

Council Letter

City of Danville, Virginia



CL - 2700

OLD BUSINESS C.

City Council REGULAR MEETING

Meeting Date: May 19, 2026

Subject: Consideration of a Data Center Tax Rate Increase.

From: Henrietta Weaver, Budget Director

COUNCIL ACTION

An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Danville, Virginia Amending and Reordaining Section 37-37 of the Danville City Code to Increase the Data Center Tax Rate from \$0.25 (Twenty-Five Cents) on Every \$100 (One Hundred Dollars) of Assessed Value to \$1.20 (One Dollar and Twenty Cents) on Every \$100 (One Hundred Dollars) of Assessed Value Effective July 1, 2026.

Final Adoption

SUMMARY

The Fiscal Year 2027 budget includes a \$0.95 increase in the Data Center Tax rate from \$0.25 per \$100 of assessed value to \$1.20 per \$100 of assessed value, effective July 1, 2026.

BACKGROUND

The Code of the City of Danville, Virginia, 1986, as amended, was revised on October 4, 2018, to establish Section 37-37, entitled "Data Centers and Data Center Tax Rate." This section created a separate tax classification for computer equipment and peripherals used in qualifying data center facilities. Since adoption, the Data Center Tax rate has remained at \$0.25 per \$100 of assessed value. The attached ordinance amends Section 37-37 to update the rate to \$1.20 per \$100 of assessed value, as incorporated into the Fiscal Year 2027 Adopted Budget. The proposed amendment does not alter eligibility criteria or valuation methodology and is limited solely to the tax rate adjustment.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that City Council approve the attached ordinance amending the City Code for the Data Center Tax rate.

Attachments

1. Ordinance
-

PRESENTED: May 5, 2026

ADOPTED: May 19, 2026

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 05.06

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA AMENDING AND REORDAINING SECTION 37-37 OF THE DANVILLE CITY CODE TO INCREASE THE DATA CENTER TAX RATE FROM \$0.25 (TWENTY-FIVE CENTS) ON EVERY \$100 (ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS) OF ASSESSED VALUE TO \$1.20 (ONE DOLLAR AND TWENTY CENTS) ON EVERY \$100 (ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS) OF ASSESSED VALUE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of Danville, Virginia, that Section 37-37, entitled "Data Centers and Data Center tax rate", of the Article II, entitled "Levy and Rate of Tax on Real Estate, Tangible Personal Property, Etc.", of Chapter 37, entitled "Taxation", of the Code of the City of Danville, Virginia, 1986, as amended, be, and the same is hereby, amended and reordained to read as follows:

Sec. 37-37. – Data Centers and Data Center tax rate.

(b) A separate tax rate is levied on the computer equipment and peripherals used in a Data Center. A Data Center is a facility whose primary services are the storage, management, and processing of digital data as defined in subsection (a) above. The facility must also house equipment used for the transformation, transmission, distribution, or management of at least twenty (20) megawatts of electrical power capacity. The Data Center tax rate is ~~twenty-five cents (\$0.25)~~ **one dollar and twenty cents (\$1.20)** per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed value (which is determined by applying a depreciation schedule to arrive at the fair market value); and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all other provisions and Sections of said Article, Chapter and Code be, and the same are hereby, continued in full force and effect unless and until the same are hereafter amended or repealed; and

BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall be and become effective on and as of July 1, 2026.

Approved:

A. J. Jones
Mayor

Attest:

Susan M. DeH
Clerk

Approved as to
Form and Legal Sufficiency:

[Signature]
City Attorney

TheBrightSide

Park to glow until Memorial Day

FROM STAFF REPORTS

More than 250 people came out to last month's Glow in the Park event in Chatham, thrilling organizers of the illuminating event that will keep lighting up nights for a few more weeks.

It was the second year for the endeavor hosted by Chatham First at Frances Hurt Park.

Activities April 24 included a 3-miles pit hosted by the American Legion Post 47 of Chatham, glow-in-the-dark tattoos by the Cornerstone Church of Christ, glow-in-the-dark chalk and scavenger hunt by the Pennsylvania County Public Library, dog petting opportunities hosted by the SPCK of Pennsylvania County and glow-in-the-dark slime presented by Calm Source.

All culminated at dark when thousands of lights illuminated the park. Mikel Pugh, a local artist, said there were about 500 strings of lights, which represented about 50,000 bulbs, according to a news release.

The lights wrapped 85 trees, amassing 5,000 feet of rope and extension cords to power the display.

"I love building displays because they literally bring joy to people's hearts," Pugh said.

The lights will stay up through Memorial Day, Chatham First explained.

"We hope that by keeping the lights up, community members will continue engaging with the park and our downtown, shopping, dining, exploring and supporting local," Hannah Toulas, publicity committee chair, said in a statement.

The nonprofit hopes people will visit the park and explore the display. There's also a scavenger hunt with lists available at the park.

"I have story after story where people have told me that my lights changed them," he said.

One person told him whenever she had a bad day, she would come see his lights to be "renewed" in the glow.

"It is my pleasure to see the joy," Pugh said of when people see the light, expressing he loves the idea of creating fond memories for the local children. "I thank the town for allowing me to use such a large and wonderful canvas."

To learn more, visit www.chathamfirst.com or follow on Facebook.

The Bright Side highlights uplifting moments across our community. Visit our website to read more and share your ideas.

The Bright Side: Where good news lives.



Individuals participate in the Glow in the Park event on April 24 at Frances Hurt Park. The lights will stay on display through Memorial Day.

CHATHAM FIRST PHOTOS, CONTRIBUTED



Left: A young child lights up the night April 24 at the Glow in the Park event in Chatham. Above: Chatham First welcomes visitors to the April 24 Glow in the Park event.

7XMOM

Don't need no bag of diapers no more

I have entered a new era of mother and grandmotherhood.

It snuck up on me, and I didn't fully realize the transition until I cleaned out a closet.

It's the closet dedicated to everything that doesn't go into the other closets dedicated as a specific closet.

There's a luggage closet, holiday decorations, closet, a coat closet, David's stuff closet and a kind of office stuff closet.

The closet about which I speak is the "everything else closet." A few boxes of old photos, blankets, Halloween costumes, gifts-in-waiting and miscellaneous. Lots of miscellaneous.

I realized the other day there are also a couple of things that could be identified as "Susan, your life has moved on, so why don't you get rid of these things?"

One of the items makes me a little sad, but I'm going to have to get over it. It's a little pink dancing dog that I bought for my daughter, Dawn, who had cerebral palsy and passed away five years ago. I bought it to dance around her wheelchair tray and make her smile.

The truth is, she found it annoying and basically hated it. Every time it started dancing to bring her joy, she started yelling and knocked it onto the floor. So why did I keep it? I ask myself that every time I see it.

I'm not sure the little pink dog fulfilled its calling in life to bring joy, so I need to find a child who loves it and just give it away.

I think I can do it.

Another closet item is a bag of disposable (of course) diapers in mixed sizes that I collected through the years as my children with babies left them behind. I kept them safely bagged for emergencies and used them on

occasion.

But no one needs them anymore. I realized with a pang to my heart. My youngest grandchild is 4 and my oldest is 25, so there is no need now for extra diapers. The baby stage in our family is closed, and it doesn't look like there are going to be any great-grandchildren in the near future.

Out of the 30 grandchildren we have, more are in the pre-teen, teen or young adult stage than the "little kid" stage.

It can be a painful place to be. They are so involved with friends, school, dance, chorus, church and jobs that they think nary a thought of their grandma waiting by the phone for a message, text or even, miracle of miracles, an old-fashioned phone call. Even if they answer a text, it's not quite what I would like.

From me, for example, "I hear you are trying out for a play tonight. Way to go! Good luck! I was quite the actress in my time. Had the lead role in the senior play. Do you know your lines? Do you like your director? Tell me when the play is, and I'll fly in. I love you! I've loved you since you were a tiny baby! Kiss, kiss, kiss! Love, Grandma."

My answer an hour later. "Thanks. In geometry." That's all.

I resist writing back.

"You loved me when you were a little tyke. Remember when I let you play in the sprinkler? Remember when we made cookies and you got to lick the beaters? I might not be around when you are older, so write me back soon!"

The apparent fact is that none of these kids probably will do that or want a bag of baby diapers in all different sizes. I think I'll just throw the diapers away and help fill up another landfill with my memories of rocking grandchildren and kissing owlet, soft hands.

Well, I feel pretty old, but such is the way of life.

But I've been saving the teething toy I bought my oldest grandson to give his future wife at their future baby shower. That is not going anywhere. In the closet it will stay.

And I think I'll give everyone a journal for Christmas this year! I'll write the first entry about how much I love them! They'll fill it full of memories of things we've done together.

Hah! But that's OK. Deep down I know they love me, and I'm really, really glad I don't have occasion to use those diapers anymore.

Elzey is a freelance writer for the Register & Bee. She can be reached at susanelzey53@gmail.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the COUNCIL of the City of Danville, Virginia on Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Municipal Building, 427 Patton Street, or as soon after as may be heard, at which time citizens may appear and be heard by the Council on the subjects of the following proposals by the City of Danville, Virginia:

1 Data Center Tax

To increase the Data Center Tax from \$0.25 per \$100 of assessed value to \$1.20 per \$100 of assessed value, effective July 1, 2026, as authorized by Section 37-37 of the City Code and Section 58.1-3506 of the Code of Virginia.

Copies of the Proposed Ordinances are available for examination in the Office of the City Clerk, Room 428, Municipal Building, 427 Patton Street, Danville, Virginia, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE COUNCIL
City of Danville, Virginia
Susan M. DeMassi, CMC City Clerk

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SPECIAL EVENT

Trading Chores for Choices

How Senior Living Upsizes Your Life

When you visit your parents, are you spending time making memories — or making repairs? You're invited to Commonwealth Senior Living's exclusive event where we will explore how downsizing a home can actually upsize your life. Discover how offloading the burdens of home maintenance opens the door to purposeful days, stronger relationships, and a lifestyle where every choice is theirs, and every chore is ours.

Thursday, May 21st, at 12 p.m.

at Mount Vernon United Methodist Church
107 W Main Street, Danville

RSVP and reserve a New Chapter Toolkit today!

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