



City of Richmond

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

Informal Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 13, 2023

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Councilmembers Present

The Honorable Michael Jones, President
The Honorable Kristen Nye, Vice President
The Honorable Andreas Addison
The Honorable Katherine Jordan (late arrival)
The Honorable Ann-Frances Lambert
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch (late arrival)
The Honorable Cynthia Newbille
The Honorable Ellen Robertson
The Honorable Reva Trammell

Staff Present

Lisa Braxton, Council Management Analyst, Principal
Laura Drewry, City Attorney
LaTasha Holmes, Council Chief of Staff
Candice Reid, City Clerk
Tabrica Rentz, Deputy City Attorney
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Call to Order

Council President Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. and presided.

Chamber Emergency Evacuation Announcement

Upon the President's request, Council Management Analyst Lisa Braxton provided information on the appropriate manner in which the Council Chamber is to be evacuated in the event of an emergency.

Docket Review

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

Consent Agenda:

1. Ord. 2022-205 – to be continued to Monday, December 11, 2023

2. Ord. 2023-261 – retained on the Consent Agenda
3. Ord. 2023-263 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. 2023-269 – retained on the Consent Agenda
5. Ord. 2023-281 – retained on the Consent Agenda
6. Ord. 2023-282 – retained on the Consent Agenda
7. Ord. 2023-283 – retained on the Consent Agenda
8. Ord. 2023-284 – retained on the Consent Agenda
9. Ord. 2023-285 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Councilor Andreas Addison commented on anticipated opposition to Ord. 2023-283, later that evening during the Formal Session of Council, and requested an opportunity to share information from the builder regarding the special use permit.

Councilor Cynthia Newbille informed her colleagues of her community engagement efforts regarding Ord. 2023-269.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch arrived at 4:12 p.m. and was seated.

10. Ord. 2023-286 – to be continued to Monday, December 11, 2023
11. Ord. 2023-288 – retained on the Consent Agenda
12. Ord. 2023-290 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Ord. 2023-292 – to be continued to Monday, December 11, 2023; referred to the November 16, 2023, Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting
14. Ord. 2023-293 – to be continued to Monday, December 11, 2023; referred to the November 16, 2023, Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting
15. Ord. 2023-294 – retained on the Consent Agenda
16. Ord. 2023-295 – to be continued to Monday, December 11, 2023; referred to the November 16, 2023, Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting
17. Ord. 2023-296 – to be continued to Monday, December 11, 2023; referred to the November 16, 2023, Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting

Chief Administrative Officer Lincoln Saunders provided an introduction of Ords. 2023-292, 2023-293, 2023-294, 2023-295 and 2023-096.

Councilor Ellen Robertson requested that Council receive a detailed report of the new opioid abatement strategies and programs referenced in Ord. 2023-294. After posing several questions regarding proposed legislation, Councilor Robertson mentioned the need to change Council's Rules of Procedure regarding the committee referral waiving of certain legislation.

Traci Deshazor, deputy chief administrative officer – Human Services, was available to answer questions regarding Ords. 2023-292, 2023-293, 2023-294, 2023-295 and 2023-096.

President Michael Jones reminded his colleagues of docket review's purpose and asked that it be adhered to. President Jones stated that questions regarding Ords. 2023-292, 2023-293, 2023-294, 2023-295 and 2023-096 should be asked during the Formal Session of Council later that evening, or the papers could be continued and referred to a standing committee for further clarification and discussion.

Chief Administrative Officer Saunders informed Council that the adoption of Ord. 2023-294 was time-sensitive, and a continuance would delay the city's ability to open the proposed emergency shelter.

Councilor Ellen Robertson moved that Ords. 2023-292, 2023-293, 2023-295 and 2023-096 be continued to the December 11th Formal meeting of Council and referred to the November 16th Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting for further discussion and recommendation.

The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Addison, Lambert, Robertson, Lynch, Trammell, Newbille, Nye, Jones. Noes None. Jordan had not yet arrived.

18. Ord. 2023-297 – retained on the Consent Agenda
19. Ord. 2023-298 – retained on the Consent Agenda
20. Ord. 2023-299 – retained on the Consent Agenda
21. Ord. 2023-300 – retained on the Consent Agenda
22. Ord. 2023-301 – retained on the Consent Agenda
23. Ord. 2023-302 – retained on the Consent Agenda
24. Ord. 2023-303 – retained on the Consent Agenda
25. Ord. 2023-304 – retained on the Consent Agenda
26. Ord. 2023-305 – retained on the Consent Agenda
27. Ord. 2023-306 – retained on the Consent Agenda

- 28. Ord. 2023-307 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 29. Ord. 2023-308 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 30. Ord. 2023-309 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 31. Ord. 2023-310 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 32. Ord. 2023-312 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 33. Ord. 2023-313 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 34. Ord. 2023-314 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 35. Ord. 2023-315 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 36. Ord. 2023-316 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 37. Ord. 2023-317 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 38. Ord. 2023-318 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 39. Ord. 2023-319 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 40. Ord. 2023-320 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Councilor Andreas Addison provided additional context regarding emails received in opposition to Ord. 2023-319 prior to today's meetings.

- 41. Ord. 2023-321 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 42. Ord. 2023-322 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Councilor Katherine Jordan arrived at 4:39 p.m. and was seated.

- 43. Ord. 2023-323 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 44. Ord. 2023-324 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert mentioned that there would be individuals present in opposition to Ords. 2023-241 and 2023-245 later that evening during the Formal Session of Council, and she moved to place the papers on the Regular Agenda for discussion and consideration.

The motion was seconded and failed: Ayes 4, Jordan, Lambert, Robertson, Newbille. Noes 5, Addison, Lynch, Trammell, Nye, Jones.

45. Ord. 2023-325 – retained on the Consent Agenda

46. Res. 2023-R024 – to be continued to Monday, December 11, 2023

Regular Agenda:

47. Ord. 2023-287 – retained on the Regular Agenda

48. Ord. 2023-289 – retained on the Regular Agenda

49. Ord. 2023-311 – retained on the Regular Agenda

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

Other Discussion Item(s)

Richmond City Council 9th Voter District Vacancy Process

Vice President Kristen Nye informed her colleagues that with President Jones' impending departure to serve as the Virginia House of Delegates' 77th District representative, Council will seek to appoint a 9th District resident to fill the vacancy. Vice President Nye stated that residents interested in applying for the vacancy, may do so via the Office of the City Clerk's website prior to the November 27th deadline.

Council Chief of Staff LaTasha Holmes provided additional information regarding the process to fill the impending 9th Voter District vacancy and stated that the selected candidate will be named during the December 11, 2023, Informal or Formal Session of Council.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

CITY CLERK