

50 **Citizen Comments and Petitions:**

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52 James Kelly of Robinson, Farmer, Cox Association presented on the FY2024 Audit.
53 There are no issues reported. A copy of the presentation is on file with the minutes.

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55 **Committee Reports: none**

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59 **Staff Reports:**

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61 **1. Public Works Department Monthly Report – Mr. J. D. Fadley**

62 Mr. Fadley gave a Power Point presentation. Mr. Fadley reported that due to the
63 cold weather the public works department had five water issues due to frozen meters or
64 frozen pipes. There were two customers that had busted water pipes. There was a water
65 main repair at 9295 N. Congress St. There was a sewer back up at 9395 S. Congress St.
66 that was fixed. He reported they worked on snow and ice removal from streets and
67 continued to complete their monthly routine maintenance of the park, and the street and
68 sidewalks. The water department performed additional nitrate testing at wells per VDH.
69 They worked on the CIP and Budget for 2025-2026. They repaired the meter at Quality
70 Inn. The 2024 end of year filings and the lead and copper filings and updates were
71 completed. They worked on thawing or replacing several frozen meters and assisted with
72 snow removal. A copy of the presentation is on file with the minutes.

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74 **2. Planning Department Monthly Report – Ms. Summer Barden**

75 Ms. Barden reported that there were two temporary use permits for food trucks
76 approved for 9383 N. Congress Street.

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78 **3. Public Safety Monthly Report – Chief Chris Rinker**

79 Chief Rinker gave a Power Point presentation. He reported there were 285 calls
80 for the month, and a total of 285 calls for the year, 125 extra patrols, and 1-foot patrols.
81 He gave an overview of the detailed list of calls with nothing unusual to report in the
82 numbers. A copy of the presentation is on file with the minutes.

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84 **4. Events & Marketing Monthly Report – Ms. Savannah Frazier**

85 Ms. Savannah Frazier presented a power point presentation. She is working on
86 planning for 2025 events and continues to plan for add-on programs and events for shop
87 local incentives. She gave a marketing update. A copy of the presentation is on file with
88 the minutes. She reported that she attended a Virginia Main Street Interchange webinar.
89 The spring semester JMU Intern is volunteering 10 hours a week and helping with
90 research, event development and working with downtown businesses for marketing
91 support. Working with John Fogle as he comes up with new business support
92 collaborations. There will be a grand opening on March 13th for HomeGrown Real Estate.
93 She reported there is now a page for New Market features and recognition on our
94 website.

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99 **Action Items:**

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101 The first action item was the discussion and consideration of the New Market
102 Community Center roof. Mr. Garrison noted that the council members had a quote from
103 Skyline Roofing for the roof at the community center. This quote is for the gym roof. He
104 wanted to note that there was asbestos found in the flashing along the perimeter. This
105 quote does reflect the cost of a contractor addressing that issue. He explained that the
106 gymnasium roof was in need of replacement and is actively leaking.

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108 **Mr. Bompiani moved to replace the gymnasium roof and the main building**
109 **roof, not to include the cafeteria roof, with a cost estimate not to exceed \$350,000.**
110 **Mrs. Hannah seconded the motion. Mr. Bompiani inquired about the bids, and if**
111 **they all were quoting each section. Mr. Garrison stated that there were other bids,**
112 **but some were just for the gym area. Discussion was held about the cost difference**
113 **between the bids to confirm the \$350,000 cap amount would be enough. Mrs.**
114 **Harkness inquired about the timeline for this, and Mr. Garrison stated it would be**
115 **best to get both roofs done at the same time instead of splitting it up. With no**
116 **further discussion, the motion was carried out with a unanimous vote of 5-0.**

117

118 Mrs. Harkness	Aye	Mr. Watkins	Absent
119 Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
120 Mr. Bompiani	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye

121
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124 The second action item was the discussion and consideration of the proposed Tobacco,
125 Smoke and Vape Shops ordinance. Ms. Barden gave a brief overview of the ordinance
126 and the need for the proposed ordinance. She stated that the Planning Commission did
127 recommend for the ordinance to go before the council for approval.

128
129 **Mr. Bompiani moved to adopt the proposed Tobacco, Smoke and Vape Shops**
130 **ordinance. Mrs. Harkness seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the**
131 **motion was carried out with a unanimous vote of 5-0.**

132

133 Mrs. Harkness	Aye	Mr. Watkins	Absent
134 Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
135 Mr. Bompiani	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye

136
137
138 The third action item was the discussion and consideration of a recommendation to the
139 Circuit Court for an appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). Mr. Garrison
140 explained that Mr. Charles 'Eddie' Litten's appointment to the BZA expires at the end of
141 the month.

142
143 **Mr. King moved to recommend the Board of Zoning Appeals appointment of Mr.**
144 **Charles "Eddie" Litten to the circuit court and authorize the Town Attorney to file**
145 **the petition. Mrs. Harkness seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the**
146 **motion was carried out with a unanimous vote of 5-0.**

148	Mrs. Harkness	Aye	Mr. Watkins	Absent
149	Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
150	Mr. Bompiani	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye

151 Mayor's Comments:

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154 Council Comments:

155 Mayor Hughes gave thanks to the Public Works department for the prompt snow
156 removal.

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158 Staff Comments:

159 Mr. Garrison reported that the request for ownership of our secondary streets passed in
160 the House, but stalled in the Senate, and the bill will not move forward. Mr. Garrison
161 explained that there was concern about the snowball effect and how many towns would
162 request the same, and they were worried about funding. In order for us to make this
163 happen we need to increase our population. Mr. Bompiani stated he was very
164 disappointed that there was a lot of work put into this, and our streets are not being taken
165 care of by the state. Mr. Garrison did state the VDOT, and our elected officials were
166 supportive.

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169 Closed Session:

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171 Mrs. Harkness moved to go into a closed session to consult with legal counsel
172 regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by our
173 attorney, as authorized by section 2.2-3711(A)(8) of the state code. The subject
174 matter of the meeting is the Voluntary Settlement Agreement. Mr. Bompiani
175 seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was carried out with a
176 unanimous vote of 5-0.

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179	Mrs. Harkness	Aye	Mr. Watkins	Absent
180	Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
181	Mr. Bompiani	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye

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184 Mrs. Harkness made a motion to return from Closed Session and read aloud the
185 following Certification Resolution: With respect to the just-concluded Closed
186 Session and to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business
187 matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under The Virginia
188 Freedom of Information Act and (ii) only such public business matters as were
189 identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard,
190 discussed or considered in the meeting by the Town Council. Mr. Bompiani
191 seconded the motion which passed on the following 5-0 roll call vote:

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193	Mrs. Harkness	Aye	Mr. Watkins	Absent
194	Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
195	Mr. Bompiani	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye

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197 **Adjournment:**

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199 **With no further business to discuss, at 8:49 p.m. Mr. Wymer made a motion**
200 **to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Hannah seconded the motion, with no further**
201 **discussion the motion passed on a unanimous 5-0 voice vote.**

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N. Garrison, Town Clerk



Peter Hughes, Mayor