



City of Richmond

Formal Meeting Minutes

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

Monday, January 25, 2021

6:00 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
The Honorable Michael Jones
The Honorable Katherine Jordan
The Honorable Ann-Frances Lambert
The Honorable Kristen Larson (late arrival)
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch
The Honorable Reva Trammell

Council President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m., and presided.

ELECTRONIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

City Clerk Candice Reid, in accordance with Ordinance No. 2020-093, adopted April 9, 2020, as most recently amended by Ordinance No. 2020-232, adopted December 14, 2020, announced the meeting would be held through electronic communication means. City Clerk Reid stated notice of the meeting was provided to the public through a public information advisory issued on January 13, 2021, and through Legistar on the city website in accordance with usual practice. She also stated members of the public were encouraged to provide comments in writing prior to the meeting and all comments received prior to 10:00 a.m., on Monday, January 25, 2021, were provided to Council members. Ms. Reid indicated that members of the public who signed up to speak and provide comment would be called to speak at the appropriate time.

Invocation was offered by Pastor Ralph Hodge of Second Baptist Church Southside, 3300 Broad Rock Boulevard, Richmond, VA.

Members of Council and the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Cynthia Newbille requested a moment of silence in memory of Sheila Mandt.

CITIZEN SPEAKER GUIDELINES

Upon the President's request, Deputy City Clerk RJ Warren provided citizen speaker guidelines.

Councilor Kristen Larson joined the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Aaron Kemmerer addressed Council and stated members needed to do more to provide emergency shelter services in the city. Mr. Kemmerer also stated immediate action was necessary by Council to deliver adequate funding to provide a sufficient number of hotel rooms for homeless individuals in need of emergency shelter.

Kevin Cianfarini addressed Council and stated his concerns with the lack of recycling options within apartment complexes in the city. Mr. Cianfarini informed Council that many complexes do not offer recycling, and that most items that could be recycled are discarded into trash receptacles. Mr. Cianfarini expressed his concerns that with the development of new apartment complexes to address the city's housing needs, waste will continue to increase, and that recycling must be provided to counter that.

Pixie E. Curry addressed Council and stated her concerns with the lack of sidewalks in her neighborhood near Hopkins Road in the 8th Voter District. Ms. Curry also stated additional sidewalks were necessary to ensure the safety of pedestrians. Ms. Curry further stated her concerns with the amount of displaced trash throughout her neighborhood.

Troy King addressed Council and informed members about the job training he received with the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), which helped him acquire a job in the city. Mr. King stated Virginia law made it difficult for unions to train and support potential laborers. Mr. King also stated that if unions were provided more opportunities to assist the city's work force, then the rate of crime and homelessness in the city would decrease.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell stated she had requested additional trash receptacles be placed in areas referenced by Pixie E. Curry, and that she would inquire with the Department of Public Works regarding the lack of sidewalks that Ms. Curry addressed.

APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS

There were no appointment/reappointment items for consideration.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no awards or presentations.

AGENDA REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS

Councilor Kristen Larson moved to amend the agenda as follows:

ORD. 2019-275

To amend ch. 6 of the City Code by adding therein a new art. XII (§§ 6-596-6-602) to establish a technology zone program in accordance with Va. Code § 58.1-3850, for the purpose of facilitating the development and location of technology businesses in the city of Richmond, capital investment, and job creation.

To be continued to Monday, February 22, 2021

ORD. 2019-276

To amend City Code §§ 26-872, concerning definitions related to license taxes, and 26-989, concerning license taxes for personal services businesses, and to amend ch. 26, art. XV, div. 2 of the City Code by adding therein a new section numbered 26-1003.1, concerning the license tax for

technology businesses, for the purpose of creating a new business, profession, and occupation license category called “technology business” and imposing a new license tax on such businesses.

To be continued to Monday, February 22, 2021

ORD. 2020-256

To amend ch. 2, art. V of the City Code by adding therein a new div. 11 (§§ 2-1035-2-1039) for the purpose of establishing a Participatory Budgeting Steering Commission.

To be amended and continued to Monday, February 8, 2021

ORD. 2020-257

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute appropriate documents releasing the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority and its successors in interest from the reversionary right of the City contained in a certain special warranty deed concerning the property known as 30 West Jackson Street for the purpose of allowing the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority to sell the property for the development of a rental housing project for low-income residents.

To be continued to Monday, February 22, 2021

ORD. 2021-003

To amend Ord. No. 2020-049, adopted May 11, 2020, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 General Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, by re-appropriating a \$500,000.00 portion of the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 fund balance excess, assigned to the Capital Reserve, to the General Fund Cash Transfer for Capital Projects program, and to appropriate these transferred funds to the Capital Improvements Projects for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 and to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Capital Budget by appropriating such transferred funds in the amount of \$500,000.00 to the Department of Public Works' City Hall project in the City Facility Maintenance & Improvements category for the purpose of constructing improvements to the southwest quadrant of City Hall necessary to house either an employee health clinic or a relocated credit union office, or both.

To be continued to Monday, February 8, 2021

ORD. 2021-004

To direct the sale of the City-owned real estate known as 809 West 44th Street, 811 Rear West 44th Street, and 4306 Rear Reedy Avenue for \$8,000.00 to Lelia Pendleton and Stuart Halloran.

To be continued to Monday, February 8, 2021

ORD. 2021-005

To declare a public necessity for the acquisition and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept the dedication as public right-of-way of a portion of the properties known as 1801 Richmond Highway and 1805 Richmond Highway, consisting of 524.89± square feet, from TRC Jefferson Davis, LLC; to accept a donation from TRC Jefferson Davis, LLC, of certain services and materials valued at \$20,000.00 for the reconstruction, paving, and future maintenance of a certain City-owned alley located between Webber Avenue and Royal Avenue; and to execute a Right-of-Entry Agreement between the City of Richmond and TRC Jefferson Davis, LLC for the purpose of facilitating the development of the property known as 1801 Richmond Highway by TRC Jefferson Davis, LLC, and providing for the expansion of a certain City-owned alley located between Webber Avenue and Royal Avenue.

To be continued to Monday, February 8, 2021

ORD. 2021-006

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Procurement Services, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute the fourth Contract Modification to Contract No.

16000022041 between the City and Manchester Marketing, Inc. T/A Seibert's Towing for towing-related services and tow lot operation for the purpose of ratifying all acts of the City and Manchester Marketing, Inc. T/A Seibert's Towing that were in accordance with the provisions of Procurement Services Contract Modification No. 3 for Contract No. 16000022041 since the adoption of Ord. No. 2019-128, adopted May 28, 2019.

To be continued to Monday, March 22, 2021

The motion to amend the agenda was seconded and unanimously approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following ordinances and resolutions were considered:

ORD. 2020-249

To rezone the properties known as 900 North 1st Street, 914 North 1st Street, 916 North 1st Street, 920 North 1st Street, 20 East Baker Street, 24 East Baker Street, and 11 East Charity Street from the B-2 Community Business District to the B-6 Mixed-Use Business District, and 2 East Baker Street, 4 ½ East Baker Street, 6 East Baker Street, 8 East Baker Street, 10 East Baker Street, 1 East Charity Street, 3 East Charity Street, 907 St. James Street, 909 St. James Street, 911 St. James Street, 913 St. James Street, 915 St. James Street, and 917 St. James Street from the R-53 Multifamily Residential District to the B-6 Mixed-Use Business District.

ORD. 2020-258

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Deed of Access Easement between the City of Richmond and AT Artisan LLC and American Tobacco Holdings LLC, for the purpose of granting an access easement to a portion of City-owned real property located at 400 Jefferson Davis Highway to AT Artisan LLC and American Tobacco Holdings LLC.

ORD. 2020-259

To declare a public necessity for and to authorize the acquisition from Westmoreland Place Association of an easement of right-of-way over, upon, across, and through the streets located in the Westmoreland Place subdivision and known as Westmoreland Place, Virginia Avenue, Bolling Avenue, Powhatan Avenue, Rolfe Road, a portion of Pocahontas Avenue, and a portion of Charmian Road for public right-of-way purposes, and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute an Agreement between the City and Westmoreland Place Association in connection therewith.

ORD. 2020-260

To designate the 1200 and 1300 blocks of Idlewood Avenue in honor of Larry Jerome Bland.

ORD. 2021-001

To amend City Code § 26-29, concerning the City's tax amnesty program, for the purpose of providing for a 2021 tax amnesty period for admissions, lodging and meals taxes delinquent as of any date on or before April 21, 2021, and for real estate taxes delinquent as of any date on or before January 15, 2021.

ORD. 2021-002

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute an Urban Project Construction Agreement between the City of Richmond and the Virginia Department of Transportation to provide funding for the design and construction of multimodal improvements along U.S. Route 1 from its intersection with Brinser Street to its intersection with Chesterman Avenue, including access improvements at U.S. Route 1 and its intersection with North Hopkins Road and at U.S. Route 1 and its intersection with Harwood Street.

ORD. 2021-007

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a License Agreement between the City of Richmond and Virginia Commonwealth University, for the purpose of leasing up to 400 parking spaces within a City-owned parking facility located at 501 North 7th Street.

RES. 2020-R071

To designate the property known as 3100 Nine Mile Road as a revitalization area pursuant to Va. Code § 36-55.30:2.

RES. 2021-R010

To designate the properties known as 1218, 1224, 1226, 1228 East Brookland Park Boulevard as a revitalization area pursuant to Va. Code § 36-55.30:2.

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert informed members that she would vote to adopt ORD. 2020-249, but wanted to state that she was against spot zoning and had concerns about the proposed ordinance. Ms. Lambert also stated she wanted rezoning to be more compliant with the city's master plan.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch stated her support for ORD. 2020-260, and she provided additional information regarding Larry Jerome Bland and his impact on communities in the city.

Councilor Kristen Larson requested that city administration provide additional information regarding ORD. 2021-001.

Acting Chief Administrative Officer Lincoln Saunders informed members that city administration would increase promotion of the tax amnesty program referenced in ORD. 2021-001, and would also provide additional information regarding the program on the city's website and through informational flyers.

Councilor Lambert stated her support for ORD. 2020-260.

President Cynthia Newbille requested to be added as a co-patron of ORD. 2020-260.

Vice President Ellen Robertson requested to be added as a co-patron of ORD. 2021-001.

There were no further comments or discussions and the **Consent Agenda was unanimously adopted.**

REGULAR AGENDA

There were no regular agenda items for consideration.

MOTIONS

Councilwoman Reva Trammell moved that the ordinance entitled:

ORD. 2020-256

To amend Ordinance No. 2020-256, which amends ch. 2, art. V of the City Code by adding therein a new div. 11 (§§ 2-1035—2-1039) for the purpose of establishing a Participatory Budgeting Steering Commission.

be amended and continued to Monday, February 8, 2021, as follows:

Page 3, Line 3

After the word “a”, strike the word “disabled”

After the word “person”, insert the text “with a disability”

Page 5, Line 11

After the period following the subdivision letter “a”, strike the words “disabled persons” and insert the text “Persons with disabilities”

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilor Michael Jones moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution, which was seconded and unanimously approved:

RES. 2021-R011

To appoint Joyce L. Davis as the Interim Council Chief of Staff.

Patron: President Newbille

Councilor Kristen Larson stated her appreciation of Joyce L. Davis for accepting the role of Interim Council Chief of Staff, and also shared her appreciation of Meghan Brown for previously serving in the role of Interim Council Chief of Staff.

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert requested to be added as a co-patron of ORD. 2020-256, and stated she would work to make sure the Participatory Budgeting Steering Commission would be composed equitably.

President Cynthia Newbille stated her appreciation of Meghan Brown for previously serving as Interim Council Chief of Staff, and also expressed her appreciation of Joyce L. Davis for accepting the role of Interim Council Chief of Staff.

There were no further comments or discussions and **RES. 2021-R011 was unanimously adopted.**

Councilor Andreas Addison moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution, which was seconded and unanimously approved:

RES. 2021-R012

To encourage the School Board of the City of Richmond to plant a tree in memory of Aajah Rosemond at Thomas C. Boushall Middle School.

Patrons: Mr. Jones, Ms. Trammell, and Mayor Stoney

Councilor Michael Jones provided an introduction of RES. 2021-R012, and provided additional information regarding Aajah Rosemond and the need for improved pedestrian safety in the city.

Public Hearing

Yesmine Bethea spoke in support of RES. 2021-R012, and stated she was speaking in honor of her granddaughter, Aajah Rosemond, who died as a result of being a pedestrian struck by a vehicle at the intersection of German School Road and Jahnke Road. Ms. Bethea expressed her appreciation for the introduction of the proposed resolution and the efforts made to increase pedestrian safety.

Councilor Kristen Larson requested to be added as a co-patron of RES. 2021-R012. Councilor Larson also requested to be added as a co-patron of RES. 2021-R013, scheduled to be

introduced for expedited consideration later that evening. Councilor Larson stated her support for improved traffic and pedestrian safety in the city, especially near schools.

Vice President Ellen Robertson requested to be added as a co-patron of RES. 2021-R012, and shared her condolences to the family of Aajah Rosemond. Vice President Robertson also requested that Council be responsive to the need to improve infrastructure in the city.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell shared her condolences to the family of Aajah Rosemond. Councilwoman Trammell stated the Governor of Virginia and the Virginia General Assembly needed to provide the city with additional funding and resources to address necessary infrastructure improvements in the city.

Councilor Katherine Jordan requested to be added as a co-patron of RES. 2021-R012, and stated Council needed to help improve pedestrian safety in the city.

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert requested to be added as a co-patron of RES. 2021-R012.

Councilor Andreas Addison requested to be added as a co-patron of RES. 2021-R012, and stated his support for reviewing potential changes that could be implemented to increase safety in the city.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch requested to be added as a co-patron of RES. 2021-R012, and stated infrastructure improvements were necessary in the southern portion of the city.

Councilor Michael Jones informed members that he received notification about an offer from a local business to donate a tree to be placed at Thomas C. Boushall Middle School. Councilor Jones stated he agreed with Councilwoman Trammell that the Governor of Virginia and the Virginia General Assembly needed to provide the city with additional funding and resources to address necessary infrastructure improvements in the city.

President Cynthia Newbille requested to be added as a co-patron of RES. 2021-R012, and requested that Council review possible safety improvements at school locations in the city.

There were no further comments or discussions and **RES. 2021-R012 was unanimously adopted.**

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution, which was seconded and unanimously approved:

RES. 2021-R013

To express the Council's support for the Department of Public Works' recommendations for pedestrian safety enhancements at the intersection of German School Road and Jahnke Road.

Patrons: Mr. Jones, Ms. Trammell, and Mayor Stoney

Public Hearing

Yesmine Bethea spoke in support of RES. 2021-R013, and stated that vehicle speed needed to be reduced in the area surrounding the intersection of German School Road and Jahnke Road.

Councilor Michael Jones stated that infrastructure needed to be improved in the city to increase safety for all citizens.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell stated that she would request Police Chief Gerald Smith to address the issue of speeding vehicles on Wamsley Boulevard at the next Public Safety Standing Committee meeting.

Councilor Andreas Addison stated that people driving vehicles in the city need to be made aware that roads must be shared with pedestrians and bicyclists.

There were no further comments or discussions and **RES. 2021-R013 was unanimously adopted.**

President Cynthia Newbille acknowledged Interim Council Chief of Staff Joyce Davis.

Interim Council Chief of Staff Joyce Davis informed Council that the Office of the Council Chief of Staff would work to carry out the vision and mission of Council, and would work to provide necessary services to the families and citizens of Richmond.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no amendments or corrections to the meeting minutes of the Informal and Formal Council Sessions held on Monday, January 11, 2021, at 4:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m., and Council approved the minutes as presented.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinance on Monday, February 8, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.:

ORD. 2021-015

To amend Ord. No. 2020-051, adopted May 11, 2020, which (i) accepted a program of proposed Capital Improvement Projects for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 and the four fiscal years thereafter, (ii) adopted a Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, and (iii) determined a means of financing the same, by reducing estimated receipts and the appropriation for the Department of Public Works' Transportation Projects by \$15,000,000.00; to amend Ord. No. 2020-050, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 special fund budgets and made appropriations thereto, by establishing a new line item called the "CVTA Special Fund" line item and increasing estimated receipts from the Central Virginia Transportation Authority and the amount appropriated to the new Department of Public Works' CVTA Special Fund line item by \$12,195,491 for the purpose of funding the planning, design, operations, maintenance, and construction of transportation improvements within the city of Richmond.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, February 1, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinances on Monday, February 22, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.:

ORD. 2021-016

To authorize the special use of the property known as 321 West Grace Street for the purpose of a mixed-use building containing up to 16 stories and up to 177 dwelling units, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-017

To authorize the special use of the properties known as 2525 Belt Boulevard, 2613 Belt Boulevard, and 2701 Belt Boulevard for the purpose of up to 36 single-family attached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-018

To authorize the special use of the properties known as 5300 Rear Hull Street Road, 5311 Warwick Road, 5315 Warwick Road, and 5323 Warwick Road for the purpose of up to 65 single-family attached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-019

To rezone the property known as 470 Tredegar Street from the M-1 Light Industrial District to the DCC Downtown Civic and Cultural District.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-020

To amend City Code §§ 26-880, concerning beginner businesses, occupations or professions, and 26-891, concerning the time of assessment and payment, penalties and interest, and rates of interest for license taxes, for the purpose of establishing a due date of March 1 of each license tax year instead of January 1 of each license tax year for business license taxes.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, February 18, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.

REPORTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Members of Council provided reports and announcements regarding respective district meetings and activities.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

CITY CLERK