



# City of Richmond

## Special Meeting Minutes

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

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Monday, July 1, 2019

5:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

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### **Councilmembers Present**

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille, President  
The Honorable Chris Hilbert, Vice President  
The Honorable Andreas Addison  
The Honorable Parker Agelasto  
The Honorable Kim Gray  
The Honorable Michael Jones  
The Honorable Kristen Larson  
The Honorable Ellen Robertson  
The Honorable Reva Trammell

Council President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m., and presided.

### **CHAMBER EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN**

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

### **PAPERS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**The following ordinance was considered:**

#### **ORD. 2019-165**

To amend ch. 19, art. VII, div. 2 of the City Code by adding therein a new §19-334.1 for the purpose of prohibiting the carrying of firearms within certain places effective at such time as the adoption of such a prohibition becomes permitted by law.

Police Chief William C. Smith introduced the proposed ordinance on behalf of the mayor and city administration.

#### **Opposition**

**Robert Sadtler**, spoke in opposition of ORD. 2019-165, and stated the proposed ordinance would not prevent gun possession in prohibited places.

**Larry Hodges**, spoke in opposition of ORD. 2019-165, and urged Richmond City Police to enforce current illegal gun possession laws to prevent criminal activity.

#### **Support**

**Glenwood Burley**, spoke in support of ORD. 2019-165. Mr. Burley addressed the vulnerability of Council Chamber and city officials to potential dangers.

**Leighton Powell, Recreation and Parks Advisory Board chair**, spoke in support of ORD. 2019-165. Ms. Powell informed Council that a majority of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board voiced support for the proposed ordinance.

**Deborah Morton, Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities deputy director**, spoke in support of ORD. 2019-165. Ms. Morton spoke about the need to protect community facilities.

**Laura Swanson**, voiced support for ORD. 2019-165, and spoke about the need for safety in city parks.

**Paul Fleisher, on behalf of the Richmond Peace Education Center**, spoke in support of ORD. 2019-165, and stated the proposed ordinance would help prevent future shootings.

**Sarah Harper, Moms Demand Action member**, voiced support for ORD. 2019-165, and spoke of the need for local government to address public safety.

**Eleanor Kootsey, Moms Demand Action member**, expressed support for ORD. 2019-165, and the need for safety in public places.

*Councilor Kim Gray discussed with Chief Smith the use of illegal guns in recent shootings. Ms. Gray raised concern about the ability to enforce the proposed ordinance in public places in relation to illegal gun possession.*

*Chief Smith stated the proposed ordinance would coincide with other measures planned for public safety within city facilities.*

*Councilor Ellen Robertson spoke of the need to protect city employees within City Hall and her desire for a safe work environment. Ms. Robertson asked if public schools are included within the public places addressed in the proposed ordinance.*

*Chief Administrative Officer Selena Cuffee-Glenn informed Council the proposed ordinance focuses on Richmond City government facilities. She further stated a comprehensive safety strategy would be released within 30 days.*

*Councilwoman Reva Trammell raised concerns about the shortened time frame between the introduction of the proposed ordinance and its public hearing, preventing citizens from speaking on the matter. Ms. Trammell also asked that Chief Smith provide the public with statistics regarding stolen guns within the city.*

*Councilor Michael Jones expressed his support of the proposed ordinance and stated local government should be allowed to address public safety.*

*Councilwoman Trammell asked if metal detectors and armed staff would be present at all City Hall entrances if the proposed ordinance is adopted.*

*Chief Smith stated that matter would be addressed in the comprehensive safety strategy that will be presented to Council within 30 days.*

**Councilwoman Trammell moved to continue consideration of ORD. 2019-165 to the Monday, September 9, 2019 Formal Council meeting.** The motion was seconded and failed: Ayes 3, Larson, Gray, Trammell. Noes 6, Jones, Robertson, Agelasto, Addison, Hilbert, Newbille.

**There were no further comments or discussions and ORD. 2019-165 was adopted:** Ayes 7, Jones, Robertson, Agelasto, Gray, Addison, Hilbert, Newbille. Noes 0. Abstentions 2, Larson, Trammell.

**The following ordinance was considered:**

ORD. 2019-187

To authorize the owners of certain properties along North 17th Street between East Franklin Street and East Main Street to encroach upon the public right-of-way with outdoor dining areas on a temporary basis, upon certain terms and conditions.

Brian Copple, Department of Public Works right of way manager, introduced ORD. 2019-187, and stated the proposed ordinance would provide restaurant owners immediate temporary relief for use of outdoor seating for dining, while owners work towards permanent outdoor encroachment permissions.

*Councilor Parker Agelasto asked for the time allowed for owners to apply for permanent encroachments.*

*Mr. Copple informed Council the temporary relief ends on December 31, 2019.*

**There were no further comments or discussions and ORD. 2019-187 was unanimously adopted.**

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW LEGISLATION**

**City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinances on Monday, July 22, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.:**

ORD. 2019-190

To amend Ord. No. 2019-044, which appropriated and provided funds for financing the school budget for the fiscal year commencing Jul. 1, 2019, and ending Jun. 30, 2020, to make transfers from the contingency reserves major classification to other major classifications to facilitate the implementation of the School Board's strategic plan.

*Patron: Mayor Stoney*

**This ordinance was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(3)(c).**

ORD. 2019-191

To amend and reordain the fees set forth in Appendix A of the City Code for sections 28-193(3), 28-194(2) (concerning fees for large volume general gas service), 28-199(d) (concerning flexibly priced interruptible gas service), and 28-200(4) (concerning unmetered gaslight service), to establish revised charges for such services.

*Patrons: Mayor Stoney*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Finance & Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, July 18, 2019, at 1:00 p.m.**

ORD. 2019-192

To amend and reordain certain fees set forth in Appendix A of the City Code for sections 28-650 (concerning fees for residential wastewater service), 28-651 (concerning fees for commercial wastewater service), 28-652 (concerning fees for industrial wastewater service), 28-653 (concerning fees for state and federal wastewater service), and 28-654 (concerning fees for municipal wastewater service), to establish revised charges for such services.

*Patron: Mayor Stoney*

**This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Finance & Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, July 18, 2019, at 1:00 p.m.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

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CITY CLERK