



# City of Richmond

## Informal Meeting Minutes

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

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Monday, July 26, 2021

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall  
Virtual Meeting

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### **Councilmembers Present**

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille, President  
The Honorable Ellen Robertson, Vice President  
The Honorable Andreas Addison  
The Honorable Michael Jones (late arrival)  
The Honorable Katherine Jordan  
The Honorable Ann-Frances Lambert  
The Honorable Kristen Larson  
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch  
The Honorable Reva Trammell

### **Staff Present**

Lisa Braxton, Council Management Analyst  
Haskell Brown, Interim City Attorney  
Joyce Davis, Interim 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 4:02 p.m. and presided.

### **ELECTRONIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

Council Management Analyst Lisa Braxton, 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, and stated that notice of the meeting was provided to the public through a public information advisory issued on June 30, 2021, 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. 2021-132 – retained on the Consent Agenda
2. Ord. 2021-150 – retained on the Consent Agenda
3. Ord. 2021-151 – retained on the Consent Agenda
4. Ord. 2021-159 – retained on the Consent Agenda
5. Ord. 2021-183 – retained on the Consent Agenda

6. Ord. 2021-187 – retained on the Consent Agenda
7. Ord. 2021-188 – retained on the Consent Agenda
8. Ord. 2021-189 – to be continued to Monday, September 27, 2021

*Councilor Michael Jones joined the meeting at 4:05 p.m.*

9. Ord. 2021-190 – retained on the Consent Agenda
10. Ord. 2021-191 – retained on the Consent Agenda
11. Ord. 2021-192 – retained on the Consent Agenda
12. Ord. 2021-193 – retained on the Consent Agenda
13. Ord. 2021-194 – retained on the Consent Agenda
14. Ord. 2021-195 – retained on the Consent Agenda
15. Ord. 2021-196 – retained on the Consent Agenda
16. Ord. 2021-197 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Despite a request for continuance of Ord. 2021-195, Councilor Kristen Larson asked that the proposed legislation be considered later that evening at the Formal Session of Council due to community outreach efforts and enormous support for the special use permit.

Councilor Andreas Addison provided an introduction of Ords. 2021-194 and 2021-196 and he stated that there had been significant community engagement during the process for both proposed special use permits.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell, on behalf of residents, inquired regarding Ord. 2021-195 and asked if the proposed legislation could be continued to allow an opportunity for further discussion.

Councilor Larson provided an introduction of and answered questions regarding Ord. 2021-195, and reiterated her desire for consideration of the proposed special use permit later that evening at the Formal Session of Council.

17. Ord. 2021-198 – retained on the Consent Agenda
18. Res. 2021-R036 – to be continued to Monday, September 27, 2021
19. Res. 2021-R039 – retained on the Consent Agenda
20. Res. 2021-R042 – retained on the Consent Agenda
21. Res. 2021-R044 – retained on the Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda:

22. Ord. 2019-275 – to be amended and continued to Monday, September 13, 2021
23. Ord. 2019-276 – to be amended and continued to Monday, September 13, 2021
24. Ord. 2021-097 – to be continued to Monday, September 27, 2021

25. Ord. 2021-182 – to be amended and continued to Monday, September 13, 2021
26. Ord. 2021-184 – retained on the Regular Agenda
27. Ord. 2021-185 – retained on the Regular Agenda
28. Ord. 2021-186 – retained on the Regular Agenda
29. Res. 2021-R026 – to be continued to Monday, September 27, 2021
30. Res. 2021-R030 – to be continued to Monday, September 13, 2021
31. Res. 2021-R040 – to be amended and considered
32. Res. 2021-R041 – to be continued to Monday, November 8, 2021
33. Res. 2021-R043 – retained on the Regular Agenda

Acting Chief Administrative Officer Lincoln Saunders introduced Ord. 2021-198.

President Cynthia Newbille requested Council receive an in-depth presentation regarding the Central Virginia Transportation Authority at a future meeting of Council.

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

### **Council Retreat Crossover for Standing Committees Status Report**

Vice President Ellen Robertson updated her colleagues on the progress of the Council retreat crossover for standing committees. Vice President Robertson explained that she still needed to contact several of the standing committee chairs to discuss the review and development of related action plan priorities as identified during Council's retreat. However, Ms. Robertson recommended that all members of each standing committee weigh in on the retreat crossover prior to finalization and asked for additional time to complete the assessment during the summer break.

Councilor Kristen Larson reminded councilmembers of plans to recommend changes to the city charter and stated information regarding the proposal will be forthcoming.

### **Homeless Strategy for Winter 2021**

Sharon Ebert, deputy chief administrative officer – Economic Development, provided a presentation regarding the city's homeless strategy for winter 2021, which included a contingency plan for existing pandemic shelter occupants, options for an emergency inclement weather facility, proposal for addressing chronic homelessness, suggestions regarding a year-round emergency housing center and Greater Richmond Continuum of Care data. A copy of the presentation provided has been filed.

Councilor Kristen Larson inquired regarding the entity assigned to administer the organizational assessment of the Richmond Urban Ministry Institute (RUMI) as a non-congregate shelter provider.

Councilor Michael Jones expressed concern involving illicit activities near certain temporary homeless facilities within his district and the lack of community engagement from shelter providers and city administration.

Vice President Ellen Robertson requested a strategy for addressing homelessness among individuals with special health afflictions.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell requested the origin of residency for the city's homeless population.

Acting Chief Administrative Officer Lincoln Saunders was available to address concerns raised during the presentation.

### **Council Chief of Staff Update**

Interim Council Chief of Staff Joyce Davis provided updates on the following subject matters:

- Upcoming American Rescue Plan work session
- Council Chief of Staff executive search and office restructuring study
- National Night Out expenditures
- Performance evaluations for Council appointees

### **Other Discussion**

Given the number of individuals requesting to provide comment during the public hearing for Consent and Regular Agenda items later that evening at the Formal Session, it was the consensus of Council to only allow a duration of up to two minutes per speaker.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

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CITY CLERK