CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of October 20, 2011

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

Council Members:
Barbara Weber Present
Stacey Graus Present
Joe Anderson Present
Bob Simon Present
Dave Hart Present
Scott Fleckinger Present

Also present:
Karen Barto City Clerk/Treasurer
Mike Duncan City Attorney
Joe Alexander Asst. Police Chief
John Jewell P&Z Chairman
Gail Jewell Ethics Board

Mayor Rachford led the pledge to the flag. Dave Hart read the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

October 6, 2011

MOTION: Dave Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2011 meeting, seconded by Scott Fleckinger. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

VISITORS & GUESTS:

Mary Etingher, 8283 East Main Street: She was following up on the list of code enforcement issues on Main Street that she presented at a prior meeting. Mayor Rachford said Carol has been working on this, and Mr. Seibert’s deadline is this Friday. A few of the things still not addressed are overgrown weeds around the properties and a piece of tin roof on the corner of Main & Jefferson. After a citation was issued to Mr. Seibert, he fixed one particular problem, and she wondered why other property owners who are also in violation are not getting citations. Mayor Rachford will have Carol contact her.

Stacey Graus asked about the holes on or near the sidewalk on Main Street close to the catch basins.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

Mike Duncan read the following:

RESOLUTION #2011-05: A Resolution of the City of Alexandria supporting the Northern Kentucky Consensus 2012 priorities.

Mr. Duncan explained the 2012 Consensus Priorities was made up by the Northern Kentucky Consensus Committee. They have asked all of the local governments throughout Northern Kentucky to support this.

For the record, Barb Weber asked if support of this Resolution would be supporting the concept or the idea, and not necessarily the financial aspect. Mr. Duncan confirmed this, and added that the resolution asks for support in asking the legislature to appropriate the funds.

MOTION: Barbara Weber made a motion to adopt Resolution #2011-05, seconded by Dave Hart. All in favor the motion passed 6-0-0.
EXECUTIVE ORDER #2011-06: An Executive Order of the Mayor or the City of Alexandria promulgating revisions to the Personnel Policy for the City of Alexandria.

The list of changes is attached to the Executive Order. Mr. Duncan explained that according to ordinance, Council has the opportunity to disagree and vote these revisions down if they want to. The ordinance doesn't call for a vote in favor; however, if there is a disagreement, it can be voted down.

Karen Barto explained that most of the changes to the Personnel Policy were to clean up language for interpretation of the policy.

MOTION: Scott Fleckinger made a motion to adopt Executive Order #2011-06, seconded by Stacey Graus. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

City Clerk: Taxes are due on October 31st and the Clerk's office will be open until 6:00 p.m. that day.

Police Department: Asst. Chief Alexander thanked Officer Mark Branham for arranging Missy Jenkins-Smith to come to the middle and high schools to present an anti-bullying program. Missy was one of several students who were injured in a high school shooting in Paducah in 1997.

The Haunted Walk is this Saturday at 7:30. Police officers, explorers, and other personnel will be handling parking, concessions, etc. If the ball field dries out in time, they plan to use it for parking. If not, please be courteous and not park where you shouldn't.

Also, there have been a lot of stolen vehicles in the area, although none in Alexandria. Most incidents have been the result of unlocked vehicles with keys in the ignition or in the car. Therefore, please lock you vehicles and take the keys. At home, lock your doors and keep garage doors closed. If you see anything suspicious, please call the police department immediately.

Public Works: See attached report.

Zoning Administrator: See attached report.

Fire Department: Chief Pohlman asked the Mayor to report on the following:
- The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Alexandria Fire Department is holding a spaghetti dinner this Friday from 4:00 – 7:30 at the fire house.
- They are hosting a “Spook-Tacular”, which is a scrapbooking program on Saturday, October 29 from 9:00 – 6:00 p.m.
- The Turkey/Ham raffle is Saturday, November 5th. Doors will open at 6:00.
- Open burning is permitted, but you must obtain a burn permit from the Fire Department.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Annexation Committee: Stacey said they are moving forward with the annexation.

Safety Committee: Barbara noticed one of the flashing digital electronic signs in the city does not conform to the ordinance, and has been allowed to continue. As a result, there are now three digital signs that are flashing the same way. She thinks we need to send a message to those businesses, and requested the Zoning Administrator contact them to get them to comply. Also, the flashing sign at the Middle School is very distracting. The City does not have any control over that as confirmed by Mr. Duncan. Mayor Rachford said he is meeting with the Superintendent tomorrow and will talk to him about it.
Personnel Committee: Joe said there was a meeting on October 6th to review suspension and reprimands. Mayor Rachford has a report of what was discussed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Joe reminded everyone that Campbell County Clean-Up is November 4, 5, and 6. Also, there is a Household Waste Collection Event on November 5 at Turfway Park.

Joe also mentioned the Halloween Train Fest at Southern Lanes. Mayor Rachford said he went last Saturday. There is an outdoor electric train display that is 50-60 feet long. Admission is $5 per person that includes a small pumpkin. Proceeds go to the Kentucky Amateur Baseball Group. The display will stay up through the holiday season.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion of Possible Flea Market: Mayor Rachford referred to letters in the council packet that are from members of the community expressing interest in a flea market. He asked Council for their input, as a flea market is not currently a permitted use in any zone. If this is something council wants to pursue, it will involve holding a public hearing for a zone change.

After discussion, most council members were in favor, but do not want it to be weekly. Mayor Rachford thanked the members for their input.

Ms. Weber was disappointed that she had to read about the police consolidation issue on NKY.com. She did not know anything about it. In the article, there was mention that the County and the City of Alexandria would split a $13,500 fee for the survey. She asked the Mayor where the money would come from. Mayor Rachford explained the City’s share of this “split” is less than $2,000. Ms. Weber also said last year an ordinance was passed that if there is an expenditure of more than $1,000, council was to be informed and their approval was required. Council has never talked about the City paying anything toward a consolidation study. She is questioning why the media knew about something that council had no knowledge of. Mr. Hart believed council was under the impression that this study was not going to cost the City anything. By the way the article was written, it looked like the City was paying half, or $6,750, which was not a pleasing thought. Mayor Rachford explained that he felt the City should have some financial stake in the outcome in terms of providing input and questions to the consulting firm doing the study.

Joe asked if there was ever talk about a sheriff’s department or a metro department. Stacey thinks we would be hard pressed to assure the same service to the community if we lose that much control of the police department.

Mayor Rachford said the Sheriff’s office is an elected position and they are not required to have a law enforcement background. In Campbell County, the Sheriff’s office serves warrants and they are not out doing actual police work. However, there are sworn officers. At this point, merging the sheriff’s office has not been discussed. There also has not been a pre-determined decision made on the merge.

COMMUNICATIONS –

- A list of job openings is now also posted on the City website. Dave Hart said there are postings for office, medical and construction related job training.

- Joe asked if the annual budget for the City could be posted on the website.

- Mayor Rachford reported he received a letter regarding engine braking. We do have an ordinance on this, and Sam will be putting up signs.
- Dave Hart mentioned he has noticed an increase in semi tractor trailers on Poplar Ridge. He thinks there used to be a sign on Poplar Ridge about a weight limit for vehicles.

- Halloween Trick or Treat Hours are Monday, October 31st from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** Scott Fleckinger made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joe Anderson. All in favor, the motion passed with a 6-0-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Karen M. Barto  
City Clerk/Treasurer  
Date: November 4, 2011

William T. Rachford, Jr.  
Mayor  
Date: November 4, 2011

Approved: November 3, 2011