



City of Richmond

Informal Meeting Minutes

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

Monday, September 27, 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
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 4:01 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 unanimously.

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. 2021-189 – to be continued to Monday, October 11, 2021
2. Ord. 2021-200 – retained on the Consent Agenda

3. Ord. 2021-201 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. 2021-212 – retained on the Consent Agenda
5. Ord. 2021-213 – retained on the Consent Agenda
6. Ord. 2021-221– retained on the Consent Agenda
7. Ord. 2021-222 – retained on the Consent Agenda
8. Ord. 2021-223 – retained on the Consent Agenda
9. Ord. 2021-224 – retained on the Consent Agenda
10. Ord. 2021-225 – retained on the Consent Agenda
11. Ord. 2021-226 – retained on the Consent Agenda
12. Ord. 2021-227 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Ord. 2021-228 – retained on the Consent Agenda
14. Ord. 2021-229 – retained on the Consent Agenda
15. Ord. 2021-230 – to be continued to Monday, November 8, 2021
16. Ord. 2021-231 – retained on the Consent Agenda
17. Ord. 2021-232 – retained on the Consent Agenda
18. Ord. 2021-233 – retained on the Consent Agenda
19. Ord. 2021-234 – retained on the Consent Agenda
20. Ord. 2021-236 – retained on the Consent Agenda
21. Ord. 2021-238 – retained on the Consent Agenda
22. Ord. 2021-239 – retained on the Consent Agenda
23. Ord. 2021-240 – retained on the Consent Agenda
24. Ord. 2021-243 – retained on the Consent Agenda
25. Ord. 2021-244 – retained on the Consent Agenda
26. Ord. 2021-245 – retained on the Consent Agenda
27. Ord. 2021-246 – retained on the Consent Agenda
28. Ord. 2021-247 – retained on the Consent Agenda
29. Ord. 2021-248 – retained on the Consent Agenda
30. Ord. 2021-249 – retained on the Consent Agenda
31. Res. 2021-R036 – to be continued to Monday, November 8, 2021

32. Res. 2021-R050 – retained on the Consent Agenda
33. Res. 2021-R051 – retained on the Consent Agenda
34. Res. 2021-R052 – retained on the Consent Agenda
35. Res. 2021-R053 – retained on the Consent Agenda
36. Res. 2021-R054 – retained on the Consent Agenda
37. Res. 2021-R055 – retained on the Consent Agenda
38. Res. 2021-R056 – retained on the Consent Agenda
39. Res. 2021-R057 – retained on the Consent Agenda
40. Res. 2021-R058 – retained on the Consent Agenda
41. Res. 2021-R059 – retained on the Consent Agenda
42. Res. 2021-R060 – retained on the Consent Agenda
43. Res. 2021-R061 – retained on the Consent Agenda
44. Res. 2021-R062 – retained on the Consent Agenda
45. Res. 2021-R063 – retained on the Consent Agenda
46. Res. 2021-R065 – to be continued to Monday, November 8, 2021
47. Res. 2021-R068 – retained on the Consent Agenda
48. Res. 2021-R069 – retained on the Consent Agenda
49. Res. 2021-R070 – retained on the Consent Agenda
50. Res. 2021-R071 – retained on the Consent Agenda
51. Res. 2021-R072 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda:

52. Ord. 2021-097 – to be continued to Monday, November 8, 2021
53. Ord. 2021-209 – moved to the Consent Agenda
54. Ord. 2021-211 – retained on the Regular Agenda
55. Ord. 2021-220 – moved to the Consent Agenda
56. Ord. 2021-241 – retained on the Regular Agenda
57. Res. 2021-R026 – to be continued to Monday, November 8, 2021
58. Res. 2021-R067 – to be continued to Monday, October 11, 2021

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert requested to be a co-patron of Ords. 2021-222, 2021-234, 2021-239, and Res. 2021-R052, 2021-R062, 2021-R063, 2021-R065 and 2021-R068.

M. Khara, Public Works deputy director, introduced Res. 2021-R053.

Acting Chief Administrative Officer Lincoln Saunders was also available to answer questions pertaining to Res. 2021-R053.

M. Khara also introduced Res. 2021-R052 and shared additional information concerning the process and timeline for requesting federal and state funds for transportation projects.

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

City Employees and Retirees Medical Benefits

Acting Chief Administrative Officer Lincoln Saunders along with Kerry Smith, USI Insurance Services senior vice president, presented Council with information regarding the 2022 medical benefit renewal plan for city employees and retirees, which detailed medical plan changes effective January 1, 2022, that aligned with peer localities and ceased inequities in benefit contributions across plan offerings. Ms. Smith explained the contribution strategy shift, allowing current employees the option to now purchase up to a higher premier plan while excluding retiree access. A copy of the presentation provided has been filed.

Councilor Andreas Addison inquired regarding the increased medical benefit cost to employees and the offset of anticipated pay increases.

Councilor Michael Jones asked regarding the decision to alter the early retiree medical plan, which was changed in order to manage the unfunded other post-employment benefits liability.

Acting Chief Administrative Officer Saunders advised Council of plans to inform city employees and retirees of the proposed changes to the medical benefit plans.

Interim City Attorney Haskell Brown was available to answer questions regarding the legality of the medical plan modification.

Other Discussion

Vice President Ellen Robertson requested information concerning an alleged outage of the city's website and suggested a possible extension to the September 30th real estate tax appeal deadline.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

CITY CLERK