



# Town of Vienna

Charles A. Robinson Jr.  
Town Hall  
127 Center Street South  
Vienna VA, 22180

## Meeting Minutes Town Council Work Session

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Monday, March 17, 2025

7:00 PM

Charles Robinson Jr. Town Hall, 127 Center  
St. South. South

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### 1. Regular Business

#### *Roll Call*

*Council Present: Council Member Allen, Council Member Chuck Anderson; Council Member Roy Baldwin; Council Member Ray Brill; Council Member Jessica Ramakis; Council Member Howard Springsteen and Mayor Linda Colbert.*

*Staff Present: Mercury Payton, Town Manager; Melanie Clark, Town Clerk; Steven Barlow, Deputy Director of Finance; David Levy, Director, Planning and Zoning; Kelly O'Brien, Deputy Director, Planning and Zoning; Leslie Herman, Director, Parks and Recreation*

#### A. [25-4955](#)

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Fiscal Year 2025-26 Proposed Budget Work Session #2

*Mayor Colbert opened the Work Session at 7:00 PM. Town Manager, Mercury Payton, introduced David Levy, Director, Planning and Zoning. A presentation on outdoor lighting will be held at the Town Council Work Session of April 21, 2025. Council voted to approve inviting the Planning Commission to participate.*

*Mayor Colbert reminded Council that this meeting represents the second of two budget work sessions.*

#### *Administrative – Melanie Clark*

- *Council suggested a cost of living increase to the Boards and Commissions and Council honorarium; Recommend to treat as biannual occurrence timed with new Council installation; No merit increase;*
- *Council is elected to serve-not to be paid; Concern regarding bias;*
- *A request for additional honorarium for Board and Commission members who serve double duty was tabled;*
- *Vienna Public Arts Commission temporarily on hold; Consider adding beautification element;*
- *All historical minutes will be added to Granicus;*
- *Council has historically contributed to same Town nonprofit organizations; Past Council request for new contribution recipient was approved; Should consider overarching question of whether Council should support any nonprofits.*

*There was no support from Council for further discussion on the topic of a public call for submissions for contributions from the Town.*

*Mayor Colbert called for a recess at 8:00 PM. Meeting reconvened at 8:10 PM.*

*Parks and Recreation – Leslie Herman*

Mayor Colbert noted receipt of a draft resolution from Paul Gilbert, Executive Director, NOVA Parks. Directed to Dominion Power, the resolution language seeks protection of the parks along the W&OD Trail. Council discussed adding language specific to Vienna in an effort to remediate the recent tree/vegetation damage. Town Clerk, Melanie Clark, will draft language for discussion and vote at the Town Council meeting of March 24, 2025.

Director Herman presented the Parks and Recreation budget, noting that the primary increases were due to salaries and benefits.

- Bowman House budget fluctuates based on equipment needs; Residents report inadequate supplies; Superintendent indicates replenishment of supplies on regular rotation; Request greater detail on resident concerns;
- Credit cards are primary source of payment for activities;
- Resident noted need to backfill sides of newly laid asphalt at Glyndon Park to prevent degradation;
- Resident suggests Arbor Day planting of one tree for every Council Member;
- Consider adding Staff for summer mowing;
- Consider near term Annex property usage; County requested usage as construction worker parking during Library renovation; Public Works requested use of small lot for staging; Central location would suggest more resident friendly options such as outdoor market;
- Theatre has moved from contracted positions to part time positions;
- Halloween Parade safety fencing appears excessive; Planned gaps in fencing along entirety of parade route; Placement will allow for spectator chairs along the curbing; Will lower planter box fencing.

Mayor Colbert called for a break at 10:20 PM. Meeting reconvened at 10:30 PM.

Lily Widman, Superintendent, Events and Culture, reported that the Conservation and Sustainability Commission will be addressing ways to reduce vendor usage of plastic water bottles at special events.

A Council Member reported on a recent visit to the composting site in Fairfax City. There was no evidence of rodent infestation.

The Public Hearing on proposed Town budget 2025-26 is scheduled for April 7, 2025. A final vote will be held May 19, 2025.

## 2. Meeting Adjournment

Mayor Colbert concluded the Work Session at 10:45 PM.

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