



City of Richmond

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

Draft Special Meeting Minutes City Council

Thursday, January 2, 2025

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Special Organizational Meeting

The Council of the City of Richmond met for an organizational meeting pursuant to Section 4.03 of the Richmond City Charter.

Councilmembers Present

The Honorable Sarah Abubaker
The Honorable Andrew Breton
The Honorable Kenya Gibson
The Honorable Katherine Jordan
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch
The Honorable Ellen Robertson
The Honorable Cynthia Newbille
The Honorable Reva Trammell
The Honorable Nicole Jones

Call to Order

City Clerk Candice Reid called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and presided.

Chamber Emergency Evacuation Plan Announcement and Public Speaker Guidelines

Upon the City Clerk's request, Deputy City Clerk RJ Warren provided information on the appropriate manner in which the Council Chamber is to be evacuated in the event of an emergency, along with public speaker guidelines.

Administration of Oaths of Office

City Clerk Candice Reid administered the Oaths of Office to Richmond City Council Members for the term commencing January 1, 2025, and expiring December 31, 2028.

Introduction and Expedited Consideration

Councilor Cynthia Newbille moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution:

1. [RES. 2025-R001](#) To adopt Rules of Procedure pursuant to Richmond City Charter § 4.06.

Patrons: Ms. Newbille

The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Breton, Gibson, Abubaker, Lynch, Robertson, Newbille, Trammell, Jones. Noes None. Jordan was awaiting approval to participate through electronic communication means.

Councilor Cynthia Newbille provided an introduction for the proposed resolution.

There were no comments or discussions and RES. 2025-R001 was adopted: Ayes 8, Breton, Gibson, Abubaker, Lynch, Robertson, Newbille, Trammell, Jones. Noes None. Jordan was awaiting approval to participate through electronic communication means.

Electronic Participation

Pursuant to Rule III(D)(4)(b) of Council's Rules of Procedure, Councilor Katherine Jordan made a request to participate in the meeting via Microsoft Teams from her relative's residence in Cabo, Mexico due to family travel. The Council members present were required to adopt a motion to approve Councilor Jordan's participation in the meeting by electronic communication means if it appeared to the body that her request complied with Rule III(D) of Council's Rules of Procedure. A motion was solicited from those members physically assembled to approve Councilor Jordan's participation in the meeting by electronic communication means.

Councilor Cynthia Newbille moved to allow Councilor Katherine Jordan to participate in the meeting by electronic communication means. The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Breton, Gibson, Abubaker, Lynch, Robertson, Newbille, Trammell, Jones. Noes None. Jordan was awaiting approval to participate through electronic communication means.

Election of the President of the Council

City Clerk Candice Reid opened the floor for nominations to fill the City Council President seat.

Councilor Reva Trammell nominated 7th District Councilor Cynthia Newbille for President of City Council.

City Clerk Reid asked if there were additional nominations. Hearing none, Ms. Reid announced that the floor was closed for nominations for Council President.

The nomination was unanimously approved.

City Clerk Reid declared Cynthia Newbille Council President for a term of two years ending December 31, 2026.

President Newbille presided for the remainder of the meeting.

President Newbille stated her appreciation to her constituents and colleagues for their support. President Newbille also stated she looked forward to accomplishing Council's shared goals and priorities for the city.

Election of the Vice President of the Council

President Cynthia Newbille opened the floor for nominations to fill the City Council Vice President seat.

President Cynthia Newbille nominated 2nd District Councilor Katherine Jordan for Vice President of City Council.

President Newbille hearing no additional nominations, announced that the floor was closed for nominations for Council Vice President.

The nomination was unanimously approved.

City Clerk Reid declared Katherine Jordan Council Vice President for a term of two years ending December 31, 2026.

Vice President Katherine Jordan stated her appreciation to her colleagues and added that she looked forward to working with President Newbille over the next two years.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

CITY CLERK