

The Organizational meeting of the Petersburg City Council was held on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at the Petersburg Public Library. Council Member Parham called the meeting to order at 3:03p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Council Member Charles H. Cuthbert, Jr.
Council Member Marlow Jones
Council Member W. Howard Myers
Council Member Arnold Westbrook, Jr.
Council Member Darrin Hill
Council Member Annette Smith-Lee
Council Member Samuel Parham

Absent: None

Present from City Administration:
Clerk of City Council Nykesha D. Jackson
City Manager John March Altman, Jr.
City Attorney Anthony Williams

3. **BUSINESS OR REPORTS FOR/FROM THE MAYOR AND OTHER MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL:**

a. Nominations and appointment of Mayor

Mrs. Lucas stated, "We are going to do nominations for the appointment of the mayor. We will start with just the nomination name then we will go down the list for roll call."

Council Member Myers asked, "Are we doing a slate or just individuals?"

Mrs. Lucas stated, "Whatever the majority would prefer."

Council Member Myers stated, "I would like to propose a slate. And that would be Mayor Parham and Councilman Hill."

Mrs. Lucas stated, "Okay. I will do the first slate and do roll call. If we get four or the majority, then that will be the vote. If it does not then I will go back down the list and split, it up. Is that agreeable with everyone."

Council Member Myers nominated Council Member Parham to be the mayor and Council Member Hill to be vice mayor. The nomination was approved by roll call vote. On voice vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Jones, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, and Parham; Voting No: Smith-Lee

23-R-1 **A RESOLUTION APPOINTING SAMUEL PARHAM AS MAYOR AND DARRIN HILL AS VICE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PETERSBURG FOR A TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024.**

b. Nominations and appointment of Vice Mayor

This item was done under the nomination of mayor.

c. Discussion and consideration of the Rules of Council.

Council Member Cuthbert made a motion to adopt the Rules of Council as presented.

Motion dies due to lack of second.

Council Member Myers made a motion to table the approval of the Rules of Council and the amendment to the Rules of Council with adding Conflict of Interest until the January 17th meeting. Council Member Smith-Lee seconded the motion. There was discussion on the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote. On voice vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Jones, Smith-Lee, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, and Parham

d. Consideration of a resolution to amend the Rules of Council and add Conflict of Interest.

This item is tabled until January 17, 2023.

4. CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor Parham stated, "I would like to entertain a motion to add the discussion of residual delinquencies of real property tax collections to the consultation with legal counsel portion of the closed session agenda."

Council Member Cuthbert made a motion to add the discussion of residual delinquencies of real property tax collections to the consultation with legal counsel portion of the closed session agenda. Vice Mayor Hill seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote. On voice vote, voting yes: Cuthbert, Jones, Smith-Lee, Myers, Westbrook, Hill, and Parham

a. Closed Session Items:

The purpose of this meeting is to convene in the closed session pursuant to:

1. §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, as of actual or probable litigation, specifically including but not limited to the requirements of Code of Virginia Title 58.1, Subtitle IV, Chapter 41, Article 1 through 11; and residual delinquencies of real property tax collections; and matter requiring legal advice of the city attorney; and Petersburg Circuit Court Case Number CL22-787; and under subsection §2.2-3711(A)(29) of the Code of Virginia 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 subsection §2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussion pertaining to performance, assignment, and appointment of a specific public officer of the City of Petersburg.

Council Member Myers made a motion that the City Council go into closed session for the purposes noted. Vice Mayor Hill seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion, which was approved on roll call vote.

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

City Council entered closed session at 3:12 p.m.

CERTIFICATION:

Mr. Williams stated, "The Mayor would entertain a motion to conclude the closed session called

this evening 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 so state prior to the vote indicating the substance for departure that in his or her judgment has taken place. This requires a roll call vote Mr. Mayor.”

Council Member Cuthbert made a motion to return City Council into open session and certify the purposes of the closed session. Council Member Wilson-Smith 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, Wilson-Smith, Myers, Westbrook, and Parham; Absent: Hill

23-R-2 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.

City Council returned to open session at 5:15 p.m.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

City Council adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Clerk of City Council

APPROVED:

Mayor