



# City of Richmond

## Formal Meeting Minutes

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

Monday, February 12, 2018

6:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Richmond City Council met in the Council Chamber on Monday, February 12, 2018, at 6:05 p.m.

Invocation was offered by Pastor Dr. Lona Rogers-Miller of All Saints Apostolic Ministries, 2001 Royall Ave, Richmond, VA 23224

Members of Council and the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Councilmembers Present**

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

### **CHAMBER EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN AND CITIZEN SPEAKER GUIDELINES**

President Chris Hilbert called the meeting to order 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 along with citizen speaker guidelines.

### **APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS**

**Councilor Ellen Robertson moved that the following appointments and reappointment recommendations be approved:**

<b><u>Board Name</u></b>	<b><u>Criteria for Appointment</u></b>	<b><u>Applicant Name</u></b>	<b><u>Terms</u></b>
<b>City Personnel Board</b> (10 members)	Members of the classified system of the city of Richmond	Charlene Beth Brinson	02/12/2018 – 01/28/2023 <i>Succeeding David W. Kilmon</i>
		La Forest Fields Williams	02/12/2018 – 01/28/2023 <i>Succeeding LaWanda Shaw Thrower</i>
<b>Sister Cities Commission</b> (13 members)	*	Sgt. Stacy J. Henry	02/12/2018 – 09/26/2020 <i>Succeeding Patricia W. Cummins</i>
		Stacy Luks	02/12/2018 – 01/09/2021 <i>Succeeding Christopher A. Brooks</i>
		Stephen T. Robertson	02/12/2018 – 11/10/2020 <i>Succeeding Susanne Ella Boer</i>

<b>Board Name</b>	<b>Criteria for Appointment</b>	<b>Applicant Name</b>	<b>Terms</b>
<b>Ethics Reform Task Force</b> (11 members)	Persons with experience and expertise concerning ethical standards in both the public sector and the private sector and concerning areas, such as human resources and procurement, that may be relevant to the consideration of appropriate ethical standards for a governmental organization *	Dr. Cristen Jandreau	02/12/2018 – Terminating upon the completion of the Ethics Reform Task Force's duties
<b>Maggie L. Walker Initiative Citizens Advisory Board</b> (16 members)	Resident of the city of Richmond	Cindy P. Chambers	03/10/2018 – 03/09/2021 <i>Succeeding Heidi W. Abbott</i>
<b>Economic Development Authority</b> (7 directors)	Resident of the city	Hossein Sadid (reappointment)	04/27/2018 – 04/26/2022

\* Applicants must reside or work in the city.

**The motion was seconded and approved:** Ayes 8, Robertson, Larson, Agelasto, Gray, Trammell, Addison, Newbille, Hilbert. Jones excused.

*A copy of the information provided has been filed.*

### **AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS**

President Hilbert, on behalf of City Council, recognized the Podium Foundation for its work on behalf of the community.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell, Councilor Kim Gray and Councilor Parker Agelasto, on behalf of City Council, recognized Ms. Gay Stokes on the occasion of her retirement after nearly 20 years of dedicated public service.

Councilor Parker Agelasto and Councilor Kristen Larson, on behalf of City Council, recognized Friends of Forest Hill Park for its members' work on behalf of the community.

### **CITIZEN COMMENT**

**Melvin Jones** addressed Council regarding his concerns with city retirees not receiving cost of living increases, inquired as to why there are no African Americans on the Public Art Commission, and expressed concerns regarding the accountability of city contractors.

**L. Shirley Harvey** addressed Council regarding her concerns with the poverty in the city, stating that the city's first priority should be its residents.

**Lola McDowell** addressed Council regarding her commitment to the Read Across America project and invited everyone to participate in its nationwide reading event on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Roderyck Bullock** addressed Council regarding his concerns with deteriorating athletic facilities in Richmond Public Schools (RPS), noting that the facilities have been neglected for years.

**Keith Andes**, president of the Richmond Firefighter's Association, addressed Council about implementing a no tobacco use policy for all new hires stating that cancer diagnoses are on the rise in fire departments.

**Charles Willis**, executive director of United Communities Against Crime, addressed Council regarding his concerns with domestic violence incidents in the city and reported that Dads Against Domestic Violence, Sergeant Carol Adams and her foundation, as well as other city leaders, will attend a march on February 25<sup>th</sup>, from Jackson Ward to the John Marshall Court Building.

**Eddie Wyatt** addressed Council regarding domestic violence in the city, which has claimed the lives of his daughter and grandson, stating that he formed the Dads Against Domestic Violence organization. Mr. Wyatt invited councilmembers and citizens to participate in the march on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Teresa Ashe** addressed Council regarding the reduction of state funds to RPS, stating that funding plays a pivotal role in the quality of education.

## **AGENDA REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS**

**Councilor Addison moved to amend the agenda as follows:**

### ORD. 2017-196

To designate The Maggie Walker Community Land Trust as a land bank entity for the purpose of assisting the City in addressing vacant, abandoned, and tax delinquent properties and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement setting the terms and conditions of such designation.

**To be amended and continued to Monday, February 26, 2018**

### ORD. 2017-236

To amend ch. 12, art. I of the City Code by adding therein a new §12-11.01 for the purpose of requiring the Chief Administrative Officer to cause to be developed a ten-year citywide infrastructure maintenance plan for the purpose of identifying, funding, and completing City infrastructure maintenance projects.

**To be continued to Monday, February 26, 2018**

### ORD. 2017-242

To amend Ord. No. 2000-410-2001-10, adopted Jan. 8, 2001, as previously amended by Ord. No. 2001-220-231, adopted Jul. 23, 2001, which approved the "Shops at Stratford Hills Community Unit Plan," for the purpose of increasing the area subject to the community unit plan by 3.4acres to 67.9± acres and modifying the development standards, under certain terms and conditions.

**To be amended and continued to Monday, February 26, 2018**

### ORD. 2018-010

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Police Mutual Aid Joint Aviation Agreement between the County of Henrico, Virginia, the County of Chesterfield, Virginia, and the City of Richmond, Virginia, for the purpose of operating a joint aviation unit to support aerial law enforcement activities in the party jurisdictions.

**To be continued to Monday, March 12, 2018**

### ORD. 2018-011

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Richmond, Virginia, and Virginia Commonwealth University for the purpose of establishing cooperation between the City's

Department of Police and the Virginia Commonwealth University Police Department in the furnishing of certain law enforcement services.

**To be continued to Monday, March 12, 2018**

ORD. 2018-016

To authorize the special use of the property known as 900 St. James Street for the purpose of a building with non-residential uses on the first floor and up to 12 dwelling units on the upper floors, upon certain terms and conditions.

**To be amended and continued to Monday, March 12, 2018**

RES. 2017-R079

To amend the Rules of Procedure adopted by Res. No. 2017-R001, adopted Jan. 3, 2017, as previously amended by Res. No. 2017-R013, adopted Mar. 27, 2017, Res. No. 2017-R017, adopted Mar. 27, 2017, and Res. No. 2017-R032, adopted Jun. 26, 2017, for the purpose of requiring a formal City Council meeting to be held on the fourth Monday of the month of October.

**To be continued to Monday, February 26, 2018**

RES. 2017-R092

To establish a policy of the Council that the Council will appoint a current City retiree to the Board of Trustees of the Richmond Retirement System to fill one of the three appointments not required to be a member of the classified service.

**To be continued to Monday, February 26, 2018**

RES. 2017-R093

To express the City Council's support for making improvements and repairs to streets, sidewalks, and alleys a priority to ensure that all people may travel safely and conveniently upon them.

**To be continued to Monday, February 26, 2018**

RES. 2018-R003

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause to be conducted a study of data pertaining to the occurrence of homicides in the city of Richmond between 2008 and 2018.

**To be continued to Monday, March 12, 2018**

ORD. 2018-017

To amend ch. 12, art. II of the City Code by adding therein a new § 12-37, concerning the disposition of certain meals tax proceeds, and to amend City Code § 26-669, concerning the levy of a meals tax, for the purpose of increasing the meals tax from 6% to 7.5% with the intent of making additional funds available for the renovation and replacement of public school facilities in the city.

**Proposed motion to amend to be considered**

**The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**The following ordinances and resolutions were considered:**

ORD. 2018-012

To authorize the special use of the property known as 10 West Leigh Street for the purpose of permitting a multifamily dwelling with up to 14 dwelling units, upon certain terms and conditions.

ORD. 2018-013

To authorize the special use of the property known as 1090 German School Road for the purpose of a multifamily dwelling with up to 96 dwelling units, upon certain terms and conditions.

ORD. 2018-014

To amend Ord. No. 85-193-244, adopted Oct. 28, 1985, as previously amended by Ord. No. 88-210-196, adopted Sep. 12, 1988, Ord. No. 92-367-314, adopted Oct. 12, 1992, Ord. No. 2011-13-26, adopted Feb. 28, 2011, and Ord. No. 2017-248, adopted Jan. 8, 2018, which authorized the special use of the properties known as 1090 and 1100 German School Road for use as an elderly housing facility, to remove 1090 German School Road from the special use permit, upon certain terms and conditions.

ORD. 2018-015

To authorize the special use of the property known as 807 Pepper Avenue for the purpose of two single-family detached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

RES. 2018-R004

To consent to the Mayor's appointment of Kelly Chopus as a member of the Education Compact Team established by the Mayor.

RES. 2018-R005

To consent to the Mayor's appointment of Andrew P. Daire as a member of the Education Compact Team established by the Mayor.

RES. 2018-R006

To consent to the Mayor's appointment of Willie Hilliard as a member of the Education Compact Team established by the Mayor.

RES. 2018-R008

To consent to the Mayor's appointment of Amy Wentz as a member of the Education Compact Team established by the Mayor.

RES. 2018-R009

To consent to the Mayor's appointment of Shelly Worsham as a member of the Education Compact Team established by the Mayor.

**Opposition**

**Ann Neil Cosby**, McGuire Woods attorney, on behalf of SJW II, LLC, spoke in opposition of ORD. 2018-013 stating that the density, sizing and massing for the proposed site design is inappropriate for the area under the city's Master Plan.

**Joseph D'Angelo** spoke in opposition of ORD. 2018-012 stating that the proposed 14 units will be a burden to the neighborhood in terms of parking and screening to hide the supercans.

## **Support**

**Earl Bradley** spoke in support of RES. 2018-R004, RES. 2018-R005, RES. 2018-R006, RES. 2018-R008 and RES. 2018-R009 that would appoint members to the Education Compact Team and urged the city to put its schools first.

*Councilor Michael Jones commented that he will be abstaining from voting on ORD.2018-013 and ORD. 2018-014 due to safety issues that they may create for area residents.*

*Councilor Parker Agelasto thanked Mayor Levar Stoney for bringing forward his nominations for the Education Compact Team and stated that there should be more communication among Council, the school board and city administration. Councilor Agelasto also stated that a comprehensive plan should be developed and vetted through the Education Compact.*

There were no further comments or discussions and **the Consent Agenda was unanimously adopted with the exception of ORDS. 2018-013 and 2018-014, which were also adopted:** Ayes 8, Robertson, Larson, Agelasto, Gray, Trammell, Addison, Newbille, Hilbert. Noes None. Abstentions 1, Jones.

## **MOTIONS**

**Councilor Parker Agelasto moved that the ordinance entitled:**

### **ORD. 2017-196**

To designate The Maggie Walker Community Land Trust as a land bank entity for the purpose of assisting the City in addressing vacant, abandoned, and tax delinquent properties and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement setting the terms and conditions of such designation.

**be amended and continued to Monday, February 26, 2018, as follows:**

Page 1, Line 6

After the word "Agreement", insert a comma followed by the words "as amended" followed by another comma

Page 2, Line 17

After the word "Agreement", insert a comma followed by the words "as amended" followed by another comma

Page 2, Line 19

After the word "Agreement", insert a comma followed by the words "as amended" followed by another comma

Page 2, Line 23

After the word "Agreement", insert a comma followed by the words "as amended" followed by another comma

**The motion was seconded and approved:** Ayes 8, Jones, Robertson, Larson, Agelasto Gray, Trammell, Newbille, Hilbert. Noes None. Addison excused.

**Councilor Kristen Larson moved that the ordinance entitled:**

ORD. 2017-242

To amend Ord. No. 2000-410-2001-10, adopted Jan. 8, 2001, as previously amended by Ord. No. 2001-220-231, adopted Jul. 23, 2001, which approved the "Shops at Stratford Hills Community Unit Plan," for the purpose of increasing the area subject to the community unit plan by 3.4 acres to 67.9± acres and modifying the development standards, under certain terms and conditions.

**be amended and continued to Monday, February 26, 2018, as follows:**

Page 6, Line 11

After the word "dated", strike the date "July 17" and insert the date "January 31"  
After the word "revised", strike the date "November 21, 2017" and insert the date "January 31, 2018"

Page 16, Line 26

After the word "Plan", insert the text "and substantially as shown on that certain plan entitled 'Shops at Stratford Hills, Landscape Sketch 1.0,' prepared by McKinney & Company, dated January 11, 2018, and last revised January 30, 2018, (the "Lot 3 Conceptual Landscape Plan"), a copy of which is attached to this amendatory ordinance"

Page 17, Line 3

At the beginning of the line, insert the text "and substantially as shown on the Lot 3 Conceptual Landscape Plan"

Page 18, Line 4

After the comma following the date "April 6, 2017", strike the word "as", and insert the text "and last"

Page 18, Line 5

After the word "revised", strike the date "July 31, 2017", and insert the date "January 30, 2018"

**The motion was seconded and approved:** Ayes 8, Jones, Robertson, Larson, Gray, Trammell, Addison, Newbille, Hilbert. Noes None. Agelasto excused.

**Councilor Ellen Robertson moved that the ordinance entitled:**

ORD. 2018-016

To authorize the special use of the property known as 900 St. James Street for the purpose of a building with non-residential uses on the first floor and up to 12 dwelling units on the upper floors, upon certain terms and conditions.

**be amended and continued to Monday, March 12, 2018, as follows:**

Page 4, Line 4

After the word "be", strike the word "a" and insert the words "an office or"

**The motion was seconded and approved:** Ayes 8, Jones, Robertson, Larson, Gray, Trammell, Addison, Newbille, Hilbert. Noes None. Agelasto excused.

**Councilor Kim Gray moved that the ordinance entitled:**

ORD. 2018-017

To amend ch. 12, art. II of the City Code by adding therein a new § 12-37, concerning the disposition of certain meals tax proceeds, and to amend City Code § 26-669, concerning the levy of a meals tax, for the purpose of increasing the meals tax from 6% to 7.5% with the intent of making additional funds available for the renovation and replacement of public school facilities in the city.

**be amended and continued to Monday, February 26, 2018, as follows:**

Page 1, Line 8

After the word “city”, insert the text “through July 1, 2023”

Page 2, Line 9

At the beginning of the line, insert a section symbol, the numeral 3, and a period followed by the text “That, as of the last moment of June 30, 2023, (i) section 1 of this ordinance shall expire and the new section 12-37 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015), as amended, adopted thereby shall be deemed repealed and (ii) section 2 of this ordinance shall expire and the amendments to section 26-669 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015), as amended, made thereby shall be deemed repealed. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, the Director of Finance shall credit one-fifth of all meals taxes levied between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2023, but collected or received on and after July 1, 2023, to the special reserve for which subsection (b)(1) of section 12-32 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015), as amended, provides.”

Page 2, Line 17

At the beginning of the line, strike the section symbol, the numeral 3, and the period, and insert the section symbol, the numeral 4 followed by a period

*Councilor Kristen Larson introduced the proposed amendment stating that it would sunset the meals tax increase after five years, in an effort to provide a level of accountability that city residents expect.*

*City Attorney Allen Jackson clarified that the intent of the proposed amendment is to automatically roll the tax increase back on July 1, 2023; however, Council could extend the increase if it chooses to do so.*

*Councilor Andreas Addison stated that the proposed amendment is important and the public deserves more transparency and accountability regarding the amount of funding used to pay for the debt associated with the construction and renovation of RPS facilities.*

*Councilor Ellen Robertson stated that the \$150,000,000 that the city will be borrowing from the debt service will not be paid off in five years and inquired if Council could place a sunset on the revenue that is earmarked for paying the debt service.*

*Selena Cuffee-Glenn, chief administrative officer, stated that city administration is opposed to the draft amendment as it will put the city at risk of defaulting on the \$150,000,000 borrowed from the debt service.*

*Councilor Michael Jones stated that Council should always know where the city stands fiscally to safeguard its investments.*

*Councilor Parker Agelasto stated that information is rarely made readily available by city administration and asked his colleagues to fully evaluate what a comprehensive funding plan would look like for RPS facilities.*



*Councilor Kim Gray commended Councilor Larson for attempting to put an expiration date on the proposed tax increase and stated that there has not been ample time to hold public discussions.*

*Councilwoman Reva Trammell asked if Council could further amend the proposed ordinance to obligate the revenue resulting from the increase to RPS.*

*City Attorney Jackson stated that the ordinance denotes that, when the fund collects the meals tax, the director of finance shall credit one fifth to the special reserve account that receives money from the sales of surplus school property.*

*President Hilbert pledged that, if any of the funding from the meals tax increase is used on anything besides improvements to the city's public schools, he will put in an ordinance to repeal the proposed ordinance immediately.*

**The motion was seconded and failed:** Ayes 1 Larson. Noes 8, Jones, Robertson, Agelasto, Gray, Trammell, Addison, Newbille, Hilbert.

## REGULAR AGENDA

### The following ordinance was considered:

#### ORD. 2018-017

To amend ch. 12, art. II of the City Code by adding therein a new § 12-37, concerning the disposition of certain meals tax proceeds, and to amend City Code § 26-669, concerning the levy of a meals tax, for the purpose of increasing the meals tax from 6% to 7.5% with the intent of making additional funds available for the renovation and replacement of public school facilities in the city.

#### Support

**Dion Cosby**, RPS student, spoke in support of the proposed ordinance stating that the meals tax increase will provide for improved school facilities and new equipment.

**Chase Mealy**, RPS student, spoke in support of the proposed ordinance stating that the meals tax increase will help his school get a track field, smart boards and better lighting.

**Alexis Gresham**, RPS student, spoke in support of the proposed ordinance stating that the meals tax increase will allow her younger sister to attend schools with walls in her classrooms, cleaner carpets and smaller class sizes.

**Sahara Bennett**, RPS student, spoke in support of the proposed ordinance stating that the increased meals tax revenue will help the problems in her school and better the day to day lives of students.

**Aria Coleman**, RPS student, spoke in support of the proposed ordinance stating that her school is in need of better technology to provide a quality education.

**Myata Med**, RPS student, spoke in support of the proposed ordinance stating that the additional funding could help her school replace or fix lead-containing water pipes.

**Lola McDowell**, former RPS teacher, spoke in support of the proposed meals tax increase stating that RPS facilities pose a great health risk to students and staff.

**Charles Willis**, executive director of United Communities Against Crime, spoke in support of the proposed meals tax increase and stated that he hopes Council supports the ordinance because the children cannot wait any longer.

**Kate Minnick** spoke in support of the proposed meals tax noting that everyone agrees that Richmond schools are in unacceptable shape and citizens elected councilmembers to do what is best for the students.

**Earl Bradley** spoke in support of the proposed meals tax increase and stated that Council has the ability to establish a political subcommittee of citizenry that can oversee the use of the additional revenue.

**Robley Jones** spoke in support of the proposed meals tax increase urging Council to support it because many of the city's children are learning in deplorable environments.

**Bob Argabright** spoke in support of the proposed meals tax increase and stated that Council's stance is either with the children or against them.

**A. Ramon Moore**, president of the Richmond Education Association, spoke in support of the proposed meals tax increase stating that he is looking forward to hearing about other funding plans for RPS facilities.

**Keri Treadway** spoke in support of the proposed meals tax increase stating that city schools are unsafe and unhealthy; she asked that Council find ways to fully fund the RPS facilities plan.

**Emma Clark**, former RPS teacher, spoke in support of the proposed ordinance asking that Council find every funding source possible to invest in the city's schools.

**Chris Lombardi** spoke in support of the proposed ordinance stating that, while he is sympathetic to the concerns of restaurant owners, he is for the meals tax increase, and any long-term funding solution for RPS must include reform at the state level.

**Kim Scheeler**, president of Chamber RVA, spoke in support of the proposed meals tax increase stating that RPS has the potential to be a top-level school system.

**Bishop Ernest Leon Moore, Jr.**, spoke in support of the proposed meals tax increase asking Council to vote to adopt the ordinance because it is for the children.

**Libby Germer**, on behalf of Church Hill Activities and Tutoring, spoke in support of the proposed meals tax increase and asked that Council support the proposed legislation.

**Martha Rollins** spoke in support of the proposed meals tax increase stating that the tax revenue from city restaurants is essential for the support of RPS.

**Laura Lafayette**, chief executive officer of the Richmond Association of Realtors, spoke in support of the proposed meal tax increase and asked everyone that was in support of the proposal to stand and show their support to Council.

**Tessa McKenzie**, spoke in support of the proposed meal tax increase stating that the citizens voted in council members and trust that the decisions they make will help build better schools, communities and families.

**Edward Maynard**, stated that he is not against the meals tax increase; however, he would like to know what happened to the Virginia Lottery money, which was supposed to provide state school funding.

**David Jones** spoke in support of the proposed meals tax increase stating that having some funding is better than none and his construction company, as well as others, have put in over \$100,000 worth of construction work into RPS for free and will continue to do so.

**Charlene Pitchford** spoke in support of the proposed meals tax increase stating that she wanted Council to see the faces of RPS children that will be impacted by the body's decision on the proposal.

**Katherine Jordan** spoke in support of the proposed ordinance stating that she appreciates the comments made, and while she supports the meals tax increase, she also supports Richmond restaurants because they help to make the city vibrant.

**Jason Kamras**, RPS superintendent, spoke in support of the proposed ordinance and acknowledged the RPS students who spoke before. Mr. Kamras stated that, if he recommends that the school board use the funds for anything other than rebuilding city schools, then the board should revoke his contract.

**Bernice Travers**, president of the Richmond Crusade for Voters, stated that she is speaking neither in support nor in opposition of the proposed ordinance; however, the vote on the legislation should be delayed.

**Joshua Griffin** spoke in support of the proposed legislation noting that a 1.5% tax increase will not deter him from eating at city restaurants.

**Mike Burn** stated that he is not against the meals tax or against anything that will make the schools positive; however, restaurants already impose a 6% tax on meals and have been doing so for years.

**Sandra Antione** spoke in support of the proposed legislation stating that she is saddened by the condition of RPS.

### **Opposition**

**Marty Jewell** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that Council has been rushed to decide on the proposed ordinance and more time is needed for further discussions.

**Josie Lennon** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that she is not against the children but against tax hikes; she also stated that there might be other ways to solve RPS facilities issues.

**Jill Vansykes** spoke in opposition of the proposed meals tax increase stating that the children have to go to school so they should learn in safe buildings, but putting the tax burden on the local restaurant industry is not the answer.

**Robert Sapler** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that city water rates and real-estate taxes have already gone up enormously.

**Montague McGruder** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that RPS students cannot wait and there should be a clause in the proposed legislation to prevent future budgets from reducing school funding.

**L. Shirley Harvey** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that taxpayer dollars have been misappropriated and the school board and Council will place an undue burden on restaurants and the public if they adopt the proposal.

**Jason Thrasher** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that he supports RPS but believes there is not enough transparency and wording in the proposed ordinance that the tax revenue will actually go to schools; he urged Council to take 30 more days to review the proposal.

**Shannon Conway**, director of operations of the Rueger Restaurant Group, spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that the restaurant industry supports RPS; however, the ordinance does not include a full funding plan.

**Jake Crocker**, restaurant owner, spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that education is extremely important and RPS needs help, but restaurants are already paying \$33,000,000 in taxes annually.

**Otto Barch**, restaurant manager, spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that 85% of Richmond citizens want a funding plan without additional taxes.

**Demetrios Tsiptsis**, restaurant owner, spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that the ordinance is economic discrimination, and if Council wants to raise taxes, it should raise them for other businesses as well.

**Kandise Lucas**, Advocates for Equity in Schools member, spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating the ordinance is a tactic to propose a tax that is not going to benefit the children; she also stated that RPS will not release information indicating how it intends to spend the funds it already has.

**Chuck Richardson** stated that he is neither in opposition nor support of the proposed legislation and asked that Council take more time to review the proposal.

**Tequan Grant** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that the city needs to invest in its students and schools.

**Jenny Agamo** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that the meals tax increase should be higher than 1.5%.

**Ed Whitehead** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that Council does not have enough information or options to fix RPS and asked that the body take additional time to review the proposal.

**Jaqueline Bishop** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that the restaurant industry is already paying 6% in taxes and stated that other businesses should be taxed for the proposed increase.

**Adrienne Jimenez** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that there has been plenty of growth in the city in the past 5 years and there should be plenty of tax revenue to fund the needs of RPS.

**James Sties** spoke in opposition to the proposed legislation that Council members should be allowed more time to talk to their constituents about the proposed meals tax increase because citizens are already paying high taxes, and the city should use funding from other tax revenues.

**Robert Lynch** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that he does not think restaurants should be taxed and asked that the city find other ways to fund RPS without raising taxes.

**Christopher Gill**, Christian and Barton attorney representing movie theaters owners, spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that movie theaters in the city are already taxed 7% and the hike will increase it to 13%; Mr. Gill asked that movie theaters be excluded from the meals tax increase.

**Todd Chavez**, general manager of the Byrd Theater, spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that there are only two movie theaters left in Richmond because of high taxes.

**Joseph Maser**, chief operation officer of Bow Tie Cinemas, spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that movie theaters have invested in the city and like doing business here; however, they are losing business to surrounding counties based on the current taxes and asked that theaters be excluded from the tax increase.

**Ashley Xavier** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that, as a student in public administration, she views the proposed legislation as irresponsible because it will only partly fund the RPS facilities plan.

**Mike Dickerson** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that the proposed ordinance will burden small businesses and the city should spread the burden across industries.

**Johnny Walker**, Richmond Crusade for Voters member, spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that his organization advocates for RPS students and asked Council to delay voting on the proposed legislation.

**Eric Terry**, Virginia Restaurant, Travel and Lodging Association president, spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that they support improvements to RPS but the meals tax increase will affect restaurants and families with kids.

**John Javas**, restaurant owner, spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that he supports RPS but not the new proposed meals tax.

**Michelle Williams** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that, as a business owner, she would never borrow money without understanding the length of time it would take to repay the loan; she also stated that Council needs to look at more than just one industry for funding.

**Gloria Harris** spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation stating that, if the proposal is for the children, then why rush to vote on it; she also questioned the lack of discussion regarding the education referendum that passed in the General Assembly earlier that day.

**Deloris Maury**, former RPS employee, spoke in opposition of the proposed legislation urging Council to seek other funding options.

*Selena Cuffee-Glenn, chief administrative officer, was available to answer questions regarding Ord. 2018-017.*

*Councilor Parker Agelasto stated that he is troubled with saying yes to the meals tax increase after hearing from citizens that the proposed legislation has not been evaluated thoroughly, and the burden of funding will not be spread equally over various stakeholders. Councilor Agelasto also stated that RPS adopted a \$750,000,000 facilities plan, yet the meals tax increase will only fund \$150,000,000 of the plan.*

**Councilor Agelasto moved that ORD. 2018-017 be continued to the Monday, March 12, 2018, Council meeting, which was seconded.**

*Councilor Kim Gray stated that she has concerns with a \$150,000,000 obligation that Council is being pushed to vote on in less than 2 weeks from its introduction and 30 days would allow Council time to get answers to some of the most important questions.*

**Councilor Agelasto's motion failed:** Ayes 4, Larson, Agelasto, Gray, Trammell. Noes 5, Jones, Robertson, Addison, Newbille, Hilbert.

*Councilor Andreas Addison acknowledged all restaurant owners who came to speak at the meeting and stated that there are some basic transformational things that Council needs to do to*

meet restaurant owners' needs. Councilor Addison also stated that he wants to see how and where all of the funding from the proposed legislation is being spent and find more funding for RPS.

Councilor Michael Jones stated that he supports RPS, the restaurants and movie theaters but he also supports the proposed meals tax increase.

Councilor Kristen Larson stated that all children need adequate facilities and she is in favor of finding funding from other sources; she also stated that she is committed to putting certain parameters around the proposed ordinance that will provide accountability and transparency.

Councilor Ellen Robertson thanked all citizens in attendance at the meeting and at previous meetings for their support. Councilor Robertson stated that she wants a comprehensive plan for academic achievement and facilities. She also stated that Council needs to find other ways to fund RPS and move forward with the proposed legislation.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell stated that a majority of the city's public schools are in poor condition and she will support the proposed legislation.

Councilor Kim Gray stated that she is opposed to the proposed meals tax increase because the review process has been flawed and rush. Councilor Gray also stated that there is not a comprehensive long-term school facilities plan that includes construction, consolidation or rezoning.

Vice President Cynthia Newbille thanked all citizens who attended and spoke on the proposed legislation stating that now is the time for Council to show its support of RPS through passing the proposed legislation.

Councilor Parker Agelasto stated that the city needs to invest in RPS, but he does not think the meals tax increase alone is the best route; however, he will support the proposed ordinance.

There were no further comments or discussions and **ORD. 2018-017 was adopted:** Ayes 7, Jones, Robertson, Agelasto, Trammell, Addison, Newbille, Hilbert. Noes 2, Larson, Gray.

## MOTIONS

**Councilor Kristen Larson moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution, which was seconded and approved:** Ayes - 7, Jones, Larson, Agelasto, Gray, Trammell, Addison, Newbille and Hilbert. Noes 0. Robertson and Newbille excused:

### RES. 2018-R011

To approve an expenditure in the amount of \$3,000.00 from the Council District Funds for the Fourth District to pay Printersmark, Inc., for the printing and mailing of the Fourth District Winter 2018 Newsletter.

*Patron: Councilor Larson*

*President Hilbert recessed the meeting at 11:07 p.m.*

*President Hilbert reconvened the meeting at 11:11 p.m.*

*Councilor Larson introduced RES. 2018-R011.*

There were no further comments or discussions and **RES. 2018-R011 was adopted:** Ayes 6, Robertson, Larson, Agelasto, Addison, Newbille, Hilbert. Noes None. Jones, Gray and Trammell excused.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

**Councilor Ellen Robertson moved to approve the following Richmond City Council meeting minutes:** Informal Council Session held on Monday, January 22, 2018, at 3:00 p.m., and the Special Council Meeting held on Monday, January 29, 2018, at 5:45 p.m.

**The motion was seconded and approved:** Ayes 6, Robertson, Larson, Agelasto, Addison, Newbille, Hilbert. Noes None, Jones, Gray and Trammell excused.

## REPORTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Reports and announcements regarding respective district meetings and activities were provided by the following council members: Councilors Larson, Robertson, Gray, Jones, Addison, Agelasto, Councilwoman Trammell, Vice President Newbille and President Hilbert.

## INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

**City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinances and resolutions on Monday, February 26, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.:**

### ORD. 2018-028

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$202,500.00 from The Community Foundation, Inc.; to amend the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Special Fund Budget by creating a new special fund for the Mayor's Office called the Mayor's Advisor for Youth Initiatives Special Fund; and to appropriate the grant funds received to the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the new Mayor's Office's Mayor's Advisor for Youth Initiatives Special Fund by \$202,500.00 for the purpose of providing the Mayor's Office with a temporary full-time advisor for youth initiatives.

*Patron: Mayor Stoney*

**This ordinance was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(3)(c).**

### ORD. 2018-029

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$2,710,314.00 from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Lead Hazard Control, to create a new special fund for the Department of Economic and Community Development in the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Special Fund Budget entitled "Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program," and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Economic and Community Development's new Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program special fund by \$2,710,314.00 for the purpose of supporting the City's lead-based paint hazard control efforts and making grants of \$352,202.08 to the Richmond City Health District and of \$2,155,723.45 to ElderHomes Corporation, doing business as Project: Homes, in furtherance of these efforts.

*Patron: Mayor Stoney*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.**

### ORD. 2018-030

To amend ch. 12, art. I of the City Code by adding therein new §§ 12-18 and 12-19, concerning the preparation of strategic action plans by each City department, agency, and office, for the purpose of

aligning the service delivery goals of each City department, agency, and office with the City's overall strategic plan.

*Patron: Ms. Robertson*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.**

ORD. 2018-031

To amend ch. 12, art. II of the City Code by adding therein a new § 12-37, concerning the disposition of cigarette tax proceeds, and to amend Chapter 26 of the City Code by adding therein a new art. XVIII, consisting of sections numbered 26-1277 through 26-1288, concerning the levy of a cigarette tax, for the purpose of imposing a new tax on the sale of cigarettes with the intent of making additional funds available for the renovation and replacement of public school facilities in the city.

*Patron: Mr. Agelasto*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.**

ORD. 2018-032

To declare that a public necessity exists and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or the designee thereof, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to acquire, at a tax delinquent judicial sale, the property located at 2922 P Street and to authorize the conveyance of such property for \$2,399.00 to The Maggie Walker Community Land Trust for the purposes of eliminating blight and making such property available for redevelopment.

*Patron: Mayor Stoney*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.**

ORD. 2018-033

To declare that a public necessity exists and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or the designee thereof, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to acquire, at a tax delinquent judicial sale, the property located at 2615 Q Street and to authorize the conveyance of such property for \$2,152.00 to The Maggie Walker Community Land Trust for the purposes of eliminating blight and making such property available for redevelopment.

*Patron: Mayor Stoney*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.**

ORD. 2018-034

To authorize the institution of condemnation proceedings to finalize the acquisition of certain interests in portions of the properties known as 2801 Hathaway Road and 2911 Hathaway Road for the construction of multimodal transportation and drainage improvements along Forest Hill Avenue between its intersection with Hathaway Road and its intersection with the Powhite Parkway.

*Patron: Mayor Stoney*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.**



ORD. 2018-035

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a License Agreement between the City of Richmond as Licensor and the Monroe Park Conservancy as Licensee for the purpose of facilitating the completion of certain improvements approved by the City at Monroe Park located at 719 West Franklin Street in the city of Richmond.

*Patron: Mayor Stoney*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.**

ORD. 2018-036

To designate the 2700 block of East Grace Street in honor of Oliver R. H. Singleton.

*Patrons: Ms. Robertson and Vice President Newbille*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.**

ORD. 2018-037

To amend Ord. No. 2017-036, adopted May 15, 2017, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 General Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, by re-appropriating a 2,000,000.00 portion of the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 fund balance excess, assigned by Resolution No. 2017-R078, adopted Nov. 6, 2017, to the General Fund Cash Transfer for Capital Projects program, and to appropriate these transferred funds to the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Capital Budget by increasing estimated revenues by \$2,000,000.00, the amount appropriated to the Department of Public Works' Transportation Projects project in the Transportation category by \$1,250,000.00, and the amount appropriated to the Department of Public Works' Sidewalk Projects project in the Transportation category by \$750,000.00, all for the purpose of making improvements to roads and sidewalks in the city.

*Patron: Mayor Stoney*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 1:30 p.m.**

ORD. 2018-038

To amend Ord. No. 2017-147, adopted Sept. 11, 2017, which established an Ethics Reform Task Force to review and provide recommendations concerning ethical standards applicable to local government in the city, to revise the reporting deadlines for the Ethics Reform Task Force.

*Patron: Ms. Larson*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Governmental Operations Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.**

RES. 2018-R012

To adopt the Handbook of Procedures for Review and Adoption of the 2019/2020 Budget by Richmond City Council.

*Patron: President Hilbert*

**This resolution was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(2).**

RES. 2018-R013

To approve an expenditure in the amount of \$1,000.00 from the Council District Funds for the Seventh District to pay Ladies Who Lead, LLC, for the digital dissemination of Seventh District announcements and information through certain social media from September, 2017, through December, 2017.

*Patron: Vice President Newbille*

**This resolution was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(3)(b).**

RES. 2018-R014

To approve an expenditure in the amount of \$2,700.00 from the Council District Funds for the Ninth District to pay Marion Marketing Global, LLC, for the printing and mailing of postcards to Ninth District residents.

*Patron: Mr. Jones*

**This resolution was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(3)(b).**

RES. 2018-R015

To approve an expenditure in the amount of \$3,200.00 from the Council District Funds for the Fifth District to pay Marion Marketing Global, LLC, for the printing and mailing of postcards to Fifth District residents.

*Patron: Mr. Agelasto*

**This resolution was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(3)(b).**

RES. 2018-R016

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to submit an application to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development Industrial Revitalization Fund on behalf of CARITAS Center, LLC, for a grant of \$600,000 for the purpose of the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of approximately 120,000 square feet of industrial space, including dwelling units, classrooms, warehouse space, administrative offices, and a community laundromat, as part of an approximately \$27,900,000 mixed-use development of the property located at 2301 Everett Street.

*Patron: Ms. Trammell*

**This resolution was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.**

RES. 2018-R017

To set the rate of personal property tax relief for qualifying vehicles for the 2018 tax year pursuant to City Code §§ 26-495-26-497.

*Patron: Mayor Stoney*

**This resolution was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.**

RES. 2018-R018

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause to be prepared and submitted to the Council a monthly report that provides certain data relevant to electronic citizen requests for services for the purpose of monitoring City responsiveness.

*Patron: Ms. Robertson*

**This resolution was introduced and referred to the Governmental Operations Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.**

RES. 2018-R019

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause to be developed a policy and methodology to implement performance budgeting for all departments, boards, commissions, and agencies of the City for the purpose of using performance indicator data to allocate resources.

*Patron: Ms. Robertson*

**This resolution was introduced and referred to the Governmental Operations Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.**

**City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinances on Monday, March 12, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.**

ORD. 2018-039

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Richmond, Virginia, and the Sheriff of the County of Hanover, Virginia, for the purpose of establishing cooperation between the City's Department of Police and the Sheriff in the furnishing of certain law enforcement services.

*Patron: Mayor Stoney*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Public Safety Standing Committee on Tuesday, February 27, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.**

ORD. 2018-040

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Richmond, Virginia, and the City of Petersburg, Virginia, for the purpose of establishing cooperation between the City of Richmond's Department of Police and the City of Petersburg's Police Department in the furnishing of certain law enforcement services.

*Patron: Mayor Stoney*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Public Safety Standing Committee on Tuesday, February 27, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.**

ORD. 2018-041

To authorize the special use of the properties known as 1218, 1224, 1226, and 1228 East Brookland Park Boulevard for the purpose of permitting a multifamily dwelling containing up to 76 dwelling units, upon certain terms and conditions.

*Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, March 5, 2018, at 1:30 p.m.**

*Councilors Jones and Robertson, President Hilbert and Councilwoman Trammell departed the meeting.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

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CITY CLERK