

# City of Richmond

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## **Minutes**

# Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

1:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall (Virtual Meeting)

#### **Committee Members and Others in Attendance**

The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Chair
The Honorable Kim Gray – Vice Chair (late arrival)
The Honorable Michael Jones – Committee member
The Honorable Chris Hilbert – Council Vice President (late arrival and early departure)
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch – Council member (late arrival and early departure)
Lawrence Anderson, Council Chief of Staff
Bonnie Ashley, Deputy City Attorney
Meghan Brown, Deputy Council Chief of Staff
Bill Echelberger, Council Budget Analyst
Pamela Nichols, Assistant City Clerk
Candice Reid, City Clerk

Steve Taylor, Council Policy Analyst

RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

#### Call to Order

Chair Ellen Robertson called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m., and presided.

## **Electronic Participation**

Assistant City Clerk Pamela Nichols, 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. Assistant City Clerk Nichols stated notice of the meeting was provided to the public through a public information advisory issued on October 13, 2020, and through Legistar on the city website in accordance with usual practice. She also stated 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 Tuesday, October 22, 2020, were provided to committee members. Mrs. Nichols 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**

Pamela Nichols, assistant city clerk, provided citizen speaker guidelines.

#### **Public Comment Period**

There were no public comment speakers.

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# **Approval of Minutes**

There were no corrections or amendments to the meeting minutes of Tuesday, September 22, 2020, and the committee approved the minutes as presented.

Council Vice President Chris Hilbert joined the meeting.

#### **Board Vacancies**

Assistant City Clerk Pamela Nichols reviewed board applications for consideration by the committee.

Member Michael Jones moved to forward the following board reappointment applications to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and approved: Ayes 2, Jones, Robertson. Gray had not yet arrived.

Board Name	Criteria for Appointment		Applicant Name
Clean City Commission (15 members)	1 <sup>st</sup> District Representative		Angie Heyming 1 <sup>st</sup> District Resident
		(1 vacancy)	(reappointment)
	2 <sup>nd</sup> District Representative		Miriam Lack
			2 <sup>nd</sup> District Resident
		(1 vacancy)	(reappointment)
	5 <sup>th</sup> District Representative		Mark Hickman
	·		5 <sup>th</sup> District Resident
		(1 vacancy)	(reappointment)
	Corporate/Citizen Volunteer Representative		Julian Gordon
			6 <sup>th</sup> District Resident
			(reappointment)
			James Arnold
			9 <sup>th</sup> District Resident
		(4 vacancies)	(reappointment)

Member Michael Jones moved to forward the following board appointment application to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and approved: Ayes 2, Jones, Robertson. Gray had not yet arrived.

Board Name	Criteria for Appointment	Applicant Name
Commission of Architectural Review Board	At-Large resident	Coleen A. Rodriguez 2 <sup>nd</sup> District Resident
(9 members)	(1 vacancy)	2 District Resident

Member Michael Jones moved to forward the following board appointment and reappointment applications to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and approved: Ayes 2, Jones, Robertson. Gray had not yet arrived.

Board Name	Criteria for Appointment	Applicant Name
Green City Commission (9 members)	Expertise in Urban Forestry (1 vacancy)	Michael A. Mather 8 <sup>th</sup> District Employment
	Representative from the energy efficiency field (1 vacancy)	William H. Nickerson 9 <sup>th</sup> District Resident
	Public Works Employee (Mayoral nominee, 1 vacancy)	Alicia Zatcoff (reappointment)
	Citizen Member	Emily Francis 5 <sup>th</sup> District Resident
	(Mayoral nominee, 1 vacancy)	(reappointment)

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Vice Chair Kim Gray joined the meeting at 1:49 p.m.

Member Michael Jones moved to forward the following board reappointment application to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and approved: Ayes 2, Jones, Robertson. Gray was excused.

Board Name	Criteria for Appointment	Applicant Name
Urban Design Committee (10 members)	Urban designer or urban planner*	Andrea Quilici 2 <sup>nd</sup> District Resident
	(1 vacancy)	(reappointment)

<sup>\*</sup> Applicants must either reside or work in the city

# Chair Ellen Robertson moved to forward the following board reappointment application to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved:

Board Name	Criteria for Appointment	Applicant Name
Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority	*	Robley Jones 4th District Resident
(9 members)	(1 vacancy)	(reappointment)

<sup>\*</sup> Applicants must either reside or work in the city

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Chair Ellen Robertson requested to meet with the city clerk to discuss recruitment efforts of applicants for long standing vacancies.

# Presentation(s)

There were no presentations.

# Paper(s) for Consideration

# The following ordinance was considered:

#### ORD. 2020-224

To rename the street in the city of Richmond known as Confederate Avenue as "Laburnum Park Boulevard."

Patron: Ms. Gray and Vice President Hilbert

Citizens were provided an opportunity to offer comments in writing regarding pending legislation prior to the committee meeting. All written comments received by the Office of the City Clerk were provided to members of the committee and are included as an appendix to the October 20, 2020 Land Use, Housing and Transportation meeting minutes.

Council Vice President Chris Hilbert introduced ORD. 2020-224 and explained that a citizen group worked with the area's residents for approximately two years on the proposed name change.

Vice Chair Kim Gray echoed comments provided by Council Vice President Hilbert and expressed appreciation to the citizen group for its collaboration on the process to rename Confederate Avenue.

## **Public Hearing**

*Jill Dimitri, homeowner on Confederate Avenue,* expressed support of the renaming of Confederate Avenue. Ms. Dimitri detailed the process of the citizen group which was formed to evaluate

and pursue a name change. She reported that two separate surveys resulted in an overwhelming support of homeowners to change the name to Laburnum Park Boulevard.

There were no further comments or discussions and Vice Chair Kim Gray moved to forward ORD. 2020-224 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch joined the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Council Vice President Chris Hilbert exited the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

# The following resolution was considered:

### RES. 2020-R051

To impose enhanced speeding penalties pursuant to City Code § 27-163 and to authorize the placement of signs giving notice thereof on the portion of South Harrison Street located between Idlewood Avenue and Randolph Street and the portion of Colorado Avenue located between Randolph Street and South Allen Avenue.

Patron: Ms. Lynch

Citizens were provided an opportunity to offer comments in writing regarding pending legislation prior to the committee meeting. All written comments received by the Office of the City Clerk were provided to members of the committee and are included as an appendix to the October 20, 2020 Land Use, Housing and Transportation meeting minutes.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch introduced RES. 2020-R051 and explained that studies showed that enhanced speeding measures worked as traffic calming measures in other areas in the city and she believed it could work for the proposed area.

Member Michael Jones stated that he supported efforts to reduce speeding throughout the city; however, city administration, not City Council, should be responsible for initiating necessary measures to address the widespread problem.

Travis Bridewell, operations manager with the Department of Public Works, reported there were currently twenty-four areas within the city with enhanced speeding penalties. Mr. Bridewell stated the city does not have the resources to conduct a study of the entire city, and it would take months to gather the data. Mr. Bridewell agreed to conduct a study of specific collector roads and to provide a recommendation to the committee.

Chair Ellen Robertson stated levying enhanced speeding penalties was a tool by which Council can use to address concerns of its citizens.

There were no further comments or discussions and Vice Chair Kim Gray moved to forward RES. 2020-R051 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

The committee asked city administration to provide recommendations to address speeding citywide at the December committee meeting, and to hold preliminary discussions with committee members prior to the December meeting.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch exited the meeting at 2:19 p.m.

## The following ordinance was considered:

### ORD. 2020-219

To designate the City-owned properties known as 201 Hioaks Road, 315 Beaufont Hills Drive, 620 Rosemont Road, 2100 Colby Lane, 2606 Lynhaven Avenue, and 2903 Rear Ernest Road as public parks to be known by the names of Hioaks Park, Reedy Creek Wetland Park, Rosemont Road Park, Broad Rock Creek Park, and Ernest Road Park.

Patron: Mayor Stoney, Mr. Jones and Ms. Trammell

Chris Frelke, director of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities, introduced ORD. 2020-219.

There were no further comments or discussions and Vice Chair Kim Gray moved to forward ORD. 2020-219 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

# The following ordinance was considered:

## ORD. 2020-223

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Programmatic Project Administration Agreement between the City of Richmond and the Virginia Department of Transportation for the purpose of the development and administration of previously authorized and future Revenue Sharing Program projects.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

M. Khara, deputy director/city engineer with the Department of Public Works, introduced ORD. 2020-223.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Michael Jones moved to forward ORD. 2020-223 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.** 

## **Discussion Item**

There were no discussion items.

## Staff Report

Steve Taylor, council policy analyst, and Bill Echelberger, council budget analyst, provided the committee with the October staff report.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

# **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m.