



City of Richmond

Budget Work Session Minutes

900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
www.richmondgov.com/cityclerk

Monday, April 17, 2017

11:00 AM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Richmond City Council convened in budget work session on Monday, April 17, 2017, in the Council Chamber, located on the second floor of City Hall, 900 East Broad Street.

Councilmembers Present

The Honorable Chris Hilbert, President (*Late arrival*)
The Honorable Cynthia Newbille, Vice President
The Honorable Andreas Addison
The Honorable Parker Agelasto
The Honorable Kim Gray
The Honorable Michael Jones
The Honorable Kristen Larson
The Honorable Ellen Robertson (*Late arrival and early departure*)
The Honorable Reva Trammell (*Late arrival*)

Staff Present

Lou Ali, Council Chief of Staff
Debra Bowles, Assistant City Clerk
Meghan Brown, Deputy Council Chief of Staff
William Echelberger, Council Budget Analyst
Allen Jackson, City Attorney
Charles Jackson, Council Budget Analyst
Debora Shaw, Council Administrative Project Analyst

Vice President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. and presided.

Upon the Vice President's request, Assistant City Clerk Debra Bowles provided information on the appropriate manner in which the Council Chamber is to be evacuated in the event of an emergency.

Discussion Items

General Fund Increase Amendments

Deputy Council Chief of Staff Meghan Brown noted that there was an increase of General Fund revenue by approximately \$11.7M. Ms. Brown also stated that the total increases of Council's amendments equate to \$19.1M and the proposed expenditure reductions are approximately \$8.3M. Ms. Brown further stated that Council staff was informed that any use of Richmond Public Schools (RPS) Unassigned Fund balance would require the mayor's certification; therefore, there are no amendments related to the RPS Unassigned Fund balance. Ms. Brown stated that discussion would begin with increase amendments relating to the General Fund.

President Chris Hilbert and Councilor Ellen Robertson arrived and were seated.

City Attorney Allen Jackson clarified that the mayor is required to certify where specified funds are to come from and where specified funds are to be used, which can include the funds that RPS has notated as unassigned funds.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell arrived and was seated.

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Selena Cuffee-Glenn, Director of Budget and Strategic Planning Jay Brown, Director of Finance John Wack, RPS Chief Financial Officer Dave Myers and City Attorney Allen Jackson answered questions of Council. After much discussion relating to the budget process, President Hilbert announced that Council would recess, and upon return, review amendments to reduce funding.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Council recessed at 12:36 p.m.

Council reconvened at 1:08 p.m.

General Fund Decrease Amendments

Councilor Parker Agelasto explained his proposed amendment to reduce funding for the Greater Richmond Transit Company (GRTC). Director of Budget and Strategic Planning Jay Brown, Senior Administrator of Multimodal Transportation Amy Inman, and GRTC Chief Executive Officer David Green responded to concerns and questions of Council. Council discussed the possible funding reduction to GRTC; however, after additional discussion, it was determined that the amendment would be tabled to a later date.

Councilor Ellen Robertson informed Council that she needed to attend the City Planning Commission meeting and exited the budget work session.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Deputy Council Chief of Staff Meghan Brown explained the reduction of funding for the Richmond Coliseum Subsidy. Interim Director for Economic and Community Development Douglas Dunlap and Director of Budget and Strategic Planning Jay Brown provided additional information regarding subsidy funding for the coliseum and responded to specific questions of Councilor Kim Gray. President Chris Hilbert stated that the amendment would be tabled until further information is received by administration.

Councilor Ellen Robertson reentered the meeting and was seated.

President Chris Hilbert announced that he needed to leave and exited the meeting.

Deputy Council Chief of Staff Meghan Brown reviewed additional amendments to decrease funding. City administration responded to various questions of Council relating to how budget reductions could impact departments.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

CITY CLERK