



City of Richmond

Meeting Minutes

Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee

Thursday, January 17, 2019

3:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor – City Hall

Committee Members and Staff in Attendance

The Honorable Michael Jones –Chair (*early departure*)
The Honorable Parker Agelasto – Member
The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Alternate Member
Lisa Braxton, Interim Deputy City Clerk
Bill Echelberger Jr., Council Budget Analyst
Charles Jackson, Council Budget Analyst
Allison Miessler, Boards and Commissions Administrator
Pamela Nichols, Assistant City Clerk
Tabrica Rentz, Senior Assistant City Attorney

Absent

The Honorable Kristen Larson – Vice Chair

Call to Order

Chair Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Evacuation Announcement and Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Pamela Nichols, 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.

Chair Michael Jones announced that, beginning the month of February, all presentations will be limited to a total of fifteen minutes and the new start time for the committee meetings will be 1:00 p.m.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

Member Parker Agelasto moved to approve the minutes of the Thursday, November 15, 2018, meeting, which was seconded and approved: Ayes 2, Agelasto, Jones. Abstentions 1, Robertson.

Paper(s) for Consideration

Alternate Member Ellen Robertson moved to amend the agenda as follows:

ORD. 2018-236

To amend ch. 26, art. V, div. 2 of the City Code by adding therein new sections 26-370-26-374, concerning a real estate tax deferral program for real estate owned and occupied as a sole dwelling, for the purpose of establishing a new real estate tax deferral program for real estate owned and occupied as a sole dwelling.

Patron: Ms. Gray

To be continued to the February 21, 2019 Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting

ORD. 2018-254

To amend Ord. No. 2018-057, adopted May 14, 2018, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 General Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, by transferring funds in the amount of \$30,000.00 from the Office of Community Wealth Building's Workforce Development program and re-appropriating these transferred funds to a new line item in the Non-Departmental agency called the "Owens & Minor Medical, Inc. On the Job Training Grant through the EDA" line item for the purpose of making a grant to Owens & Minor Medical, Inc., to subsidize certain job training activities by Owens & Minor Medical, Inc.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

To be continued to the February 21, 2019 Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting

RES. 2018-R103

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the Director of Planning and Development Review to develop a process for preparing school impact statements for new developments in the city of Richmond.

Patron: Ms. Larson

To be continued to the February 21, 2019 Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Board Vacancies

Allison Miessler, boards and commissions administrator, presented the quarterly vacancies; however, there were no board applications to be considered.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Presentations

Bon Secours Washington Redskins Training Center

Fabrizio Fasulo, Virginia Commonwealth University Center for Urban and Regional Analysis director, presented the economic and fiscal impact analyses for the Bon Secours Washington Redskins Training Center, which included a breakdown of spending, economic output results and the study time periods. Mr. Fasulo explained that through the year 2020, the city will experience a net deficit; however, the remaining loan period will net positive revenue benefits. Mr. Fasulo summarized that the estimated return on investment for the total project will net over 200% asset value.

Jeffery Crawford, Virginia Commonwealth University Center for Urban and Regional Analysis, research assistant, was also present to respond to questions.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Member Parker Agelasto indicated interest in meeting with Mr. Fasulo to further discuss real estate assumptions for the training center.

Chair Michael Jones requested a breakdown of the economic impact in the event the city extends its lease of the training center.

Paper(s) for Consideration

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2018-233

To amend City Code § 27-201, concerning parking for disabled persons in time-restricted or metered spaces in certain areas, to provide that no benefits deriving from Va. Code § 46.2-1245 shall apply within certain areas of the city.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Lynne Lancaster, Department of Public Works interim deputy director, provided an overview of ORD. 2018-233. Ms. Lancaster explained that the proposed legislation would free up parking for individuals who truly need the spaces.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Robertson moved to forward ORD. 2018-233 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2019-004

To amend City Code § 12-11, concerning the form of the budget submitted to the Council, for the purpose of providing for the Mayor's provision of an annual budget that either includes or does not include a plan for the second following fiscal year.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Jay Brown, Budget and Strategic Planning director, introduced ORD. 2019-004.

Council Budget Analyst Charles Jackson explained that the proposed request will not have an adverse impact on Council's annual review of the city's budget.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Agelasto moved to forward ORD. 2019-004 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2019-005

To amend Ord. No. 2018-297, adopted Dec. 17, 2018, which authorized the creation of the Navy Hill Development Advisory Commission and announced the Council's intent to hold public hearings, all for

the purpose of providing for the Council's consideration of a development proposal in the area generally bounded on the west by N. 5th St., on the north by E. Leigh St., on the east by N. 10th St., and on the south by E. Marshall St. to authorize the appointment of individuals who do not live or work in the city to the Navy Hill Development Advisory Commission.

Patron: Ms. Gray

Selena Cuffee-Glenn, chief administrative officer, expressed concern that ORD. 2019-005 will allow individuals without a vested interest in the city to make recommendations regarding the economic development project.

Alternate Member Ellen Robertson stated that she was not willing to support individuals who do not live or work in the city serving as a member of the Navy Hill Development Advisory Commission, and moved to forward ORD. 2019-005 to Council with the recommendation to strike.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

Member Parker Agelasto clarified intent and expressed support of ORD. 2019-005.

Chair Jones questioned why the membership requirement was not included with the creation of the Navy Hill Development Advisory Commission.

Tabrica Rentz, senior assistant city attorney, responded to questions regarding the Office of the City Attorney's preparation of legislation for Council's consideration.

Member Agelasto moved to forward ORD. 2019-005 to Council with the recommendation to approve.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Agelasto moved to forward ORD. 2019-005 to Council with no recommendation, which was seconded and approved:** Ayes 2, Agelasto, Jones. Noes 1, Robertson.

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2019-R003

To approve the Mayor's school buildings and infrastructure modernization plan in satisfaction of the Mayor's obligation set forth in City Charter § 6.15:3.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

John Wack, Finance director, introduced RES. 2019-R003.

Council Budget Analyst Bill Echelberger provided an explanation of the comparison chart for the original Richmond Public Schools plan and the mayor's proposed plan.

Alternate Member Ellen Robertson inquired about the fiscal impact the proposed request will have on future capital improvement projects.

David Rose, city's financial advisor and Davenport & Company LLC director, responded to questions regarding the funding strategy for the schools' capital funding plan.

Member Parker Agelasto, Alternate Member Ellen Robertson and Chair Michael Jones asked to be as co-patrons of RES. 2019-R003.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Agelasto moved to forward RES. 2019-R003 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following resolution was considered:

Chair Michael Jones exited the meeting and Member Parker Agelasto presided over the remainder of the meeting.

RES. 2019-R004

To request that the Counties of Henrico and Chesterfield request that the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation undertake a study to determine if those portions of the James River east from Orleans Street to the borders with Chesterfield and Henrico Counties and those portions west from the 1970 corporate limits of the city to the junction with Henrico and Chesterfield Counties, qualify for inclusion in the Virginia Scenic Rivers Program.

Patron: Mr. Agelasto

Member Parker Agelasto introduced RES. 2019-R004.

Support

Tricia Pearsall, Falls of the James State Scenic River Advisory Committee member, spoke in support of RES. 2019-R004 stating that the James River Park was the most visited amenity in the city, and the study will determine whether areas referenced in RES. 2019-R004 could be designated as a part of the Virginia Scenic Rivers Program.

Mark Olinger, Planning and Development Review director, commented on the potential benefits associated with the proposed study of the referenced areas.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Alternate Member Robertson moved to forward RES. 2019-R004 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and approved:** Ayes 2, Robertson, Agelasto. Jones was excused.

Discussion Item(s)

Personal Property Tax Relief

John Wack, Finance director, explained that city administration would like to maintain the current threshold for vehicles that qualify for personal property tax relief and asked the Committee for clarification on the calculations for clean-fueled vehicles.

The Committee supported maintaining the current one thousand dollars threshold for personal property tax relief for qualifying vehicles.

Member Parker Agelasto agreed to work with Council's staff and Mr. Wack on tax relief for clean fueled vehicles.

Tax Relief for the Elderly and Disabled Update

Bill Echelberger, council budget analyst, presented two scenarios for potential changes to the city's tax relief plan for the elderly and disabled.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

John Wack, Finance director, explained the impact the additional tax relief would have on the real estate tax revenue to the city.

The Committee asked Council staff to prepare scenarios for equal percentage increments beginning at 100% percent tax relief for the elderly and disabled individuals with an annual income up to thirty thousand dollars.

Staff Report

Bill Echelberger and Charles Jackson, council budget analysts, provided the January staff report.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.