



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Finance & Economic Development Standing Committee

November 18, 2021

Legislative Summary

Previous Meeting: October 21, 2021

Next Meeting: December 16, 2021

Committee Notes

Presentation(s)

- Richmond Redevelopment & Housing Authority Update ~ Ben Titter, General Counsel, Lead; Desi Wynter, Deputy Director of Real Estate & Community Development; Alicia Garcia, Deputy Director of Real Estate & Community Development

Discussion Item(s)

- None

Ordinances & Resolutions for Consideration

1. Ordinance No. 2021-189

Patron Addison

Key Points:

- To provide for the crediting of receipts of business, professional, and occupational taxes in excess of \$32,713,958.00 during Fiscal Year 2021-2022 to a special reserve assigned to support the reduction of business, professional, and occupational taxes applicable to certain businesses.
- Funds credited to the special reserve shall only be appropriated for the purpose of reduction of the BPOL Tax until the rate is 20 cents per 100 dollars of gross receipts for "financial, real estate & professional services," and "personal or business services."
- It is the sense of the patron that the funds credited to the special reserve will allow the City of Richmond to gradually bring Richmond's BPOL tax rates in line with other localities in the region, while remaining budget neutral year-over-year.

Fiscal Impact: ☒ None ☐ Yes, and is as follows:
This ordinance is designed to be revenue neutral.

2. Ordinance No. 2021-318

Patron Mayor Stoney

Key Points:

- To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute an Assignment, Assumption and Amendment of Main Street Station License Agreement between the Richmond Metropolitan Transportation



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Authority, the City of Richmond, Virginia, and Variant Events, LLC for the purpose of assigning to the City of Richmond the Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority (RMTA)'s license agreement with Variant Events, LLC for Variant Events, LLC's continued use of Main Street Station at 1500 East Main Street in the city of Richmond.

- There is a contract between the RMTA and Variant Events, LLC for 3 events at the Main Street Station.
- As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, only 2 of the 3 events occurred per the contract.
- This contract amendment will allow Variant Events, LLC to still host their 3rd event, not that Main Street Station is once again open.
- The RMTA and Variant Events, LLC consent to this amending of the contract.

Fiscal Impact: ☐ None ☒ Yes, and is as follows:

Revenue to the City from this event will be \$28,600.

3. Ordinance No. 2021-319

Patron Mayor Stoney

Key Points:

- To amend and reordain City Code § 27-282, concerning the special parking districts program and permitted expenditures from the fund, to enable funds to be used equitably by neighborhood associations within their boundaries for the maintenance of clean and safe neighborhood environments.
- "The neighborhood associations within the Special Parking District have opted to receive the funds allocated for the Clean Sweep Program are requesting authorization to use the funds within the boundaries of their designated association district boundaries to provide equitable improvements across the district."
- Ord. 2010-73-86, adopted May 24, 2010, diverts \$30 of every \$50 fine to be diverted to a special fund called: "Special Parking District", to a maximum of \$363,000.

Fiscal Impact: ☒ None ☐ Yes, and is as follows:

4. Resolution No. 2021-R078

Patron Newbille & Robertson

Key Points:

- To approve of the City's participation in the proposed settlement of opioid-related claims against McKesson, Cardinal Health, AmerisourceBergen, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, and their related corporate entities, and to direct the City Attorney to execute the documents necessary to effectuate the City's



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

participation in the settlements, including the required release of claims against the settling entities.

- Res. No. 2018-R094, adopted Nov. 13, 2018, the City Council established a policy to pursue legal action on behalf of the City against drug manufacturers and distributors of opioids.
- Ord. No. 2021-234, adopted Sept. 27, 2021, the City entered into a Virginia Opioid Abatement Fund and Settlement Allocation Memorandum of Understanding with the Attorney General of Virginia providing for the allocation and use of monies recovered through litigation concerning the opioid addiction epidemic.
- In order to receive as much as \$6.8 million (based on the calculations of the Office of the Attorney General of Virginia and assuming governmental participation in Virginia nears 100 percent) from settlements with opioid distributors and manufacturers, the City Council must adopt a resolution authorizing the City's participation in these settlements prior to **January 2, 2022**.
- At least 30 other Virginia localities have adopted similar resolutions.
- The City Attorney, the Office of the Attorney General of Virginia, and the City's outside counsel recommend that the City participate in these settlements.

Fiscal Impact: ☒ None ☐ Yes, and is as follows:

5. Resolution No. 2021-R079

Patron Robertson

Key Points:

- To request that the Council Chief of Staff cause the preparation of a study to specifically identify the amendments to the Constitution of Virginia and the General Assembly of Virginia actions necessary to authorize the City to implement a homestead tax exemption and a real property tax cap that provides a 25 percent reduction in the real estate taxes imposed upon real property owners in the city of Richmond meeting certain income and residency requirements.
- The overarching purpose of this effort is to protect family sustainability in neighborhoods most impacted by increased property tax assessments.
- An emphasis of the proposed study includes information/data on the household, and individual, income levels within neighborhoods that have had an increase of 10% to 15%, or more, in their assessed property values.

Fiscal Impact: ☒ None ☐ Yes, and is as follows:



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

6. Resolution No. 2021-R080

Patron Jones

Key Points:

- To request that the Council Chief of Staff cause the preparation of a study and recommendations for real property tax relief for persons who are not eligible for such relief under current programs authorized under state law for the elderly taxpayers.
- This study should include guidance on how to provide relief to tax payers and recommend "next steps" for the Council on providing such tax relief and be completed within 30 days of passage of this resolution.
- This study is meant to include populations excluded in the existing tax relief programs, so those under 65 and those that do not qualify as disabled.

Fiscal Impact: ☒ None ☐ Yes, and is as follows:

7. Resolution No. 2021-R081

Patron Jones

Key Points:

- To request that the Chief Administrative Officer provide the Council with a quarterly report on the expenditure of all 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.
- This detailed quarterly report shall include:
 - Spending progress;
 - Outcomes of initiatives that are being funded;
 - Any shifts in priorities; and
 - Any additional ARPA funds received through the Commonwealth of Virginia, or other sources.
- The report shall be submitted to City Council, and presentations thereon shall be provided quarterly beginning January, 2022 at meetings of the Richmond City Council Finance and Economic Development and Organizational Development Standing Committees.

Fiscal Impact: ☒ None ☐ Yes, and is as follows: