceding for police and fire protection and, in the case of faculty and staff housing of an educational institution, the cost of public school education. The categories of property eligible for such assessment, and the method for calculating the assessment, are prescribed in Section 58.1-3400 et seq. of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

SECTION 6. The rate of service charge or fee imposed for property subject to such charge or fee under Section 5 of this ordinance shall be and is fixed and imposed at \$0.19 per annum per \$100.00 of assessed value and \$0.49 per annum per \$100.00 of assessed value for faculty and staff housing of an educational institution for the 2026 calendar year. The service charge shall be and is payable in one installment on December 15, 2026. Any service charge not paid when due shall bear interest computed at the rate of 10% per annum from the due date until paid.

SECTION 7. The real estate lawfully owned by the County of Augusta lying wholly or partly in the corporate limits of the City of Staunton, Virginia, shall be exempt from the service charge imposed by Section 5 of this ordinance.

SECTION 8. It is the intention of Section 5, 6 and 7 of this ordinance to conform to and meet all the requirements of Section 58.1-3400 et seq. of the Code of Virginia, as amended, and shall be read and construed accordingly.

SECTION 9. The annual salary for each member of the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, is hereby established as follows and shall remain in effect until formal action is taken to amend this ordinance:

Mayor	\$11,000
Vice-Mayor	\$10,000
Council Member	\$10,000

SECTION 10.

10.1. The City Manager is hereby authorized to transfer funds from one line item to another line item within each Fund of such budget, with the exception of the general contingency account.

10.2. Authorization is hereby given to the City Manager to withhold or postpone the expenditure of any funds appropriated by and in this ordinance when it appears to the City Manager that it would be in the best interests of the City for such expenditure to be withheld; but, this provision shall not in any way limit or restrict the right of the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, in its sole discretion to the fullest extent permitted by law, to direct immediate disbursement of any appropriated funds when the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, is of the opinion that the funds should be expended regardless of the position or action or inaction of the City Manager.

SECTION 11. Any ordinance in conflict with this ordinance is hereby repealed to the extent and only to the extent that such conflict exists. However, all ordinances not in conflict with this ordinance shall continue in effect, including specifically all ordinances of the City of Staunton, Virginia relating to taxes, licenses, fees, service charges, costs and payment and collection thereof continuing in effect except as herein specifically modified.

SECTION 12. If any part of this ordinance is found to be invalid by competent authority, the remaining portions of this ordinance shall continue in effect to the fullest extent permitted by law.

This ordinance shall be effective _____, 2026.

Michele D. Edwards, Mayor

ATTEST:

John C. Blair
Clerk of Council

**CITY OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA
FY 2027 PROPOSED BUDGET**

GENERAL FUND

<u>ANTICIPATED REVENUE</u>	BUDGET
General Property Taxes	\$ 40,371,764
Other Local Taxes	\$ 21,414,000
Commonwealth of Virginia	\$ 15,996,830
Current Service Charges	\$ 2,481,202
Federal Revenue	\$ 1,165,312
Recovered Costs	\$ 584,500
Licenses and Permits	\$ 244,000
Use of Money and Property	\$ 665,000
Fines and Forfeitures	\$ 180,500
Miscellaneous	\$ 217,042
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 83,320,150</u>

<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	
Transfer to Education Fund	\$ 20,366,404
Public Safety	\$ 17,498,750
Health and Welfare	\$ 9,122,676
Public Works	\$ 8,985,220
General Government Administration	\$ 8,543,318
Transfer to Debt Service Sinking Fund	\$ 5,676,903
Parks, Recreation, Library, and Cultural	\$ 4,689,945
Judicial Administration	\$ 4,001,320
Community Development	\$ 3,201,801
Transfer to the City CIP Fund	\$ 1,518,813
Nondepartmental	\$ (285,000)
Total Appropriations	<u>\$ 83,320,150</u>

DEBT SERVICE SINKING FUND

<u>ANTICIPATED REVENUE</u>	
Transfer from the General Fund	\$ 5,676,903
General Revenues	\$ 880,997
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 6,557,900</u>

<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	
Debt	\$ 6,557,900
Total Appropriations	<u>\$ 6,557,900</u>

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FUND

<u>ANTICIPATED REVENUE</u>	
Transfer from the General Fund	\$ 1,518,813
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 1,518,813</u>

<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	
Capital Improvements	\$ 1,518,813
Total Appropriations	<u>\$ 1,518,813</u>

BLUE RIDGE COURT SERVICES FUND

<u>ANTICIPATED REVENUE</u>	
Non Capital Grants/ Contributions	\$ 1,370,964
Miscellaneous	207,373
Charges for Services	115,000
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 1,693,337</u>

<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	
Operations	\$ 1,693,337
Total Appropriations	<u>\$ 1,693,337</u>

WATER FUND

ANTICIPATED REVENUE

Charges for Service	\$	5,109,174
General Revenues		<u>3,209,191</u>
Total Revenue	\$	8,318,365

APPROPRIATIONS

Operations	\$	4,133,832
Debt		944,533
Capital		<u>3,240,000</u>
Total Appropriations	\$	8,318,365

SEWER FUND

ANTICIPATED REVENUE

Charges for Services	\$	4,719,878
General Revenues		<u>642,003</u>
Total Revenue	\$	5,361,881

APPROPRIATIONS

Operations	\$	3,295,512
Debt		868,345
Capital		<u>1,198,024</u>
Total Appropriations	\$	5,361,881

PARKING FUND

ANTICIPATED REVENUE

Charges for Services	\$	134,000
General Revenues		<u>272,694</u>
Total Revenue	\$	406,694

APPROPRIATIONS

Operations	\$	227,231
Debt		<u>179,463</u>
Total Appropriations	\$	406,694

STORMWATER FUND

ANTICIPATED REVENUE

Charges for Services	\$	1,316,000
General Revenues		<u>75,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$	1,391,000

APPROPRIATIONS

Operations	\$	1,100,803
Capital		<u>290,197</u>
Total Appropriations	\$	1,391,000

ENVIRONMENTAL FUND

ANTICIPATED REVENUE

Charges for Services	\$	4,352,682
General Revenues		358,484
Non Capital Grants/ Contributions		<u>10,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$	4,721,166

APPROPRIATIONS

Operations	\$	3,458,793
Capital		<u>1,262,373</u>
Total Appropriations	\$	4,721,166

EDUCATION FUND

ANTICIPATED REVENUE

Commonwealth of Virginia	\$	26,691,460
Transfer from the General Fund		20,366,404
Federal Government		2,088,065
Charges for Services		10,000
General Revenues		<u>88,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$	49,243,929

APPROPRIATIONS

Administration and Operation of Schools	\$	<u>49,243,929</u>
Total Appropriations	\$	49,243,929

CAFETERIA FUND

ANTICIPATED REVENUE

Operating Grants	\$ 1,781,715
Charges for Service	42,100
General Revenues	<u>287,721</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 2,111,536

APPROPRIATIONS

Operations	\$ <u>2,111,536</u>
Total Appropriations	\$ 2,111,536

SCHOOL TEXTBOOK FUND

ANTICIPATED REVENUE

Commonwealth of Virginia	\$ 242,025
General Revenues	<u>161,283</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 403,308

APPROPRIATIONS

Operations	\$ <u>403,308</u>
Total Appropriations	\$ 403,308

SCHOOL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FUND

ANTICIPATED REVENUE

General Revenues	\$ <u>200,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 200,000

APPROPRIATIONS

Capital Improvements	\$ <u>200,000</u>
Total Appropriations	\$ 200,000

STATE OPERATED PROGRAMS

ANTICIPATED REVENUE

Operating Grants	\$ <u>3,238,809</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 3,238,809

APPROPRIATIONS

Operations	\$ <u>3,238,809</u>
Total Appropriations	\$ 3,238,809

Grand Total Revenues	\$ 168,486,888
Grand Total Expenditures	\$ 168,486,888
Balance	\$0

Approved this 23rd day of April 2026

Effective Date: July 1, 2026

ATTEST: _____
John C. Blair
Clerk of Council

CERTIFIED: _____
Michele D. Edwards
Mayor of Council

Ordinance No. 2016 -

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING, RESTATING AND REORDAINING
SECTION 3.75.030, LEVIED – AMOUNT – TAX ADDITIONAL TO OTHER
TAXES
OF CHAPTER 3.75, CIGARETTE TAX,
OF TITLE 3, REVENUE AND FINANCE**

WHEREAS, the City of Staunton already imposes a tax on cigarettes to provide revenue for the general fund;

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Staunton has determined, so as to provide further financial support to City programs and operations, to increase the tax on cigarettes, effective July 1, 2026;

WHEREAS, this matter has been properly advertised, heard and considered; and

WHEREAS, these recitals are deemed an integral part of this ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, that Section 3.75.030 of the Staunton City Code be, and the same is hereby amended, restated and reordained to read as follows:

3.75.030 Levied – Amount – Tax additional to other taxes.

In addition to all other taxes of every kind now or hereafter imposed by law, there is hereby levied and imposed by the city an excise tax on the sale of cigarettes equivalent to \$0.40 on each package containing 25 or fewer cigarettes. The tax shall be paid by the seller, if not previously paid, and collected in the manner and at the time provided for in this chapter; provided, that the tax payable for each package of cigarettes sold within the city shall be paid but once. The tax hereby levied shall not apply to free distribution of sample cigarettes in packages containing five or fewer cigarettes.

In all other respects, the provisions of 3.75.030, Levied – Amount – Tax additional to other taxes, of Chapter 3.75, Cigarette Tax, of Title 3, Revenue and Finance of the Staunton City Code remain the same and are hereby restated, confirmed and reordained.

Signatures Follow On Next Page

48 Introduced:
49 Adopted:
50 Effective Date: July 1, 2026

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Michele D. Edwards, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
John C. Blair, II
Clerk of Council

DRAFT

PLEASE RUN THIS AD: Wednesday March 25, 2026 and Wednesday, April 1, 2026

City of Staunton

PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2027 (2026-2027) BUDGET

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF STAUNTON CITY COUNCIL
ON THE PROPOSED FY 2027 BUDGET FOR THE
CITY OF STAUNTON AND STAUNTON CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2-2506, the public is hereby given notice of a meeting of the Staunton City Council to conduct a **PUBLIC HEARING** on the proposed FY 2027 budget as presented by the City Manager. The public hearing will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Rita S. Wilson City Council Chambers located at 116 West Beverley Street, Staunton, Virginia 24401. The public may also comment on the proposed increase in the excise tax on the sale of cigarettes at this **PUBLIC HEARING**.

Following is a brief synopsis of the proposed FY 2027 Budget:

	Revenues	Expenditures
City Government Funds:		
General Fund	\$ 83,320,150	\$ 83,320,150
Debt Service Sinking Fund	\$ 6,557,900	\$ 6,557,900
City Capital Improvements Fund	\$ 1,518,813	\$ 1,518,813
Blue Ridge Court Services Fund	\$ 1,693,337	\$ 1,693,337
City Proprietary Funds:		
Water Fund	\$ 8,318,365	\$ 8,318,365
Sewer Fund	\$ 5,361,881	\$ 5,361,881
Environmental Fund	\$ 4,721,166	\$ 4,721,166
Stormwater Fund	\$ 1,391,000	\$ 1,391,000
Parking Fund	\$ 406,694	\$ 406,694
School Operating Funds:		
Education Fund	\$ 49,243,929	\$ 49,243,929
State Operated Programs	\$ 3,238,809	\$ 3,238,809
Cafeteria Fund	\$ 2,111,536	\$ 2,111,536
School Capital Improvements Fun	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
School Textbook Fund	\$ 403,308	\$ 403,308
Total All Funds	\$ 168,486,888	\$ 168,486,888

Proposed Property Tax Rates:

	Current Tax Rates as of January 1, 2025	Proposed Tax Rates for January 1, 2026
Real Estate	\$0.91	\$0.91
Personal Property – motor vehicles	\$2.90	\$2.90
Personal Property – business tangible property	\$2.90	\$2.90
Personal Property – machinery and tools	\$1.24	\$1.24

Other Tax Rates:

The excise tax rate on the sale of cigarettes of \$.30 on each package containing 25 or fewer cigarettes is proposed to be increased to \$.40 on each package containing 25 or fewer cigarettes.

After holding its own public hearing, the Staunton School Board approved and proposes to Council, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 22.1-92, a public schools budget totaling \$55,197,582. Council is required to prepare and approve an annual budget for educational purposes by May 15 or within thirty days of the receipt by the City of the estimates of state funds, whichever is later, in accordance with Virginia Code Section 22.1-93.

The FY2027 Proposed Budget will be available on the City's website at www.ci.staunton.va.us/departments/finance/city-budget on Thursday, March 26, 2026 after the city council meeting.

The public is strongly encouraged to participate in the budget process. The meeting will be audio streamed live on Cable Channel 7 and on the City's internet site at <https://www.ci.staunton.va.us/government/city-council>. Specific guidelines for participation, including in-person participation, can be found at <https://www.ci.staunton.va.us/government/city-council/access-city-council-meetings>. Questions regarding participation may be directed to smithmc@ci.stauntona.va.us or 540-332-3812.

John C. Blair
Clerk of Council