



City of Richmond

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

Formal Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 13, 2023

6:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Councilmembers Present

The Honorable Michael Jones, President
The Honorable Kristen Nye, Vice President (early departure)
The Honorable Andreas Addison
The Honorable Katherine Jordan
The Honorable Ann-Frances Lambert (early departure)
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch (early departure)
The Honorable Cynthia Newbille (early departure)
The Honorable Ellen Robertson
The Honorable Reva Trammell (early departure)

Call to Order

Council President Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. and presided.

Spanish Interpretation Announcement

City Clerk Candice Reid stated that Spanish interpretation service was available in the Council Chamber and that attendees should engage with Roxana Talavera-Denson to receive the appropriate equipment. City Clerk Reid also stated that Spanish interpretation service was available virtually through Microsoft Teams.

Roxana Talavera-Denson, Language Access Coordinator, Office of Immigrant and Refugee Engagement, then provided Spanish interpretation of City Clerk Candice Reid's announcement.

Invocation was offered by Reverend Dr. Yvonne Jones Bibbs of Sixth Baptist Church, 400 S. Addison Street, Richmond, Virginia.

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

Chamber Emergency Evacuation Plan Announcement and Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Upon the President'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 citizen speaker guidelines.

Electronic Participation

Pursuant to Rule III(D)(4)(b) of Council's Rules of Procedure, Vice President Kristen Nye made a request to participate in the meeting via Microsoft Teams from her home, due to a medical condition that prevented her physical attendance. The Councilmembers present were required to adopt a motion to approve Vice President Nye'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 this meeting by electronic communication means.

Councilor Katherine Jordan moved to allow Vice President Kristen Nye to participate in the meeting by electronic communication means. The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 7, Addison, Jordan, Lynch, Robertson, Trammell, Newbille, Jones. Noes None. Lambert was excused.

Vice President Kristen Nye joined the meeting via Microsoft Teams at 6:28 p.m.

Action on Appointments and Reappointments

There were no appointment/reappointment items for consideration.

Awards and Presentations

Members recognized that City Council previously proclaimed and established the full work week in March, that includes March 18, to be Richmond Public Defender Week.

[CD.2023.093](#) March 13, 2023 Awards and Recognitions Ceremony Docket

Citizen Comment

[CD.2023.087](#) March 13, 2023 Citizen Comment Period Speakers List

Charles Willis, United Communities Against Crime Executive Director, addressed Council and stated his support for increased convenience store regulation. Mr. Willis also stated his appreciation for Simpson's Market owner Michael Simpson, and he requested a street designation near Simpson's Market to honor Mr. Simpson.

Keisha Cummings, 2Love, LLC Founder, addressed Council and stated her concerns with gun violence in the city. Ms. Cummings also stated her concerns regarding available services and living conditions at public housing communities in the city.

Earnest Bush addressed Council and stated that he opposed the establishment of rental inspection districts in the city. Mr. Bush also stated that additional rental inspection requirements would be redundant, as similar inspection methods were previously established. Mr. Bush further stated that additional inspections would lead to increased rents due to rising costs.

Agenda Review and Amendments

There were no amendments to the meeting agenda.

The Consent Agenda

The following ordinances and resolutions were considered:

1. [ORD. 2022-268](#) To authorize the special use of the property known as 401 South Stafford Avenue for the purpose of a mixed-use building containing up to one second floor dwelling unit and a ground floor restaurant use, upon certain terms and conditions. (As Amended) (5th District)

Patrons: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was adopted.

2. [ORD. 2023-055](#) To close, to public use and travel, a portion of an alley in the block bounded by East 6th Street, Albany Avenue, East 7th Street, and Maury Street, consisting of 245± square feet, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was adopted.

3. [ORD. 2023-056](#) To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Bridging the Gap in Virginia Grant Contract between the City of Richmond and Bridging The Gap In Virginia, for the purpose of implementing a solar panel training program in the city of Richmond.

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

This ordinance was adopted.

4. [ORD. 2023-058](#) To amend Ord. No. 2022-055, adopted May 9, 2022, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 General Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, by changing the uses and allocation of the Council District Funds for the Fifth District pursuant to Va. Code § 15.2-2503, for the use of the Council Member in the representation of the Fifth District.

Patrons: Ms. Lynch

This ordinance was adopted.

5. [ORD. 2023-059](#) To amend Ord. No. 2022-055, adopted May 9, 2022, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 General Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, to (i) transfer \$250,000.00 from the Non-Departmental agency, Reserve for Children's Fund line item (ii) create a new line item entitled "YWCA Richmond (for Sprout School - Oregon Hill)" in the Non-Departmental agency, and (iii) appropriate such \$250,000.00 to such new line item in the Non-Departmental agency, for the purpose of funding capital costs for a new Sprout School for early childhood education in the Oregon Hill neighborhood.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney and Ms. Lynch

This ordinance was adopted.

6. [RES. 2023-R013](#) To designate the property known as 1203 East Brookland Park Boulevard as a revitalization area pursuant to Va. Code § 36-55.30:2. (6th District)

Patrons: Mayor Stoney (By Request) and Ms. Lambert

This resolution was adopted.

7. [RES. 2023-R014](#) To approve an expenditure in the amount of \$4,178.61 from the Council District Funds for the Fifth District to pay BBR Print, Inc., doing business as Bamboo Ink, for the preparation and mailing of constituent outreach flyers sent to Fifth District residents.

Patrons: Ms. Lynch

This resolution was adopted.

Public Hearing

Elaine Goodman spoke in opposition of ORD. 2022-268, and she informed Council that she was a direct neighbor to the proposed restaurant referenced in ORD. 2022-268. Ms. Goodman addressed her negative experiences with prior restaurant establishments located at 401 South Stafford Avenue.

Amber Burkhardt spoke in opposition of ORD. 2022-268, and stated that she would be negatively impacted by the proposed special use permit. Ms. Burkhardt informed Council that her greatest concern was the amount of outside seating available at the proposed restaurant. Ms. Burkhardt further stated her concerns with the city-wide precedent that could be set, and she requested that the amount of outdoor seating be decreased.

Yvonne Jones Bibbs, Sixth Baptist Church Pastor, stated that she supported a restaurant being located at 401 South Stafford Avenue, but not with the amount of outdoor seating permitted in ORD. 2022-268.

Kurt Angleman spoke in opposition of ORD. 2022-268, and stated he supported the use of 401 South Stafford Avenue as a commercial space, but not with the amount of outdoor seating proposed. Mr. Angleman requested that the city find a compromise with the special use permit applicant for reduced outdoor seating.

Joseph Crouch spoke in opposition of ORD. 2022-268, and stated that the noise created from the amount of outdoor seating at the proposed restaurant would negatively impact his ability to work from home. Mr. Crouch requested that Council amend the proposed ordinance to either eliminate or lower the amount of permitted outdoor seating.

Ashley Smith, Byrd Park Civic League Secretary, spoke in support of ORD. 2022-268, and stated that the Byrd Park Civic League also supported the proposed ordinance. Ms. Smith informed Council that 77 percent of Byrd Park residents surveyed by the Byrd Park Civic League supported the proposed special use permit referenced in ORD. 2022-268.

Catesby Saunders-Duval spoke in support of ORD. 2022-268, and stated that the special use applicant had made many compromises to appease concerned neighbors. Mr. Saunders also stated that outdoor dining was very accommodating for families with young children.

Stephen Harrell, designer of the restaurant referenced in ORD. 2022-268, spoke in support of the special use permit and informed Council that he incorporated the concerns of neighbors in the design of the proposed restaurant. Mr. Harrell also stated that he believed the design concept would limit noise, and that it would provide a cafe environment for residents to enjoy.

Will Gillette, Baker Development Resources Planner, ORD. 2022-268 applicant representative, spoke in support of the special use permit, and stated that extended timeline of the pending legislation provided the applicant time to address the concerns of neighbors and implement agreed compromises.

Mark Baker, Baker Development Resources Owner, spoke in support of the requested special use permit and stated that the proposed restaurant was consistent with the Richmond 300 Master Plan.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch stated her appreciation for individuals involved throughout the approval process for ORD. 2022-268, and she informed Council that the developer made several concessions to address concerns.

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert inquired about the noise impact on neighbors in close proximity to the proposed restaurant referenced in ORD. 2022-268.

Councilor Lynch informed Council that the ORD. 2022-268 applicant agreed to prohibit the sale of liquor to prevent excess noise.

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

The Regular Agenda

There were no Regular Agenda items.

Motions

Councilor Katherine Jordan moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution:

8. [RES. 2023-R016](#) To designate the property known as 1717 Bellevue Avenue as a revitalization area pursuant to Va. Code § 36-55.30:2. (3rd District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan and Ms. Lambert

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilors Ann-Frances Lambert and Katherine Jordan provided an introduction and additional background information regarding the proposed resolution.

Public Hearing

Grady Hart, Rosedale Civic Association President, spoke in support of RES. 2023-R016, and stated that he engaged in conversation with residents regarding the request to designate 1717 Bellevue Avenue as a revitalization area. Mr. Hart informed Council that he believed residents supported moving forward with designating 1717 Bellevue Avenue as a revitalization area, but were concerned about the potential impact to traffic safety in the surrounding area.

There were no further comments or discussions and RES. 2023-R016 was adopted: Ayes 8, Addison, Jordan, Lambert, Robertson, Trammell, Newbille, Nye, Jones. Noes None. Lynch was excused.

Councilor Ellen Robertson moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution:

9. [RES. 2023-R017](#) To appoint Kennon C. Wright to the position of Council Liaison.

Patrons: President Jones

The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Addison, Jordan, Robertson, Lynch, Trammell, Newbille, Nye, Jones. Noes None. Lambert was excused.

President Michael Jones provided an introduction and additional background information regarding the proposed resolution.

There were no further comments or discussions and RES. 2023-R017 was adopted: Ayes 8, Addison, Jordan, Robertson, Lynch, Trammell, Newbille, Nye, Jones. Noes None. Lambert was excused.

Vice President Kristen Nye left the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

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, February 27, 2023, at 4:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m., respectively; and Council approved the minutes as presented.

[CD.2023.083](#) February 27, 2023 Informal Meeting Minutes

[CD.2023.090](#) February 27, 2023 Formal Meeting Minutes

Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions

[CD.2023.096](#) March 13, 2023 Introduction Papers List

City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinances and resolution on Monday, March 27, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.:

10. [ORD. 2023-080](#) To amend Ord. No. 2022-055, adopted May 9, 2022, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 General Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, to (i) re-appropriate \$1,752,480.00 of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 fund balance excess identified in the Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report as a Special Purpose assignment (ii) create a new line item entitled "Great Aspirations Scholarship Program, Inc. (Pathways Program - Great Aspirations Scholarship Program)" in the Non-Departmental Agency, and (iii) appropriate such \$1,752,480.00 to such new line item in the Non-Departmental agency, for the purpose of funding the creation of the Pathways Program for new Richmond Public Schools' graduates.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(3)(c).

11. [ORD. 2023-081](#) To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$12,882.00 from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles and to amend Ord. No. 2022-056, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Police's DMV Traffic Enforcement and Safety Initiative Special Fund by \$12,882.00 for the purpose of funding police traffic enforcement and safety initiatives in the city of Richmond.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(3)(c).

12. [ORD. 2023-082](#) To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$50,000.00 from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Police's Department of Criminal Justice Services Special Fund by \$50,000.00, for the purpose of supporting law enforcement training to reduce violent crime in the city of Richmond.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(3)(c).

13. [ORD. 2023-083](#) To amend Ord. No. 2022-055, adopted May 9, 2022, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 General Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, to (i) transfer \$75,000.00 from the Department of Public Works agency (ii) create a new line item entitled "Venture Richmond Inc. (Graffiti Removal - Downtown)" in the Non-Departmental agency, and (iii) appropriate such \$75,000.00 to such new line item in the Non-Departmental agency, for the purpose of funding graffiti removal in the downtown service area.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, March 16, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

14. [ORD. 2023-084](#) To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Cooperation Agreement between the City of Richmond and the Economic Development Authority of the City of Richmond, Virginia for the purpose of providing grants and technical assistance to small businesses in the city of Richmond.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, March 16, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

15. [ORD. 2023-085](#) To amend City Code §§ 2-1187, concerning the creation of the History and Culture Commission, 2-1188, concerning composition, 2-1189, concerning qualifications, 2-1191, concerning duties, and 2-1192, concerning administration.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Governmental Operations Standing Committee meeting on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

16. [ORD. 2023-086](#) To amend Ord. No. 2022-104, adopted April 25, 2022, as previously amended by Ord. No. 2022-243, adopted Sept. 12, 2022, which authorized the Chief Administrative Officer to issue grants, loans, or a

combination thereof from the City's 1st Tranche of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funds to certain entities in designated amounts and authorized the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City, to execute all necessary documents to affect such issuance for the purpose of financing the construction and preservation of single-family and multifamily dwellings, to provide for a revised list of entities eligible for the issuance of such grants, loans, or a combination thereof.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, March 23, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

17. [ORD. 2023-087](#) To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Deed of Quitclaim of Utility Easement between the City of Richmond and Roane Atlantic LLC, for the purpose of vacating by quitclaim deed certain easements on the property known as 1809 Roane Street, for nominal consideration, to Roane Atlantic LLC. (3rd District)

Patrons: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, March 23, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

18. [ORD. 2023-088](#) To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to submit a HOME - ARP Allocation Plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the receipt of Home Investment Partnerships - American Rescue Plan (HOME - ARP) Program funds in the amount of \$5,840,854.00.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, March 23, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

19. [ORD. 2023-089](#) To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a City of Richmond Grant Contract between the City of Richmond and the James River Association to provide funding for the implementation of green infrastructure improvements to increase stormwater management at a certain library of the City known as the East End Branch located at 1200 North 25th Street. (7th District)

Patrons: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, March 23, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

20. [RES. 2023-R018](#) To set a public hearing on a proposed Tourism Improvement District Plan.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney

This resolution was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, March 16, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinances on Monday, April 10, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.:

21. [ORD. 2023-090](#) To authorize the special use of the property known as 708 China Street for the purpose of a two-family detached dwelling, upon certain terms and conditions. (5th District)

Patrons: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, April 3, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.

22. [ORD. 2023-091](#) To amend and reordain Ord. No. 97-370-351, adopted Dec. 15, 1997, which authorized the property known as 701 German School Road for the purpose of authorizing an existing radio broadcast studio and office tower and the replacement of an existing telecommunications tower with a new tower of increased height, to remove the limitation on the number of permitted wireless communications providers, upon certain terms and conditions. (9th District)

Patrons: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, April 3, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.

23. [ORD. 2023-092](#) To amend and reordain Ord. No. 2018-310, adopted Dec. 17, 2018, which authorized the special use of the property known as 2712 East Leigh Street for the purpose of up to seven multifamily dwelling units and an accessory office, to authorize certain uses permitted on corner lots within the R-63 Multifamily Urban Residential District, upon certain terms and conditions. (7th District)

Patrons: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, April 3, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.

24. [ORD. 2023-093](#) To authorize the special use of the properties known as 2100 Newbourne Street, 2102 Newbourne Street, and 2104 Newbourne Street for the purpose of up to three two-family detached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions. (7th District)

Patrons: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, April 3, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.

25. [ORD. 2023-094](#) To authorize the special use of the properties known as 2110 Newbourne Street, 2112 Newbourne Street, 2112 ½ Newbourne Street, and 2114 Newbourne Street for the purpose of up to four two-family detached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions. (7th District)

Patrons: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, April 3, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch left the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Reports or Announcements by Members of the Council

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

Councilwoman Reva Trammell left the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

Councilor Cynthia Newbille left the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert left the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

CITY CLERK