



City of Richmond

Informal Meeting Minutes

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

Monday, June 24, 2019

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Councilmembers Present

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

Staff Present

Lisa Braxton, Assistant City Clerk
Meghan Brown, Interim Council Chief of Staff
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney
Allen Jackson, City Attorney
Pamela Nichols, Assistant City Clerk
Candice Reid, City Clerk
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Council President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and presided.

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

Docket Review

Assistant City Clerk Pamela Nichols reviewed the following agenda items as indicated:

Consent Agenda:

1. Ord. 2018-289 – to be amended and continued to Monday, July 22, 2019
2. Ord. 2019-121 – retained on the Consent Agenda
3. Ord. 2019-129 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. 2019-140 – retained on the Consent Agenda
5. Ord. 2019-141 – retained on the Consent Agenda
6. Ord. 2019-142 – retained on the Consent Agenda
7. Ord. 2019-143 – retained on the Consent Agenda

8. Ord. 2019-144 – retained on the Consent Agenda
9. Ord. 2019-145 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Councilor Kim Gray arrived at 4:02 p.m. and was seated.

10. Ord. 2019-148 – retained on the Consent Agenda
11. Ord. 2019-149 – retained on the Consent Agenda
12. Ord. 2019-150 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Ord. 2019-151 – retained on the Consent Agenda
14. Ord. 2019-155 – retained on the Consent Agenda
15. Ord. 2019-156 – retained on the Consent Agenda
16. Ord. 2019-157 – retained on the Consent Agenda
17. Ord. 2019-158 – retained on the Consent Agenda
18. Res. 2019-R016 – retained on the Consent Agenda
19. Res. 2019-R020 – retained on the Consent Agenda
20. Res. 2019-R021 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Councilor Michael Jones arrived at 4:05 p.m. and was seated.

John Wack, Finance director, introduced and answered questions regarding Ord. 2019-156.

Councilor Andreas Addison arrived at 4:08 p.m. and was seated.

Councilor Kristen Larson provided an introduction of Ord. 2019-158 and stated that the proposed legislation would restore funding for certain capital projects removed during the fiscal year 2020 budget deliberation, in the event there is a fund balance for fiscal year 2019.

John Wack, Finance director, along with Roland Kooch, Davenport and Company senior vice president and the city's financial advisor, were available to answer questions regarding proposed Ord. 2019-158. Mr. Wack expressed opposition to Ord. 2019-158, since its adoption would obligate the fiscal year 2019 fund balance prior to the calculation of the year-end surplus. However, he stated that city administration was amenable to competing proposed Res. 2019-R016, since it only prioritized the calculated fund balance from the capital maintenance reserve. Mr. Kooch explained that the proposed adoption of the ordinance was contradictory to previously adopted legislation, which could adversely affect the city's current credit rating.

Jay Brown, Budget and Strategic Planning director, was also available to answer questions regarding the possible utilization of the budget and revenue stabilization contingency fund indicated with the adoption of the fiscal year 2019 third quarter reappropriation legislation.

Councilor Andreas Addison stated that he supports the funding of projects referenced in Ord. 2019-158; however, he also stated he was concerned that the proposed legislation would set certain priorities above those previously adopted by Council.

Chief Administrative Officer Selena Cuffee-Glenn addressed Council regarding proposed Ord. 2019-158 and reiterated city administration's objection to an ordinance that counters city policy. Ms.

Cuffee-Glenn expressed support for competing Res. 2019-R016.

Regular Agenda:

21. Ord. 2018-231 – to be continued to Monday, September 23, 2019
22. Ord. 2018-236 – to be continued to Monday, July 22, 2019
23. Ord. 2018-254 – retained on the Regular Agenda
24. Ord. 2019-130 – retained on the Regular Agenda
25. Ord. 2019-152 – retained on the Regular Agenda
26. Ord. 2019-153 – retained on the Regular Agenda
27. Ord. 2019-154 – retained on the Regular Agenda

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

President Cynthia Newbille introduced and welcomed newly appointed Inspector General James Osuna, who thanked Council for the opportunity to serve citizens of the city.

Closed Session Motion

At 4:27 p.m., Councilor Kristen Larson moved that the City Council go into a closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(7) for consultation with legal counsel pertaining to actual litigation, where such consultation in an open meeting would adversely affect the litigating posture of the City, in particular the matter of Goldman v. City of Richmond, Case No. CL19002591-00 in the Circuit Court for the City of Richmond.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilor Ellen Robertson motioned to exit closed session. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Councilors reconvened in open session at 5:00 p.m.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

June 24, 2019

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:

DECLINING TO CERTIFY:

Cynthia I. Newbille, President
Christopher A. Hilbert, Vice President
Andreas D. Addison
Kimberly B. Gray
Kristen N. Larson
Parker C. Agelasto
Ellen F. Robertson
Reva M. Trammell
Michael J. Jones

Interim Council Chief of Staff Meghan Brown provided a recap of follow-up items requested by Council as an outcome of the closed session.

Closed Session Motion

At 5:05 p.m., Councilor Kristen Larson moved that the City Council go into a closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) of the Code of Virginia for consultation with legal counsel employed by the Council regarding a specific legal matter requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, in particular the scope of the City's authority to provide for the cost of legal defense to litigation brought against persons who are officers or employees of the City.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilor Michael Jones motioned to exit closed session. The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 7, Jones, Robertson, Larson, Gray, Addison, Hilbert, Newbille. Noes None. Agelasto and Trammell excused. Councilors reconvened in open session at 5:55 p.m.

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

CERTIFYING:

Cynthia I. Newbille, President
Christopher A. Hilbert, Vice President
Andreas D. Addison
Kimberly B. Gray
Kristen N. Larson (excused)
Parker C. Agelasto
Ellen F. Robertson
Reva M. Trammell (excused)

DECLINING TO CERTIFY:

Michael J. Jones

Other Discussion

President Cynthia Newbille asked that councilors review the provided board application packet for the Navy Hill Development Advisory Commission and prepare to recommend selection of a chair and vice-chair for appointment to the commission at the July Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

CITY CLERK