

CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Budget Development Work Session

April 4, 2024 at 6:00 PM

CitySpace, 100 5th Street NE

The Charlottesville City Council met on Thursday, April 4, 2024, in a work session to discuss Fiscal Year 2025 budget development. Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 budget development documents were made available on the City website at: <https://www.charlottesville.gov/169/Budget>. Mayor Juandiego Wade called the meeting to order with all members present: Mayor Juandiego Wade, Vice Mayor Brian Pinkston and Councilors Michael Payne and Lloyd Snook. Councilor Oschrin arrived at 6:02 p.m.

City Manager Sam Sanders made opening statements summarizing the work session agenda, and he began the work session with a review of Vibrant Community Funds (VCF) follow-up and adjustments. Mayor Wade made a statement about funding The BUCK Squad at a rate higher than last year, and lower than the original recommendation from the VCF Committee.

Budget Director Krisy Hammill reviewed amendments to FY2025 revenue and expenditure estimates, and incremental values of tax increases. She noted that per Council's request to hold a public hearing regarding tax rates, to include the personal property tax rate, a legal ad will run on April 6 for the public hearing to be held on April 15.

Commissioner of the Revenue Todd Divers presented scenarios for increases to the personal property tax rate, with the personal property category including vehicles, business tangibles and machinery and tools. He reported that the minimum value for cars eligible for personal property tax relief will increase, as the amounts have not been adjusted in many years.

Council and staff engaged in discussion about tax adjustments and prioritization of transit services.

Mayor Wade opened the floor for public comment:

- Doreen Bonnett, Birth Sisters of Charlottesville, asked for full funding of the organization's request through the Vibrant Community Fund.
- Deborah Wise, city resident, spoke about the struggles of being subject to tax and property assessment increases.
- Dan Miller, city resident, asked questions about taxes and spoke in support of progressive taxes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

BY Order of City Council

BY Kyna Thomas, Clerk of Council