

The Closed Session Meeting of the Petersburg City Council was held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024, at the Petersburg Public Library. Mayor Parham called the Closed Session Meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL:

Present:

Council Member Charles H. Cuthbert, Jr.
Council Member Annettee Smith-Lee
Council Member W. Howard Myers
Council Member Arnold Westbrook, Jr.
Vice Mayor Darrin Hill
Mayor Samuel Parham

Absent: Council Member Marlow Jones (arrived during closed session)

Present from City Administration:

City Manager John March Altman, Jr.
City Attorney Anthony Williams

2. CLOSED SESSION:

- a. The purpose of this meeting is to convene in the closed session pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and the disposition of publicly held real property where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically including but not limited to the acquisition and disposition of real property; and under Section 2.2-3711(A)(7) and (8) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of receiving legal advice and status update from the city attorney and legal consultation regarding the subject of specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by the city attorney, specifically including but not limited to matters requiring the legal advice of the city attorney; and under Section 2.2-3711(A)(29) for the purpose of discussion regarding the subject matter of a public contract involving the expenditure of funds and terms or scope of such contract where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically including but not limited to the discussion of the award and terms of a public contract; and under Section 2.2-3711(a)(1) for the purpose of discussion pertaining to performance, assignment, and appointment of a specific public employees of the City of Petersburg, specifically including but not limited to discussion of the performance, assignment, and appointment of a specific public officer of the City of Petersburg.

Vice Mayor Hill made a motion that the City Council go into closed session for the purposes noted. Council Member Smith-Lee seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Smith-Lee, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, and Parham; Absent: Jones

The City Council entered closed session at 3:06 p.m.

CERTIFICATION:

Mr. Williams stated, "The Mayor would entertain a motion to conclude the closed session called today to certify in accordance with §2.2-3712 that the Code of Virginia that to the best of each members knowledge that only public business matter lawfully exempted from the opening meeting requirements were discussed and that only such public business matters were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened, heard, discussed, or considered. If any member believes that there was a departure from the

foregoing requirements should state prior to the vote indicating the substance for departure in which he believes has occurred. This requires a roll call vote Mr. Mayor.”

Vice Mayor Hill made a motion to return the City Council to open session and certify the purposes of the closed session. Council Member Smith-Lee seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion.

The motion was approved on roll call vote.

On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Jones, Smith-Lee, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, and Parham

24-R-1 A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING, AS REQUIRED BY THE CODE OF VIRGINIA, SECTION 2.2-3712, THAT TO THE BEST OF EACH MEMBER’S KNOWLEDGE, ONLY PUBLIC BUSINESS MATTERS LAWFULLY EXEMPTED FROM OPEN MEETING REQUIREMENTS OF VIRGINIA LAW WERE DISCUSSED IN THE CLOSED SESSION, AND ONLY SUCH PUBLIC BUSINESS MATTERS AS WERE IDENTIFIED IN THE MOTION CONVENING THE CLOSED SESSION WERE HEARD, DISCUSSED, OR CONSIDERED.

The City Council returned to open session at 5:24pm.

Mayor Parham stated, “I need a motion to direct the city manager to withdraw the city from participation in Central Virginia Waste Management Authority for the purposes of the solid waste collection services contract.

Vice Mayor Hill made a motion to direct the city manager to withdraw the city from participation in Central Virginia Waste Management Authority for the purposes of the solid waste collection services contract. Council Member Myers seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion was approved on roll call vote. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Jones, Smith-Lee, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, and Parham

Vice Mayor Hill stated, “I move that the City of Petersburg waive the penalty of interest accrued on this month’s current billing cycle from December 31, 2023, to January 19, 2024, for all real estate taxes and utility billing. Let me give some clarity if I can. We know that because of the holiday some people got their real estate bill late because of the mailing that was done. Some people got their water bills late. So, we are going to give that particular current billing from December 31, 2023, to January 19, 2024, so that there will be no penalties given or tax increase because of that cycle. That is my motion.”

Vice Mayor Hill made a motion to waive the penalty of interest accrued on this month’s current billing cycle from December 31, 2023, to January 19, 2024, for all real estate taxes and utility billing. Council Member Myers seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion was approved on roll call vote. On roll call vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Jones, Smith-Lee, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, and Parham

3. ADJOURNMENT:

The City Council adjourned at 5:27 p.m.