



City of Richmond

Informal Meeting Minutes

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

Monday, December 11, 2017

3:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Richmond City Council convened in Informal Session on Monday, December 11, 2017, in the Council Chamber, located on the second floor of City Hall, 900 East Broad Street.

Councilmembers Present

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

Staff Present

Lou Ali, Council Chief of Staff
Lisa Braxton, Interim Deputy City Clerk
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney
Allen Jackson, City Attorney
Candice Reid, Interim City Clerk

Council President Chris Hilbert called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m. and presided.

Upon the President'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.

Docket Review

Interim Deputy City Clerk Lisa Braxton reviewed the following agenda items as indicated:

Consent Agenda:

1. Ord. 2016-264 – retained on the Consent Agenda
2. Ord. 2017-177 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Councilwomen Reva Trammell and Kim Gray arrived at 3:11 p.m. and were seated.

Councilor Kim Gray provided an introduction of Ord. 2016-264 and stated that she supports the proposed legislation.

3. Ord. 2017-196 – to be continued to Monday, January 8, 2018
4. Ord. 2017-197 – to be continued to Tuesday, May 29, 2018
5. Ord. 2017-203 – retained on the Consent Agenda

6. Ord. 2017-205 – retained on the Consent Agenda
7. Ord. 2017-206 – retained on the Consent Agenda
8. Ord. 2017-207 – retained on the Consent Agenda
9. Ord. 2017-210 – retained on the Consent Agenda
10. Ord. 2017-211 – retained on the Consent Agenda
11. Ord. 2017-212 – retained on the Consent Agenda
12. Ord. 2017-213 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Ord. 2017-214 – moved to the Regular Agenda
14. Ord. 2017-215 – retained on the Consent Agenda
15. Ord. 2017-216 – retained on the Consent Agenda
16. Ord. 2017-217 – retained on the Consent Agenda
17. Ord. 2017-218 – retained on the Consent Agenda
18. Ord. 2017-219 – retained on the Consent Agenda
19. Ord. 2017-220 – retained on the Consent Agenda
20. Ord. 2017-222 – retained on the Consent Agenda
21. Ord. 2017-223 – retained on the Consent Agenda
22. Ord. 2017-224 – retained on the Consent Agenda
23. Ord. 2017-225 – retained on the Consent Agenda
24. Ord. 2017-226 – retained on the Consent Agenda
25. Ord. 2017-227 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Councilor Kristen Larson provided an introduction of Ord. 2017-227.

26. Ord. 2017-228 – retained on the Consent Agenda

President Chris Hilbert stated that, due to a conflict of interest, he will abstain from voting on Ord. 2017-228.

27. Ord. 2017-229 – to be continued to Monday, January 8, 2018
28. Ord. 2017-230 – retained on the Consent Agenda
29. Ord. 2017-231 – retained on the Consent Agenda
30. Ord. 2017-232 – to be continued to Monday, January 8, 2018
31. Ord. 2017-233 – retained on the Consent Agenda

32. Ord. 2017-237 – retained on the Consent Agenda
33. Ord. 2017-238 – retained on the Consent Agenda
34. Res. 2017-R076 – to be continued to Tuesday, May 29, 2018
35. Res. 2017-R084 – retained on the Consent Agenda
36. Res. 2017-R085 – retained on the Consent Agenda
37. Res. 2017-R086 – to be continued to Monday, January 8, 2018
38. Res. 2017-R087 – retained on the Consent Agenda
39. Res. 2017-R088 – retained on the Consent Agenda
40. Res. 2017-R089 – to be continued to Monday, January 22, 2018
41. Res. 2017-R091 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda:

42. Ord. 2017-208 – to be continued to Monday, January 8, 2018
43. Ord. 2017-209 – to be continued to Monday, January 8, 2018
44. Ord. 2017-221 – to be continued to Monday, January 8, 2018
45. Res. 2017-R075 – retained on the Regular Agenda
46. Res. 2017-R090 – retained on the Regular Agenda

Councilor Kristen Larson requested that Ords. 2017-208, 2017-209 and 2017-221 be continued, so that consideration would occur along with additional legislation scheduled for introduction later that evening at the Formal Session of Council. Ms. Larson asked that a presentation still be provided to Council regarding the proposed pieces of legislation.

Rosemary Green, Public Utilities interim director, along with George Hayes, Chesterfield County Public Utilities director, introduced and provided a presentation regarding Ords. 2017-208, 2017-209 and 2017-221. A copy of the presentation has been filed.

Councilor Parker Agelasto arrived at 3:34 p.m. and was seated.

Robert Steidel, deputy chief administrative officer - Operations, was also available to answer questions regarding Ords. 2017-208, 2017-209 and 2017-221.

Councilor Larson addressed concerns regarding the destruction of trees proposed with the approval of Ords. 2017-208, 2017-209 and 2017-221 stating, however, that the community would benefit by the expansion of the park due to the proposed acquisition of land.

Lee Downey, deputy chief administrative officer - Economic and Community Development, provided Council with a return on investment calculations handout for Phase I of the Church Hill North redevelopment project associated with Ord. 2017-214. A copy of the information has been filed.

Councilor Kristen Larson requested that Council receive a financial overview for all aspects of the East End transformation project.

T.K. Somanath, Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority chief executive officer, was also available to answer questions regarding Ord. 2017-214.

John Wack, Finance director, informed Council that the proposed redevelopment project associated with Ord. 2017-214 would not affect the city's debt capacity since it will be funded with general obligation bonds.

Councilor Parker Agelasto expressed concern with the projected loan repayment approach for Ord. 2017-214 due to the current climate of the federal government surrounding consolidated development block grants, and the anticipation of estimated delinquent tax sales.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell stated that she supports Ord. 2017-214.

Councilor Ellen Robertson requested a financial analysis of the total budget for all phases of the project associated with Ord. 2017-214 as well as current city expenditures.

Both Councilor Michael Jones and Vice President Cynthia Newbille stated that they support Ord. 2017-214.

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

Closed Session Motion

At 5:01 p.m., Councilor Kristen Larson moved that the City Council hold a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act for the purpose of discussion, consideration, and interviews of one or more prospective candidates for appointment to the position of City Auditor, an appointee of the City Council.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Vice President Cynthia Newbille motioned to exit closed session. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Councilors reconvened in open session at 6:13 p.m.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

December 11, 2017

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, Interim City Clerk:

CERTIFYING:

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

DECLINING TO CERTIFY:

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

INTERIM CITY CLERK