



# City of Richmond

## Informal Meeting Minutes

900 East Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23219  
[www.richmondgov.com/cityclerk](http://www.richmondgov.com/cityclerk)

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Monday, May 9, 2016

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

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Richmond City Council convened in Informal Session on Monday, May 9, 2016, in the Council Chamber located on the second floor of City Hall, 900 East Broad Street.

### **Councilmembers Present**

The Honorable Michelle Mosby, President  
The Honorable Chris Hilbert, Vice President (late arrival)  
The Honorable Parker Agelasto (late arrival)  
The Honorable Jon Baliles  
The Honorable Kathy Graziano  
The Honorable Cynthia Newbille  
The Honorable Ellen Robertson  
The Honorable Charles Samuels (late arrival)  
The Honorable Reva Trammell

### **Staff Present**

Lou B. Ali, Council Chief of Staff  
Lisa Braxton, Assistant City Clerk  
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney  
Jean V. Capel, City Clerk  
Allen Jackson, City Attorney  
Candice Reid, Deputy City Clerk

Council President Michelle Mosby called the meeting to order at 4:14 p.m. and presided.

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

### **Grounds Maintenance Update**

Bobby Vincent, Public Works deputy director, provided Council with an update regarding the department's grounds maintenance budget, staffing and responsibilities as well as a potential strategy to resolve major maintenance issues. A copy of the presentation has been filed.

John Buturla, interim deputy chief administrative officer – Operations, and Emmanuel Adediran, Public Works director, were also available to answer questions.

*Councilor Parker Agelasto arrived at 4:27 p.m. and was seated.*

Councilor Parker Agelasto suggested collaborative efforts with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities and the Virginia Department of Transportation to assist with addressing the current grounds maintenance backlog.

*Councilor Charles Samuels arrived at 4:34 p.m. and was seated.*

Councilor Ellen Robertson stated that citizens should be informed of the city's existing grounds and roads maintenance issues and suggested that city administration issue a press release.

Ms. Robertson also suggested that there be a line item in future budgets for contractual grounds maintenance employees.

Mr. Buturla informed Council that the city would have to compensate the Justice Center in order to utilize clients for manual labor; he also stated that inmates are not as reliable.

Due to current overgrown grounds conditions of roundabouts, Councilor Ellen Robertson stated that there needs to be pre-condition maintenance agreements before installing any more roundabouts, since they are not being maintained and are now eyesores in the community.

### **GRTC Pulse: Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project Update**

Amy Inman, Economic and Community Development multi-modal transportation senior administrator, provided Council with an update of the bus rapid transit project which included information regarding the design-build procurement process, budgetary details, project timeline and community engagement efforts. A copy of the presentation has been filed.

Carrie Rose Pace, GRTC communication director, was also available to answer questions regarding the BRT project.

### **Consideration of Boards and Commissions Appointments**

Boards and Commissions Administrator Alexander Rawles reviewed applications for the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority vacancy. A copy of the information has been filed.

It was the consensus of Council to appoint Veronica Blount.

### **Docket Review**

Assistant City Clerk Lisa Braxton reviewed the following agenda items as indicated:

#### **Consent Agenda:**

1. Ord. 2014-093 – to be continued to Monday, June 13, 2016
2. Ord. 2015-245 – to be continued to Monday, June 13, 2016
3. Ord. 2015-246 – to be continued to Monday, June 13, 2016
4. Ord. 2016-033 – to be continued to Monday, June 13, 2016
5. Ord. 2016-096 – retained on the Consent Agenda
6. Ord. 2016-097 – to be amended and continued to Monday, May 23, 2016

Travis Bridewell, Public Works operations manager, provided Council with information regarding Ord. 2016-096 and 2016-097 and stated that city administration opposed the adoption of both proposed papers. A copy of the information has been filed.

Councilor Parker Agelasto introduced Ord. 2016-096 and 2016-097 and stated that the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing committee recommended both proposed papers for approval with the exception that the latter be amended to increase the speed limit from 25 to 30 mph.

7. Ord. 2016-114 – retained on the Consent Agenda

8. Ord. 2016-125 – to be amended and continued to Monday, May 23, 2016

Councilor Kathy Graziano recommended that Ord. 2016-125 be amended to not include bicycle lanes as a part of the restriction.

9. Ord. 2016-126 – retained on the Consent Agenda
10. Ord. 2016-127 – retained on the Consent Agenda
11. Ord. 2016-128 – retained on the Consent Agenda
12. Ord. 2016-129 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Res. 2016-R007 – to be continued to Monday, June 13, 2016
14. Res. 2016-R022 – withdrawn

President Michelle Mosby stated that alternate legislation would be introduced later that evening at the Formal Session of Council.

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

Regular Agenda:

15. Res. 2015-R064 – to be continued to Monday, June 13, 2016

Councilor Charles Samuels requested a continuance of Res. 2015-R064.

16. Res. 2016-R016 – to be continued to Monday, June 13, 2016

After questions were raised regarding the proposed legislation, Councilor Parker Agelasto asked that Res. 2016-R016 be continued and forwarded to the June 6<sup>th</sup> Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting for further consideration.

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

**Closed Session Motion**

At 5:57 p.m., Councilor Charles Samuels moved that the City Council hold a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act for the purpose of discussing the assignment and performance of the city auditor, an appointee of the City Council.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

*Vice President Chris Hilbert arrived at 6:26 p.m. and was seated.*

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

May 9, 2016

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 Jean V. Capel, City Clerk:

CERTIFYING:

Michelle R. Mosby, President  
Christopher A. Hilbert, Vice President  
Parker C. Agelasto  
Jonathan T. Baliles  
Katherine C. Graziano  
Cynthia Newbille  
Ellen F. Robertson  
Charles R. Samuels  
Reva M. Trammell (excused)

DECLINING TO CERTIFY:

Councilor Cynthia Newbille motioned to exit closed session. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Councilors reconvened in open session at 6:41 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.