



City of Richmond

Minutes - Draft

Public Safety Standing Committee

Tuesday, November 24, 2015

5:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Committee Members and Staff in Attendance

The Honorable Reva Trammell ~ Chair

The Honorable Chris Hilbert ~ Vice Chair

The Honorable Charles Samuels ~ Member

Jean V. Capel, City Clerk

Greg Lukanuski, Assistant City Attorney

Alexander Rawles, Boards and Commissions Administrator

Candice Reid, Deputy City Clerk

Faye Smith, Sr. Assistant City Clerk

Steve Taylor, Council Policy Analyst

Call to Order

Chair Reva Trammell called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. and presided.

Chamber Evacuation Plan and Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Faye Smith, Senior 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 and conduct during the meeting.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of October 27, 2015 were approved ~ Motioned by committee member Charles Samuels and seconded ~ Vote 3/0.

Presentation(s)

There were no presentations.

Paper(s) for Consideration

Committee member Charles Samuels moved to forward the following papers to Council with the recommendation to approve with amendment, which was seconded and approved: Vote ~ 3/0

- ORD. 2015-189** To amend City Code § 46.1-69, concerning inspection reports for fire prevention systems, for the purpose of requiring persons or firms testing or inspecting fire prevention systems to be certified and qualified to provide such testing or inspecting services.
Patron Mayor Jones
- ORD. 2015-190** To amend City Code § 46.1-3, concerning the authority of the fire code official at fires and other emergencies, for the purpose of authorizing the fire code official to regulate open burning.
Patron Mayor Jones
- ORD. 2015-205** To amend ch. 46.1, art. V, div. 3 of the City Code, by adding therein a new section 46.1-64, concerning maximum standpipe outlet pressure, for the purpose of regulating the maximum outlet pressure for firefighting standpipe systems.
Patron Mayor Jones
- ORD. 2015-207** To amend ch. 46.1, art. V, div. 3 of the City Code, by adding therein a new section 46.1-62, concerning fire escape examination and maintenance, for the purpose of requiring the examination and maintenance of all fire escapes on buildings within the city.
Patron Mayor Jones

Fire Marshal David Creasy, Fire & Emergency Services, requested the committee's support of the proposed amendments to Ord. Nos. 2015-189, 2015-190, 2015-205 and 2015-207 and answered questions from the committee.

Committee member Charles Samuels moved to forward the following papers to Council with the recommendation to approve with amendment by way of a substitute paper, and to waive committee referral of such papers, provided that questions presented in the staff report, dated November 24, 2015, be answered by the December 14, 2015 Council meeting, which was seconded and approved: Vote ~ 3/0

- ORD. 2015-197** To amend City Code § 46.1-51, concerning permit issuance to engage in or conduct a certain business, enterprise or activity, for the purpose of adding a separate permit for thermal pest control treatment, and to amend ch. 46.1, art. V, div. 3 of the City Code, concerning amendments to the fire prevention code, by adding therein a new section 46.1-63, for the purpose making it unlawful for any person to use or operate a temporary heat source to heat the interior of a building, structure or premise to a temperature above 100 degrees Fahrenheit for pest control treatment purposes unless such person has complied with certain conditions.
Patron Mayor Jones
- ORD. 2015-206** To amend City Code § 46.1-51, concerning permit issuance to engage in or conduct a certain business, enterprise or activity, for the purpose of removing the fee for the exception that a tank may be abandoned if empty and increasing the fee for filling or removing residential heating oil tanks of less than 1,100 gallon size, and to amend City Code § 46.1-53, concerning the removal and closure of

underground storage tanks, for the purpose of removing the exception that a tank may be abandoned if empty and to require soil testing to determine the contents of the tank.

Patron Mayor Jones

Greg Lukanuski, Assistant City Attorney, introduced the proposed amendments to Ord. Nos. 2015-197 and 2015-206 and answered questions from the committee. Fire Marshal Creasy was also available to address questions from the committee.

Discussion Item(s)

City's Inclement Weather Policy - Notices to Employees Status Update

Anthony McLean, Deputy Director, Fire & Emergency Services, informed the committee that several notification systems were considered and one was selected. Mr. McLean stated that a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the selected system is being reviewed by the City Attorney's Office. He advised the committee that, once the MOU has been approved and the paperwork is processed through the Department of Procurement, it will take approximately 30 days to obtain the notification system. Mr. McLean also stated that the new notification system will be able to notify city employees and residents of any inclement weather closings. He further stated that employees will continue to receive closing notifications via voice mail, television and radio.

Board Vacancies

Alexander Rawles, Broads & Commissions Administrator, reviewed the following board applications for the committee's consideration:

Community Criminal Justice Board (CCJB)

Tra'Quann L. Buskey
Maya Simpkins

Committee member Charles Samuels moved to continue the CCJB applications to the January 26th Public Safety Standing Committee meeting for consideration, which was seconded and adopted ~ Vote 3/0.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Boards & Commissions Annual Reports

Mr. Rawles provided the committee with copies of written reports from the Advisory Board for the Assessment of Towing Fees and the Storage of Vehicles, the Capital Area Alcohol Safety Action Program and the Community Criminal Justice Board.

Vice Chair Chris Hilbert stated that he had concerns regarding the Capital Area Alcohol Safety Action Program's reporting of the city's DUI arrests and requested that the chief or another representative of the police department attend the January 26, 2016 Public Safety Standing Committee meeting to discuss the matter.

At the request of Vice Chair Hilbert, Acting Deputy Chief Steve Drew, Richmond Police Department, was given a copy of the report from the Capital Area Alcohol Safety Action Program.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Chair Reva Trammell requested that laws regarding cell phone usage and texting while driving be added to the January 26, 2016 Public Safety Standing Committee meeting agenda for discussion.

December Committee Meeting

Committee member Charles Samuels moved to cancel the December 22, 2015 Public Safety Standing Committee meeting, which was seconded and adopted ~ Vote 3/0.

Other Business

Chair Reva Trammell asked that a law enforcement representative explain what citizens should do in hostage situations.

Acting Deputy Chief Steve Drew advised Chair Trammell that it is difficult to say what should be done because each abduction is different. Acting Deputy Chief Drew stated that, the best ways to avoid being in a hostage situation are being aware of one's surroundings, parking in well lit areas and just using safety precautions. Mr. Drew informed the committee that the police department put out a list of holiday season safety tips and conduct safety forums.

Chair Trammell requested copies of the holiday safety tips and any other information that she could distribute at her December community meeting from Mr. Drew.

Staff Report

Steve Taylor, Council Policy Analyst, distributed the November staff report to the committee.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 26, 2016 ~ 5:00 p.m., Council Chamber, 2nd Floor, City Hall
Staff Contact: Faye Smith, 804-646-7955, faye.smith@richmondgov.com