



# City of Richmond

## Informal Meeting Minutes

900 East Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23219  
[www.richmondgov.com/cityclerk](http://www.richmondgov.com/cityclerk)

Monday, September 14, 2020

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall  
Virtual Meeting

### **Councilmembers Present**

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille, President  
The Honorable Andreas Addison  
The Honorable Kim Gray (late arrival)  
The Honorable Kristen Larson  
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch  
The Honorable Ellen Robertson (late arrival)  
The Honorable Reva Trammell

### **Reported Absent**

The Honorable Chris Hilbert, Vice President  
The Honorable Michael Jones

### **Staff Present**

Lawrence Anderson, Council Chief of Staff  
Lisa Braxton, Council Management Analyst  
Haskell Brown, Interim City Attorney  
Meghan Brown, Deputy Council Chief of Staff  
Candice Reid, City Clerk  
Tabrica Rentz, Acting Deputy City Attorney  
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Council President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. and presided.

### **ELECTRONIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

Council Management Analyst Lisa Braxton, in accordance with Ordinance No. 2020-093, adopted April 9, 2020, as amended by Ordinance No. 2020-183, adopted August 20, 2020, announced the meeting would be held through electronic communication means, and stated that notice of the meeting was provided to the public through a public information advisory issued on August 21, 2020, and through Legistar on the city website in accordance with usual practice. She also stated there would be no opportunities for public comment and no public hearings during the meeting.

### **Docket Review**

Council Management Analyst Lisa Braxton reviewed the following agenda items as indicated:

#### **Consent Agenda:**

1. Ord. 2020-103 – to be continued to Monday, September 28, 2020
2. Ord. 2020-104 – to be continued to Monday, September 28, 2020

3. Ord. 2020-105 – to be amended and continued to Monday, September 28, 2020
4. Ord. 2020-165 – retained on the Consent Agenda
5. Ord. 2020-166 – retained on the Consent Agenda
6. Ord. 2020-167 – retained on the Consent Agenda
7. Ord. 2020-168 – retained on the Consent Agenda
8. Ord. 2020-169 – retained on the Consent Agenda
9. Ord. 2020-171 – to be amended and continued to Monday, September 28, 2020
10. Ord. 2020-172 – to be continued to Monday, September 28, 2020
11. Ord. 2020-173 – retained on the Consent Agenda
12. Ord. 2020-174 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Ord. 2020-175 – retained on the Consent Agenda
14. Ord. 2020-176 – retained on the Consent Agenda
15. Ord. 2020-177 – to be continued to Monday, October 12, 2020
16. Ord. 2020-178 – retained on the Consent Agenda
17. Ord. 2020-179 – retained on the Consent Agenda
18. Ord. 2020-180 – retained on the Consent Agenda
19. Ord. 2020-181 – retained on the Consent Agenda
20. Ord. 2020-182 – retained on the Consent Agenda
21. Ord. 2020-186 – retained on the Consent Agenda
22. Res. 2020-R051 – to be continued to Monday, September 28, 2020

Regular Agenda:

23. Ord. 2018-236 – to be continued to Monday, September 28, 2020
24. Ord. 2018-324 – retained on the Regular Agenda
25. Ord. 2018-325 – retained on the Regular Agenda

Council Management Analyst Lisa Braxton informed Council that after allowing an opportunity for public comment later that evening at the Formal Session of Council, the Planning Commission recommended Ords. 2020-324 and 2020-325 be denied.

*Councilor Ellen Robertson joined the meeting at 4:11 p.m.*

Mark Olinger, Planning and Development Review director, and Matthew Ebinger, Planning and Development principal planner, addressed Council regarding Ords. 2018-324 and 2018-325, substantiating the Planning Commission's recommendation and advised the use of the short-term

rental application process adopted in recent months, facilitates the desired outcome requested by the proposed legislation and future applications.

Kristen Larson requested city administration review and provide an update regarding the city's short-term rental policy and process at a future standing committee meeting prior to June 30, 2021.

*Councilor Kim Gray joined the meeting at 4:15 p.m.*

26. Ord. 2020-148 – retained on the Regular Agenda
27. Ord. 2020-170 – to be continued to Monday, October 12, 2020
28. Res. 2020-R048 – to be continued to Monday, October 12, 2020

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

### **Homelessness Crisis Update**

Kelly King Horne, Homeward executive director, provided Council with an update addressing the city's homelessness crisis during the winter months, which included an overview of key strategies, emphasizing access to homeless assistance, emergency shelters, increased capacity, preparation for extreme weather, collaborative planning, CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security) Act funding and changes to public health and safety due to COVID-19 precautions. A copy of the presentation provided has been filed.

Sharon Ebert, deputy chief administrative officer – Economic Development, was also available to answer questions regarding the city's response to the homelessness crisis and stated that legislation will be introduced later that evening at the Formal Session of Council to provide funding to organizations offering non-congregate shelter assistance and other housing support through June 2021.

Councilors Kristen Larson and Kim Gray requested an analysis of individuals served by Homeward's Greater Richmond Continuum of Care and its current spending cost.

### **Monument Disposition Update**

Council Chief of Staff Lawrence Anderson provided an update pertaining to the city's disposition of monuments and stated that councilors had been provided a list of all offers received to date. Mr. Anderson specified that after further vetting of the offers, additional information and recommendations will be forthcoming at the October and November Organizational Development Standing Committee meetings.

Councilor Kim Gray inquired regarding a possible auction for city monuments.

### **Other Discussion**

President Cynthia Newbille informed Council of efforts to recognize the late and former City Clerk Edna Keys-Chavis and stated that more information will be forthcoming at the next Informal Session of Council.

Councilor Kristen Larson requested that Council staff develop a voting options guide for citizens.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

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CITY CLERK