



City of Richmond

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

Informal Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 26, 2023

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Councilmembers Present

The Honorable Michael Jones, President
The Honorable Kristen Nye, Vice President
The Honorable Katherine Jordan
The Honorable Ann-Frances Lambert
The Honorable Cynthia Newbille
The Honorable Ellen Robertson (late arrival, electronic participation)
The Honorable Reva Trammell

Absent

The Honorable Andreas Addison
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch

Staff Present

Lisa Braxton, Council Management Analyst, Principal
Laura Drewry, City Attorney
LaTasha Holmes, Council Chief of Staff
Candice Reid, City Clerk
Tabrica Rentz, Deputy City Attorney
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Call to Order

Council President Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and presided.

Chamber Emergency Evacuation Announcement

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

President Jones announced that, pursuant to Rule III (D)(4)(b) of Council's Rules of Procedure, Councilor Ellen Robertson requested to participate in the meeting via Microsoft Teams from Arlington, Virginia, as she was attending the Council for Affordable and Rural Housing Annual Meeting and Conference.

Councilor Cynthia Newbille moved to allow Councilor Robertson to participate in the meeting by electronic communication means. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilor Ellen Robertson did not join the meeting via Microsoft Teams at that time.

Docket Review

Council Management Analyst Lisa Braxton reviewed the following agenda items as indicated:

Consent Agenda:

1. Ord. 2023-090 – to be continued to Monday, July 24, 2023
2. Ord. 2023-108 – to be continued to Monday, July 24, 2023
3. Ord. 2023-121 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. 2023-130 – to be amended and continued to Monday, July 24, 2023
5. Ord. 2023-145 – retained on the Consent Agenda
6. Ord. 2023-152 – to be continued to Monday, July 24, 2023
7. Ord. 2023-157 – retained on the Consent Agenda
8. Ord. 2023-174 – retained on the Consent Agenda
9. Ord. 2023-175 – retained on the Consent Agenda
10. Ord. 2023-176 – retained on the Consent Agenda
11. Ord. 2023-177 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Councilor Ellen Robertson joined the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

12. Ord. 2023-178 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Ord. 2023-179 – retained on the Consent Agenda
14. Ord. 2023-180 – retained on the Consent Agenda
15. Ord. 2023-182 – retained on the Consent Agenda
16. Ord. 2023-183 – retained on the Consent Agenda

17. Ord. 2023-184 – retained on the Consent Agenda
18. Ord. 2023-185 – retained on the Consent Agenda
19. Ord. 2023-186 – retained on the Consent Agenda
20. Ord. 2023-187 – retained on the Consent Agenda
21. Res. 2023-R029 – to be continued to Monday, July 24, 2023

Councilor Ellen Robertson requested Res. 2023-R029 be continued for an additional thirty days to allow an opportunity for further review of the proposed police precinct.

Robert “Bob” Steidel, deputy chief administrative officer – Operations, introduced and answered questions regarding Res. 2023-R029. Mr. Steidel asked Council to consider the proposed legislation later that evening at the Formal Session of Council, after mentioning the possibility of increased construction cost due to the requested delay.

Councilor Cynthia Newbille, commenting on presumed patrolling coverage lost, stated that she does not anticipate the suggested relocation of Police Precinct #1 would affect policing in the 7th District and expressed her support for the requested continuance of Res. 2023-R029.

Acting Deputy Police Chief Sybil El-Amin was also available to answer questions regarding Res. 2023-R029 and stated that patrolling coverage would not be impacted with the potential relocation of Police Precinct #1.

After discussion regarding the lack of 6th District engagement, it was the consensus of Council to continue Res. 2023-R029 to the July 24th Council meeting.

22. Res. 2023-R030 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda:

23. Ord. 2023-181 – retained on the Regular Agenda

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

Adjournment

Prior to adjourning the meeting, President Michael Jones informed his colleagues of impending inclement weather and requested that the public comment time limit be reduced to one minute along with the suspension of Council announcements, later that evening at the Formal Session of Council, to allow for safe travel of staff and citizens in attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

CITY CLERK