



City of Richmond

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

Meeting Minutes Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee

Thursday, January 19, 2023

1:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor – City Hall

Committee Members

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille – Chair
The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Vice Chair
The Honorable Katherine Jordan – Committee Member

Staff and Others in Attendance

Tori Cotman, Assistant City Attorney
Joyce Davis, Council Policy Analyst
LaTasha Holmes, Council Chief of Staff
Nahdiyah Muhammad, Assistant City Clerk
Candice Reid, City Clerk
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Call to Order

Chair Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m., and presided.

Chamber Emergency Evacuation Plan Announcement and Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Upon the Chair's request, Assistant City Clerk Nahdiyah Muhammad provided information on the appropriate manner in which the Council Chamber is to be evacuated in the event of an emergency along with citizen speaker guidelines.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comment speakers.

Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections or amendments to the meeting minutes of the Thursday, December 15, 2022 committee meeting, and the committee approved the minutes as presented.

[CD.2022.423](#) December 15, 2022 Finance and Economic Development Meeting
Minutes

Attachments: [20221215 Finance Minutes](#)

Papers for Consideration

1. [ORD. 2023-022](#) To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Grant Agreement between the City of Richmond and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, for the purpose of supporting the planning, development, and initial operations of a cultural space to be located at the Main Street Station train shed in the city of Richmond. (7th District)

Patrons: Mayor Stoney, Ms. Lambert and Ms. Newbille

Attachments: [Ord. No. 2023-022](#)
[Shockoe Heritage Interpretive Center Mellon Grant](#)

Sharon Ebert, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Planning and Economic Development, provided an introduction and additional background information regarding the proposed ordinance.

Vice Chair Ellen Robertson inquired from where the funds for the proposed ordinance will come and if the city is allowed to accept grant funding.

Sabrina Joy-Hogg, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Finance and Administration, confirmed the city is and will be allowed to accept the grant funding for the proposed ordinance.

Member Katherine Jordan stated she is a member of the History and Culture Commission and inquired if the staff liaison for the History and Culture Commission can be the same liaison for the proposed project and also be funded by the grant. Member Jordan also inquired about the position for Public Art Commission Secretary.

Ms. Ebert stated that she can have a discussion with Chief Administrative Officer Lincoln Saunders about the hiring of the staff liaison. Ms. Ebert also stated that Susan Glasser is the current Public Art Commission Secretary.

Member Jordan inquired if funding and space was available for free public transportation use via trolley for the exploration of historical sites.

Ms. Ebert stated that it has not been discussed but that it would be a great resource and grant funding could be discussed.

Chair Cynthia Newbille expressed her appreciation to Ms. Ebert for the presentation. Chair Newbille also stated that the Central Virginia Transportation Authority could assist with exploring the provision of public transportation to historical sites. Chair Newbille requested the budget to be forwarded to the committee with projections.

There were no further comments or discussions and Member Katherine Jordan moved to forward ORD. 2023-022 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and was unanimously approved.

2. [RES. 2023-R004](#) To adopt, pursuant to City Code § 21-44, procedures for utilizing construction management or design-build contracts.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney

Attachments: [Res. No. 2023-R004](#)

[20230119 Finance Committee Handout](#)

Rene Almaraz, Director of Procurement Services, introduced RES. 2023-R004. Mr. Almaraz stated that the intent is to align the policy with changes made to the Code of Virginia in 2020. Mr. Almaraz also stated that projects forthcoming may need to rely on the procedure, but the city would have to align its policy with the code first.

Vice Chair Robertson asked if there are any projects that are considering using this method.

Mr. Almaraz stated that the Department of Parks and Recreation will oversee the construction of recreation centers that will use the method, and that the new John Marshall Courthouse project may also use the method.

Vice Chair Robertson asked if the changes have been reflected in the legislation.

Mr. Almaraz stated that the policies have not yet been aligned to reflect changes to the Code of Virginia and that the resolution would accomplish that.

Mr. Almaraz provided handouts that addressed the changes to the city code to the committee for review.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Vice Chair Robertson stated her concerns regarding the changes made to the design build process for schools.

There were no further comments or discussions and Vice Chair Ellen Robertson moved to forward RES.2023-R004 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and was unanimously approved.

Board Vacancies

There were no board vacancies.

Discussion Item(s)

There were no discussion items.

Staff Report

There was no staff report.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.