



City of Richmond

Informal Meeting Minutes

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

Monday, September 28, 2020

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall
Virtual Meeting

Councilmembers Present

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

Staff Present

Lawrence Anderson, Council Chief of Staff
Lisa Braxton, Council Management Analyst
Haskell Brown, Interim City Attorney
Meghan Brown, Deputy 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 4:03 p.m. and presided.

ELECTRONIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Council Management Analyst Lisa Braxton, in accordance with Ordinance No. 2020-093, adopted April 9, 2020, as amended by Ordinance No. 2020-183, adopted August 20, 2020, announced the meeting would be held through electronic communication means, and stated that notice of the meeting was provided to the public through a public information advisory issued on September 16, 2020, and through Legistar on the city website in accordance with usual practice. She also stated there would be no opportunities for public comment and no public hearings during the meeting.

Docket Review

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

Consent Agenda:

1. Ord. 2019-275 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2020
2. Ord. 2019-276 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2020
3. Ord. 2020-171 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. 2020-172 – retained on the Consent Agenda

5. Ord. 2020-187 – retained on the Consent Agenda
6. Ord. 2020-188 – retained on the Consent Agenda
7. Ord. 2020-189 – retained on the Consent Agenda
8. Ord. 2020-190 – retained on the Consent Agenda
9. Ord. 2020-192 – retained on the Consent Agenda
10. Ord. 2020-193 – retained on the Consent Agenda
11. Ord. 2020-194 – retained on the Consent Agenda
12. Ord. 2020-195 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Ord. 2020-196 – retained on the Consent Agenda
14. Ord. 2020-197 – retained on the Consent Agenda
15. Ord. 2020-198 – retained on the Consent Agenda
16. Ord. 2020-199 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Councilor Kristen Larson joined the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

17. Ord. 2020-200 – retained on the Consent Agenda
18. Ord. 2020-201 – retained on the Consent Agenda
19. Ord. 2020-202 – retained on the Consent Agenda
20. Res. 2019-R068 – retained on the Consent Agenda
21. Res. 2020-R051 – to be continued to Monday, November 9, 2020
22. Res. 2020-R052 – retained on the Consent Agenda
23. Res. 2020-R053 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Interim City Attorney Haskell Brown was available to answer questions regarding proposed Res. 2020-R053.

24. Res. 2020-R054 – retained on the Consent Agenda
25. Res. 2020-R055 – retained on the Consent Agenda
26. Res. 2020-R056 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2020

Regular Agenda:

27. Ord. 2018-236 – to be continued to Monday, October 12, 2020
28. Ord. 2020-103 – to be continued to Monday, November 9, 2020
29. Ord. 2020-104 – to be continued to Monday, November 9, 2020
30. Ord. 2020-105 – to be continued to Monday, November 9, 2020

31. Ord. 2020-117 – to be continued to Monday, January 11, 2021
32. Ord. 2020-153 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2020
33. Ord. 2020-191 – retained on the Regular Agenda

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

Councilor Ellen Robertson joined the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Fund Balance Report

John Wack, Finance director, provided Council with a review of the unaudited and estimated general fund balance for fiscal year 2020, which included the mayor's proposed use of a \$13.7 million estimated surplus of revenues above expenditures. Mr. Wack explained that prior adopted policy, Ord. 2017-215, provides for the suggested additions and assignments as itemized. A copy of the information presented has been filed.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch requested a refined preliminary general fund balance report by the next Formal Session of Council.

Deputy Council Chief of Staff Meghan Brown indicated that any deviation from the mayor's proposed use of the estimated surplus would require Council action prior to November 1, 2020. Ms. Brown suggested any alternate recommendation be discussed for consensus at the October Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting.

Dr. Danny Avula, Richmond City Health District director, provided additional information regarding the mayor's recommendation related to the assigned special purpose for health disparity initiatives.

City Auditor Lou Lassiter informed Council of the importance to further assign a special supplement for the OPEB (other post-employment benefits) Trust fund in order to address growing liabilities.

2020 Biennial Real Estate Strategies Plan

Sharon Ebert, deputy chief administrative officer – Economic Development, presented Council with a draft of the equitable affordable housing plan and the city's 2020 biennial real estate strategies plan. Ms. Ebert emphasized the potential locations for future affordable housing from the redevelopment of city-owned parcels, which will consist of homeownership and multi-family rental units and large scale mixed-use and mixed-income development. A copy of the information presented has been filed.

Councilor Michael Jones stressed a greater need to provide residents opportunities to achieve homeownership rather than prospects of affordable rental.

Councilor Ellen Robertson requested additional housing partners be included in a forum to discuss affordable housing opportunity recommendations prior to finalizing the equitable plan.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

CITY CLERK