



City of Richmond

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

Minutes

Organizational Development Standing Committee

Tuesday, July 6, 2021

5:00 PM

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

Committee Members

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille – Chair
The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Vice Chair
The Honorable Andreas Addison – Member (early departure)
The Honorable Katherine Jordan – Member
The Honorable Ann-Frances Lambert – Member
The Honorable Kristen Larson – Member
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch – Member (late arrival)
The Honorable Reva Trammell – Member (early departure)

Absent

The Honorable Michael Jones – Member

Others in Attendance

Haskell Brown, Interim City Attorney
Joyce Davis, Interim Council Chief of Staff
Candice Reid, City Clerk
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Call to Order

Chair Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 5:07 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. 2021-181, adopted June 28, 2021, announced the meeting would be held through electronic communication means. Mr. Warren stated notice of the meeting was provided to the public through a public information advisory issued on June 29, 2021, and through Legistar on the city website in accordance with usual practice. He 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, July 6, 2021, were provided to committee 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.

Agenda Amendments

Member Andreas Addison moved to amend the agenda as follows:

RES. 2021-R030

To express the Council's intent, to the extent authorized by law, to prioritize the appropriation of any funds received by the City, whether from the United States government, the Commonwealth of

Virginia, or otherwise, provided pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and the proposed American Jobs Plan of 2021.

To be continued to Tuesday, September 7, 2021 Organizational Development Standing Committee

There were no comments or discussion and the **motion to amend the agenda was seconded and approved:** Ayes 7, Addison, Jordan, Lambert, Larson, Trammell, Robertson, Newbille. Noes None. Lynch had not yet arrived.

Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections or amendments to the minutes of the Monday, June 7, 2021 Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting, at 5:00 p.m., and the minutes were approved as presented.

Reports from City Administration, Council Staff and Other Parties

Rebranding the City

Sharon Ebert, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Planning, Community and Economic Development, provided the committee with a presentation regarding city administration's efforts to rebrand the city. Ms. Ebert informed the committee that administration engaged with the West Cary Group to assist with the rebranding. Ms. Ebert also stated that a goal of the rebranding is to move away from the recognition of Richmond being the former capital of the Confederacy, and to instead move forward with the city's new story.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Member Kristen Larson inquired about outreach between Council and city administration regarding rebranding efforts.

Ms. Ebert stated city administration would reach out to each Councilmember regarding the rebranding process.

Consideration of Appointments to Boards, Commissions and Similar Entities

There were no appointment/reappointment items for consideration.

Reports of Standing Committees

There were no reports from standing committees.

Papers for Consideration

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2021-185

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Resort Casino Host Community Agreement between the City of Richmond and RVA Entertainment Holdings, LLC, for the purpose of facilitating the development of a resort casino project in the city of Richmond

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Leonard Sledge, Department of Economic Development director, provided members with an introduction and presentation related to the proposed ordinance.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Member Stephanie Lynch joined the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Member Kristen Larson inquired about mitigation efforts from the city regarding the potential of another gaming facility in Dumfries, Virginia.

Mr. Sledge provided information regarding mitigation details negotiated into the term sheet related to the development of a resort casino project in the city.

Member Reva Trammell stated her concerns with the nine month extension of a proposed completion date for the casino. Ms. Trammell also inquired about infrastructure improvements in the 8th Voter District.

Mr. Sledge stated that the extension was negotiated with an October 1, 2024 completion date, to allow for additional time due to anticipated timelines for the Virginia Lottery Board review of the project. Mr. Sledge also stated that the city would push to have the completion occur prior to October 1, 2024. Mr. Sledge informed members that Council has the ability to allocate the upfront fee received by the developer towards infrastructure improvements in the 8th Voter District.

Vice Chair Ellen Robertson stated Council would need to work with administration to develop a plan for how funding received from the developer would be used for community improvement benefits.

Member Larson stated her support for a majority of funds received to be allocated to improvements in the area surrounding the casino.

Chair Cynthia Newbille stated that she supported the development of a casino resort, because she believed it would lead to improvements in the area surrounding the casino location, as well as providing funding for other improvements in the city. Chair Newbille also stated that Council would hold a future meeting to review potential allocation of received funds from the development.

Member Trammell stated her appreciation for fellow members and city administration for efforts taken regarding the proposed casino development.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Andreas Addison moved to forward ORD. 2021-185 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and approved:** Ayes 8, Addison, Jordan, Lambert, Larson, Lynch, Trammell, Robertson, Newbille. Noes None.

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2021-186

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Community Support Agreement among City of Richmond, Casino Owner, Casino Manager and Casino Developer between the City of Richmond, RVA Entertainment Holdings, LLC, Richmond VA Management, LLC, and Richmond VA Development, LLC, for the purpose of facilitating the fulfillment of certain negotiated community benefits in connection with the development of a resort casino project in the city of Richmond.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Public Hearing

Dr. Harold Fitrer, Ed.D, Communities In Schools of Richmond President and CEO, spoke in support of ORD. 2021-186, and stated that it is the goal of Communities In Schools of Richmond that all children be provided the resources necessary to reach their full potential. Dr. Fitrer also stated

that ONE Casino + Resort was committed to provide the necessary resources to reach that goal. Dr. Fitrer also spoke in support of the potential tax revenue the city could receive from the casino development, which could be used to improve schools and education in the city.

Mary Kay Huss, Richmond Metropolitan Habitat for Humanity CEO, spoke in support of ORD. 2021-186, and stated that the ONE Casino + Resort would help provide good paying jobs that will provide citizens with the opportunity for home ownership. Ms. Huss stated the casino development would help reduce poverty, and also pledge that casino employees would volunteer time and efforts for community improvements.

Member Ann-Frances Lambert inquired if the community benefits referenced in the proposed ordinance were included on the original term sheet provided by the casino developer.

Leonard Sledge, Department of Economic Development director, informed members that the community benefits agreement added additional agreements regarding mitigation efforts and Richmond Public Schools.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Robertson moved to forward ORD. 2021-186 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and approved:** Ayes 8, Addison, Jordan, Lambert, Larson, Lynch, Trammell, Robertson, Newbille. Noes None.

Discussion Item

Overview of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and Funding Sources

Interim Council Chief of Staff Joyce Davis provided the committee with information regarding Council's next steps regarding ARPA funds.

Jason May, Department of Budget and Strategic Planning interim director, provided the committee with information regarding the United States Treasury Department's Interim Final Guidance on State and Local Government funding from the ARPA. Mr. May stated that the city would receive a total of \$154,879,828 in funding from the federal government. Mr. May also stated that the city would receive the funds in two installments, with the first already being received, and the second scheduled for May 2022. Mr. May further stated that all funds must be allocated by December 31, 2024, and all funds must be expended by December 31, 2026.

A copy of all material provided has been filed.

Chair Cynthia Newbille stated that Mr. May's presentation was an overview of the ARPA, and that a future meeting of Council would take place to discuss the ARPA in greater detail.

Interim Council Chief of Staff Joyce Davis provided information related to Council staff's collaboration with city administration regarding the review of ARPA allocations, and she informed members that additional support staff may be secured to assist with the ARPA funds.

Mr. May stated that city administration was working with city departments and the Commonwealth of Virginia to facilitate potential allocations to assist with city needs eligible for ARPA funds. Mr. May also stated that the city was still awaiting additional guidance on the ARPA from the Commonwealth of Virginia. Mr. May further stated that he expects the city to receive final guidance from the state in late July or early August.

Acting Chief Administrative Officer Lincoln Saunders stated that city administration was working to review potential uses of ARPA funds and that city administration was working with state and federal partners to better understand opportunities available for the city.

Vice Chair Ellen Robertson stated that it was important for Council to determine if additional staff should be secured to specifically address and review ARPA funds. Vice Chair Robertson requested a report detailing the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on the city.

Ms. Davis informed the committee that the Office of the Council Chief of Staff was working with a retained consultant regarding the ARPA. Ms. Davis also stated that funds would be available to retain a direct point of contact between administration and Council regarding the ARPA.

Mr. Saunders stated that additional support and staff would be necessary to address ARPA, but that the Department of Budget and Strategic Planning would help lead the collaborative effort.

Ms. Davis provided information regarding the objectives for the upcoming Council work session.

Member Andreas Addison stated his concerns with duplication of staffing to review ARPA.

Closed Session

At 7:12 p.m., Member Kristen Larson moved that the Organizational Development Standing Committee hold a closed meeting pursuant to section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to discuss and consider a prospective candidate for employment in the position of City Attorney.

The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Addison, Jordan, Lambert, Larson, Lynch, Trammell, Robertson, Newbille. Noes None.

Member Andreas Addison left the meeting.

Member Reva Trammell left the meeting.

Member Ann-Frances Lambert motioned to exit closed session. The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 6, Jordan, Lambert, Larson, Lynch, Robertson, Newbille. Noes None.

Members reconvened in open session at 8:17 p.m.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

July 6, 2021

WHEREAS, the Organizational Development Standing Committee 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 Organizational Development Standing Committee that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law:

NOW, THEREFORE,
BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Organizational Development Standing Committee 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 Organizational Development Standing Committee.

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

CERTIFYING:

Cynthia I. Newbille, Chair
Ellen F. Robertson, Vice Chair
Katherine L. Jordan
Ann-Frances Lambert
Kristen N. Larson
Stephanie A. Lynch

DECLINING TO CERTIFY:

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.