



Town of Vienna

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Town Council Work Session

Monday, September 15, 2025

7:00 PM

Vienna Police Department Community Room,
215 Center St. South

1. Regular Business

Roll Call

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

*Council Absent: Council Member Sondra Allen; Council Member Springsteen
Staff Present: Mercury Payton, Town Manager; Steven Barlow, Deputy Director of
Finance; Jim Morris, Chief, Vienna Police Department*

A. [25-5243](#)

Legislative Agenda 2026 Discussion of a proposed Virginia General Assembly legislative agenda

*Mayor Colbert opened the work session by calling on Town Attorney Steve Briglia to
present a summary of the proposed 2026 Legislative Agenda. Three additional items
were proposed by Council for consideration.*

*The following provides a summary of discussion by Council. Items have not yet been
ranked by Council. The points made reflect discussion by the Town Council but also
include points made by the Town Attorney.*

- Item 1, opposition to gambling facility in Fairfax County remains strongly
supported; Suggest inclusion of proposed gaming commission with emphasis on
moratorium and regulation; County has been asked to include gaming commission
on their priority list;*
- Item 2, consider eliminating as ALU issue has been resolved in the Town;
Alternatively should remain on list, as there is discussion of greater state
restrictions on land use;*
- Item 3, ensure 20% tree canopy in ten years. It was discussed whether or not this
item should be removed or moved down the list as it may take longer to gain
traction than anticipated;*
- Item 8, Dillon Rule, continues to be an important issue in certain states;*
- Item 9, support for revenue sharing mechanisms between localities/state should
include sharing between counties/towns; Alternatively, suggest moving further down
list of importance due to lack of support from legislators;*
- Item 11, restoration/ maintenance of full 599 funding, suggest including
financial figures;*
- Item 12, qualified immunity is critically important for retaining and recruiting
police officers and should be moved higher on the list of importance;*
- Item 14, bag tax, should be higher priority as it represents a funding source not
passed down to Town;*
- Item 15, local authority to review and approve easement application to prevent
wholesale elimination of trees and vegetation in favor of public utilities; Suggest
language that focuses on public parks;*

- Item 20, request requirement for undergrounding electrical and telecommunications utilities should include language regarding areas at highest risk of outages (in terms of residents);
- Proposed Item, campaign finance reform, should remain high on list as the State is one of the least regulated relative to campaign finance expenditure/control; Critical to create limits/transparency on this process;
- Request funding for feasibility study on property under purchase consideration by Town; State Representatives have suggested Town of Vienna consider request for funding.

Town Manager Payton reminded Council that while elected officials generally focus on the first four items, the remaining items may align with other jurisdictions priorities and serve to add support. Council will rank the list based upon a process provided by Town Attorney Briglia. The revised list will be available for discussion with Senator Salim and Delegate Siebold at the October 20, 2025 Town Council meeting. The priority list will be reranked for the Public Hearing and vote of November 10, 2025.

Mayor Colbert called for a recess at 8:35 PM. Meeting resumed at 8:40 PM.

B. [25-5233](#)

8:00 p.m. Capital Improvement Plan 2026-2042

Mayor Colbert recognized Steven Barlow, Director, Finance, to present the Item for consideration.

The following provides a summary of discussion by Council.

- Clarified funding for body worn cameras – ARPA funded through 2026- future funding will need to come from Town budget (preferably operating costs);
 - Property acquisition for tourism center not funded through Congressional grant – part of 2028 bond package; CIP funding will not affect opportunities for blighted property improvement grants;
 - Vehicle replacement funded through CIP is possible but already have limited sources for funding;
 - Southside property remains high on list; Replacement of grass with turf at Caffi Field remains under consideration; Vienna Softball League did not support a switch to turf;
 - Urge Council to consider ways to use CIP funds to help business community; Suggest incorporation of potential projects from parking study into CIP (trolley/micro transit);
 - Consider Town Hall renovation funding to complete renovations not funded by ARPA (second floor and lower level);
 - Request nonprofit signage replacement added to 2026 CIP (\$50,000);
 - Request support material for request of \$24.4 M from Parks and Recreation.
- Council will provide edits (changes/additions) of full CIP by October 1, 2025. Each project to be added or altered requires four Council Member support. Approval of the 2026 CIP is scheduled for October 27, 2025. Discussion of changes is tentatively scheduled for a Work Session on October 20, 2025. Director Barlow stressed that, as this is a bond year, the 2026 CIP must be approved on October 27, while discussion of future years commitments may be extended to a later time.

C. [25-5232](#)

9:30 p.m. Review of 2025-26 Supplemental Appropriations (Fiscal Year 2024-25 End of Year Update)

Mayor Colbert called on Steven Barlow, Director, Finance, to present the Item. Director Barlow noted that the purchase order roll forwards represent projects not completed in FY 2024-25. As the appropriation exceeds 1% of the General Fund

budget (2025-26) a public hearing is scheduled for October 6, 2025.

2. Open Discussion

Town Manager Payton opened the floor for open comment by Council.

- *Council Member Anderson urged Council to consider ways to support the VA 250 Celebration (financial and otherwise);*
- *Council Member Ramakis noted that September 27, 2025 – September 28, 2025 is the American Legion Post 180 Be the One challenge for completing 250 Buddy Checks (as part of the USA 250 Challenge);*
- *Changes to security for the Halloween Parade will include safety barricades impacting the route; The entire business community will be informed of these changes; In an effort to reduce entry gaps, participants will be reminded at the entry point and staff will walk alongside most entries;*
- *Fairfax County is in process of rewarding the library project with a targeted date by the close of September;*
- *The Comprehensive Plan will not be completed by close of 2025; The process will remain as scheduled; Council requested a work session prior to the public hearing; Director Levy will provide an update on the schedule;*
- *Director Toulouse provided an update on the project with NOVA Parks noting that a draft is in process.*

3. Meeting Adjournment

Mayor Colbert called for adjournment at 10:00 PM.

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.