

RESOLUTION NO. 7-15

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING PROCEDURES AND PROCESSES RELATING TO STANDING COMMITTEES AND ELIMINATING CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES

WHEREAS, Section III-A.2(d) of the Charter states, “Relationship with City Council. The Mayor shall be a voting member of and preside over meetings of the City Council. The Mayor shall annually appoint standing committees of the City Council; provided that the Mayor shall not be a member of such committees. Reports of the standing committees shall be made at regular City Council meetings or whenever the Mayor shall so require; and,

WHEREAS, the city attorney has opined that this section of the Charter addresses the mayor's power to appoint, not the mandatory nature of any particular City Council Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the most recent resolution of the City Council relating to standing committees is 94-78, which is over 36 years old and dates from the time of a nine-member City Council; and,

WHEREAS, Resolution 94-78 described four standing committees, two of which no longer exist; and,

WHEREAS, standing committees have become redundant and wasteful of valuable staff time because the same subject matter coming before standing committees must also come before the entire council; and,

WHEREAS, standing committee meetings are traditionally held during the day when many interested parties cannot attend due to work; and,

WHEREAS, the city manager, finance director, chief of police and city clerk all believe that the two standing committees now existing have not only outlived their usefulness but have become counterproductive; and,

WHEREAS, if the Finance and Public Safety Committees are eliminated, the Richmond Municipal Code (“RMC”) must also be amended to eliminate those committees’ codified duties, including but not limited to: 1) eliminating the Finance Committee’s role relating to contract approval in RMC Section 2.52.344(a)(1) (eliminating the phrase “after approval by the Finance Committee” so that City Council approval is sufficient for purchases exceeding \$10,000);2) eliminating the Public Safety committee’s role in hearing appeals of administrative citations in RMC Sections 2.62.105 and 2.62.130 and replacing the committee with an appeals hearing officer to be selected by the City Manager; and 3) eliminating the Public Safety committee’s role in the medical marijuana permit approval process in RMC Chapter 7.102 and replacing that committee with the City Council.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Richmond that Resolution 94-78 is rescinded in its entirety and that the city attorney is instructed to draft Richmond Municipal Code amendments to sections that require action by a standing committee; and.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Richmond retains the power to appoint ad hoc committees either by action of the mayor or by action by a majority of the City Council, the members of which are to be appointed by the mayor with the concurrence of at least three other City Council members.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held on January 20, 2015, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Beckles, Martinez, McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Myrick, and Mayor Butt.

NOES: Councilmember Bates.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

ABSENT: None.

DIANE HOLMES
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
(SEAL)

Approved:

TOM BUTT
Mayor

Approved as to form:

BRUCE GOODMILLER
City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 7-15**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on January 20, 2015.