



# Town of Vienna

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

## Meeting Minutes - Draft Town Council Meeting

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Monday, June 1, 2026

7:00 PM

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

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**Invocation: Mercury Payton, Town Manager**

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America**

### 1. Roll Call

**Present:** 7 - Council Member Chuck Anderson, Council Member Roy Baldwin, Council Member Doug Francis, Council Member Dann Nash, Council Member Jessica Ramakis, Council Member Howard J. Springsteen and Mayor Linda Colbert

### 2. Acceptance of the Minutes:

*Council Member Baldwin raised a point of clarification regarding a statement in the minutes attributed to the Economic Development Director concerning the meals tax, noting that he had been unable to verify the accuracy of the statement prior to the meeting because the Director was unavailable. The minutes were deferred to the July 6, 2026 meeting, and no vote was taken.*

A. [26-5631](#) Approval of the Draft May 11th Town Council Work Session Minutes

### 3. Receipt of petitions and communications from the Public that are not on the Agenda. (Limited to 3 minutes per issue and no formal action can be taken this evening)

*Dan Mulville (200 Church Street NE – Optimist Club), “Today I would like to make an announcement. The Optimist Club is undertaking a caboose renovation. If you have been by the caboose recently, you will notice that the decals are gone. It was power washed today. Scraping and sanding will begin on Wednesday and following that we will move on to painting. I do not know if there is a caboose merit badge, but we would like to have volunteers come and help with painting. It is latex paint, so that should not be a problem. I can pass along information about times that would be convenient for Scouts and others who would like to participate in this town activity. I have spoken with Leslie Herman and I believe the Town can help cover the cost of the materials, which should simplify things quite a bit. The total investment should be less than \$800. It has been eight years since this has been done and I think this will be a fitting project for the Town’s 250th anniversary. Hopefully by the end of the month the work will be complete.”*

*Tracy McCarty (111 Kingsley Road SE), “I am Tracy McCarty and I live at 111 Kingsley Road Southeast in the Town of Vienna. I am the Vienna 250 Co-Chair and I am excited to hear that the caboose is undergoing a major renovation project. However, the Colonial Fair is scheduled for June 14, and as we understood it, the caboose was expected to be open for the people coming to visit. I would love for the Town and the Optimist Club to coordinate regarding the renovation schedule over the next week or two.”*

## 4. Reports/Presentations

### A. Report and Inquiries of Council Members

*Council Member Francis confirmed that the Town owns the caboose, that the Optimist Club maintains it and holds open houses, and that it sits on NOVA Parks land at Centennial Park. He requested that this three-party arrangement be noted for the record.*

*Council Member Ramakis thanked the Vienna Rotary for the Viva Vienna festival and recognized staff for their efforts. She highlighted upcoming Liberty Amendments Month events beginning June 13, including the Juneteenth Parade and Celebration at First Baptist Church, and encouraged residents to visit the Town website for the full calendar.*

*Council Member Springsteen noted a major infrastructure drainage project underway in Town, with equipment working at approximately 25 feet of depth to coordinate County sewer line and Town stormwater drainage work. He indicated that Public Works will provide a fuller briefing in June or July.*

*Council Member Anderson provided updates on Vienna 250 events, including the June 13 Juneteenth Parade and Kickoff Celebration; the June 14 Colonial Fair and Ice Cream Social at the Freeman Store, featuring George and Martha Washington reenactors, colonial games, and a petting zoo; and a June 20 author event featuring Gail Jessup White. He also recognized Scouts from Troop 1539 for their work recovering and cataloguing Moorefield bricks, including the discovery of two historically significant bricks bearing a child's footprint dating to the 1700s.*

*Scout Master Matthew Craner and assistant scout masters Steve Gerke, Tom Remmers, and Jessica Craner were present. Merit patches awarded through the Scouting America / America 250 partnership were presented to Levi Craner, Andrew Craner, Henry Craner, Matthew Craner, Dane de Angelis, Logan Gerke, Lucas Hager, Tyler McCarty, Holden Schloss-Nagel, and Aidan Willis.*

### B. Report of the Town Manager

*Town Manager Mercury Payton advised that the next Council meeting is scheduled for July 6, 2026. He noted that a Comprehensive Plan work session may be scheduled for the same evening and recommended a 7:00 p.m. start if a work session is held. Items for the July 6 agenda must be submitted by June 16. Confirmed agenda items include the Parks and Recreation Month Proclamation, adoption of the CIP, the Town Hall architectural design, and the setting of a public hearing for 527 Maple Avenue modifications.*

### C. Report of the Mayor - Board and Commission Certificate of Appreciation

*Mayor Colbert presented Certificates of Appreciation to outgoing board and commission members, including Craig Burns (Conservation and Sustainability Committee and Windover Heights Board of Review) and Steve Kenney (Planning Commission, twelve years, and Windover Heights Board of Review), who was recognized as Virginia Citizen Planner of the Year. Council Member Dann Nash was recognized for his prior five years of service on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Certificates were also noted for members unable to attend: Mark Lander (Town Business Liaison Commission, four years), Robert Marsh (Town Business Liaison Commission, two years), and John Barrett (Bicycle Advisory Committee, three*

years).

**A. 26-5634 Proclamation - National Donut Day**

*Mayor Colbert presided over a National Donut Day Proclamation (Item 26-5634), which was read by Junior Mayor George Astley, a second-grade student at Vienna Elementary School, who signed the proclamation alongside the Mayor and the Town Clerk.*

**D. Proposals for Additional Items to the Agenda**

**E. Closed Session Report**

*Council Member Ramakis moved to affirm that a Closed Session was held on June 1, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(1) for consideration of personnel matters, specifically the appointment and/or re-appointment of members to Town boards and commissions, and to continue the Closed Session later the same evening pursuant to §§ 2.2-3711(A)(7), (A)(8), and (A)(29). The motion was seconded by Council Member Baldwin and passed unanimously.*

*Council Member Ramakis further moved, "I move to reappoint Nate Penati to the Board of Architectural Review for a two-year term beginning July 1, 2026 and expiring July 1, 2028." and, "I move to appoint Evan Fallor as the Planning Commission Representative to the Windover Heights Board of Review for a two-year term beginning June 2, 2026 and expiring June 2, 2028." This motion was seconded by Council Member Anderson and passed unanimously.*

**5. Consent Agenda**

*The following items were approved as a block on the consent agenda: 26-5598, FY 2027 funding of contracts issued by other jurisdictions under VPPA cooperative procurement provisions; 26-5599, FY 2027 funding and renewal of Town contracts; 26-5606, Grounds Maintenance and License Agreement between the Town of Vienna and Navy Federal Credit Union; 26-5628, payment to Tyler Technologies for the standard software maintenance agreement (SSMA) for the Vienna Police Department; 26-5621, renewal of the agreement among the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, Northern Virginia Model Railroaders, Inc., and the Town of Vienna for the operation of the W&OD Trail Vienna Railroad Station; and 26-5629, appointment of Town Officials for FY 2026–27*

*A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Council Member Anderson, seconded by Council Member Springsteen, and approved unanimously.*

**A motion was made by Council Member Anderson, seconded by Council Member Springsteen, that the consent agenda be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Council Member Anderson, Council Member Baldwin, Council Member Francis, Council Member Nash, Council Member Ramakis, Council Member Springsteen and Mayor Colbert

**A. [26-5598](#)**

FY 2027 funding of contracts issued by other jurisdictions under the Virginia Public Procurement Act cooperative procurement provisions.

- B. [26-5599](#) FY 2027 funding and renewal of Town contracts
- C. [26-5606](#) Grounds Maintenance and License Agreement Between the Town of Vienna and Navy Federal Credit Union
- D. [26-5628](#) Approval of payment to Tyler Technologies for the standard software maintenance agreement (SSMA) for the Vienna Police Department.
- E. [26-5621](#) Proposed renewal of agreement between the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, the Northern Virginia Model Railroaders, Inc. and the Town of Vienna for the operation of the W&OD Trail Vienna Railroad Station.
- F. [26-5629](#) Appointment of Town Officials for FY 2026-27

## 6. Regular Business

- A. [26-5622](#) Tree Advocacy Committee - Request to Amend Vienna Green Streets Policy (5 min. Staff Presentation)

*Director of Parks and Recreation Leslie Herman presented the Tree Advocacy Committee (TAC) recommendation to amend the Vienna Green Streets Policy to remove the ability of property owners and developers to decline the planting of one or more Town-provided trees within the public right-of-way adjacent to their property, where the Town Arborist has determined that such planting is appropriate. Council Member Springsteen noted that recently passed state enabling legislation establishing a ten-year tree canopy requirement, which the Town had advocated for over many years, may have a larger impact than this policy change alone. Staff confirmed that Planning and Zoning is already working to bring Chapter 18 into conformity with the new legislation.*

*Council Member Francis supported removing the developer opt-out, adding that developers should notify future home-buyers that a tree will be planted in the right-of-way.*

*Council Member Nash was supportive in principle but requested that an appeals process be built in, similar to the existing sidewalk-in-lieu and escrow framework. Council Member Baldwin expressed concern about the scope of the Town Arborist's authority absent an appeal mechanism and raised questions about the Parks and Recreation department's capacity to maintain an increasing tree inventory. Director Herman confirmed that a part-time staff member is dedicated to watering new trees during their first year.*

*Council Member Ramakis requested that the proposal be viewed within a broader tree canopy strategy, expressed interest in understanding enforcement of current preservation requirements, and supported exploring voluntary community campaigns, including the Vienna 250 initiative to plant 250 trees.*

*Council Member Anderson cited data from 2021 through 2025 showing a net loss of 1,461 trees, approximately 365 per year, from redeveloped properties. He supported the more aggressive approach and characterized capacity and maintenance as separate budget decisions.*

*Mayor Colbert expressed strong support for resident choice, noting that several residents have actively declined right-of-way trees due to existing landscaping preferences and maintenance concerns. She recommended focusing on Town-owned*

land and unused strips and encouraging voluntary planting.  
Council Member Baldwin moved to postpone approval of the proposed changes to the Vienna Green Streets Policy and to schedule a work session for July 6, 2026, to be followed by a Council vote at a meeting as soon as practicable thereafter. Council Member Nash seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5 to 2.

The Town Manager added that TAC is also partnering with the Arbor Day Foundation on a Vienna 250 initiative to sell 250 trees to residents at \$15 each, with a grant application submitted to the Virginia Department of Forestry to cover the balance of the approximately \$55-per-tree cost. An online link through the Arbor Day Foundation website will be available soon, and Scout troops are being engaged to build protective cages for newly planted trees.

**A motion was made by Council Member Anderson, seconded by Council Member Nash, that the Action Item be postponed. The motion carried by the following vote:**

- Aye:** 5 - Council Member Baldwin, Council Member Nash, Council Member Ramakis, Council Member Springsteen and Mayor Colbert
- Nay:** 2 - Council Member Anderson and Council Member Francis

#### Second Closed Session

Following the conclusion of regular items, the council adjourned to their second closed session.

Council Member Ramakis moved to affirm that a Second Closed Session was held on June 1, 2026 following the regular meeting pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-3711(A)(7) (consultation with legal counsel and staff regarding actual or probable litigation), (A)(8) (legal advice), and (A)(29) (discussion of a possible public contract where public discussion would adversely affect the bargaining position of the Town), and to continue the Closed Session to Monday, July 6, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(1) for consideration of personnel matters, specifically the appointment and/or re-appointment of members to Town boards and commissions. The motion was seconded by Council Member Nash and passed unanimously.

## 7. Meeting Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

THE TOWN OF VIENNA IS COMMITTED TO FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT STANDARDS. TRANSLATION SERVICES, ASSISTANCE OR ACCOMMODATION REQUESTS FROM PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ARE TO BE REQUESTED NOT LESS THAN 3 WORKING DAYS BEFORE THE DAY OF THE EVENT. PLEASE CALL (703) 255-6304, OR 711 VIRGINIA RELAY SERVICE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED.