

CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

School Board / City Council Joint Work Session

February 7, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Walker Upper Elementary School Cafeteria, 1564 Dairy Road, Charlottesville, VA

The February 7, 2024, joint budget work session of the Charlottesville City Council and the Charlottesville City School Board was called to order by Chair Lisa Torres at 5:00 p.m.

Deputy School Board Clerk Leslie Thacker called the roll for School Board Members, establishing a quorum, and Clerk of Council Kyna Thomas called the roll for City Council, noting the following members present: Mayor Juandiego Wade, Vice Mayor Brian Pinkston, and Councilors Michael Payne and Lloyd Snook. Councilor Oschrein gave prior notice that she would arrive late.

Chair Torres called a vote for agenda approval, and the agenda was adopted unanimously.

Superintendent Royal Gurley made the Budget Development FY 25 presentation, covering the topics of Budget Priorities, Demographics and Enrollment, Local Composite Index, Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes to Budget. Dr. Gurley and staff answered clarifying questions for Council.

Councilor Oschrein arrived at 5:24 p.m. during the presentation.

Following the presentation, Chair Torres opened the floor for comments from members of the community and the following individuals spoke:

- Christine Esposito, city resident and school employee
- Heather Blakely, 6th grade teacher
- Jessica Taylor, reading specialist, read a message from another teacher Shannon Gillikin.
- Sabra Timmons, ESL (English as a Second Language) teacher
- Deborah Hartline, city resident and Instructional Assistant in the LEAP Program
- Raul Arbelaez, parent, and President of the Black Knight Athletic Club
- Nic McCarthy-Rivera, teacher
- Laura Sirgany, parent, support staff member and education researcher
- Amy Gardner, parent
- Ang Conn, city resident

Chair Torres invited comments from City Council. Mayor Wade thanked the School Board and staff for an informative meeting. Dr. Gurley will present the approved School Board Budget to City Council at the March 5, 2024, City Council meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

BY Order of City Council

BY Kyna Thomas, Clerk of Council