



City of Richmond

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

Informal Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 14, 2022

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 (late arrival)
The Honorable Michael Jones
The Honorable Katherine Jordan
The Honorable Ann-Frances Lambert
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch (late arrival)
The Honorable Kristen Nye (late arrival)
The Honorable Reva Trammell

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

Call to Order

Council President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. and presided.

Electronic Meeting Announcement

Council Management Analyst Lisa Braxton, pursuant to the current ongoing declaration of a local emergency concerning the COVID-19 pandemic confirmed by Resolution No. 2020-R025, adopted March 16, 2020, and as permitted by section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, 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 email issued on January 25, 2022, 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. 2021-358 – retained on the Consent Agenda
2. Ord. 2021-359 – to be continued to Monday, February 28, 2022
3. Ord. 2021-360 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. 2021-362 – retained on the Consent Agenda
5. Ord. 2021-363 – to be amended and continued to Monday, February 28, 2022
6. Ord. 2021-364 – retained on the Consent Agenda
7. Ord. 2021-365 – retained on the Consent Agenda
8. Ord. 2021-366 – retained on the Consent Agenda
9. Ord. 2021-367 – retained on the Consent Agenda
10. Ord. 2021-368 – to be continued to Monday, February 28, 2022
11. Ord. 2021-371 – retained on the Consent Agenda
12. Ord. 2022-017 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Ord. 2022-018 – retained on the Consent Agenda
14. Ord. 2022-019 – retained on the Consent Agenda
15. Res. 2022-R005 – retained on the Consent Agenda
16. Res. 2022-R006 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda:

17. Ord. 2019-275 – to be amended and continued to Monday, February 28, 2022
18. Ord. 2019-276 – to be continued to Monday, February 28, 2022

Councilor Andreas Addison joined the meeting at 4:11 p.m.

19. Ord. 2021-308 – to be continued to Monday, February 28, 2022
20. Ord. 2021-345 – to be continued to Monday, March 14, 2022

21. Ord. 2021-346 – to be continued to Monday, March 14, 2022

22. Ord. 2021-347 – to be continued to Monday, February 28, 2022

23. Ord. 2021-361 – retained on the Regular Agenda

Council Management Analyst Lisa Braxton informed Council that after allowing an opportunity for public comment later that evening at the Formal Session of Council, the Planning Commission recommended Ord. 2021-361 be denied.

24. Res. 2021-R026 – to be continued to Monday, February 28, 2022

President Cynthia Newbille specified that the continuance of Ord. 2021-308 is to provide an opportunity for Council and the Richmond Public School Board to hold a joint special meeting to discuss the proposed legislation.

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

Other Discussion Item(s)

Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RRHA) Lease Evictions Update

Stacey Daniels-Fayson, RRHA interim chief executive officer, provided Council with an update regarding the Authority's efforts to proceed with lease enforcement. Ms. Daniels-Fayson presented a snapshot of income and monthly rent ranges of RRHA tenants, current outstanding ledger balances of all Authority properties and continued strategies to assist families in arrears.

[CD.2022.057](#) RRHA Moving Forward with Lease Enforcement Presentation

Councilor Kristen Nye joined the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Councilor Katherine Jordan exited the meeting at 4:17 p.m.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch joined the meeting at 4:18 p.m.

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert inquired regarding the coordination of canvassing events to aid RRHA residents with the rental assistance process.

Vice President Ellen Robertson suggested the establishment of rent relief clinics while inquiring regarding the availability of funds for the rent relief and financial assistance program.

Councilor Katherine Jordan re-joined the meeting at 4:31 p.m.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch advocated for a possible rental debt forgiveness program.

1st Quarterly Report of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Expenditures

Jason May, Budget and Strategic Planning director, presented Council with the first quarterly report of current and future ARPA expenditures.

[CD.2022.056](#) ARPA Quarterly Report

Councilor Michael Jones requested a report of ARPA funded projects and stressed the need to utilize and/or provide opportunities for minority businesses.

Vice President Ellen Robertson expressed her support of Councilor Jones' request and asked that the report reflect the entirety of the approved APRA budget with delineated expenditures.

Councilor Andreas Addison stressed the importance of an investment in workforce development.

Inclement Cold Weather Shelter and Planned Shelter Update

Sherrill Hampton, Housing and Community Development director, provided Council with an inclement weather shelter and planned shelter update, which included a 4th quarter report and up-to-date analysis of shelter utilization demographic information.

[CD.2022.062](#) IWS Reports

Jay Brown, Commonwealth Catholic Charities chief executive officer, was available to answer to questions regarding the operation of the temporary inclement weather shelter, and updated Council regarding construction of the Oliver Hill Way planned shelter scheduled to open October, 2022.

Councilor Katherine Jordan inquired regarding potential overhead construction cost of the planned facility.

Vice President Ellen Robertson inquired concerning the civic engagement surrounding the planned shelter and expressed her willingness to host a community meeting.

Councilor Katherine Jordan exited the meeting at 5:11 p.m.

Councilor Michael Jones expressed his appreciation of Commonwealth Catholics Charities' and city administration's outreach efforts.

Councilor Andreas Addison requested the partnering with the Greater Richmond Transit Company to ensure adequate public transportation accessibility near the planned shelter. Mr. Addison also requested Council be provided a cost estimate for potential construction needed to complete the planned shelter during an upcoming budget deliberation.

General Assembly Legislative Agenda Update

Ron Jordan and Laura Bateman, Council lobbyists, Advantus Strategies, updated Council on several House and Senate bills progressing through the 2022 General Assembly Session.

[CD.2022.063](#) COR Bill List Update

President Cynthia Newbille requested Council receive a breakdown of the delegation votes for certain House and Senate bills.

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert requested a transcript of a statement rendered by Paul Goldman, Virginia Democratic Party former chairman, during a Senate committee meeting.

Closed Session

At 5:35 p.m., Councilor Kristen Nye moved that the City Council hold a closed meeting pursuant to subdivision (A)(8) of section 2.2-3711 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to consult with legal counsel employed with the City regarding the issuance of a demolition permit for the property known as 13 West Franklin Street.

The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Addison, Lambert, Nye, Lynch, Trammell, Jones, Robertson, Newbille. Noes None. Jordan had exited the meeting.

Councilor Katherine Jordan re-joined the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

Councilor Andreas Addison motioned to exit closed session. The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Addison, Jordan, Lambert, Nye, Lynch, Jones, Robertson, Newbille. Noes None. Trammell was not audible.

Councilors reconvened in open session at 6:18 p.m

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING
February 14, 2022

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 (not audible)
- Michael J. Jones

DECLINING TO CERTIFY:

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

CITY CLERK