

NEW BUSINESS – Council Meeting (Special) December 17, 2018

Councillor Kelly Greene

Motion: To cancel Richmond City Council pay increase in 2019 due to federal taxation changes and to phase in the planned salary increases for elected representatives from 2020–2024.

Rationale: Due to significant budgetary pressures in 2019, it would be inappropriate for elected officials for the City of Richmond to realize a significant raise in the coming year. Even though Mayor and Councillors' take home pay would not change after the planned raise due to federal taxation changes, Richmond residents should see their representatives demonstrating personal commitment to fiscal restraint.

It is important for elected representatives to understand that the majority of tax-paying residents do not receive pay or pension increases, even if their costs increase or personal taxation rules change. Through demonstrating our personal understanding of this situation, we can build trust with residents that we are carefully considering all budgetary items, and respect the work residents' undertake to pay their property taxes.