



City of Richmond

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

Minutes

Governmental Operations Standing Committee

Thursday, January 24, 2019

12:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Committee Members and Staff in Attendance

The Honorable Michael Jones – Vice Chair
The Honorable Parker Agelasto – Member
The Honorable Chris Hilbert – Alternate Member (Late arrival)
Lisa Braxton, Interim Deputy City Clerk
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney
Joyce Davis, Council Policy Analyst
Charles Jackson, Council Budget Analyst

Reported Absent

The Honorable Andreas Addison – Chair

Call to Order

Chair Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Evacuation Announcement

Upon the vice chair'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 along with citizen speaker guidelines.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

There were no amendments or corrections to the meeting minutes of Thursday, November 29, 2018, and the Committee approved the minutes as presented.

Board Vacancies

Boards and Commissions Administrator Allison Miessler reviewed board applications for consideration by the Committee.

Member Parker Agelasto moved to forward the following reappointments to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and approved – Ayes, 2. Noes, None. Hilbert had not yet arrived:

Board Name	Criteria for Appointment	Applicant Name
City Personnel Board (10 members)	Resident of the city of Richmond (2 vacancies)	Larry Johnson (reappointment)
		Mary Tischer (reappointment)
Sister Cities Commission (13 members)	Reside of work in the city of Richmond (3 vacancies)	Ana Edwards (reappointment)

Presentation(s)

There were no presentations.

Paper(s) for Consideration

The following ordinances were considered:

ORD. 2019-009

To amend and reordain City Code §§ 9-58, which assigns polling places in the city, 9-68, which establishes boundary descriptions for Precinct 203, and 9-124, which assigns precincts to City Council and School Board Districts; and to amend ch. 9, art. III of the City Code by adding therein a new § 9-73.2, concerning the precinct boundaries for a new Precinct 215, for the purpose of establishing a new polling place and new precinct boundaries within the Second Council District.

Patron: Ms. Gray

ORD. 2019-010

To amend and reordain City Code §§ 9-58, which assigns polling places in the city, 9-86, which establishes boundary descriptions for Precinct 409, and 9-124, which assigns precincts to City Council and School Board Districts; and to amend ch. 9, art. III of the City Code by adding therein a new § 9-90.1, concerning the precinct boundaries for a new Precinct 415, for the purpose of establishing a new polling place and new precinct boundaries within the Fourth Council District.

Patron: Ms. Larson

City Registrar Kirk Showalter provided an introduction of ORDS. 2019-009 & 2019-010.

Alternate Member Chris Hilbert arrived at 12:11 p.m. and was seated.

Opposition

David Sacks spoke in support of ORD. 2019-009, however, he expressed concern regarding the long-term future of the Arthur Ashe Athletic Center.

Ms. Showalter informed the Committee of Richmond Public Schools' commitment to utilize the Arthur Ashe Athletic Center as a polling place and noted that RPS will provide sufficient notice for finding an alternate site should the facility be deemed obsolete.

Alternate Member Chris Hilbert expressed support for ORD. 2019-010.

Vice Chair Michael Jones questioned the potential impact new construction could have on Greene Elementary School as a district polling location.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Agelasto moved to forward ORDS.**

2019-009 and 2019-010 to the January 28, 2019 Council meeting with recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2018-294

To amend and reordain City Code §§ 4-92, concerning the keeping and running at large of hogs, pigs, and fowl, 4-124, concerning permit requirements for chickens, and 4-126, concerning requirements for the area in which female chickens are maintained, for the purpose of increasing the number of female chickens permitted in the City from four to six.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Christie Peters, Animal Care and Control director, provided an introduction of ORD. 2018-294 stating that the proposed amendment to the City Code is feasible since most hatcheries sell chickens in groups of six.

Opposition

David Sacks spoke in opposition of ORD. 2018-294 stating that urban chickens can be a public nuisance and informed the Committee of code enforcement issues. Mr. Sacks also mentioned the existence of a hatchery that will sell chickens in groups of two.

Vice Chair Michael Jones requested that city administration investigate Mr. Sacks' complaints of noncompliance regarding urban chickens in his neighborhood and assured a follow-up by his office.

Joyce Davis, Council Policy Analyst, noted that the current City Code was established to allow citizens to properly seek permits for urban chickens.

Robert "Bob" Steidel, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer – Operations, addressed the Committee and assured collaborative communication amongst city agencies regarding enforcement efforts.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Alternate Member Hilbert moved to forward ORD. 2018-294 to the January 28, 2019 Council meeting with no recommendation, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2018-337

To amend and reordain City Code §§ 2-161, concerning employee disclosure of misconduct and protection from retaliation, and 2-163, concerning determinations regarding complaints, for the purpose of replacing references to "City Auditor" with "Inspector General."

Patron: President Hilbert

Alternate Member Chris Hilbert introduced ORD. 2018-337.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Agelasto moved to forward ORD. 2018-337 to the January 28, 2019 Council meeting with recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2018-R104

To support the use of construction contractors who work with local workforce development programs that work to enable residents of economically challenged minority communities to become employed, especially in construction-related fields.

Patron: Mr. Jones, President Hilbert and Ms. Robertson

Vice Chair Michael Jones introduced RES. 2018-R104.

Member Parker Agelasto questioned the narrow scope of RES. 2018-R104 to only supporting the use of construction contractors who work with local workforce development programs to enable the employment of residents.

It was the consensus of the Committee to amend RES. 2018-R104 to remove the word “construction” from the proposed legislation.

Member Agelasto requested to be added as a co-patron of RES. 2018-R104.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Agelasto moved to forward RES. 2018-R104 to the January 28, 2019 Council meeting with recommendation to approve with amendment, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

Staff Report

Council Policy Analyst Joyce Davis provided the Committee with the January staff report.

A copy of the report provided has been filed.

Discussion Item(s)

After a recommendation to explore possible changes to Council’s Rules of Procedure regarding the continuation of legislation, Deputy City Attorney Haskell Brown informed the Committee that currently, there is a limited 60-day legislative review process, and he offered suggestions to eliminate the long-term consideration by a standing committee.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.