

Richmond City Council convened in Informal Session on Monday, December 14, 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 (*late arrival*)
The Honorable Parker Agelasto
The Honorable Jon Baliles
The Honorable Kathy Graziano
The Honorable Cynthia Newbille
The Honorable Ellen Robertson
The Honorable Charles Samuels
The Honorable Reva Trammell

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 4:15 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.

Community Rating System (CRS) Award

Mari Radford, Federal Emergency Management Agency Certified Floodplain Manager and Mitigation Planning Specialist, presented the city with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System Award in recognition of achieving a Class A rating by encouraging community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. Jonét Prévost-White, Public Utilities Operations Manager, accepted the award on behalf of the city.

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) Update

Lenora Reid, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer – Finance and Administration, provided Council with an update regarding the preparation of the FY 2015 CAFR. Ms. Reid reported that the Department of Finance would not be able to present the completed financial statement, as previously stated, prior to end of this calendar year due to financial system flaws

and inadequate department personnel. Ms. Reid asked for Council's support and avowed a commitment to having the CAFR prepared as diligently and as expeditiously as possible.

Vice President Chris Hilbert arrived at 4:31 p.m. and was seated.

Selena Cuffee-Glenn, Chief Administrative Officer, was also available to answer questions regarding preparation of the FY 2015 CAFR.

Greater Richmond Transit Company (GRTC) Update

Garland Williams, GRTC Director of Planning and Scheduling, and Randy Farwell, Nelson Nygaard Principal, provided Council with a presentation regarding route modifications and East End community connections for the proposed GRTC bus rapid transit (BRT) system that would efficiently integrate the multimodal transit system. A copy of the presentation has been filed.

Selena Cuffee-Glenn, Chief Administrative Officer, was also available to answer questions regarding the proposed bus rapid transit system.

Council was informed that a more comprehensive bus rapid transit report will be forthcoming in January 2016.

Councilor Ellen Robertson asked that she is kept informed regarding proposed BRT neighborhood circulators within the 6th district.

Docket Review

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

Consent Agenda:

1. Ord. No. 2014-93 – to be continued to Monday, February 8, 2016
2. Ord. No. 2014-217 – to be continued to Monday, January 11, 2016
3. Ord. No. 2015-133 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. No. 2015-161 – retained on the Consent Agenda
5. Ord. No. 2015-189 – to be amended and continued to Monday, January 11, 2016
6. Ord. No. 2015-190 – to be amended and continued to Monday, January 11, 2016
7. Ord. No. 2015-191 – to be amended and continued to Monday, January 11, 2016
8. Ord. No. 2015-197 – to be continued to Monday, January 11, 2016

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9. Ord. No. 2015-199 – to be continued to Monday, January 25, 2016
10. Ord. No. 2015-205 – to be amended and continued to Monday, January 11, 2016
11. Ord. No. 2015-206 – to be continued to Monday, January 11, 2016
12. Ord. No. 2015-207 – to be amended and continued to Monday, January 11, 2016
13. Ord. No. 2015-208 – retained on the Consent Agenda
14. Ord. No. 2015-230 – retained on the Consent Agenda
15. Ord. No. 2015-232 – to be continued to Monday, January 11, 2016
16. Ord. No. 2015-233 – to be continued to Monday, January 11, 2016
17. Ord. No. 2015-234 – retained on the Consent Agenda
18. Ord. No. 2015-235 – retained on the Consent Agenda
19. Ord. No. 2015-236 – retained on the Consent Agenda
20. Ord. No. 2015-237 – retained on the Consent Agenda
21. Ord. No. 2015-238 – retained on the Consent Agenda
22. Ord. No. 2015-239 – retained on the Consent Agenda
23. Ord. No. 2015-240 – retained on the Consent Agenda
24. Ord. No. 2015-241 – retained on the Consent Agenda
25. Ord. No. 2015-242 – retained on the Consent Agenda
26. Ord. No. 2015-243 – retained on the Consent Agenda
27. Ord. No. 2015-244 – retained on the Consent Agenda
28. Ord. No. 2015-245 – to be continued to Monday, January 11, 2016
29. Ord. No. 2015-246 – to be amended and continued to Monday, January 11, 2016
30. Ord. No. 2015-247 – retained on the Consent Agenda
31. Ord. No. 2015-248 – retained on the Consent Agenda

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32. Ord. No. 2015-249 – retained on the Consent Agenda

33. Ord. No. 2015-250 – retained on the Consent Agenda

34. Ord. No. 2015-251 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Councilor Parker Agelasto moved that Ord. No. 2015-251 be continued to the Monday, February 22, 2016 Formal Session of Council.

The motion was seconded and failed: Ayes 3, Baliles, Samuels, Agelasto. Noes 6, Graziano, Robertson, Trammell, Newbille, Hilbert, Mosby.

35. Res. No. 2013-R254 – retained on the Consent Agenda

36. Res. No. 2014-R150 – to be continued to Monday, January 11, 2016

M. Khara, Public Works Deputy Director/City Engineer, informed Council that the installation of two speed tables as a traffic calming measure on McGuire Drive will be completed by the end of the week.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell requested a continuance of Res. No. 2014-R150.

37. Res. No. 2015-R53 – retained on the Consent Agenda

38. Res. No. 2015-R64 – to be continued to Monday, January 25, 2016

39. Res. No. 2015-R65 – to be amended and vote on

Vice President Chris Hilbert stated that he will be introducing an amendment to Res. No. 2015-R65 for consideration and a vote later that evening at the Formal Session of Council.

After stating that he also will be introducing an amendment to Res. No. 2015-R65, Councilor Charles Samuels moved that Council not consider the resolution after the possible approval of any anticipated amendments to the legislation in order to allow for additional public input.

The motion was seconded and failed: Ayes 4, Baliles, Samuels, Agelasto, Trammell. Noes 5, Graziano, Robertson, Newbille, Hilbert, Mosby.

City Attorney Allen Jackson stated that Council's Rules of Procedure allows Council, at its discretion, to act on legislation as deemed appropriate regardless of a standing committee's recommendation.

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

Regular Agenda:

40. Ord. No. 2015-35 – to be amended and continued to Monday, January 11, 2016

41. Ord. No. 2015-192 – to be continued to Monday, January 11, 2016

Councilor Parker Agelasto requested a continuance of Ord. No. 2015-192.

42. Res. No. 2014-R184 – to be continued to Monday, January 11, 2016

Councilor Charles Samuels requested a continuance of Res. No. 2014-R184.

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

Closed Session Motion

At 6:09 p.m., Councilor Charles Samuels moved that the Council hold a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act for the purpose of discussing the performance of the city auditor, an appointee of the City Council.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

December 14, 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
Cynthia Newbille
Ellen F. Robertson
Charles R. Samuels
Reva M. Trammell

DECLINING TO CERTIFY:

Vice President Chris Hilbert motioned to exit closed session. The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Baliles, Graziano, Samuels, Robertson, Trammell, Newbille, Hilbert, Mosby. Noes, None. Agelasto was temporarily excused. Councilors reconvened in open session at 6:53 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.