

Richmond City Council convened in Informal Session on Monday, November 9, 2015, in the Council Chamber located on the second floor of City Hall, 900 East Broad Street.

Councilmembers Present

The Honorable Michelle Mosby, President
The Honorable Chris Hilbert, Vice President
The Honorable Parker Agelasto
The Honorable Jon Baliles
The Honorable Kathy Graziano
The Honorable Cynthia Newbille
The Honorable Ellen Robertson
The Honorable Reva Trammell

Reported Absent

The Honorable Charles Samuels

Staff Present

Lou B. Ali, Council Chief of Staff
Lisa Braxton, Assistant City Clerk
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney
Jean V. Capel, City Clerk
Allen Jackson, City Attorney
Candice Reid, Deputy City Clerk

Councilor Michelle Mosby, President of Council, called the meeting to order at 4:11 p.m. and presided.

Upon the President's request, Lisa Braxton, Assistant City Clerk, provided information on the appropriate manner in which the Council Chamber is to be evacuated in the event of an emergency.

Council Legislative Packet

Ron Jordan, Council Lobbyist - Advantus Strategies, reviewed a draft of the city's 2016 legislative package for the upcoming General Assembly session and mentioned that the proposal would be finalized once presented at the 2016 Virginia General Assembly Legislative Summit on Monday, November 16, 2015, for adoption at the December 14, 2015 Formal Session of Council. A copy of the information provided has been filed.

Vice President Chris Hilbert expressed concern regarding payments in lieu of taxes [PILOT] for Commonwealth of Virginia real estate in the city and asked that consideration be given to include a proposal to revamp how localities are compensated in this year's legislative package.

Councilor Cynthia Newbille requested that specific categories be added to the legislative package request for appropriation to mental health services.

Council Compensation Review Advisory Committee (CCRAC) Report

Matthew Stanley, CCRAC Chair, provided Council with a report regarding the committee's review of the compensation structure for Richmond City Council members and proposed recommendations. A copy of the report provided has been filed. CCRAC members, Richard Wintsch, Kelly Harris-Braxton and Jan Girardi, were also in attendance.

Reiterating CCRAC's proposed options, Ron Jordan, Council Lobbyist – Advantus Strategies, stated that other localities were interested in supporting a change to the mandated compensation structure if Council chose to pursue increasing current salary compensation.

Staffing Levels Report Update

Johnny McLean, Human Resources Director, was available to answer questions regarding staffing levels within the city's workforce.

Councilor Parker Agelasto requested information regarding the last personnel complement analysis completed by the city and asked when Council could expect an up-to-date study.

Due to limited resources, Selena Cuffee-Glenn, Chief Administrative Officer, stated that city administration would need to examine the particulars for completing the requested study before providing a recommendation.

Councilor Kathy Graziano asked that city administration provide Council with a timeline for when all Council requests could be completed so that items could be prioritized.

Freestanding Children's Hospital Update

Katherine Busser, Virginia Children's Hospital Alliance – CEO, informed Council that efforts to re-establish a partnership with key healthcare systems and discussions related to alternative options have not yielded the outcomes needed to move forward on the current timeline for a freestanding children's hospital and asked that Council no longer reserve the Boulevard site for the proposed project.

Stone Brewery Status Report Update

Rich Johnson, Economic Development Authority (EDA) Chair, informed Council that the Stone Brewery project is on schedule for completion and that the EDA portion of the project will be finished before the end of January, 2016. Mr. Johnson further stated that Stone Brewery still has a sufficient amount of work to complete but plans to have a public gift shop open by March 1, 2016 and start the production of beer for consumption by April 22, 2016. Mr. Johnson reported that a substantial unanticipated land cost was covered by the EDA from construction

cost savings and not taxpayer dollars. He also reported that the project should exceed the city's desired minority business enterprise participation goal of forty (40) percent.

Docket Review

Lisa Braxton, Assistant City Clerk, reviewed the following agenda items as indicated:

Consent Agenda:

1. Ord. No. 2015-102 – retained on the Consent Agenda
2. Ord. No. 2015-133 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
3. Ord. No. 2015-156 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. No. 2015-161 – to be amended and continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
5. Ord. No. 2015-187 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
6. Ord. No. 2015-188 – retained on the Consent Agenda
7. Ord. No. 2015-189 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
8. Ord. No. 2015-190 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
9. Ord. No. 2015-191 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
10. Ord. No. 2015-197 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
11. Ord. No. 2015-198 – retained on the Consent Agenda
12. Ord. No. 2015-199 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
13. Ord. No. 2015-201 – retained on the Consent Agenda
14. Ord. No. 2015-205 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
15. Ord. No. 2015-206 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
16. Ord. No. 2015-207 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
17. Ord. No. 2015-208 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
18. Ord. No. 2015-214 – retained on the Consent Agenda
19. Ord. No. 2015-215 – retained on the Consent Agenda

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20. Ord. No. 2015-216 – retained on the Consent Agenda
21. Ord. No. 2015-217 – retained on the Consent Agenda
22. Ord. No. 2015-218 – retained on the Consent Agenda
23. Ord. No. 2015-219 – retained on the Consent Agenda
24. Ord. No. 2015-220 – retained on the Consent Agenda
25. Ord. No. 2015-221 – retained on the Consent Agenda
26. Ord. No. 2015-222 – retained on the Consent Agenda
27. Ord. No. 2015-223 – retained on the Consent Agenda
28. Ord. No. 2015-224 – retained on the Consent Agenda
29. Ord. No. 2015-225 – retained on the Consent Agenda
30. Ord. No. 2015-226 – retained on the Consent Agenda
31. Ord. No. 2015-227 – retained on the Consent Agenda
32. Ord. No. 2015-228 – retained on the Consent Agenda
33. Ord. No. 2015-229 – retained on the Consent Agenda
34. Ord. No. 2015-231 – retained on the Consent Agenda
35. Res. No. 2013-R254 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
36. Res. No. 2015-R53 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
37. Res. No. 2015-R60 – retained on the Consent Agenda
38. Res. No. 2015-R61 – retained on the Consent Agenda

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

Regular Agenda:

39. Ord. No. 2015-35 – retained on the Regular Agenda
40. Ord. No. 2015-170 – to be stricken

41. Ord. No. 2015-171 – to be stricken
42. Ord. No. 2015-172 – to be stricken
43. Ord. No. 2015-173 – retained on the Regular Agenda

Jay Brown, Budget and Strategic Planning Director, was available to answer questions regarding Ord. Nos. 2015-170, 2015-171, 2015-172 and 2015-173.

Entertaining a recommendation to continue Ord. Nos. 2015-170, 2015-171, 2015-172 and 2015-173, City Attorney Allen Jackson informed Council that, with this evening's Formal Session of Council being the only regularly scheduled meeting this month, a real estate tax rate needed to be established by November 30, 2015, in order for the timely preparation of upcoming tax bills by the City Assessor's Office.

Lenora Reid, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer – Finance and Administration, stated that, in order to maintain the city's FY 2016 and FY 2017 budgets, the real estate tax rate needed to be set at \$1.20 per one hundred dollars of assessed value.

After further discussion regarding establishing a real estate tax rate, Councilor Parker Agelasto moved that Council override the standing committee's recommendation to strike Ord. Nos. 2015-170, 2015-171 and 2015-172, pursuant to Rule IV(A) and Rule VI(F) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, so that such ordinances may be considered later this evening at the Formal Session of Council.

The motion was seconded and failed: Ayes 2, Agelasto, Trammell. Noes, Baliles Graziano, Robertson, Newbille, Hilbert, Mosby.

44. Ord. No. 2015-192 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
45. Ord. No. 2015-204 – to be continued to Monday, December 14, 2015
46. Ord. No. 2015-213 – moved to the Consent Agenda

It was the consensus of Council to move Ord. No. 2015-213 to the Consent Agenda.

47. Res. No. 2014-R184 – retained on the Regular Agenda
48. Res. No. 2014-R258 – to be withdrawn per applicant's request

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

Closed Session Motion

At 5:52 p.m., Councilor Jon Baliles moved that the Council hold a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to hold a discussion of the performance of the council chief of staff, an appointee of the City Council.

The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 7, Baliles, Agelasto, Robertson, Trammell, Newbille, Hilbert, Mosby. Noes, None. Graziano was temporarily excused.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

November 9, 2015

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 Jean V. Capel, City Clerk:

CERTIFYING:

Michelle R. Mosby, President
Christopher A. Hilbert, Vice President
Jonathan T. Baliles
Katherine C. Graziano
Parker C. Agelasto
Cynthia Newbille
Ellen F. Robertson
Reva M. Trammell

DECLINING TO CERTIFY:

Councilor Cynthia Newbille motioned to exit closed session. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted. Councilors reconvened in open session at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.