



Town of Vienna

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Town Council Meeting

Monday, March 2, 2026

7:30 PM

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

Invocation: Ray Brill

The meeting of The Vienna Town Council was called to order on March 2, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. at the Charles Robinson Jr. Town Hall. The invocation was provided by Ray Brill Jr.

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

1. Roll Call

All Council Members were present.

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 Ramakis requested changes to be made to the minutes. The approval was deferred to the next meeting.

A. [26-5472](#) 2-9-2026 Draft 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)

Darren Parsons, 118 Locust St SW

"I built the website viennapool.org. It's on the blue yard signs you see around town. The website leverages the prior hard work of several concerned Town residents who initially raised the red flag. Those residents previously spread the word about what they see as the inconvenient facts regarding the proposed pool. Their objections are as clear now as they were then, yet the decision to build a pool still lingers. The FY26 Town calendar indicates we are proceeding with the design of a new pool. Why are we proceeding with the pool design? A survey asking whether Vienna residents prefer an indoor or outdoor pool is the basis of this project, but that survey no longer seems appropriate given that it is unclear whether there is broad support for what would be the largest capital expenditure in Vienna's history. Before we spend hundreds of thousands of dollars refining a pool design, it seems critical to ask Vienna residents a more fundamental question: do we want to dedicate \$25 million in construction costs to a pool? Do we want approximately \$1 million in annual interest payments? Do we want another \$1 million in annual operating losses for an aquatic center in our Town? I will speak for everyone who has a sign in their yard, the dozens of people I have spoken with who do not like yard signs, and the dedicated residents who originally pointed out the concerns about this project. Please do not proceed with the design of this pool. Please do not hire a project

manager. Please do not burden every household in Vienna with hundreds more dollars in annual subsidies for a pool many residents may or may not use. Please do not assume that our AAA bond rating means we should spend on marginal luxuries such as this pool. We already have enough information to know that the lot is too small and the cost too large. I have heard from Vienna residents. I have spoken with people in larger homes and smaller homes, older residents and younger residents, Democrats and Republicans, many of whom do not want the financial burden of this pool. To those who ask for a pool, please understand that you are asking all taxpayers to significantly subsidize it. The request for a special-interest pool is simply too large. The level of support for a \$25 million pool does not appear sufficient given the financial impact on Vienna taxpayers who do not want it. Town Council, please ask Vienna residents whether we want a \$25 million, non-self-sustaining pool before we spend any more money on pool design. Thank you."

Robert Lapham, 202 McHenry St

"I'm a 16-year-old sophomore at Oakton High School, and I was driving around Vienna when I noticed the blue signs in people's yards. I started wondering why some people don't want a pool, so I went to the website and read the points that were posted there. I realized I didn't fully understand some of the arguments being made against the pool, so I talked about it with my dad, who is an aquatics instructor with the Boy Scouts. I'm also a Boy Scout and have a lot of experience in aquatics. I actually received a lifesaving medal at the National Court of Honor recently as part of Scouts in Action, so water safety and swimming are things that are important to me. When we talked about the proposed pool, we both thought it sounded like a great idea and we're interested to see how the project moves forward. The biggest question I had for the people who oppose the pool is: what do you think should go there instead? The Town already owns the lot, so if the pool isn't built, what would be a better use of the space? That was really my main question after looking at the website. From what I've also read, it could be a good investment opportunity through bonds for residents in Vienna. I think I might even purchase some bonds to support the pool myself. I think it could be a really good addition to the community. Thank you very much."

Ray Brill, 501 John Marshall Dr NE

"Our Town Clerk is passing out books to each of you, and once those are distributed, I will begin. Now that you've been inundated with paper, I'll start. I want to briefly go through the tabs, and I'm going to concentrate on three things. Tab one references what facilities Vienna residents said they wanted most in the Parks and Recreation Plan. Number one was a swimming pool and number four was a fitness center. Also included there is an article titled "The Nine Benefits of Water Workouts," which highlights how powerful swimming can be as exercise, particularly because it does not put stress on the joints. Tab two outlines the scope of the health problem in our country. The numbers are striking—72% of adults have unhealthy weight, more than half have diabetes or prediabetes, and heart disease remains the number one killer. Tab three addresses health care costs related to inactivity. Approximately \$117 billion in health care costs are attributed to physical inactivity. Regular exercise helps address many of these health issues. In tab four, the benefits are outlined. For teens and children, exercise improves cognition, heart health, and reduces the risk of depression. For adults, it lowers the risk of all-cause mortality, reduces the risk of cardiovascular disease, reduces anxiety, improves sleep, and improves overall quality of life. If you could please put up the graph that's included in tab four. When you look at that graph, it really makes you say "wow." If you are sedentary—moving from one chair to another, to bed and back

again—you significantly increase your risk of early death. If you exercise regularly, you live longer and healthier. The graph really speaks for itself. Exercise improves memory, strengthens bones and muscles, and reduces the risk of chronic diseases like type 2 diabetes and obesity. For young people, one of the most important things is that those who exercise early in life tend to continue those habits as adults. Starting later in life is possible, but it's much easier if the pattern begins when you're young. For adults, exercise improves sleep quality, reduces anxiety, reduces blood pressure, and lowers the risk of heart disease, stroke, and type 2 diabetes. It also lowers the risk of developing dementia and reduces the risk of several cancers, including bladder, breast, colon, esophagus, kidney, lung, and stomach. There are two other charts I'd like you to see. The first shows how one acre of the three-acre annex property could be used. The second, which is included in tab seven, shows how the square footage could be divided among the different components of the facility. If you look at the first page of tab seven, you'll see the layout, including the pool area with a zero-entry level and a fitness center on the second floor. Altogether it would be about 52,000 square feet. It would be a wonderful facility that helps promote a healthier Vienna. We already have a very safe community, and we should be just as concerned about having a very healthy community. Thank you very much."

4. Reports/Presentations

A. Report and Inquiries of Council Members

Council Member Anderson reported on a recent Black History Month and Vienna 250 event at the Vienna Community Center featuring a presentation on the history of Black land ownership in Vienna. Council Member Anderson also provided an update regarding ongoing legislative activity related to a potential casino in Fairfax County and described advocacy efforts opposing the proposal.

Council Member Francis announced the upcoming Vienna Photo Show scheduled for March 14 and 15 at the Vienna Community Center and encouraged residents to participate.

Council Member Springsteen commented on the Town's winter weather response and acknowledged the work of Public Works staff during recent snow events.

Council Member Ramakis promoted Vienna Restaurant Week, which began February 27 and continues through March 8, and encouraged residents to support local businesses.

B. Report of the Town Manager

The Town Manager announced upcoming budget work sessions scheduled for March 14 and March 16 and encouraged residents to attend and observe the Town's budget development process.

C. Report of the Mayor

The Mayor highlighted upcoming community events and volunteer recognition opportunities, including nominations for Vienna's volunteer awards and an upcoming theatrical performance titled Liberty Daughters: Virginia Women and the Revolution at the Vienna Community Center.

The Mayor then presented a proclamation recognizing March 2026 as American Red

*Cross Month in the Town of Vienna*A. [26-5470](#) American Red Cross Month Proclamation

D. Proposals for Additional Items to the Agenda

E. Closed Session Report

Council Member Ramakis made a motion seconded by Council Member Baldwin “I move that the members of the Vienna Town Council be polled to affirm that a Closed Session was held on Monday, March 2, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in accordance with State Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) (Personnel).” And “I further move that the Certification Resolution be adopted in accordance with State Statutes, and that the Town Clerk is authorized to execute the Certification Resolution.” “And I further move that the Closed Session be continued later this evening Monday, March 2, 2026, after the regular meeting in accordance with State Code Sections 2.2-3711(A) (6) (7) and (8) for the following purposes: (A) (6) - Discussion or consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected; (A)(7) – Consultation with legal counsel; and A(8) -Consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters”

Council Member Ramakis further moved to reappoint Kate French to the Transportation Safety Commission for a two-year term retroactively effective February 28, 2026 through February 28, 2028; to reappoint Jen Morrow to the Town Business Liaison Committee for a two-year term retroactively effective January 25, 2026 through January 25, 2028; to appoint Greg Bernhard to the Town Business Liaison Committee for a two-year term beginning March 3, 2026 and expiring March 3, 2028; and to appoint Charles Raymond to the Bicycle Advisory Committee to complete an unexpired term beginning March 3, 2026 and expiring February 7, 2027. The motion was seconded by Council Member Anderson and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Council Member Springsteen, seconded by Council Member Baldwin, that the 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

6. Consent Agenda

The Town Council approved the Consent Agenda, which included approval of six Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) between the Town of Vienna and local organizations for community events. These included agreements with Vienna Little League for the Independence Day celebration and fireworks at Yeonas Park; the Vienna Business Association for the Halloween Parade; First Baptist Church for the Juneteenth and Liberty Amendments Month kickoff parade; the Vienna Business Association for Oktoberfest; the Rotary Club of Vienna for the Viva! Vienna! Festival and Brewfest; and the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna for use of the Vienna Community Center parking lot for the Vienna Farmers Market. The Town Council approved all items on the Consent Agenda in a single motion made by Council Member Springsteen and was seconded by Council Member Ramakis. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Council Member Springsteen, seconded by Council Member Ramakis, that the 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. [26-5452](#) Request approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Vienna Little League and Town of Vienna for use of Yeonas Park during the Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks Show.
- B. [26-5453](#) Request approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Town of Vienna and Vienna Business Association for 2026 Halloween Parade
- "I move to authorize the Mayor to execute an MOU between the Town and Vienna Business Association for the 2026 Halloween Parade. "**
Or
Other action deemed necessary by Council.
- C. [26-5454](#) Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Town of Vienna and First Baptist Church for the 2026 Juneteenth and Liberty Amendments Month (LAM) Kickoff Parade.
- D. [26-5455](#) Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Town of Vienna and Vienna Business Association for 2026 Oktoberfest
- E. [26-5466](#) Request approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Town of Vienna and Rotary Club of Vienna for 2026 Viva! Vienna! Festival and Brewfest
- F. [26-5467](#) Request approval of memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna and Town of Vienna for use of the Vienna Community Center parking lot for the 2026 Vienna Farmers Market

7. Regular Business

Second Closed Session

Following the regular meeting, The Town Council entered a second closed session.

Council Member Ramakis moved, " "I move that the members of the Vienna Town Council be polled to affirm that a Second Closed Session was held on March 2, 2026, after the regular meeting in accordance with State Code Sections 2.2-3711(A) (6) (7) and (8) for the following purposes: (A) (6) - Discussion or consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected; (A)(7) – Consultation with legal counsel; and A(8) -Consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters" And "I further move that the Certification Resolution be adopted in accordance with State Statutes, and that the Town Clerk is authorized to execute the Certification Resolution." "And I further move that the Closed Session be continued to Monday, March 23, 2026, at 6:30 pm in accordance with Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1), for consideration of personnel matters, specifically, the discussion of appointment and /or re-appointment to Town Boards and Commissions. Seconded by Council Member Nash. The vote passed unanimously.

8. Meeting Adjournment

With no further business before The Town Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 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.

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