



City of Richmond

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

Minutes

Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

1:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Committee Members and Staff in Attendance

The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Chair
The Honorable Kim Gray – Vice Chair
The Honorable Kristen Larson – Committee member
Lou Brown Ali, Council Chief of Staff
Bonnie Ashley, Deputy City Attorney
Lisa Braxton, Interim Deputy City Clerk
Meghan Brown, Deputy Council Chief of Staff
Pamela Nichols, Assistant City Clerk
Alexander Rawles, Boards and Commissions Administrator
Steve Taylor, Council Policy Analyst

Call to Order

Chair Ellen Robertson called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

Evacuation Announcement and Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Pamela Nichols, assistant city clerk, 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.

Approval of Minutes

Vice Chair Kim Gray moved to approve the meeting minutes of Tuesday, November 21, 2017, at 1:00 p.m., which was seconded and unanimously approved.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

Board Vacancies

Alexander Rawles, boards and commissions administrator, reviewed board applications for consideration by the committee.

Member Kristen Larson moved to forward the board applications to Council with the recommendation to approve and to continue consideration of the City Planning Commission, Safe and Healthy Streets Commission's expertise in transportation safety, Slave Trail Commission, and the Urban Forestry Commission to the February Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting, which was seconded and unanimously approved:

| <u>Board Name</u> | <u>Criteria for Appointment</u> | <u>Applicant Name</u> |
|--|--|---|
| Board of Building Code Appeals, Plumbing and Mechanical Division (5 members & 3 alternates) | Citizen with knowledge of plumbing or mechanical systems or both * | Randy Lowry, Jr. (reappointment) |
| | Representative of a mechanical contractor * | Linda Bortell (reappointment) |
| Board of Directors of the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority (3 directors and 3 alternates appointed by the city) | Residents of the city of Richmond (2 vacancies) | Michael David McNeel (reappointment) |
| Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (2 members and 2 alternates appointed by the city) | * (1 vacancy) | Chris Obenshain |
| Clean City Commission (15 members) | 7 th District qualified voter (1 vacancy) | Nancy J. Lampert |
| | Corporate or citizen volunteer (1 vacancy) | Wesley E. Hedgepeth |
| Commission of Architectural Review (9 members) | Citizens of the city at-large (2 vacancies) | Justin W. Gunther Carey L. Jones |
| Board of Commissioners of the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (12 members) | * (1 vacancy) | Jonathan Coleman (reappointment) |
| Safe and Healthy Streets Commission (12 members) | Qualified voters of the city who hold no office of profit with the city (3 vacancies) | John Bolecek (reappointment) Sgt. Stacy J. Henry Emily Thomason (reappointment) |
| Urban Design Committee | Registered architect * (1 vacancy) | Jill Nolt (reappointment) |

* Applicants must reside or work in the city.

The committee asked Mr. Rawles to send a questionnaire to applicants for vacancies on the City Planning Commission and subsequently, the committee will determine whether or not to conduct interviews for the vacancies.

Chair Robertson requested to meet with Mr. Rawles to discuss the function and activity of the Urban Forestry Commission and suggested that the commission may need to be dissolved.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Presentations

There were no presentations.

Paper(s) for Consideration

The following ordinances were considered:

ORD. 2017-252

To authorize 2035 Broad, LLC, to encroach upon the public right-of-way with a proposed outdoor dining area encroachment on the south line of West Broad Street between Allison Street and North Meadow Street in front of 2035 West Broad Street, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

ORD. 2018-006

To authorize 305 Brook Road, LLC, to encroach upon the public right-of-way with a proposed outdoor dining area encroachment on the east line of Brook Road between West Broad Street and North Adams Street in front of 305 Brook Road, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

There were no comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Gray moved to forward ORD. 2017-252 and ORD. 2018-006 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2018-007

To designate the 900 block of North 1st Street in honor of Dr. Benjamin Joseph Lambert, III.

Patron: President Hilbert

There were no comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Gray moved to forward. ORD. 2018-007 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following ordinances were considered:

ORD. 2017-249

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 1319 North 27th Street and to authorize the conveyance of such property for \$3,565.00 to the Better Housing Coalition for the purposes of eliminating blight and making such property available for redevelopment.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

ORD. 2017-250

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 2301 Venable Street and to authorize the conveyance of such property for \$2,055.00 to The Maggie Walker Community Land Trust for the purposes of eliminating blight and making such property available for redevelopment.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

ORD. 2017-251

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 418 North 23rd Street and to authorize the conveyance of such property for \$2,556.00 to The Maggie Walker Community Land Trust for the purposes of eliminating blight and making such property available for redevelopment.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Nicholas Feucht, special assistant to the DCAO for the Department of Economic and Community Development, introduced ORD. 2017-249, ORD. 2017-250 and ORD. 2017-251.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Gray moved to forward ORD. 2017-249, ORD. 2017-250 and ORD. 2017-251 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following ordinances and resolution were considered:

ORD. 2017-253

To provide for the granting by the City of Richmond to the person, firm or corporation to be ascertained in the manner prescribed by law, of the lease, franchise, right and privilege to use and maintain certain property located at 8850 West Huguenot Road for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a water pump station and ground storage tank in accordance with a certain Deed of Ground Lease.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

ORD. 2017-254

To grant to the County of Chesterfield, Virginia three temporary construction easements upon, over, under, and across portions of the City-owned real estate known as 8850 West Huguenot Road.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Support

Rosemary Green, interim director – Department of Public Utilities, along with George Hayes, director of utilities for Chesterfield County, spoke in support of the proposed legislation stating that the sale of water to Chesterfield County will reduce the city's operating cost, improve water pressure, increase fire flow capacity and help stabilize water rates to city residents.

RES. 2017-R097

To direct the City Attorney to prepare the necessary documents to place Lewis G. Larus Park under the protection of a conservation easement as state law defines that term and to present such documents to the Council as soon as possible after receipt of the requisite grantee name, legal description, and drawings depicting the metes and bounds of Lewis G. Larus Park.

Patron: Ms. Larson

Member Larson introduced RES. 2017-R097 and asked that the three items be forwarded to Council with no recommendation so that Council can discuss all of the legislation associated with the Larus Park project as a unit. Member Larson reported that a series of community meetings were conducted and that she was confident that a majority of the area's residents supported the project.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Larson moved to forward ORD. 2017-253, ORD. 2017-254 and RES. 2017-R097 to Council with no recommendation, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2017-R086

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer establish and implement a policy and methodology to require that any residential development agreement to which the City is a party or involving City financial incentives mandate that a minimum percentage of the new residential development's total units be designated as affordable housing.

Patron: Ms. Robertson

Chair Robertson introduced RES. 2017-R086.

Lee Downey, deputy chief administrative officer – Economic and Community Development, outlined city administration's concerns and stated that the city would like the opportunity to meet with its development partners prior to Council's consideration of the resolution. Mr. Downey further stated that city administration will be able to provide the committee with possible policy recommendations within the sixty-day timeline.

Mark Olinger, director – Department of Planning and Development Review, was also present to respond to questions.

Vice Chair Gray and Member Larson expressed concerns relative to the impact the proposed legislation could have on the city's economic growth and the interpretation of the resolution as written.

Vice Chair Gray stated that the affordable housing strategy should be incorporated into the development of the city's Master Plan, and that she cannot support the proposed legislation without a comprehensive understanding of how the city's economic growth will be impacted with such strict requirements

Chair Robertson reiterated the intent of the proposed legislation and stated that a policy of this nature will be vetted to ensure that it aligns with the city's Master Plan. Chair Robertson asked Council staff to provide copies of affordable housing bills adopted by other jurisdictions.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Kim Gray moved to continue RES. 2017-R086 to the February 20, 2018 Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2018-R002

To declare a public necessity to amend ch. 30 of the City Code and to initiate an amendment to the City's zoning ordinance to make such lawful changes as may be necessary to require electric utility distribution lines to be buried underground instead of suspended on overhead distribution tap lines by requesting that the Chief Administrative Officer cause to be conducted a study to determine whether and, if so, how the City's zoning ordinance lawfully may be amended to require, to the extent permitted by law, electric utility distribution lines to be buried underground instead of suspended on overhead distribution tap lines.

Patron: Ms. Robertson

Mark Olinger, director – Department of Planning and Development Review, asked whether or not the code changes would apply to the entire city or only for those areas that have experienced frequent power outages. Mr. Olinger stated that the city's subdivision ordinance requires underground utilities for all new development.

Bill Echelberger, council policy analyst, explained that a homeowner could be required to pay for burying its overhead distribution lines if the property is not located within Dominion Energy's underground project areas.

Robert Steidel, deputy chief administrative officer for Operations, was present to respond to questions.

Chair Robertson stated that the resolution only requests city administration to conduct a study to determine whether the zoning ordinance can be amended to require buried underground distribution lines.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Gray moved to forward RES. 2018-R002 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

Discussion Item(s)

There were no discussion items.

Staff Report

Steve Taylor, council policy analyst, and Bill Echelberger, council budget analyst, provided the committee with the January staff report.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.