



City of Richmond

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

Minutes

Governmental Operations Standing Committee

Thursday, July 26, 2018

12:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Committee Members and Staff in Attendance

The Honorable Andreas Addison – Chair
The Honorable Kimberly Gray – Vice Chair
The Honorable Parker Agelasto – Member
Lisa Braxton, Interim Deputy City Clerk
Joyce Davis, Council Policy Analyst
Charles Jackson, Council Budget Analyst
Tabrica Rentz, Senior Assistant City Attorney

Call to Order

Chair Andreas Addison called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

Evacuation Announcement

Upon the chair's request, Interim Deputy City Clerk Lisa Braxton provided information on the appropriate manner in which the Council Chamber is to be evacuated in the event of an emergency along with citizen speaker guidelines.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

Member Parker Agelasto moved to approve the minutes of May 24, 2018, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

Presentations

Report Card of Audit Department

City Auditor Lou Lassiter introduced newly enlisted members of his staff and provided the committee with a presentation regarding the department's fiscal year 2018 audit completion results. Mr. Lassiter reported that, despite vacancies for most of the year, his department was still able to successfully complete 80 percent of scheduled audits, pass a three-year peer review with full compliance of Governmental Audit Standards (GAS), complete the conversion of a new audit software, receive a 99 percent recommendation concurrence rate and identify \$959,000 in cost savings for the city.

A copy of the presentation has been filed.

Vice Chair Kim Gray thanked Mr. Lassiter and his staff for their professionalism, integrity and hard work.

RVA311 Update

Mark McClain, Public Utilities customer service administrator, provided the committee with a presentation regarding the city's newly launched RVA311 citizen service and response system. Mr. McClain reported that the city is presently recruiting for a director of Citizen Service and Response and noted that this individual will play a critical role in the improvement and success of data mining of the new system.

A copy of the presentation has been filed.

Toya Williams, Public Utilities project management analyst, and Derrick Roots, Public Utilities customer service specialist, were also available to answer questions regarding the new service request system and mobile application.

Committee Member Parker Agelasto emphasized the need for similar navigation features while exploring the RVA311 citizen self-service portal verses those of the mobile application, and the ability to provide immediate reporting and/or data access for Council liaisons. Mr. Agelasto suggested that the new department head collaborate with his liaison, Amy Robins, to understand the needs of Council.

Mr. McClain commented that the department is currently recruiting for full-time citizen service response agents; however, the utilization of temporary personnel is beneficial and provides an opportunity to assess individuals prior to obligating permanent resources.

Chair Andreas Addison asked that city administration explore the cities of Boston and New York's 311 mobile application for solutions and/or improvements to RVA311.

Paper(s) for Consideration

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2018-R072

To express the City Council's intent to include in its legislative proposals for the 2019 session of the General Assembly a request that the General Assembly amend Va. Code § 15.2-1408 to authorize the City to adopt an ordinance prohibiting former officers and employees, for one year after their terms of office have ended or employment ceased, from providing personal and substantial assistance for remuneration of any kind to any party, in connection with any proceeding, application, case, contract, or other particular matter involving the City or an agency thereof, if that matter is one in which the former officer or employee participated personally and substantially as a City officer or employee through decision, approval, or recommendation.

Patron: Mr. Agelasto

Committee Member Parker Agelasto introduced RES. 2018-R072 and stated that the proposed legislation is also a recommendation of the Ethics Reform Task Force.

Vice Chair Kim Gray expressed her support for RES. 2018-R072 and asked to be added as a co-patron of the proposed legislation.

Chair Andreas Addison also requested to be added as a co-patron of RES. 2018-R072.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Chair Addison moved to forward RES. 2018-R072 to the September 10, 2018 Council meeting with recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

Board Vacancies

Interim Deputy City Clerk Lisa Braxton reviewed board applications for consideration by the committee.

Chair Addison moved to forward the following board applications to Council with the recommendation to approve and to continue consideration of the board reappointment application of Marcus Squires' for the Sister Cities Commission, to the September Governmental Operations Standing Committee meeting, which was seconded and unanimously approved:

Board Name	Criteria for Appointment	Applicant Name
Sister Cities Commission (13 members)	* (3 vacancies)	Caroline L. Blake Darren Scott Green

* Applicants must either reside or work in the city of Richmond.

A copy of the report provided has been filed.

Discussion Item(s)

Procedure of Council District Funds

Joyce Davis, Council policy analyst, presented the committee with examples of suggested payment register reports illustrating the expenditure of Council district funds for dissemination on the city's payment register open data portal.

A copy of the information provided has been filed.

Chair Addison asked that the discussion be delayed until he and Council staff have an opportunity to work with Department of Information Technology to clean up the current payment register and explore a method of procedure for the transparency of Council District funds disbursements.

August Committee Meeting

It was the consensus of the committee to cancel the August standing committee meeting.

Staff Report

Council Policy Analyst Joyce Davis provided the committee with the July staff report.

A copy of the report provided has been filed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.