CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2019

Mayor Schabell called the Alexandria City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the invocation and the pledge to the flag. The following Council Members answering roll call:

Stacey Graus Present
Bob Simon Present
Kyle Sparks Present
Susan Vanlandingham Present
Sue Neillner Absent
Tom Baldridge Absent

Also: Jan Johannemann, City Clerk
Natalie Selby, Police Sergeant
Sam Trapp, Public Works Supt.
Mike Duncan, City Attorney
Mason Muench, Fire Department
JoAnn Hackworth, Treasurer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 3, 2019

MOTION: Kyle Sparks made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2019 meeting, seconded by Stacey Graus. All in favor, the motion passed 4-0-0.

VISITORS & GUESTS

1. Rhonda Sue Deaton, Morning Star Ceramics: Ms. Deaton opened her shop at 8131 Alexandria Pike next to Logos Bookstore on October 1st. They have three party rooms and one large painting room. Everyone is invited to come and paint pumpkins on Saturday, Oct. 26th from 11-3. The Mayor will join around noon. All her products are made in the USA. Their hours are M-Th, 11-8; F & Sat, 11-9, Sun, 1-3. Mayor Schabell thanked Ms. Deaton for attending the meeting to share about her new store and the city will promote the new business as much as possible.

2. Kristin Leadingham, VonLehman & Associates – Ms. Leadingham met with the Finance Committee earlier and went over the audit in detail. She presented a brief overview of the audit to council, reporting that the city received an unmodified, clean opinion, which is what we want to see. She pointed out a prior year audit adjustment that did need to be made, but it does not affect the unmodified opinion. Ms. Leadingham then reviewed several pages of the Financial Statement in detail. The auditors did not identify any situations of material weaknesses but did identify one significant deficiency in the area of segregation of duties. The city is looking at ways to split up the cash disbursements duties.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

Investment Policy: Mayor Schabell explained the Finance Committee met with the Kentucky League of Cities about investment options, but before the city can do anything, they have to adopt an investment policy.

Mr. Graus reported the Finance Committee met this evening at 5:30 p.m. to hear the audit report, ask questions, and to meet with KLC. A recent statute was passed making it possible for cities to invest in things other than money-market funds or CD’s which have a low rate of return. Cities can pool their money together to invest with a greater rate of return and the money stays liquid. Mr. Graus shared the different possibilities and the advantages of investing. There is a three-part process to get involved in this opportunity:

1. Have an investment policy that is in line with what is permitted by the statute.
2. Enter into an interlocal agreement, which is required, to participate in the pool of money.
3. Open an account with PNC, the bank selected to be the institutional investor for the pooled funds.
With PNC there are no transaction fees and we would only pay .35% a year, an incredibly low rate. There is no risk in passing Municipal Order 2019-17 and the city doesn’t have to take any further steps if it chooses not to.

Mr. Duncan read the following:

MUN ORD #2019-17: Approving and adopting the attached City of Alexandria Investment Policy.

Mr. Duncan explained this ordinance takes advantage of the statutory investment opportunities. The statute does require cities to have an investment policy, and the policy must be in place before the city can enter into the interlocal agreement. The Municipal Order designates the Mayor and City Treasurer as the authorized officials to deal with the investments.

MOTION: Stacey Graus made a motion to approve Municipal Order 2019-17, seconded by Bob Simon. Mayor Schabell explained when he first saw the information from KLC he began working with Ms. Hackworth to figure out how the city could begin the processing. Mr. Sparks asked what the penalty would be if the city had to pull out all of its money in the wake of a disaster. There is no penalty, the .35% includes all fees. After the discussion the motion was brought up for a vote, and passed with a 4-0-0 vote.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Clerk: Around 65% of the taxes have been collected so far. They are due by October 31.

Police Department: The Mayor attended a mayor’s meeting where they discussed the new radio system. Motorola was supposed to test the system for its maximum distance while there were still leaves on the trees, but they failed to do that. Now they will not be able to test the system until Spring, 2020. The city does not physically have possession of the radios, but we have made payments on them. They are working on allowing the city to use the radios until they are tested in the Spring. Currently Public Works has no way of communicating with each other except for cell phones. Warranties won’t go into effect until the radios are turned on. Once the radios are up and running, they will open the communication between departments and counties.

Fire Department: See attached report. The Turkey Raffle is Saturday, November 2, and the burn ban has been lifted.

Public Works: Paving should begin next week or the week after.

Zoning Administration: See attached report. The city received a permit for the first house in the Timber Ridge Subdivision.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Safety – Susan Vanlandingham: Next meeting is November 21. Please send her any issues the committee should address. She also reported Frankfort has approved the northbound left-turn signal light at US 27 and 536. Mr. Sparks thanked Ms. Vanlandingham for all of her hard work on getting this light.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Planning & Zoning: Mr. Duncan reported the commission is reviewing the sign ordinances and updates. They also approved a draft of the Goals and Objectives for the Comprehensive Plan which will require a public hearing. They discussed the revisions to street light regulations that were brought up at a previous council meeting. Also their Steering Committee is helping with the Comprehensive Plan.

NEW BUSINESS – None
OLD BUSINESS – None

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Bob Simon: He is hoping the street program gets underway in the next few weeks and will be finished by the end of November. Mr. Trapp will be out for the next several weeks.

Mayor Schabell: He attended a mayors’ meeting where Jennifer Teipel from Campbell County Media gave a presentation. He also learned what other cities are doing in regards to Air B&B’s; the Mayor found one in Alexandria. Bellevue has 12-16 and they began to run into issues with owners turning living rooms into bedrooms and filling them with bunk beds. Also renters would have loud parties. The City of Bellevue decided to put some regulations in place to make them easier to manage. The Mayor believes Alexandria should get ahead of game and look at putting some regulations in place for Air B&B’s. There was also a presentation by 1NKY, a group looking to get more development and businesses into Northern Kentucky.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- Property Maintenance Board – October 24, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
- Planning and Zoning – November 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
- Park & Recreation – November 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Every Wednesday, 2:30-4:30 – Open Gym for Middle & High Schoolers
- October 19, 7:30 p.m. – Haunted Walk @ Alexandria Community Park
- October 25, 2:00 p.m. – Deadline for Fall/Halloween Beautification nominations
- October 31 – Deadline to pay city taxes
- Halloween Trick-or-Treat hours: Thursday, October 31, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- November 2, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.: Household Waste Collection event, UC Health Stadium in Florence. Registrations forms need to be completed before you arrive.
- November 5: Election Day

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Susan Vanlandingham made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bob Simon. All in favor, the motion passed 4-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Jan Johannemann, City Clerk

Date: 11/15/19

Andy Schabell, Mayor

Date: 11/15/19