

The Portsmouth Port and Industrial Commission

Meeting Minutes

July 22, 2025

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Angelia Allen – Chair
Ronald Peterman – Vice Chair
Arnette McSwain – Treasurer
Benjamin Foster – Commissioner
Keith Rice – Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:

Brian Donahue – Secretary
Jeff Miller – Deputy City Attorney
Kelsey Swieringa – Assistant City Attorney
Dr. William Dodson – City Council Liaison (9:21am)
Mark Hugel – City Council Liaison
Steven Carter – City Manager

GUEST:

Steven Edwards – City Assessor
Dorothy Morgan – Deputy City Assessor
Sean McDonnell – Stonemont Financial Group
Ben Law - Stonemont Financial Group
Zach Lloyd - Stonemont Financial Group

ABSENT:

Edward Barham, III – Commissioner
Peter Hansen – Commissioner
Charles J. Bauman III – Assistant Secretary
Kyera Pope – Finance
Chris Gullickson – Port of Virginia

Welcome & Call to Order

- The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Roll Call

- Mr. Donahue called roll. A quorum was present.

Minutes

- The minutes from the June 24, 2025, Regular Minutes were presented and adopted.

Action: On a motion by Mr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Foster, the Commissioners approved the minutes from the June 24, 2025, Regular Meeting as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterman - yes; Ms. McSwain - yes; Mr. Hansen - absent; Ms. Allen-yes; Mr. Foster – yes; Mr. Rice – yes; Mr. Barham - absent. Approved 5-0 vote.

Old Business

- **Port of Virginia Update:** The Port of Virginia update was unable to attend and present due to a scheduling conflict.
- **City Council/PPIC Joint Meeting – July 7, 2025:** Mr. Donahue reviewed action items from the July 7, 2025 joint meeting with City Council, including updates on grant programs, Burton’s Point Road development, the 6th Street property, and American Cruise Lines Docking Agreement.
- **Virginia Port Authority Quarterly Board Meetings:** Mr. Foster was confirmed to attend the Virginia Port Authority board meeting on July 29, 2025. The next quarterly meeting is set for October 28, 2025.
- **Defense Industry Roundtable Briefing:** Tanisha “Sunny” Golston, Business Development Specialist, provided a recap of the June 25, 2025 Defense Industry Roundtable. Topics included workforce training, crime concerns, and regional ship repair challenges. Commissioners discussed the importance of legislative support to keep Navy work local and highlighted the opportunities for improving youth engagement in the skilled trades.

New Business

- **Establishment of Annual Meeting – August 26, 2025**

Action: On a motion by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Ms. McSwain, moved to establish the PPIC Annual Meeting on August 26, 2025.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterman - yes; Ms. McSwain - yes; Mr. Hansen - absent; Ms. Allen-yes; Mr. Foster – yes; Mr. Rice – yes; Mr. Barham - absent. Approved 5-0 vote.

- **Defense Community Investment Plan** - Vice Chairman Peterman inquired about the City’s failure to submit a DCIP application to the Norfolk Naval Shipyard for capital improvement projects. Mr. Carter, City Manager, acknowledged the oversight and committed to addressing the submission going forward. Members discussed possible infrastructure projects for future consideration.

Closed Meeting

Action: At 9:33am Mr. Peterman, seconded by Mr. Foster, moved to go into a closed meeting : (1) pursuant to Virginia Code Subsection 2.2-3711 A.6 for the purpose of discussing the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the Commission would be adversely affected, specifically regarding the FY22 Port Host Communities grant; and (2) pursuant to Virginia Code Subsection 2.2-3711 A.3 for the purpose of discussing the disposition of real property where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining

position or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically regarding 3920 & 3930 Burtons Point Road.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterman - yes; Ms. McSwain - yes; Mr. Hansen - absent; Ms. Allen-yes; Mr. Foster – yes; Mr. Rice – yes; Mr. Barham - absent. Approved 5-0 vote.

Open Meeting

Action: At 10:32 a.m. Mr. Peterman, seconded by Ms. McSwain, moved that each Commissioner certify that, to the best of his or her knowledge: (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting just concluded.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterman - yes; Ms. McSwain - yes; Mr. Hansen - absent; Ms. Allen-yes; Mr. Foster – yes; Mr. Rice – yes; Mr. Barham - absent. Approved 5-0 vote.

Items Submitted by Commissioners

- There were no items submitted by Commissioners.

Report Backs

- There were no report backs.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Donahue
Secretary

Angelia Allen
Chair