



City of Richmond

Informal Meeting Minutes

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

Monday, January 28, 2019

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Councilmembers Present

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille, President
The Honorable Chris Hilbert, Vice President (late arrival)
The Honorable Parker Agelasto (late arrival)
The Honorable Kim Gray (late arrival)
The Honorable Michael Jones
The Honorable Kristen Larson
The Honorable Ellen Robertson
The Honorable Reva Trammell

Reported Absent

The Honorable Andreas Addison

Staff Present

Lisa Braxton, Interim Deputy City Clerk
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney
Meghan Brown, Interim Council Chief of Staff
Allen Jackson, City Attorney
Candice Reid, City Clerk

Council President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and presided.

Upon the President's request, Interim Deputy 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.

Docket Review

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

Consent Agenda:

1. Ord. 2017-242 – to be continued to Monday, February 11, 2019
2. Ord. 2018-153 – to be continued to Monday, February 25, 2019
3. Ord. 2018-233 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. 2018-238 – to be continued to Monday, February 11, 2019
5. Ord. 2018-254 – to be continued to Monday, February 25, 2019
6. Ord. 2018-287 – moved to the Regular Agenda

Councilor Andreas Addison arrived at 4:05 p.m. and was seated.

Reginald Gordon, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer – Human Services, addressed Council regarding Ord. 2018-287 and stated that the proposed legislation would make it improbable for city administration to find a permanent location for the hypothermia shelter.

Councilor Ellen Robertson clarified the intent of Ord. 2018-287.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell expressed concern regarding the proposed legislation and requested that Ord. 2018-287 be moved to the Regular Agenda.

7. Ord. 2018-289 – to be continued to Monday, February 25, 2019

Councilor Kristen Larson confirmed that a discussion regarding information pertaining to Ord. 2018-289 is to occur during the February Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting.

8. Ord. 2018-291 – to be continued to Monday, March 11, 2019

Councilor Kim Gray arrived at 4:12 p.m. and was seated.

9. Ord. 2018-307 – to be amended and continued to Monday, February 25, 2019

10. Ord. 2018-308 – to be amended and continued to Monday, February 25, 2019

11. Ord. 2018-311 – retained on the Consent Agenda

12. Ord. 2018-330 – retained on the Consent Agenda

13. Ord. 2018-331 – retained on the Consent Agenda

14. Ord. 2018-332 – retained on the Consent Agenda

15. Ord. 2018-333 – retained on the Consent Agenda

16. Ord. 2018-334 – retained on the Consent Agenda

17. Ord. 2018-335 – retained on the Consent Agenda

18. Ord. 2018-336 – moved to the Regular Agenda

President Cynthia Newbille informed councilors that Ord. 2018-336 was placed on the Regular Agenda after she was notified of impending comments of opposition to the proposed legislation later that evening at the Formal Session of Council.

19. Ord. 2018-337 – retained on the Consent Agenda

20. Ord. 2019-001 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Jay Brown, Budget and Strategic Planning director, introduced Ord. 2019-001 and Lenora Reid, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer – Finance and Administration, was also available to answer questions regarding the proposed legislation.

21. Ord. 2019-002 – retained on the Consent Agenda

22. Ord. 2019-003 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Vice President Chris Hilbert arrived at 4:21 p.m. and was seated.

23. Ord. 2019-004 – retained on the Consent Agenda

24. Ord. 2019-006 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Jay Brown, Budget and Strategic Planning director, introduced Ord. 2019-006 and Lenora Reid, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer – Finance and Administration, was available to answer questions regarding the proposed legislation.

Richmond Public Schools Superintendent Jason Kamras addressed Council and provided a summary of the proposed capital maintenance projects intended to be funded with the adoption of Ord. 2019-006.

Councilor Kristen Larson suggested that Council change its review process for legislation dealing with school maintenance and construction projects from the City Planning Commission to a standing committee where councilors are familiar with such matter.

25. Ord. 2019-007 – retained on the Consent Agenda

26. Ord. 2019-008 – retained on the Consent Agenda

27. Ord. 2019-009 – retained on the Consent Agenda

28. Ord. 2019-010 – retained on the Consent Agenda

29. Res. 2018-R092 – to be continued to Monday, February 25, 2019

30. Res. 2018-R103 – to be continued to Monday, February 25, 2019

31. Res. 2018-R104 – to be amended and considered

32. Res. 2019-R004 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Councilor Parker Agelasto provided an introduction of Res. 2019-R004.

All members of Council in attendance requested to be added as co-patrons of Res. 2019-R004.

Regular Agenda:

33. Ord. 2018-110 – retained on the Regular Agenda

34. Ord. 2018-194 – retained on the Regular Agenda

Jakob Helmboldt, Public Works pedestrian, bicycle and trail coordinator, provided Council with a presentation that outlined key factors for consideration with the proposed adoption of Ord. 2018-194, which would prohibit bike lanes on a portion of Brook Road. A copy of the presentation provided has been filed.

Councilor Kim Gray stated that she supports bike lanes; however, the intent of Ord. 2018-194 is an effort to address safety concerns.

Vice President Chris Hilbert voiced concern that, due to the installation of bike lanes on Brook Road, potential congestion would cause the diversion of traffic onto another major travel corridor within the district where predominantly underprivileged African-Americans reside.

35. Ord. 2018-231 – to be continued to Monday, February 25, 2019

36. Ord. 2018-236 – to be continued to Monday, February 25, 2019

37. Ord. 2018-288 – retained on the Regular Agenda

M. Khara, Public Works deputy director, provided Council with a presentation that outlined Ord. 2018-288. A copy of the presentation provided has been filed.

Bobby Vincent, Public Works director, was available to answer questions regarding Ord. 2018-288.

Mr. Khara stated that he will work with the Richmond Police Department regarding enforcement efforts of Ord. 2018-288.

President Cynthia Newbille requested an update at a future Public Safety or Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting with the proposed adoption of Ord. 2018-288.

38. Ord. 2018-294 – retained on the Regular Agenda

39. Ord. 2019-005 – retained on the Regular Agenda

40. Res. 2018-R083 – to be continued to Monday, February 11, 2019

41. Res. 2019-R003 – retained on the Regular Agenda

Members of Council, currently not a patron of Res. 2019-R004 and in attendance, requested to be added as co-patrons of Res. 2019-R003.

Councilor Kim Gray commented on the validity of Res. 2019-R003 to address the city's school infrastructure needs.

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

General Assembly (GA) Update

Laura Bateman, on behalf of Advantus Strategies, provided Council with an update regarding the city's legislative agenda proposal for the 2019 General Assembly as well as bills of importance to the city. A copy of the information provided has been filed.

FY2020-24 Revenue and Expenditure Plan

Jay Brown, Budget and Strategic Planning director, presented Council, as required by City Code, Section 12-15.1, with a five-year forecast of the city's estimated revenues and expenditures. Mr. Brown highlighted possible revenue increases in local taxes for real estate, lodging and prepared food, and underlined expenditure assumptions for certain personnel and operating costs. A copy of the presentation has been filed.

President Cynthia Newbille asked that members of Council defer questions until the February Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting for a response.

Other Discussion

City Attorney Allen Jackson informed Council that the approved employment contract modification for the City Clerk, due to the new pay plan adopted at the previous Council meeting,

actually required a salary adjustment equivalent to the minimum of the pay range, which is more than the 1 percent anticipated.

Councilor Ellen Robertson moved that the City Council authorize execution of a modification to the employment agreement with the City Clerk to enable her to receive the salary increase provided by the pay plan, adopted on January 14, 2019, for all affected general fund employees.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

CITY CLERK