



City of Richmond

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

City Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 11, 2022

1:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Council Budget Work Session #7

Councilmembers Present

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

Absent

The Honorable Andreas Addison

Staff Present

Samson Anderson, Council Budget Analyst
Haskell Brown, Interim City Attorney
Myrtle Brown, Council Budget Analyst
Joyce Davis, Interim Council Chief of Staff
Candice Reid, City Clerk
Debra Shaw, Council Management Analyst
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Call to Order

Council President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m., and presided.

Chamber Emergency Evacuation Plan Announcement

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.

Presentations

Scheduled Park Improvements and Programming for FY 2023 ~ Chris Frelke, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities

Chris Frelke, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities (PRCF), provided Council with a presentation that provided an overview of the PRCF. Mr. Frelke also addressed department programming, capital projects and financial analysis.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

[CD.2022.163](#) PRCF Council FY23 Budget Presentation

Councilwoman Reva Trammell arrived at 1:17 p.m. and was seated.

Councilor Kristen Nye arrived at 1:17 p.m. and was seated.

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert arrived at 1:36 p.m. and was seated.

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert inquired about the impact of American Rescue Plant Act (ARPA) funding on the department's budget and future projects.

Mr. Frelke stated that the projects that would utilize the received ARPA funds were still in the planning and design phase, and that the impact would be more visible in future operational budgets.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch arrived at 1:56 p.m. and was seated.

Councilor Katherine Jordan inquired about promoting community gardens and agricultural community projects. Councilor Jordan also stated the city and PRCF should utilize the Bon Secours Training Center for more youth programming.

Councilor Kristen Nye stated her support for the proposed Park Ranger Program, and she inquired about improvements to the Westover Hills Community Center, Pony Pasture and the James River Park System.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell stated her appreciation for the PRCF staff providing information at Council district meetings.

Mr. Frelke stated that staff would be available for all Council district meetings to provide additional PRCF information regarding programming and facilities available to residents.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch stated that PRCF staff stepped in to provide extended day programming for youth during the COVID-19 pandemic, and she inquired about compensating PRCF staff for that service.

Mr. Frelke stated that PRCF was only provided with a certain amount of funding to provide the extended day programming service.

Councilor Lynch stated that the city needed to reallocate ARPA funding designated to Richmond Public Schools (RPS) to provide extending day programming, so that the PRCF staff could be compensated.

President Cynthia Newbille stated her appreciation for PRCF providing essential programming and facilities to residents.

Councilor Kristen Nye left the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

Vice President Ellen Robertson inquired about available gym space for youth programming at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School. Vice President Robertson stated she believed the space could be used to help with gun violence prevention.

Mr. Frelke stated that the We Matter Program would be used to provide violence intervention and mentoring for the city's youth.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

CITY CLERK