



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

TYPE OF ITEM

SUBJECT

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS Government Finance Officers Association Budget Award

MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC Public comment will be permitted until 7:35 p.m. (limit of 3 minutes per speaker) and at the end of the meeting on any item, including items on the agenda, provided that a public hearing is not planned or has not previously been held on the matter. Persons are asked to sign up in advance of the start of the meeting.

COUNCIL RESPONSES TO MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

1. CONSENT AGENDA* (Items removed from the consent agenda will be considered at the end of the regular agenda)

- a. Approval of minutes of December 14 and 18 and January 2
- b. **APPROPRIATION:** \$200,000 – Schools Contribution to Small Capital Improvement Program (1st of 2 readings)
- c. **APPOINTMENT:** Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District
- d. **ORDINANCE:** Amendment re: Open Storage of Vehicles (1st of 2 readings)

2. REPORT Trash Collection/Curbside Recycling

3. REPORT* Voting Precinct Boundary Changes

MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Tuesday
January 16, 2007
7:00 p.m.

*ACTION NEEDED (appropriations require 2 readings; ordinances require 2 readings; resolutions require 1 reading)
Reasonable accommodations will be provided for persons with disabilities if requested.

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA



Agenda Date:	January 16, 2007
Action Required:	Appropriation
Staff Contacts:	Scott Hendrix, Contract Manager Barbara Taylor, Administrative Assistant
Reviewed By:	Gary O'Connell, City Manager
Title:	Charlottesville City Schools Small Capital Improvements Program Contribution - \$200,000

Background: This is an annual contribution from Charlottesville City Schools for the purpose of funding small capital improvement construction projects FY 2007.

Discussion: The funds will be appropriated to the School Facilities Projects (Small Cap) account. (SAP Fund 424, Cost Center 2401001000, SH-001).

Alternatives: None. The funds have been contributed by the Schools and must be appropriated so that they can be expended for planned and on-going construction projects.

Budgetary Impact: The total appropriation is \$200,000 and will be appropriated into the Schools Capital Improvement Program Fund.

Recommendation Approval and appropriation.

Attachments: N/A

APPROPRIATION

**Charlottesville City Schools Small Capital Improvements Program Contribution
\$200,000**

WHEREAS, the Charlottesville City Schools makes an annual contribution to their school's small capital improvement program in the amount of \$200,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia that the sum of \$200,000 received from the Charlottesville City Schools is hereby appropriated in the following manner:

Revenues - \$200,000

Fund: 424 Project: SH-001 G/L Account: 432085

Expenditures - \$200,000

Fund: 424 Project: SH-001 G/L Account: 599999



Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District

2134 Berkmar Drive, Charlottesville, VA 22901

Tel: (434) 975-0224 Fax: (434) 975-1367

Web Page: www.tjswcd.org

Louisa Office: 39 Industrial Dr, Louisa, VA 23093

Phone: 540-967-5940 Fax: 540-967-2557

January 3, 2007

Mayor David E. Brown
1534 Rugby Avenue
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Re: Board Appointment – Thomas Jefferson Water Resources Protection Foundation

Dear Mayor Brown:

In 2002, the Thomas Jefferson Soil & Water Conservation District (TJSWCD) created the Thomas Jefferson Water Resources Protection Foundation, a nonprofit subsidiary of the TJSWCD that administers the District's Easement Program. The Foundation's Board of Directors includes two volunteer citizen appointees from each of our member localities. One of those citizens is appointed by the local governing body, and the other by the TJSWCD Board of Directors.

Charlottesville's membership in the TJSWCD was recently formalized, and the City will therefore have the opportunity to appoint a representative to the Foundation Board. Ms. Tara Boyd has expressed interest in serving in this position, and her letter of interest is attached for your review. The TJSWCD Board's direct appointment to the Foundation is John Conover. We recommend Ms. Boyd as the City's appointee.

The TJSWCD's easement program is aimed at securing and maintaining permanent easements on lands that are critical to the protection of water resources, with a primary focus on riparian lands. The parcels upon which the District holds easements are generally small in acreage. These easements can overlay larger easements held by the County or by entities such as the Virginia Outdoors Foundation.

The reasons for setting up a Foundation to administer our easement program are twofold. First, the Foundation will hopefully become a sustainable funding source, separate from the District's operational budget (which is subject to the variations of State & local budgets), dedicated to paying the long-term costs of performing custodial duties to ensure easement compliance. Second, the Foundation is a means of ensuring that the interests of our member localities are adequately represented.

The TJSWCD will continue to be the holder of any easements secured under the program. However, the Foundation has the responsibility of working closely with local governments and landowners to craft easement terms that satisfy the interests of all parties. Any easement that the District takes on must be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan of the locality in

which it resides. Therefore, good communication among the District, Foundation, and local governments is important.

I look forward to hearing from you by January 22 (following your January 15 meeting) regarding the City's appointment to the Foundation Board. A District or Foundation representative would be pleased to provide a presentation on our easement program to the City Council if you feel that would be helpful. Please contact me or one of the Charlottesville representatives to the TJSWCD (Rich Collins, John Conover) if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alyson Sappington', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alyson Sappington
District Manager

Cc. (by email) Gary O'Connell, Charlottesville City Manager
Nick Evans, Chairman TJSWCD
Susan McSwain, President, TJWRPF
John Conover, TJSWCD
Rich Collins, TJSWCD
Tara Rowan Boyd

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA



Agenda Date: January 16, 2007
Action Required: Approval of Ordinance
Staff Contacts: James E. Tolbert, AICP, Director
Reviewed By: Gary O'Connell, City Manager
Title: **Inoperable Vehicle Ordinance**

Background: For years the City has had in the code a section requiring that inoperable vehicles be removed from the public street and if they are on private property, that they be completely covered. This ordinance in the past covered all residential areas throughout the City. However, when we rewrote the zoning ordinance in 2003, we created a number of zoning districts that allowed residential development and changed the name of those districts. We did not make a corresponding change in this code section and have been unable to enforce the inoperable vehicle ordinance in some cases because of that.

Discussion: The change before you will add all districts in which substantial residential use is allowed and where the storage of inoperable vehicles is regulated so that we can continue enforcement. It does allow inoperable vehicles in those areas where repair work takes place.

Budgetary Impact: None.

Recommendations: Staff recommends approval of the ordinance.

Attachments: Ordinance.

**AN ORDINANCE
AMENDING AND REORDAINING SECTION 5-150 OF
ARTICLE V OF CHAPTER 5 OF THE
CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY CODE, 1990, AS AMENDED,
RELATING TO OPEN STORAGE OF INOPERABLE VEHICLES.**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that Section 5-150 of Article V (Blighted Property) of Chapter 5 (Building Regulations; Property Maintenance) is hereby amended and reordained, as follows:

Sec. 5-150. Open storage of inoperable vehicles.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to keep, except within a fully enclosed building or structure or otherwise shielded or screened from view, on any property zoned for residential (R-1, ~~R-1A~~, R-1U, R-1S, R-1SU, R-2, R-2U, ~~or R-3~~, University Medium Density, University High Density, or McIntire 5th Residential) purposes ~~or business~~, commercial (B-1, B-2, B-3 or B-4 Emmet Street Commercial) purposes, Overlay Districts (Public Park Protection Overlay, Historic Districts, Entrance Corridors, Parking Exempt Zone Boundary, Planned Unit Development or Special Use Permit), or Mixed Use (Downtown Corridor, Downtown Extended Corridor, Downtown North Corridor, West Main North Corridor, West Main South Corridor, Central City corridor, Urban Corridor, High Street Corridor, Highway Corridor, Neighborhood Commercial Corridor, or Cherry Avenue Corridor) purposes any inoperable motor vehicle. However, the provisions of this section shall not apply to a licensed business which, on June 26, 1970, was regularly engaged in business as an automobile dealer, salvage dealer or scrap processor.

- (1) . . .
- (2) . . .

**CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**



Agenda Date:	January 16, 2007
Action Required:	
Staff Contacts:	Sheri Iachetta, General Registrar
Reviewed By:	Gary O’Connell, City Manager
Title:	Voting Precinct Boundary Changes

Background: After much consideration, the Electoral Board and the staff in the Office of Voter Registration and Elections have concluded that the time has come to reconfigure the voting precincts in the City of Charlottesville.

Charlottesville currently has eight physical precincts and one central absentee precinct (CAV). The eight physical precincts – those in which voters come to cast their ballots in person on Election Day – are divided into four “large” precincts (Recreation, Walker, Jefferson Park, and Venable) and four “small” precincts (Clark, Carver, Tonsler, and Alumni Hall).

The current precincts are not optimally configured. For example, the polling place at Alumni Hall is underutilized, while the one at Tonsler is over crowded, even though both precincts have approximately the same number of registered voters.

As a result of this uneven mix of resources, we are risking failure in our mission to be “customer friendly,” if one thinks of the voters as our customers. At many elections, voters face long lines – and therefore long waiting times – which can discourage them from future voting. Unfortunately, the patterns of the past are no longer operative. We cannot say with certainty, as we were able to do just a few years ago, that voting will be heavy in the morning and evening with a non-busy period in between. We do not know the reasons, but on days of heavy turnout, voters arrive at polling places at a steady pace throughout the day or in unpredictable “spurts” that puts unexpected pressure on our election officials.

Long lines are not the whole story. In several precincts – notably Recreation, Clark, Venable, and Tonsler – parking has been a serious problem. In recent elections we have received numerous complaints from voters and political party officials about the lack of parking spaces at these precincts.

We believe that if we redesign Charlottesville’s precincts, we will be better able to distribute our resources – especially our human resources, in the form of election officials – and, ultimately, we will be able to save money.

Discussion: There are several options available to us. We could increase the number of precincts from the current eight to ten or twelve. We could keep the number of precincts the same but redesign their boundaries. We could co-locate precincts – an option used in other jurisdictions – by having voters from two precincts vote in the same location. (Facilities such as the Walker gymnasium and the Key Recreation Center are large enough to hold the equipment and personnel for two precincts.) We are open to any of these options.

To move forward with this exploration, we would request that City Council appoint a committee of no more than seven citizens, which would include at least one representative each of the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, and the disability community. This committee would help the Office of Voter Registration and Elections survey resources (including buildings that could potentially be used as polling places) and make recommendations to the Electoral Board, which would review those recommendations and bring a plan of action to City Council.

We must be aware of the timeline to get this task finished. Our original thought was to have the new precinct design implemented in time for the November 2008 presidential election, but we then realized that in February 2008 there will be a dual presidential primary, in which both the Republican and Democratic parties will be voting for a nominee from a long list of candidates. The turnout for such a dual primary could be comparable to a November presidential election, with as much as 70 percent of voters. We want to be ready to accommodate these voters on what will likely be a very busy day.

In order for us to comply with federal and state election law, as well as with the City Charter, we will need to report our findings on or before August 1, 2007. It is our understanding that a change to precinct boundaries and assigning new locations for voting will require two readings by City Council and a public hearing. In addition, approval under the Voting Rights Act by the U.S. Department of Justice will take up to 60 days. Finally, new voter registration cards will have to be mailed to all the voters affected by the change at least one month before the election.

Our goal, then, is to have a plan ready to propose by August 1 of this year with implementation by February 2008.

Alternatives:

Keep precinct boundaries as they are currently.

Budgetary Impact:

Not known at this time

**CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**



Agenda Date:	January 16, 2007
Action Required:	No
Staff Contacts:	Judith M. Mueller, Director of Public Works
Reviewed By:	Gary B. O'Connell, City Manager
Title:	Changes to Recycling and Trash Collection

Background: During the past year, both the City's trash collection and recycling contractors have experienced difficulties completing their routes on time. In addition, city staff have been in discussions with our recycling contractor to attempt to increase the number of materials picked up at curbside collection. We did attempt to add cardboard to our collection the last time we bid, but the cost we received were much too high.

Discussion: In conjunction with both our trash collection and recycling contractors we have worked out a change to our system that will shift some customers from the very heavy collection days of Monday and Thursday to Wednesday. For a very slight increase in cost (\$1,851.53 per month) our recycling contractor will add plastics, PET #1 and HDPE #2, (milk jugs, soda bottles, juice bottles and laundry detergent plastic bottles) and corrugated cardboard to the list of recyclables accepted at the curb. At this time the contractor is unable to collect office paper or brown paper. This is a tremendous asset to our customers, and will greatly aide the commercial customers receiving curbside collection. The changes are scheduled to be implemented February 5, 2007. A massive public relations and public information campaign will begin tomorrow.

Alternatives: Keep the current service. Rebid both contracts.

Budgetary Impact: No additional funding will be required for the current year.

Recommendation: Approve the proposed changes.