



City of Richmond

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

Informal Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 8, 2024

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Councilmembers Present

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

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 Kristen Nye called the meeting to order at 4:01 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 Kristen Nye 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 medical condition that prevents her physical attendance.

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

Councilor Lynch joined the meeting via Microsoft Teams.

Docket Review

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

Consent Agenda:

1. Ord. 2022-191 – to be continued to Monday, February 12, 2024
2. Ord. 2022-205 – to be continued to Monday, June 10, 2024
3. Ord. 2023-340 – to be continued to Monday, February 26, 2024
4. Ord. 2023-346 – to be continued to Monday, January 22, 2024
5. Ord. 2023-347 – retained on the Consent Agenda
6. Ord. 2023-353 – to be continued to Monday, January 22, 2024
7. Ord. 2023-354 – to be continued to Monday, January 22, 2024
8. Ord. 2023-355 – to be continued to Monday, January 22, 2024
9. Ord. 2023-356 – to be continued to Monday, February 12, 2024
10. Ord. 2023-357 – to be continued to Monday, January 22, 2024
11. Ord. 2023-358 – to be continued to Monday, January 22, 2024

Councilor Ellen Robertson solicited her colleagues' support to consider Ord. 2023-357 later that evening during the Formal Session of Council, instead of its intended continuance, due to the cancellation of the December Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting.

12. Ord. 2023-359 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Ord. 2023-360 – retained on the Consent Agenda
14. Ord. 2023-361 – retained on the Consent Agenda
15. Ord. 2023-362 – retained on the Consent Agenda
16. Ord. 2023-363 – retained on the Consent Agenda

17. Ord. 2023-364 – retained on the Consent Agenda
18. Ord. 2023-365 – retained on the Consent Agenda
19. Ord. 2023-366 – retained on the Consent Agenda
20. Ord. 2023-367 – retained on the Consent Agenda
21. Ord. 2023-368 – retained on the Consent Agenda
22. Ord. 2023-369 – retained on the Consent Agenda
23. Ord. 2023-370 – retained on the Consent Agenda
24. Res. 2023-R024 – to be continued to Monday, March 11, 2024
25. Res. 2023-R061 – to be continued to Monday, January 22, 2024
26. Res. 2023-R062 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda:

There were no Regular Agenda items.

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

Other Discussion Item(s)

Honorary Street Namings

President Kristen Nye asked that Council place a moratorium on future honorary street naming designations, awaiting the completion of a defined process by the end of the year.

Councilor Ellen Robertson expressed her support regarding the proposed moratorium; however, she emphasized the need to develop the honorary street naming designation process prior to year-end.

Vice President Ann-Frances Lambert stated that once the History and Culture Commission is completely installed, the commission will be tasked with assisting with the designation process.

After further discussion regarding the timeline for a finalized process, it was the consensus of Council to place a moratorium on honorary street naming designations until the completion of a delineated process.

Mayo Island Purchase

Chief Administrative Officer Lincoln Saunders notified Council of the completed purchase of Mayo Island, which he stated will be the “jewel and heart” of the city’s riverfront. CAO Saunders thanked the City Attorney’s Office along with key members of his team for assisting with the purchase.

Prior to entering the closed session, Councilor Katherine Jordan requested to be added as a co-patron of Res. 2023-R061.

Closed Session

At 4:16 p.m., Councilor Cynthia Newbille moved that the Council go into a closed meeting pursuant to (i) subdivision (A)(8) of section 2.2-3711 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to consult with legal counsel employed by the public body regarding collective bargaining requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel and (ii) subdivision (A)(19) of section 2.2-3711 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to discuss plans to protect the public safety related to the security of City Hall and the safety of persons using City Hall.

The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Jordan, Jones, Robertson, Lynch, Trammell, Newbille, Lambert, Nye. Noes None. Addison had not yet arrived.

Councilor Andreas Addison arrived at 4:36 p.m. and joined the closed session.

Councilor Andreas Addison motioned to exit closed session. The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 7, Addison, Jordan, Jones, Robertson, Newbille, Lambert, Nye. Noes None. Lynch and Trammell had departed the meeting.

Councilors reconvened in open session at 4:52 p.m.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

January 8, 2024

WHEREAS, the Council has convened in closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law:

NOW, THEREFORE,
BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Council hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public matters lawfully exempt from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in

the closed meeting to which this certifying resolution applies; and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Council.

WITNESS the following vote of Council members, as recorded by Candice D. Reid, City Clerk:

CERTIFYING:

- Kristen Nye, Vice President
- Ann-Frances Lambert, President
- Andreas D. Addison
- Katherine Jordan
- Nicole Jones
- Cynthia I. Newbille
- Stephanie A. Lynch (early departure)
- Ellen F. Robertson
- Reva M. Trammell (early departure)

DECLINING TO CERTIFY:

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

CITY CLERK