



# City of Richmond

## Meeting Minutes

### Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee

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Thursday, February 21, 2019

1:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor – City Hall

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#### Committee Members and Staff in Attendance

The Honorable Michael Jones –Chair  
The Honorable Kristen Larson – Vice Chair  
The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Alternate Member  
Bill Echelberger Jr., Council Budget Analyst  
Charles Jackson, Council Budget Analyst  
Pamela Nichols, Assistant City Clerk  
Candice Reid, City Clerk  
Tabrica Rentz, Senior Assistant City Attorney

#### Absent

The Honorable Parker Agelasto – Member

#### Call to Order

Chair Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 1:13 p.m.

#### Evacuation Announcement and Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Pamela Nichols, assistant city clerk, provided information on the appropriate manner in which the Council Chamber is to be evacuated in the event of an emergency along with citizen speaker guidelines.

#### Public Comment Period

There were no public comment speakers.

#### Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections or amendments to the meeting minutes of Thursday, January 17, 2019, and the committee approved the minutes as presented.

#### Board Vacancies

There were no board applications for review.

#### Presentations

There were no presentations.

## Paper(s) for Consideration

Vice Chair Kristen Larson moved to amend the agenda as follows:

### ORD. 2018-236

To amend ch. 26, art. V, div. 2 of the City Code by adding therein new sections 26-370-26-374, concerning a real estate tax deferral program for real estate owned and occupied as a sole dwelling, for the purpose of establishing a new real estate tax deferral program for real estate owned and occupied as a sole dwelling.

**Patron:** Ms. Gray

**To be continued to the March 21, 2019 Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting**

### ORD. 2018-254

To amend Ord. No. 2018-057, adopted May 14, 2018, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 General Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, by transferring funds in the amount of \$30,000.00 from the Office of Community Wealth Building's Workforce Development program and re-appropriating these transferred funds to a new line item in the Non-Departmental agency called the "Owens & Minor Medical, Inc. On the Job Training Grant through the EDA" line item for the purpose of making a grant to Owens & Minor Medical, Inc., to subsidize certain job training activities by Owens & Minor Medical, Inc.

**Patron:** Mayor Stoney

**To be continued to the March 21, 2019 Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting**

**The motion was seconded and approved:** Ayes 2, Larson, Jones. Robertson had not yet arrived.

**The following ordinance was considered:**

### ORD. 2019-028

To declare surplus and to direct the sale of City-owned real estate located at 1900 Cool Lane and 2011 Mechanicsville Turnpike for nominal consideration to Virginia Supportive Housing for the purpose of facilitating the redevelopment thereof.

**Patron:** Mayor Stoney

*Reginald Gordon, deputy chief administrative officer – Human Services, introduced ORD. 2019-028.*

### Support

*Preston Lloyd, Williams Mullen partner and applicant representative, spoke in support of ORD. 2019-028.*

*Vice Chair Kristen Larson expressed her support of the regional cooperative agreement associated with ORD. 2019-028.*

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Larson moved to forward ORD. 2019-028 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and approved:** Ayes 2, Larson, Jones. Robertson had not yet arrived.

*Alternate member Ellen Robertson arrived and was seated.*

**The following ordinance was considered:**

ORD. 2019-029

To amend and reordain City Code §§ 26-364 and 26-365, concerning tax relief for elderly and permanently and totally disabled persons, for the purpose of revising the income ranges and corresponding exemption percentages for qualification of elderly and permanently and totally disabled persons for tax relief.

**Patron:** Mr. Agelasto, Ms. Robertson, Ms. Larson, Mr. Addison, Ms. Gray, Ms. Trammell and Mr. Jones

*Vice Chair Kristen Larson introduced ORD. 2019-029.*

*John Wack, Finance director, reported that city administration was not in support of ORD. 2019-029 because of its fiscal impact to the city's revenue.*

*Lenora Reid, deputy chief administrative officer – Finance and Administration, stated that while city administration supports the current tax relief program, it does not support ORD. 2019-029 because the proposed request will reduce tax revenue and increase administrative costs.*

*Bill Echelberger, council budget analyst reported that the exemption brackets referenced in ORD. 2019-029 were comparable to those used in many other localities.*

*Selena Cuffee-Glenn, chief administrative officer, was present to respond to questions.*

*Alternate member Ellen Robertson asked city administration to prepare a report that will show the percentages of the tax relief applicants by sectors of the city and their incomes, prior to Council's consideration of the proposed legislation.*

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Larson moved to forward ORD. 2019-029 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

**The following resolution was considered:**

RES. 2018-R103

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the Director of Planning and Development Review to develop a process for preparing school impact statements for new developments in the city of Richmond.

**Patron:** Ms. Larson

*Vice Chair Kristen Larson introduced RES. 2018-R103.*

*Douglas Dunlap, interim deputy chief administrative officer – Economic Development and Housing, reported that city administration was willing to work with schools administration in obtaining the necessary information; however, he stated that impact statements should be provided by school administration.*

*Selena Cuffee-Glenn, chief administrative officer, stated that the Richmond Public School Board is an autonomous entity; therefore, city administration can provide suggestions but the board will ultimately decide what information is disseminated on their behalf.*

*Alternate Member Ellen Robertson stated that school administration should provide the impact analysis for residential developments; however, city administration needs to develop a method to routinely update school administration of such developments.*

*Vice Chair Larson reiterated the need for RES. 2018-R103.*

*Chair Michael Jones stated that school administration should be a part of the process of preparing the impact analysis for residential developments, and he was willing to support legislation which would obligate school administration to provide the necessary information.*

*Bill Echelberger, council budget analyst, explained that RES. 2018-R103 is a request for the director of Planning and Development Review and the staff of the school board to develop a process for preparing school impact statements.*

*Alternate Member Robertson reported that she was not willing to support RES. 2018-R103 as written and suggested a possible amendment to clarify that school administration will be responsible for producing its impact analysis.*

**There were no further comments or discussions and Vice Chair Larson moved to forward RES. 2018-R103 to Council with no recommendation, which was seconded and approved:** Ayes 2, Larson, Jones. Noes 1, Robertson.

**The following resolution was considered:**

RES. 2019-R006

To request that the Mayor include in the budget he prepares for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 proposed appropriations in the amount of \$150,000.00 for consulting services to advise and provide the City Council with analysis on such matters as the City Council may deem to be in the best interests of the City.

**Patron:** Ms. Robertson

*Alternate Member Ellen Robertson introduced RES. 2019-R006.*

*Selena Cuffee-Glenn, chief administrative officer, stated that city administration supports the proposed request.*

There were no further comments or discussions and **Alternate Member Robertson moved to forward RES. 2019-R006 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

**Discussion Item(s)**

There were no discussion items.

**Staff Report**

Bill Echelberger and Charles Jackson, council budget analysts, provided the February staff report.

*A copy of the material provided has been filed.*

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.