



City of Richmond

Informal Meeting Minutes

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

Monday, April 11, 2016

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Richmond City Council convened in Informal Session on Monday, April 11, 2016, 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 Charles Samuels (late arrival)
The Honorable Reva Trammell (late arrival)

Reported Absent

The Honorable Ellen Robertson

Staff Present

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

Council President Michelle Mosby called the meeting to order at 4:14 p.m. and presided.

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

Financial Update

David Rose, Davenport and Company senior vice president and manager of public finance, Lenora Reid, deputy chief administrative officer – finance and administration, and Jay Brown, director of budget and strategic planning, were available to answer questions regarding the city's finances which involved debt capacity and the unassigned fund balance.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell arrived at 4:16 p.m. and was seated.

Vice President Chris Hilbert arrived at 4:22 p.m. and was seated.

Mr. Rose recommended that, in order to maintain the city's current AA bond rating, Council not utilize any "one-time dollars" (unassigned funds) to balance the fiscal year 2017 budget.

Councilor Charles Samuels arrived at 4:26 p.m. and was seated.

Docket Review

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

Consent Agenda:

1. Ord. 2015-245 – to be continued to Monday, May 9, 2016
2. Ord. 2015-246 – to be continued to Monday, May 9, 2016
3. Ord. 2016-093 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. 2016-094 – retained on the Consent Agenda
5. Ord. 2016-098 – to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
6. Ord. 2016-099 – to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
7. Ord. 2016-100 – retained on the Consent Agenda
8. Res. 2016-R008 – retained on the Consent Agenda
9. Res. 2016-R025 – retained on the Consent Agenda
10. Res. 2016-R026 – retained on the Consent Agenda

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

Regular Agenda:

11. Ord. 2015-033 – to be continued to Monday, July 25, 2016
12. Ord. 2016-092 – retained on the Regular Agenda

Councilor Parker Agelasto introduced and answered questions regarding Ord. 2016-092.

Councilor Kathy Graziano suggested that Ord. 2016-092 be continued to allow an opportunity to receive recommendations from the mayor's Multi-Year School Funding Project Evaluation team whose goal is to develop a long-term, sustainable funding program to resolve Richmond Public Schools' (RPS) budgetary shortfalls.

David Rose, Davenport and Company senior vice president and manager of public finance, was available to answer questions regarding proposed Ord. 2016-092.

Vice President Chris Hilbert suggested that the adoption of Ord. 2016-092 would prompt the sale of long-standing properties held by RPS and he asked that Council consider the proposed legislation later that evening at the Formal Session of Council.

Chief Administrative Officer Selena Cuffee-Glenn asked that city administration be given an opportunity to provide recommendations that would address a sustainable solution for funding RPS before Council considers Ord. 2016-092.

Councilor Charles Samuels stated that the proposed adoption of Ord. 2016-092 would be a small step towards finding a solution for funding RPS.

Councilor Cynthia Newbille stressed that she does not oppose Ord. 2016-092; however, Council should take the time to ensure that a strategic, ongoing, sustainable funding plan for RPS is developed.

13. Ord. 2016-115 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
14. Ord. 2016-116 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
15. Res. 2015-R064 – to be continued to Monday, May 9, 2016

Councilor Charles Samuels requested a continuance of Res. 2015-R064.

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

Budget-Related Papers:

16. Ord. 2016-046 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
17. Ord. 2016-047 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
18. Ord. 2016-048 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
19. Ord. 2016-049 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
20. Ord. 2016-050 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
21. Ord. 2016-051 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
22. Ord. 2016-052 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
23. Ord. 2016-053 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
24. Ord. 2016-054 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
25. Ord. 2016-055 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
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29. Ord. 2016-059 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
30. Ord. 2016-060 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
31. Ord. 2016-061 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
32. Ord. 2016-062 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
33. Ord. 2016-063 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
34. Ord. 2016-064 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
35. Ord. 2016-065 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
36. Ord. 2016-066 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
37. Ord. 2016-067 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016

38. Ord. 2016-068 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
39. Ord. 2016-069 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
40. Ord. 2016-070 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
41. Ord. 2016-071 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
42. Ord. 2016-072 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
43. Ord. 2016-073 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
44. Ord. 2016-074 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
45. Ord. 2016-075 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
46. Ord. 2016-076 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016
47. Ord. 2016-077 – after public hearing, to be continued to Monday, April 25, 2016

There were no comments or discussions concerning Budget-Related Agenda items reviewed.

Choice Neighborhoods Initiative

Thad Williamson, Office of Community Wealth Building director, provided Council with a presentation outlining the city's application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for funding a choice neighborhoods initiative which supports a holistic, comprehensive approach to public housing redevelopment. A copy of the presentation has been filed.

T.K. Somanath, Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority chief executive officer, and Jakob Helmboldt, Public Works pedestrian, bicycle and trails coordinator, were also available to answer questions regarding the choice neighborhoods initiative.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.