



City of Richmond

Special Meeting Minutes

900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
www.rva.gov/office-city-clerk

Monday, January 4, 2021

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall
Virtual Meeting

The Council of the City of Richmond met for an organizational meeting pursuant to Richmond City Charter § 4.03.

City Clerk Candice Reid called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m., and presided.

ELECTRONIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Deputy City Clerk RJ Warren, in accordance with Ordinance No. 2020-093, adopted April 9, 2020, as most recently amended by Ordinance No. 2020-232, adopted December 14, 2020, announced the meeting would be held through electronic communication means. Deputy City Clerk Warren stated notice of the meeting was provided to the public through a public information advisory issued on December 30, 2020, and through Legistar on the city website in accordance with usual practice. Members of the public were encouraged to provide comments in writing prior to the meeting and all comments received prior to 10:00 a.m., on Monday, January 4, 2021, were provided to Council Members. Mr. Warren indicated that members of the public who signed up to speak and provide comment would be called to speak at the appropriate time.

CITIZEN SPEAKER GUIDELINES

Deputy City Clerk RJ Warren provided citizen speaker guidelines.

ROLL CALL OF NEWLY-ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

The following members were present:

The Honorable Andreas Addison
The Honorable Katherine Jordan
The Honorable Ann-Francis Lambert
The Honorable Kristen Larson
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch
The Honorable Ellen Robertson
The Honorable Cynthia Newbille
The Honorable Reva Trammell
The Honorable Michael Jones

Following the roll call, City Clerk Candice Reid administered the Oaths of Office to Richmond City Council Members for the term commencing January 1, 2021, and expiring December 31, 2024.

ELECTION OF THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

City Clerk Candice Reid opened the floor for nominations to fill the City Council President seat. Councilor Ellen Robertson nominated 7th District Councilor Cynthia Newbille for President of City Council.

City Clerk Reid asked if there were additional nominations. Hearing none, Ms. Reid announced that the floor was closed for nominations for Council President.

The nomination was unanimously approved.

City Clerk Reid declared Cynthia Newbille Council President for a term of two years ending December 31, 2022.

President Newbille presided for the remainder of the meeting.

President Newbille stated she appreciated the vote of confidence by members for selecting her as President of City Council. President Newbille stated she would work diligently to build strategic, equitable and collaborative relationships with Council Members, city administration and citizens to address the many challenges facing the city.

ELECTION OF THE COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

President Cynthia Newbille opened the floor for nominations to fill the City Council Vice President seat. Councilor Michael Jones nominated 6th District Councilor Ellen Robertson for Vice President of City Council.

President Newbille asked if there were additional nominations. Hearing none, President Newbille announced that the floor was closed for nominations for Council Vice President.

The nomination was unanimously approved.

City Clerk Candice Reid declared Ellen Robertson Council Vice President for a term of two years ending December 31, 2022.

Vice President Ellen Robertson congratulated President Newbille for her selection as President of City Council. Vice President Robertson stated she was honored to be chosen to serve as Vice President of City Council, and that she humbly accepts the duties and responsibilities of that role. Vice President Robertson also stated she would work diligently to support President Newbille, and work with fellow members to carry out the duties and responsibilities of Council in the best interest of the city.

LEGISLATION FOR EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION

Councilor Michael Jones moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

RES. 2021-R005

To adopt Rules of Procedure pursuant to Richmond City Charter § 4.06.

Patron: President Newbille

There were no comments or discussions and **RES. 2021-R005 was unanimously adopted.**

Councilor Katherine Jordan moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

RES. 2021-R004

To designate which Council members shall serve on the Council's Standing Committees and the various boards, commissions, and other collegial bodies on which Council members serve.

Patron: President Newbille

There were no comments or discussions and **RES. 2021-R004 was unanimously adopted.**

At 4:51 p.m., Councilor Kristen Larson moved that the City Council hold a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to discuss and consider the appointment of a candidate as an Interim Council Chief of Staff.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilor Kristen Larson motioned to exit closed session. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Councilors reconvened in open session at 5:08 p.m.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

January 4, 2021

WHEREAS, the Council has convened in closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law:

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Council hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public matters lawfully exempt from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certifying resolution applies; and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Council.

WITNESS the following vote of Council Members, as recorded by Candice D. Reid, City Clerk:

CERTIFYING:

Cynthia I. Newbille, President
Ellen F. Robertson, Vice President
Andreas D. Addison
Katherine L. Jordan
Ann-Frances Lambert
Kristen N. Larson
Stephanie A. Lynch
Reva M. Trammell
Michael J. Jones

DECLINING TO CERTIFY:

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

RES. 2021-R001

To appoint Meghan K. Brown as the Interim Council Chief of Staff.

Patron: President Newbille

There were no comments or discussions and **RES. 2021-R001 was unanimously adopted.**

Councilor Andreas Addison moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

RES. 2021-R003

To terminate the services of Craig K. Bieber as a Council Liaison for the City of Richmond.

Patron: Ms. Jordan

There were no comments or discussions and **RES. 2021-R003 was unanimously adopted.**

Councilwoman Reva Trammell moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

RES. 2021-R002

To terminate the services of Lisa F. Townes as a Council Liaison for the City of Richmond.

Patron: President Newbille

There were no comments or discussions and **RES. 2021-R002 was unanimously adopted.**

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

CITY CLERK