



City of Richmond

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

Informal Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 22, 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 Nicole Jones
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch (late arrival)
The Honorable Cynthia Newbille
The Honorable Ellen Robertson (late arrival)
The Honorable Reva Trammell

Absent

The Honorable Katherine Jordan

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 4:02 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.

Docket Review

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

Consent Agenda:

1. Ord. 2024-094 – to be amended and continued to Monday, September 9, 2024
2. Ord. 2024-146 – to be continued to Monday, September 9, 2024
3. Ord. 2024-169 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. 2024-170 – retained on the Consent Agenda
5. Ord. 2024-171 – retained on the Consent Agenda
6. Ord. 2024-172 – retained on the Consent Agenda
7. Ord. 2024-173 – retained on the Consent Agenda
8. Ord. 2024-174 – retained on the Consent Agenda
9. Ord. 2024-175 – retained on the Consent Agenda
10. Ord. 2024-176 – retained on the Consent Agenda
11. Ord. 2024-177 – retained on the Consent Agenda
12. Ord. 2024-178 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Ord. 2024-179 – retained on the Consent Agenda
14. Ord. 2024-180 – to be amended and continued to Monday, September 9, 2024
15. Ord. 2024-181 – retained on the Consent Agenda
16. Ord. 2024-182 – retained on the Consent Agenda
17. Ord. 2024-183 – retained on the Consent Agenda
18. Ord. 2024-184 – retained on the Consent Agenda
19. Ord. 2024-185 – retained on the Consent Agenda
20. Ord. 2024-186 – to be continued to Monday, September 23, 2024
21. Ord. 2024-187 – to be continued to Monday, September 23, 2024
22. Ord. 2024-188 – retained on the Consent Agenda

- 23. Ord. 2024-189 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 24. Ord. 2024-191 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 25. Ord. 2024-192 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 26. Ord. 2024-193 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 27. Ord. 2024-194 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 28. Ord. 2024-195 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 29. Res. 2024-R020 – retained on the Consent Agenda
- 30. Res. 2024-R021 – to be amended and considered
- 31. Res. 2024-R022 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda:

- 32. Ord. 2024-190 – retained on the Regular Agenda

Councilor Cynthia Newbille requested to be added as a co-patron of Ord. 2024-190.

Vice President Ann-Frances Lambert requested to be added as a co-patron of Res. 2024-R020.

Upon Vice President Ann-Frances Lambert request, it was the consensus of Council to allow for an additional Public Comment slot, enabling students the ability to address Council later that evening during the Formal Session of Council.

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

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

Other Discussion Item(s)

Activation Capital Update

Chief Administrative Officer Lincoln Saunders introduced Robert “Rob” Ward, interim president and chief executive officer – Activation Capital, who provided Council with an update regarding the future of a 50+ million innovation building project in the city’s downtown area. Mr. Ward stated that the initial plan to build a 100,000 square foot, 4-story innovation center with two floors of anchor tenant is still ideal with the secured 27 million in grant and state appropriation funds, however, additional financing would be needed. Mr. Ward further

stated that a smaller scaled center that would not require additional funding is also being explored. Mr. Ward noted the need for additional clarification from the federal economic development authority regarding the flexibility of the grant funding to determine the appropriate direction of the project, due to the May 2027 timeline for its usage and valid interim qualification steps.

Councilor Ellen Robertson arrived at 4:12 p.m. and was seated.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch arrived at 4:13 p.m. and was seated.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch inquired concerning the deadlines associated with the grant funding.

Councilor Andreas Addison inquired regarding the ideal anchor tenant for the project, reasons for prospective tenant hesitation and the possibility of a modular approach for the project.

Kipton Currier, vice president of operations – Activation Capital, was also available to answer questions regarding the innovation building project.

Councilor Ellen Robertson asked that the innovation center be conducive to providing entry-level workforce development opportunities for area colleges. Councilor Robertson requested that city administration provide a status report of the planned replacement of the Coliseum, known as the City Center, within the next sixty days.

Adjournment

Prior to adjourning the meeting, President Kristen Nye informed her colleagues of the need to reschedule the impending Legislative Summit luncheon at the Virginia Library and asked that councilmembers forward their availability on October 8th and 10th to the Council chief of staff.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

CITY CLERK