



City of Richmond

Informal Meeting Minutes

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

Monday, September 13, 2021

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Councilmembers Present

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

Absent

The Honorable Stephanie Lynch

Staff Present

Lisa Braxton, Council Management Analyst
Haskell Brown, Interim City Attorney
Joyce Davis, Interim Council Chief of Staff
Candice Reid, City Clerk
Tabrica Rentz, Acting Deputy City Attorney
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Council President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. and presided.

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 Cynthia Newbille announced that, pursuant to Rule III (D)(4)(b) of Council's Rules of Procedure, Councilor Stephanie Lynch requested to participate in the meeting via Microsoft Teams from her home due to a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents her physical attendance.

Councilor Michael Jones moved to allow Councilor Lynch to participate in the meeting by electronic communication means. The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 7, Jordan, Lambert, Larson, Trammell, Jones, Robertson and Newbille. Noes None. Addison had not yet arrived.

Councilor Lynch 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. 2021-182 – retained on the Consent Agenda
2. Ord. 2021-199 – retained on the Consent Agenda

3. Ord. 2021-200 – to be continued to Monday, September 27, 2021
4. Ord. 2021-201 – to be continued to Monday, September 27, 2021
5. Ord. 2021-202 – retained on the Consent Agenda
6. Ord. 2021-203 – retained on the Consent Agenda
7. Ord. 2021-204 – retained on the Consent Agenda
8. Ord. 2021-205 – retained on the Consent Agenda
9. Ord. 2021-206 – retained on the Consent Agenda
10. Ord. 2021-207 – retained on the Consent Agenda
11. Ord. 2021-209 – moved to the Regular Agenda

Councilwoman Reva Trammell advised her colleagues of a petition opposing Ord. 2021-209.

12. Ord. 2021-210 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Ord. 2021-212 – to be continued to Monday, September 27, 2021
14. Ord. 2021-214 – retained on the Consent Agenda
15. Ord. 2021-215 – retained on the Consent Agenda
16. Ord. 2021-216 – retained on the Consent Agenda
17. Ord. 2021-217 – retained on the Consent Agenda
18. Ord. 2021-218 – retained on the Consent Agenda
19. Ord. 2021-219 – retained on the Consent Agenda
20. Res. 2021-R045 – retained on the Consent Agenda
21. Res. 2021-R046 – retained on the Consent Agenda
22. Res. 2021-R047 – retained on the Consent Agenda
23. Res. 2021-R049 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda:

24. Ord. 2019-275 – to be continued to Monday, November 8, 2021
25. Ord. 2019-276 – to be continued to Monday, November 8, 2021

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert agreed to a continuance of Ords. 2019-275 and 2019-276 to allow for the completion of an impact report regarding the proposed creation of a new technology business license tax category.

26. Ord. 2021-208 – to be continued to Monday, October 11, 2021
27. Ord. 2021-211 – to be continued to Monday, September 27, 2021

28. Res. 2021-R030 – to be continued to Monday, October 11, 2021

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

Mayor to Present City ARPA Spending Plan

Mayor Levar Stoney presented Council with a draft spending plan for the \$155 million federal funding received under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which included, but was not limited to, the following proposed highlights:

- \$32 million towards affordable and healthy homes
- \$5 million to create a Health Equity Trust Fund
- \$78 million to be invested into parks and community centers throughout the city
- \$13.5 million to address stormwater and drainage issues in the neighborhoods prone to flooding
- \$8.5 million to be invested into public safety
- \$23.3 million to address climate and environmental challenges

A copy of the presentation provided has been filed.

Councilor Andreas Addison arrived at 4:27 p.m. and was seated.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell inquired regarding a retention plan for public safety personnel.

Councilor Katherine Jordan requested a breakdown of the proposed ARPA allocations.

Acting Chief Administrative Officer Lincoln Saunders was available to address questions regarding the proposed ARPA spending plan.

President Cynthia Newbille advised Council that a work session would be scheduled to discuss next steps for finalizing the ARPA proposal as well as a strategic community engagement plan.

Councilor Michael Jones expressed support for proposed ARPA spending allocations that address COVID frontline workers, and the weatherization and home rehabilitation for seniors.

Councilor Andreas Addison acknowledged the need to explore funding for citywide broadband access and support for small business growth.

Civilian Review Board (CRB) Establishment Task Force Recommendations

Angela Fontaine and Dr. Eli Coston, CRB Establishment Task Force co-chairs, provided an overview of recommendations for the development of a civilian review board. A copy of the presentation and report provided has been filed.

Councilor Reva Trammell departed the meeting at 5:24 p.m.

Councilor Michael Jones thanked the task force for their undertaking and requested the analysis of other cities' civilian review boards.

President Cynthia Newbille requested that further review and vetting of the proposed CRB Establishment Task Force's recommendations occur during the next Public Safety and Organizational Development Standing Committee meetings.

Councilor Katherine Jordan also thanked the CRB Establishment Task Force members for their hard work.

Other Discussion

Acting Chief Administrative Officer Lincoln Saunders provided an update regarding the compensation study for sworn fire and police personnel, and informed Council that with the utilization of a cooperative procurement agreement, the initiation of the study is scheduled to occur the beginning of October.

Councilor Kristen Larson requested the request for proposal's compensation study scope of work.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

CITY CLERK