



Town of Vienna

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Town Council Work Session

Monday, February 9, 2026

7:00 PM

Vienna Police Department Community Room,
215 Center St. South

1. Regular Business

*Mayor Colbert called the Work Session to order at 7:00 p.m.
All Council Members were present.*

A. [26-5439](#) Visioning The Center of Town and W&OD Trail (15 Minute Presentation)

The Town Council received a detailed presentation from the Director of Economic Development, Nicole Toulouse, regarding the visioning initiative for the Center of Town and the W&OD Trail area. Staff outlined the opportunity to acquire the historic bank building and the adjacent Stilts Building through an option agreement in partnership with NOVA Parks, with a decision deadline of April 2027. The presentation included an overview of related Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects, such as pedestrian connectivity enhancements, streetscape and place making efforts, trail crossings, and the potential widening of the W&OD Trail. Funding strategies discussed included previously secured federal funds, possible Industrial Revitalization Fund (IRF) grants, and future CIP allocations. Members of The Town Council engaged in extensive discussion regarding parking impacts, protection of existing businesses, trail widening logistics, drainage improvements, and coordination with NOVA Parks. Council Members emphasized the importance of clear public communication, particularly in managing expectations about financial constraints and intended uses of the properties. Several Council Members requested that a draft of the proposed community survey be shared with The Town Council prior to distribution and suggested including visual examples to help residents better understand potential outcomes. The Town Council expressed general support for continued due diligence and community engagement before any final acquisition decision.

B. [26-5423](#) Role of Planning Commission in the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) (10 Minute Presentation)

The Director of Planning and Zoning presented an overview of the statutory framework under the Code of Virginia allowing Planning Commission participation in the Capital Improvements Program process. Staff explained that the Comprehensive Plan serves as the Town's long-term policy document and that incorporating Planning Commission review would strengthen alignment between capital investments and adopted goals. Examples from neighboring jurisdictions were provided, illustrating different models for Planning Commission review and recommendation. Members of The Town Council discussed timing, process structure, workload considerations, and the importance of clearly framing financial realities during the Planning Commission review. Council Members generally expressed support for incorporating Planning Commission participation following adoption of the updated Comprehensive Plan, allowing the new plan to guide future CIP review. The Town Council favored a process in which the Planning Commission would review

the draft CIP, conduct a public hearing, and provide recommendations to the Town Manager, whose recommended CIP would then be transmitted to The Town Council along with Planning Commission input.

C. [26-5440](#) Permanently adding an Eric Monday Foundation Banner (10 Minute Presentation)

The Town Council discussed the request to permanently add an Eric Monday Foundation banner to the existing schedule of banners to hang across Maple Avenue. The presentation provided context for the request and prompted discussion regarding policy considerations for permanent signage or banners on Town property.

Council Members discussed consistency with Town standards, precedent-setting concerns, and the importance of establishing clear criteria for evaluating similar requests in the future. The Town Council agreed to designate a week every year dedicated to mental health awareness where different organizations can apply to have their banner displayed during this respective week. The Eric Monday Foundation will have it for the 2026 dates.

Town Staff can keep the current system or provide an exception for the Eric Monday Foundation.

D. [26-5435](#) Town Council Priorities 2026

The Town Council reviewed and discussed proposed 2026 priorities submitted individually by Council Members and the Mayor. The discussion focused on alignment among priorities, feasibility within existing fiscal constraints, and opportunities for consolidation of overlapping goals.

Council Members highlighted themes including economic development, infrastructure investment, fiscal stewardship, land use authority, and community engagement. While no formal adoption occurred during the work session, the discussion helped clarify shared areas of focus and will inform refinement of the 2026 priorities for future consideration by The Town Council.

2. Open Discussion

During Open Discussion, the Mayor briefed The Town Council on pending state legislation concerning local land use authority and transit-oriented housing overlay districts. Council Members discussed potential impacts to Vienna, particularly regarding by-right multifamily development and possible effects on single-family residential areas. Members expressed concern about maintaining local land use control and supported continued coordination with legislative representatives.

The Town Council also briefly discussed developments related to proposed casino legislation and upcoming committee hearings at the General Assembly.

3. Meeting Adjournment

The Work Session was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.