



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Minutes of June 21, 2012**

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

**Council Members:**

Barbara Weber	Present	Bob Simon	Present
Stacey Graus	Absent	Dave Hart	Present
Joe Anderson	Absent	Scott Fleckinger	Present

**Also present:**

Karen Barto	City Clerk/Treasurer	Mike Duncan	City Attorney
John Jewell	P&Z Chairman	Gail Jewell	Ethics Board
Ron Johnson	P&Z	Ellis Lang	Ethics Board

Mayor Rachford led the pledge to the flag, and also read the invocation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**June 7, 2012**

**MOTION:** Bob Simon made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2012 meeting, seconded by Dave Hart. All in favor, the motion passed 3-0-1, with Scott Fleckinger abstaining.

**VISITORS & GUESTS:**

**1. Joyce and Tom Schwegel, 2415 Hickorywood Court** – They passed out pictures to council regarding an issue with their next-door neighbor in the Ridgewood Valley Subdivision. The neighbor has a 12 X 25 ft. barn on the property which he uses for his business, and there is a large amount of firewood stored on the property although he does not have a fireplace. The Schwegel's looked at their deed and the site plan of Ridgewood Valley, and there doesn't seem to be any deed restrictions. Barb Weber stated that most subdivisions have some sort of regulations associated with it which is filed at the Courthouse. She added that subdivision restrictions are separate from the City zoning ordinances.

Chief Ward said he will have the code enforcement officer check to see if he is running a business out of his house.

Mr. Schwegel said the neighbor is a self-employed tile setter by trade, but he also does odd jobs. He brings his construction debris back to his house and either burns it in a large fire pit which he built on city property or throws it in the retention pond behind his house. Bags of concrete and pieces of aluminum have been tossed into the retention pond. Other neighbors have stocked this pond with fish, and Mr. Schwegel is concerned about the fish and the children that swim in the pond.

Mr. Duncan stated that the city typically does not regulate the type of material that is used when a permit is issued. However, we would be concerned if there is a permit issued for something that is lawful and then he builds something that wasn't. If there are covenants, (and sometimes it takes a title examiner to find those) the city would not enforce those.

Mr. Schwegel knows for a fact that the stuff his neighbor is burning in the fire pit gives off thick black smoke which makes it toxic. If the owner doesn't remove the fire pit by the June 22<sup>nd</sup> deadline, then the city would have to remove it and he wanted the city workers to be careful.

Mrs. Schwegel complained that the neighbor moved his wood pile right next to their fence. She also said he keeps several trucks in his yard, and is frustrated he is running a business out of his home.

Karen Barto asked Mrs. Schwegel for his name and address so she can check if he has an occupational license.

**2. Ralph Nienaber, 2421 Hickorywood Court** – He has the same complaints as the Schwegel's, and is concerned about the neighbor running a construction business out of his home. He brings in materials and stores them in his barn. There are other things Mr. Nienaber sees that indicate his neighbor is running a business out of his home.

The Mayor thanked them for coming and will turn this over to the zoning administrator and code enforcement officer.

**3. Bill Mark, Director of the Northern Kentucky Drug Strike Force** – He gave a presentation about how their agency operates and some facts about drug trafficking in Northern Kentucky.

### ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

*Mike Duncan read the following:*

*Second Reading:*

**ORDINANCE #2012-04** – An Ordinance adopting the annual budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013, by estimating revenues and resources and appropriating funds for the operation of City government.

Barb Weber asked if her 6/13/12 copy of the line item worksheet that she has is the same one that is attached to the new accepted budget. Karen Barto confirmed it was. Mr. Duncan said the worksheet would be attached as an exhibit to the ordinance, and suggested that council members turn in any old documents and then they would get a fresh copy.

**MOTION:** Scott Fleckinger made a motion to approve Ordinance #2012-04 with the attachment, seconded by Barbara Weber.

The Mayor asked for any discussion and Mr. Hart asked about the \$8,477 expenditure to be split into two years. Mayor Rachford said after giving it some thought, he would like to remove the contribution for this fiscal year since there was no line item in the budget. Because there is \$4,477 in the next fiscal year's budget, he would like to just use that amount as the city's contribution to the Christmas in Alexandria, which works out to about \$ .50 per citizen. Dave Hart asked if council is okay with this because he isn't comfortable budgeting city funds for that type of thing.

Mr. Duncan explained that city tax money can only be used for public purposes. If city funds are "donated", the city would lose control as to how that money is being spent. By paying for particular expenses that would benefit the citizens in some way, we would have control over those funds.

Bob Simon didn't agree with the \$8,477 commitment. Being on the Finance Committee, he knows the number of hours spent making cuts to balance the budget.

Mayor Rachford said his initial involvement in this project was to make it a city event, and not a city government event. Ms. Weber asked who makes the decision on what charity would get the proceeds if they make a profit, and would that be a local charity? The Mayor explained that this will be an ongoing event. However, if the 501(C)(3) were to be dissolved, then the money remaining in the account would be disbursed to an unspecified charity. He thinks that if this happens, the money would

certainly go to a local charity. The organization's budget for this is about \$120,000 with commitments so far totaling \$28,000, and various businesses have pledged in-kind services.

Ms. Weber stated that other cities have successful yearly events (Wool Fest, Octoberfest, Italian Fest, etc.) and thinks it's a good idea to try to start a city tradition. She only wished the City would have been more involved in the earlier process. Scott added that he is frequently asked about what is being done to promote the city, and he thinks the city is investing the money for the citizens and commerce.

The motion was then brought up for a vote. All in favor, the motion passed 4-0-0.

Mr. Duncan then read a Proclamation naming Alexandria a Purple Heart City.

**MOTION:** Barbara Weber made the motion to adopt the Proclamation, seconded by Scott Fleckinger. Mayor Rachford noted that if passed, Alexandria will be the first city in Campbell County to be recognized as a Purple Heart City. The motion was then brought up for a vote. All in favor, the motion passed 4-0-0.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**City Clerk:** None

**Police Department:** None

**Public Works:** See report attached. Public Works has done a great job at the Tribute Park for our memorial service. They also made improvements to the parking lots at the Park.

Dave Hart asked what has been going on with Bishop Brossart. The Mayor had drafted a contract and sent it to Mr. Duncan for review. Once it is approved, he will see that council gets a copy. He is in no way giving up the citizen's use of the field.

**Zoning Report:** See report attached.

**Fire Department:** None

**Beautification Committee:** Bob Simon again thanked Barb Weber for all the work she has done at the Tribute Park.

**Planning & Zoning Commission:** John Jewell reported Arcadia is moving forward. Business seems to be picking up and he hopes it continues.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Scott Fleckinger stated since he was not at the last meeting when the Resolution opposing the library tax was adopted, he would like to comment. He has had several conversations with Mr. Morgan and Mr. Lubanski and he wanted everyone to know that he supports the library's efforts and does not want to wait until the end of the capital campaign in five years. He agrees with Stacey that this part of the county has been underserved.

Barb Weber said there are still brick pavers available at the Tribute Park if anyone is interested in purchasing one. The order form is on the website.

**NEW BUSINESS:**


Stacey Graus and Bob Simon will not be at the next scheduled meeting on July 5<sup>th</sup>, so if there isn't any business to be conducted, the Mayor will probably cancel that meeting:

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- Saturday, June 23 at 10:00 at the Tribute Park is the city memorial service to honor Jim (Stumpy) Sticklen and Bill Hipple, and also to recognize several veterans.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** Scott Fleckinger made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dave Hart. All in favor, the motion passed with a 4-0-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



Karen M. Barto  
City Clerk/Treasurer

Date: 8/3/2012

Approved: July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012



Scott Fleckinger  
Council

Date: 8/3/2012