



# TOWN COUNCIL – PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING

Monday, October 06, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Council Chambers – 15000 Washington St., STE 100 Haymarket, VA 20169

<http://www.townofhaymarket.org/>

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## DRAFT MINUTES

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### I. CALL TO ORDER

### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pater invited everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### III. INVOCATION: Pastor Don Meeks - Greenwich Presbyterian Church

Mayor Pater introduced Pastor Don Meeks and invited him to the podium to give the evening's invocation.

### IV. MEET THE CANDIDATES

George Stewart - Gainesville District Board of Supervisor Candidate

George Stewart, Democratic candidate for the Gainesville District Board of Supervisor seat shared with the Council and audience a brief autobiography and his desire to fill the vacancy on the Board. He shared that he is opposed to the data centers. He shared that he would like to keep the schools fully funded and backs the revenue sharing agreement that the County has with the school board. He shared his background as a derivative trader in the finance industry and his desire to obtain affordable housing for those working in the County to live in the County. He concluded by sharing his combat experience and his ambition to fight the data center complex. He thanked the Council for the time to speak at the meeting.

Patrick Harders - Gainesville District Board of Supervisor Candidate

Patrick Harders, Republican candidate for the Gainesville District Board of Supervisor seat, shared with the Council and audience a brief autobiography and his moving to the Gainesville District in 2016. He shared his business concept and his desire to serve the Gainesville District. He shared his passion on preserving this area in the fighting of the data centers. He shared that he would like to follow the steps of what Bob Weir started. He concluded by thanking the Council and Staff for the invitation to come speak and thanked the Council for their service to the community.

Delegate Josh Thomas - 21st District Virginia Delegate Candidate

Delegate Josh Thomas shared that he is running for election for the State House of Delegates. He shared, unlike the first time he spoke at the podium, he has a record from being in the House to see whether he has served the County and the Town of Haymarket with honor and integrity. He shared what he set out to do in the past two years in the House: 1. Create and support a family first economy, 2. to make sure that the public school system remains world class, 3. protecting our communities. He gave examples of each item.

## **V. PRESENTATION: Delegate Josh Thomas/Senator Danica Roem**

Mayor Pater invited Delegate Josh Thomas and Senator Danica Roem to the podium to give a presentation. Senator Roem shared that the State would like to recognize and give honor to Councilmember Ken Luersen when he served two terms as the Mayor for the Town of Haymarket. They presented Councilmember Luersen with a declaration of resolution from the State House.

## **VI. PRESENTATION: Boxes of Basics - Sarah Tyndall**

Sarah Tyndall, founder and executive director of Boxes of Basics, gave a brief update on the success of the organization that provides seasonal clothing for children in need within Prince William County. She shared that they have expanded into Fauquier and Warren Counties and is starting to go into parts Fairfax County. She shared items that goes into a box for a child. She thanked the Town of Haymarket, particularly the Haymarket Police Department, for their generosity on being the busiest drop off location for items. She presented Chief Sibert a certificate for recognition and gratitude in providing help for local children.

## **VII. PRESENTATION**

### **1. Public Notice**

Town Clerk Kim Henry read the public notice into the record.

### **2. Citizen Comment**

There was no public comment or emails on the subject of the public hearing.

### **3. Close Public Hearing**

With no comments, Mayor Pater closed the Public Hearing.

## **VIII. CITIZENS TIME**

Sarah Ford, executive director for Willing Warriors, shared that the organization is celebrating their 10 year anniversary hosting warrior families at the retreat. She shared the numbers of families the retreat has hosted. She shared that it is refreshing to see everyone support one another. She thanked the Council for creating that atmosphere. She invited the Council to the warrior retreat for the 10th anniversary gala.

## **IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Pater asked for any pulled reports from the Consent Agenda.

With no pulled reports, **Councilmember Pasanello moved that the Haymarket Town Council adopt Consent Agenda items A:1-3, B:1-5 and C:1-5. Councilmember Ramirez seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**Motion made by Councilmember Pasanello, Seconded by Councilmember Ramirez.  
Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Gallagher, Councilmember Baker, Councilmember Beyene,  
Councilmember Luersen, Councilmember Pasanello, Councilmember Ramirez**

### **A. Minute Approval**

1. Mayor and Council – Work Session – August 25, 2025
2. Mayor and Council – Town Council/ARB Joint Meeting: September 2, 2025, 5:30 PM
3. Mayor and Council - Public Hearing/Regular Monthly Meeting: September 2, 2025 7 PM

## **B. Department Reports**

1. Town Administration Report
2. Town Treasurer Report
3. Police Chief Report
4. Town Engineer Report
5. Town Attorney Report

## **C. Liaison Reports**

1. Finance Liaison Report
2. Business Liaison Report
3. Community Relations Liaison Report
4. Planning Commission Liaison Report
5. Architectural Review Board Liaison Report

## **X. AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Haymarket Day Updates: Julia Crofford - Event Coordinator

Town Event Coordinator Julia Crofford gave a brief update on the upcoming Haymarket Day Event. She shared that the parade would kick off the event and that the route has changed this year with it ending on Jefferson Street. Ms. Crofford shared that she is working with Prince William County print shop and that this year there will be a brochure that gives the vendor spots and a little history on the event and on the Grand Marshal for the parade, the late Bob Weir. She shared that there will be additional parking spots and information on the bus service. She stated that this event would not be possible without the generosity of the sponsors. She concluded her presentation by sharing that she is still looking for volunteers to help out for the day. A short discussion followed.

2. Ordinance #2025-001: Outdoor Events Ordinance

Mayor Pater asked for any discussion on the item. Town Manager Emily Kyriazi shared that she spoke with the Town Attorney on the discussion from the work session regarding the need for another ordinance or policy relating to the quick and spare of the moment request and the use of Town property to hold such events, such as a community gathering. Mrs. Kyriazi shared that she will work with the Town Attorney on establishing a policy and will be bringing that to Council at a future meeting. Regarding the current ordinance before the Council, Town Manager Kyriazi shared that she has not received any feedback from the community, including the businesses.

**Councilmember Ramirez moved that the Haymarket Town Council adopt Resolution 2025-010: A resolution to adopt Ordinance #2025-001- an ordinance to amend Chapter 15 of the Haymarket Town Code, Outdoor Event Ordinance. Councilmember Luersen seconded the motion. The motion carried by a roll call vote.**

**Motion made by Councilmember Ramirez, Seconded by Councilmember Luersen. Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Gallagher, Councilmember Baker, Councilmember Beyene, Councilmember Luersen, Councilmember Pasanello, Councilmember Ramirez**

3. Ordinance #2025-002: Meals Tax Free Weekend

Town Treasurer Roberto Gonzalez shared that this ordinance has been something the Town has been doing for restaurants during the Haymarket Day weekend to encourage patrons to shop and eat local. He stated that the dates would be October 18-19 and that staff would be notifying the businesses of the tax free weekend.

**Councilmember Pasanello moved that the Town of Haymarket Town Council adopt Ordinance #2025-002: An ordinance to waive meals tax on October 18 through October 19, 2025 set by Section 42-186 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of Haymarket, Virginia (2014), as amended, relating to food and beverages. Councilmember Luersen seconded the motion. The motion carried by a roll call vote.**

**Motion made by Councilmember Pasanello, Seconded by Councilmember Luersen. Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Gallagher, Councilmember Baker, Councilmember Beyene, Councilmember Luersen, Councilmember Pasanello, Councilmember Ramirez**

4. Transportation Improvement Sub-Committee

Town Manager Emily Kyriazi shared that in a recent finance liaison committee meeting, there was a discussion on some of the priorities in the strategic plan as well as some of the projects that they would like to work on. She shared that the majority of the discussion was centered around transportation. Mrs. Kyriazi shared some of the key subjects regarding transportation that was discussed. She stated that she suggested that the Council form a transportation sub-committee. She shared that the liaisons are looking for Council to create the sub-committee of Council to help staff champion some of the areas discussed by setting meetings with the County transportation department and Gainesville Supervisor to ask for help and support. She shared that she has asked Councilmember Pasanello lead the committee and suggested that Councilmember Luersen and Councilmember Beyene join as well. A discussion followed on the subject. Mr. Pasanello shared that this is also a state level. He shared that Chief Sibert has provided some helpful data. Councilmember Luersen and Councilmember Beyene agreed to be on the sub committee. Since this constitutes a quorum, the Town Clerk will be present to take minutes. A discussion continued on considering a pedestrian study as well as vehicular study. After the discussion, Town Manager Kyriazi shared that she will provide the Council with the date and time of the kick off meeting once she talks with the sub-committee.

At this time, Vice Mayor Gallagher asked for a Closed Session at the end of this evening's meeting. There was no objection and a directive was made to add closed session to the agenda.

## **XI. COUNCILMEMBER TIME**

1. Vice Mayor Gallagher

Vice Mayor Gallagher welcomed everyone who was in the audience at this evening's meeting. He thanked the candidates for coming to the meeting and also shared that it was good to see them being friendly with one another. He also thanked the Event Coordinator for all her hard work and is looking forward to Haymarket Day.

2. Councilmember Luersen

Councilmember Luersen shared that he was humbled with being recognized up to the State level for his contributions. He shared the recognition will not be taken for granted and encouraged others to serve.

3. Councilmember Pasanello

Councilmember Pasanello congratulated Councilmember Luersen for being recognized at this evening's meeting. He thanked the students for attending and encouraged them to get involved in their community. He shared that October is National Pizza month and mentioned the local pizzerias in Haymarket. He also recognized that October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and encouraged everyone to get a mammogram. Lastly, he shared that he visited Leopold's Reserve and that they will be at the meeting in January.

4. Councilmember Beyene

Councilmember Beyene thanked the Event Coordinator for all her hard work for Haymarket Day. He also thanked the Town Manager and Chief of Police for providing weekly updates and detailed reporting at the Monthly Work Sessions. He also complimented the staff on proposing solutions by updating and creating new policies.

5. Councilmember Baker

Councilmember Baker thanked everyone for attending the evening's meeting. He also thanked the staff for all their hard work. He particularly thanked the Event Coordinator for all the hard work on Haymarket Day. He also congratulated Councilmember Luersen for the recognition he received earlier in the evening.

6. Councilmember Ramirez

Councilmember Ramirez shared that she won't be at the Haymarket Day event but hopes everyone has a wonderful time. At this time, Councilmember Ramirez prepared a statement of resignation. The resignation letter is attached to the approved minutes.

7. Mayor Pater

Mayor Pater expressed her condolences on the decision that Councilmember Ramirez made to step down. She stated that it was her hope as the leader of the Town to build a bridge between community, the businesses and those sitting on the dais. She congratulated Councilmember Luersen and said she was privileged to have witnessed the honor given to him. She also expressed her excitement for the upcoming Haymarket Day and thanked the Event Coordinator for all her hard work. She also thanked the candidates for coming to this evening's meeting and for them to share with the audience their visions. She also thanked the students that attended this evening's meeting and encouraged them to reach out to her with any questions. Lastly, she thanked Councilmember Pasanello for bringing awareness of Breast Cancer Awareness month.

## **XII. CLOSED SESSION**

1. Closed Session Motion

**Councilmember Luersen moved that the Haymarket Town Council go into closed session as permitted by Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 (A)(29), Discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body. Vice Mayor Gallagher seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**Motion made by Councilmember Luersen Seconded by Vice Mayor Gallagher.  
Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Gallagher, Councilmember Baker, Councilmember Beyene,  
Councilmember Luersen, Councilmember Pasanello, Councilmember Ramirez**

**At this time, Councilmember Ramirez left the meeting.**

2. Certification

**Vice Mayor Gallagher moved that the Council certify that, in the closed session just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and (2) lawfully permitted to be discussed in a closed session under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act as cited in that motion. Councilmember Pasanello seconded the motion. The motion carried by a roll call vote.**

**Motion made by Vice Mayor Gallagher. Seconded by Councilmember Pasanello.  
Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Gallagher, Councilmember Baker, Councilmember Beyene,  
Councilmember Luersen, Councilmember Pasanello, Mayor Pater**

3. Directive/Motion

Without objection, Councilmember Baker directed the staff and Town Treasurer to move forward as directed in the Closed Session.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business before the Town Council, Councilmember Beyene moved to adjourn seconded by Councilmember Baker. The motion carried.**

**Motion made by Vice Mayor Gallagher. Seconded by Councilmember Pasanello.  
Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Gallagher, Councilmember Baker, Councilmember Beyene,  
Councilmember Luersen, Councilmember Pasanello, Mayor Pater**