



City of Richmond

Informal Meeting Minutes

900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
www.rva.gov/office-city-clerk

Monday, March 22, 2021

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall
Virtual Meeting

Councilmembers Present

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille, President
The Honorable Ellen Robertson, Vice President
The Honorable Andreas Addison
The Honorable Michael Jones (late arrival)
The Honorable Katherine Jordan
The Honorable Ann-Frances Lambert
The Honorable Kristen Larson (late arrival)
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch
The Honorable Reva Trammell (not audible during roll call)

Staff Present

Lisa Braxton, Council Management Analyst
Haskell Brown, Interim City Attorney
Joyce Davis, Interim Council Chief of Staff
Candice Reid, City Clerk
Tabrica Rentz, Acting Deputy City Attorney
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Council President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and presided.

ELECTRONIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Council Management Analyst Lisa Braxton, in accordance with Ordinance No. 2020-093, adopted April 9, 2020, as most recently amended by Ordinance No. 2020-232, adopted December 14, 2020, announced the meeting would be held through electronic communication means, and stated that notice of the meeting was provided to the public through a public information advisory issued on March 11, 2021, and through Legistar on the city website in accordance with usual practice. She also stated there would be no opportunities for public comment and no public hearings during the meeting.

Docket Review

Council Management Analyst Lisa Braxton reviewed the following agenda items as indicated:

Consent Agenda:

1. Ord. 2019-275 – to be continued to Monday, July 26, 2021
2. Ord. 2019-276 – to be continued to Monday, July 26, 2021
3. Ord. 2020-275 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. 2021-023 – to be continued to Monday, April 12, 2021

5. Ord. 2021-027 – retained on the Consent Agenda
6. Ord. 2021-037 – retained on the Consent Agenda
7. Ord. 2021-038 – retained on the Consent Agenda
8. Ord. 2021-039 – retained on the Consent Agenda
9. Ord. 2021-064 – retained on the Consent Agenda
10. Ord. 2021-065 – retained on the Consent Agenda
11. Ord. 2021-066 – retained on the Consent Agenda
12. Ord. 2021-067 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Ord. 2021-068 – retained on the Consent Agenda
14. Ord. 2021-069 – retained on the Consent Agenda
15. Ord. 2021-070 – retained on the Consent Agenda
16. Ord. 2021-071 – retained on the Consent Agenda
17. Ord. 2021-072 – retained on the Consent Agenda
18. Ord. 2021-073 – retained on the Consent Agenda
19. Res. 2021-R016 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Interim City Attorney Haskell Brown reminded Council of a previous consensus to support proposed Res. 2021-R016, which does not include a suggested recommendation to require PlanRVA's headquarters to remain in the city but instead centrally located within the planning district.

Councilor Michael Jones joined the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

20. Res. 2021-R017 – retained on the Consent Agenda
21. Res. 2021-R018 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda:

22. Ord. 2020-257 – retained on the Regular Agenda

There were no further comments or discussions concerning Consent and Regular Agenda items reviewed.

Tax Amnesty Program Update

Sheila White, Finance interim director, provided Council with an update regarding the status of the city's tax amnesty program, which focused on the metrics of the payment pattern and volume as of March 19, 2021. A copy of the presentation has been filed.

Councilor Kristen Larson joined the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Closed Session

At 4:25 p.m., Councilor Michael Jones moved that the City Council hold a closed meeting pursuant to subdivision (A)(39) of section 2.2-3711 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to discuss information related to businesses that are considering locating a resort casino in the city of Richmond, prepared by City staff, where competition or bargaining pursuant to the City's Request for Qualifications/Proposals is involved and where disclosure of such information would adversely affect the City's financial interest.

The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Addison, Jordan, Lambert, Larson, Trammell, Jones, Robertson, Newbille. Noes None. Lynch was excused.

Councilor Andreas Addison motioned to exit closed session. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilors reconvened in open session at 4:53 p.m.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

March 22, 2021

WHEREAS, the Council has convened in closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law:

NOW, THEREFORE,
BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Council hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public matters lawfully exempt from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certifying resolution applies; and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Council.

WITNESS the following vote of Council members, as recorded by Candice D. Reid, City Clerk:

CERTIFYING:

Cynthia I. Newbille, President
Ellen F. Robertson, Vice President
Andreas D. Addison
Katherine L. Jordan
Ann-Frances Lambert
Kristen N. Larson
Stephanie A. Lynch
Reva M. Trammell
Michael J. Jones

DECLINING TO CERTIFY:

Other Discussion

Interim Council Chief of Staff Joyce Davis provided updates on the following subject matters:

- Budget Work Session 2 discussion topic: Gallagher study and Public Safety step pay increases
- Legislation tracking software
- Legislation district information

- Proposed accelerated budget review schedule
- Monuments disposal criteria and evaluation process

After a concern was raised regarding the proposed accelerated budget review schedule, Vice President Ellen Robertson mentioned the discussion item will be considered at the April Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting.

After questions concerning the monuments disposal criteria and evaluation process, President Cynthia Newbille stated the information shared will be fully discussed at the April Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting.

President Cynthia Newbille revisited the discussion surrounding Res. 2021-R016 and updated Council on the number of localities which have previously adopted PlanRVA's amended charter agreement.

Councilor Katherine Jordan questioned whether an analysis regarding the Confederate monuments' worth had been assess in order to equate their value in the disposition process.

Councilor Michael Jones cautioned on the disposition of the Confederate monuments and asked Council to be mindful not to allow for the perpetuation of their representation.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

CITY CLERK