



City of Richmond

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

Informal Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 24, 2025

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Councilmembers Present

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille, President
The Honorable Katherine Jordan, Vice President
The Honorable Sarah Abubaker (electronic participation)
The Honorable Andrew Breton
The Honorable Kenya Gibson
The Honorable Nicole Jones
The Honorable Ellen Robertson
The Honorable Reva Trammell

Absent

The Honorable Stephanie Lynch

Staff Present

Lisa Braxton, Council Management Analyst, Principal
Laura Drewry, City Attorney
Candice Reid, City Clerk
Tabrica Rentz, Deputy City Attorney
Matthew Slaats, Interim Council Chief of Staff
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Call to Order

Council President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and presided.

Chamber Emergency Evacuation Announcement

Upon the President's request, Council Management Analyst Lisa Braxton provided information on the appropriate way to evacuate the Council Chamber in an emergency.

President Newbille announced that, pursuant to Rule III (D)(4)(b) of Council's Rules of Procedure, Councilor Stephanie Lynch requested to participate in the meeting via Microsoft Teams from Wintergreen Resort in Nelson County, Virginia due to personal travel.

Vice President Katherine Jordan moved to allow Councilor Lynch to participate in the meeting by electronic communication means. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilor Lynch did not join the meeting via Microsoft Teams.

Vice President Katherine Jordan announced that, pursuant to Rule III (D)(4)(b) of Council's Rules of Procedure, Councilor Sarah Abubaker requested to participate in the meeting via Microsoft Teams from a friend's residence in Breckenridge, Colorado due to personal travel.

Councilor Nicole Jones moved to allow Councilor Abubaker to participate in the meeting by electronic communication means. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilor Abubaker joined the meeting via Microsoft Teams.

Docket Review

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

Consent Agenda:

1. Ord. 2024-312 – to be continued to Monday, April 14, 2025
2. Ord. 2024-329 – to be continued to Monday, April 28, 2025

Upon Councilor Andrew Breton's request, it was the consensus of Council to continue Ord. 2024-329 to the April 28, 2025 Council meeting later that evening, during the Formal Session of Council.

3. Ord. 2025-022 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. 2025-023 – retained on the Consent Agenda
5. Ord. 2025-024 – retained on the Consent Agenda
6. Ord. 2025-025 – to be continued to Monday, March 10, 2025
7. Ord. 2025-026 – to be continued to Monday, March 24, 2025
8. Ord. 2025-027 – to be continued to Monday, March 24, 2025
9. Ord. 2025-028 – to be continued to Monday, March 24, 2025
10. Ord. 2025-029 – to be continued to Monday, March 24, 2025
11. Ord. 2025-030 – to be continued to Monday, March 24, 2025

12. Ord. 2025-031 – to be continued to Monday, March 24, 2025

13. Ord. 2025-032 – to be continued to Monday, March 24, 2025

14. Ord. 2025-033 – to be continued to Monday, March 24, 2025

Councilor Ellen Robertson inquired regarding the possible time-sensitivity of Ords. 2025-026, 2025-027, 2025-028, 2025-029, 2025-030, 2025-031, 2025-032 and 2025-033 since all were continued due to the cancellation of the February Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting.

Interim Chief Administrative Officer Sabrina Joy-Hogg informed Council that city administration does not foresee any issues with the proposed continuances.

15. Res. 2024-R040 – to be continued to Monday, March 10, 2025

It was the consensus of Council to continue Res. 2024-R040 to the March 10, 2025 Council later that evening, during the Formal Session of Council.

Regular Agenda:

16. Ord. 2024-187 – to be continued to Monday, April 28, 2025

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

Other Discussion Item(s)

Real Estate Assessments Update

City Assessor Richie McKeithen provided a real estate assessments update, which contained information pertaining to the definition of mass appraisal, legal requirements, industry standards and the three assessment valuation methods. A copy of the presentation provided has been filed.

[CD.2025.053](#) How Real Property Tax Assessments Are Derived Presentation

Councilor Kenya Gibson questioned the real estate appraisal of certain properties while noting several within her district, and suggested that the interpretation of the assessment law be reevaluated to consider affordable housing.

After further discussion, President Cynthia Newbille asked councilmembers to contact Mr. McKeithen directly regarding any additional questions they may have regarding real estate assessments.

Charles Ever, deputy city assessor, informed Council of the progress of converting to a new assessment software, Vision CAMA (Computer Aided Mass Appraisal) system and stated that the Assessor's website will be revamped within the next two months.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

CITY CLERK