

AGENDA

October 21, 2024

6pm Regular Called Council Meeting
Rock School Auditorium

- **CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME**

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

2. Due to the devastating effects that Hurricane Helene had on Damascus, an emergency Special Called Council Meeting was held on Wednesday, October 2nd, at 1pm at the Damascus Library for the following Closed Session items, and during this meeting, due to the temporary displacement of Town Hall, it was the consensus of the Council to hold Special Called Council Meetings on Wednesdays in October at 1pm, at the Library, for the same three Closed Session items.

- i. Discussion and Consideration of Admin and Public Works Personnel Matters, per VA Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1).
 - ii. Discussion and Consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, per VA Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (3).
 - iii. The protection of the privacy of individuals in personnel matters not related to public business, per VA Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (4).
3. On October 9th, the Special Called Meeting for that day was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts, and a Council Poll was conducted to reschedule the October Regular Called Council Meeting to Monday. The 21st, 6pm, at the Rock School Auditorium, which was approved (6-0).
 4. On October 11th, the following Council Poll was conducted, and approved (5-0, with McCrady opposed to item #1).

Due to the damage caused by Hurricane Helene, immediate restoration efforts are needed and require approval of the following 3 items:

- 1) Authorization for the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Doug Ellington for use of the property at 135 W. Laurel Ave, to be used for the storage of building materials.

2) Authorization for the purchase of a used 6'x10 dump trailer needed by the Public Works department from O'Quinn Trailer in Coeburn for \$5,195. This is needed to continue with debris removal, both short-term associated with storm debris, as well as long-term for brush pick-up, gravel, and mulch.

3) Authorization for the Town Manager to enter into a month-to-month agreement to lease the Damascus Motor Sales building as a temporary Town Hall location for \$1,000 per month, plus utilities. This will be needed until repairs and renovations on Town Hall are complete.

5. The October 16th Special Called Council Meeting did not have a quorum present, so no action was taken.
6. Consensus of the Council is needed to cancel the Special Called Council Meetings on the 23rd and 30th of October.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 3, 2024 - Regular Council Meeting

September 9, 2024 – Special Called Council Meeting

October 2, 2024 – Emergency Special Called Council Meeting

8. AGENDA APPROVAL

9. Presentation: Linda Austin (Executive Director of Hands and Feet Ministry) - Update and Information about the Sanctuary Rehabilitation Program

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- i. Budget, Finance and Administration, Jack McCrady
 - Treasurer's Report submitted by Shawna Cook
- ii. Streets, Lights and Maintenance, Jack McCrady
- iii. Parks and Recreation, Beaty Jackson
 - Seat Vacancy
- iv. Planning Commission, Chris Bell
- v. Police and Fire Advisory, Tom Hayes
 - DPD Monthly Report – Chief Turner
 - DVFD Monthly Report – Chief Turner

vi. Special Committees

11. CITIZENS COMMENTS

** Citizens wishing to address the Council are asked to sign in on the Public Participation Register provided at the podium, and if participating electronically please clearly state your name and address for the record.*

12. MANAGER'S REPORT – Chris Bell

13. LEGAL MATTERS

At the appropriate time, motion to Recess into Closed Session for Discussion and Consideration of Admin Personnel Matters, per VA Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1); Discussion and Consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, per VA Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (3); and, the protection of the privacy of individuals in personnel matters not related to public business, per VA Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (4).

14. OLD BUSINESS

- Tree Removal Project Bids – Contractor selection
- BZA update – Tom Davenport has been sworn in. Awaiting Bryan Bryant to be sworn in
- Feasibility Study & Gap Analysis – on hold
- Town Hall renovation – on hold

15. NEW BUSINESS

- Damascus Health Center Commission: two members recently lost, seat vacancies – Beaty Jackson

16. CONSENT AGENDA

- Consideration of invoices exceeding \$2,500
- Invoices - 'Pay the Bills' presented, as well as the standard and/or recurring bills that will come in before the next Regular Called Council Meeting

17. MAYOR & COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS

- Katie Lamb
- Susan Coleman
- Beaty Jackson
- Charles Fields
- Tom Hayes
- Robbie Kemmerlin

➤ Jack McCrady

18. UPCOMING EVENTS & OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- October 26th First Baptist Church and One Way Ministries' Fall Festival in the Town Park from 10-4
- Halloween will be observed on Thursday, October 31st, with crosswalks guarded from 6-8pm. * Hurricane Helene flooding caused damage to many of our roads and sidewalks, so please be careful where you are walking, and use flashlights once it starts getting dark.*

* For information on upcoming events, go to our website **visitdamascus.org**. For citizen info go to **damascus.org**, and don't forget our social media presence on **Facebook** and **Instagram!**

19. *(if necessary, motion to)*

- *RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR ITEMS LISTED UNDER LEGAL MATTERS*
- *RETURN TO OPEN SESSION*
- *CERTIFY (individually): We Certify that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only such matters identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed meeting.*

- **ADJOURN**