

CITY COUNCIL TOWN HALL MEETING
Minutes of March 3, 2011

The Alexandria City Council met on the above date at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor William T. Rachford, Jr. present and the following members answering roll call:

Council Members:

Table listing Council Members and their status: Barbara Weber Present, Stacey Graus Present, Scott Fleckinger Present, Bob Simon Absent, Dave Hart Present, Joe Anderson Present.

Also present:

Table listing other attendees and their roles: Karen Barto City Clerk, Mike Duncan City Attorney, Jeff Pohlman Fire Chief, Sam Trapp Public Works, Mike Ward Police Chief.

Mayor Rachford led the pledge to the flag. Scott Fleckinger read the invocation.

The purpose of this Town Hall Meeting is to get input from the citizens.

- 1) Marty Hipple, 110 Viewpoint Drive - He addressed the letter from Mayor Rachford about changing the parking on Viewpoint to the other side of the street.

Ms. Weber agrees with Mr. Hipple that there should be a Public Hearing. Chief Pohlman said if there is adequate space to access a hydrant and lay a line, the Fire Department will work with anything as long as there is no parking on one side of the street.

Dave Hart remembered there was a complaint about drainage on Viewpoint last year. Sam said if parking were moved to the other side of the street, it could help the drainage issue.

Mayor Rachford then asked the audience what their major concerns were with the City as it exists right now and what are their thoughts going forward.

- 1) Marty Hipple - Viewpoint Drive - Is upset that the city is spending \$16,000-\$20,000 to have a firm check out the streets.
2) Glen Baldwin, Hunters Hill - He would like to see a community park along the highway that would include a swimming pool and skateboard area for the kids.

- 3) Chief Pohlman, Alexandria Fire Department** – He wanted to know what the council's vision is for the City, especially growth. As fire chief, he would like to do some strategic planning.

Stacey Graus addressed this. There were several developments that were already approved (at the end of Alexandria Licking Pike/Tollgate, and behind the Ford dealership). At some point, about 1400 units will be added (single family homes, condos, patio homes, etc.), which will put a burden on the infrastructure. Right now, we are pretty "lean" as far as improvements to our streets and park. The only way to bring in more revenue is to increase value of homes, and the number of homes, which is not going to happen because of the present economy. Plans are to eventually annex more properties on US 27 to the south. Part of the AA Highway corridor should be for industrial use. He would also like to see more planned unit developments with green space.

Dave Hart pointed out that the Summerlake subdivision has a nice green space with a walking trail and playground equipment. Planning & Zoning is attempting to incorporate these types of things in some of the newer developments.

Scott Fleckinger added that any new commercial development is good only if you can draw the businesses in. Land in Alexandria is rarely flat.

Mayor Rachford said the Arcadia Development is set up to be a planned unit development. Addressing Chief Pohlman's comments, he doesn't see that there is a desire on the part of council or citizens to have a large manufacturing area in the City, maybe just some light manufacturing.

The Mayor said the city is required by law to balance its budget every year, so it is good to have plans, but there is always the challenge as to how to pay for them. Also, he posed the question, "What can you do as a citizen?" Citizens need to be the eyes and ears of the city and let the city know if there is a pothole. Also, he asked that residents please not litter, and to pick up any debris they see in their yards.

March 23, 26, 27 is the Spring Campbell County Clean-Up. In conjunction with this, Public Works will pick up large items for residents who are unable to do so themselves on Thursday, March 24th and Friday, March 25th.

Barb Weber called this the "City-Wide Take Pride Spring Clean" and encouraged everyone to clean up yards and areas around Alexandria residences. Let's restore pride in the city.

- 4) Ron Johnson, 7000 Alexandria Pike** – He mentioned the Adopt a Street Program as a possible way to keep highways clean.

Mayor Rachford said Public Works have been replacing worn and damaged street signs around US 27 and Poplar Ridge, and doing a good job.

There is an article in the Alexandria Recorder this week about some vacant properties in Alexandria. Two out of three property owners are cooperating with the City to clean things up and bring their property into compliance. The third one is not cooperating, but the City is taking steps to deal with him.

Joe Anderson said he visited the park recently and saw quite a few fishermen, walkers, joggers around the lake. It is great to see the residents of Alexandria use the park. Chris Fossett, the game warden, showed up at the lake and was checking fishing licenses. The Mayor said they

plan to move trash bins and the dumpster at the park to improve accessibility and protecting the parking lot from the large garbage trucks. This will be done when the weather improves. Joe Anderson would like to see a report on income from the Community Center. Mayor Rachford said he receives a receipt report almost daily. He is working on a report that he can give to council. Joe came up with a slogan "Get connected, get answers".

Barb Weber asked if the meeting schedules for all the committees could be put on the City website.

Chief Pohlman reported the Fire Department is having a benefit for Joe Britton, who is a volunteer firefighter. Joe had a cerebral hemorrhage and was diagnosed with Leukemia. He is making a slow comeback, but has mounting medical bills. The benefit is March 19th at the Alexandria Fire House from 7:00 – 11:00 p.m. Admission is \$30/family, \$35/couple, \$15/single.

Mayor Rachford thanked everyone for coming.

ADJOURNMENT:

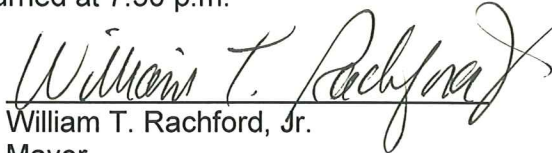
MOTION: Barb Weber made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Scott Fleckinger. All in favor, the motion passed with a 5-0-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.



Karen M. Barto
City Clerk/Treasurer

Date: 3-18-11

Approved: 3-17-2011



William T. Rachford, Jr.
Mayor

Date: 3-18-11