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

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

Also present:
- Karen Barto
- Mike Ward
- Gail Jewell
- Ellie Lang
- City Clerk/Treasurer
- Police Chief
- Ethics Board
- Mike Duncan
- John Jewell
- Ron Johnson
- City Attorney
- P&Z
- P&Z

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

September 6, 2012

**MOTION:** Stacey Graus made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2012 meeting, seconded by Barb Weber. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-1 with Scott Fleckinger abstaining.

**VISITORS & GUESTS:**

1) Sue Neltner, 500 Brentwood Lane, Apt. B – In July or August, she sent a letter to the Mayor and Carol Hofstetter, Zoning Administrator, regarding illegal signs displayed throughout Alexandria. The Ken Perry sign that sits on the corner of US 27 and Viewpoint does not state that property is “for sale” or “available” and it is not in compliance with the sign ordinance. The property is owned by Mr. Perry, but it is not listed in the MLS as being for sale. The sign has been there for 3-4 years and she thinks this is just an off-site advertisement. Other large billboard-type signs have also gone up and it is making Alexandria look tacky. She had taken photos of other signs and showed them to the council members. Have citations been issued for these illegal signs? How long do the violators have to comply with the regulations? If no citations have been issued, why not?

Mayor Rachford did receive her letter, and had talked with Carol Hofstetter. Both of them met with Mr. Perry. The Code Enforcement Officer did issue him a citation, and Chief Ward said that Mr. Perry has until September 28 to remove the signs. Every day he is in violation after the 28th, he will be fined.

**ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:**

*Mike Duncan read the following:*

RES 2012-09 – A Resolution requesting the Alexandria Planning Commission to hold a public hearing and make a recommendation for a zoning map amendment to the Alexandria Zoning Map for the Fischer property consisting of 13.05 acres from County Residential (R-1C) to City Residential (R-1D) so that the entire Fischer property is zoned one classification, and which would allow for development of the property according to the submitted development plan for Whistler’s Point Subdivision.
Mr. Duncan explained that the part of the Fischer property that was not in the city was annexed in 2006 (Ord 2006-07). 13.05 acres of it remained zoned County Residential. Recently, Fischer Group submitted a development plan after meeting with the city and adjoining property owners, but that plan cannot be built under the current zoning. The Planning Commission needs to review and make a recommendation to council whether or not the property should all be zoned the same (City R-1D).

MOTION: Barb Weber made a motion to adopt Resolution #2012-09, seconded by Scott Fleckinger. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

RES 2012-10 – A Resolution requesting the Alexandria Planning Commission hold a public hearing and make a recommendation for possible updates to the City’s sign regulations in the Alexandria Zoning Ordinance.

Mr. Duncan explained that this resolution asks the Planning Commission to review the sign ordinance as it relates to commercial signs and real estate signs. It also asks for an overall review of the sign ordinance.

MOTION: Dave Hart made a motion to adopt Resolution #2012-10, seconded by Stacey Graus. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

Second Reading:

ORD 2012-07 – An Ordinance of the City of Alexandria adopting a text amendment to Section 9.7 G.2 of the Alexandria Zoning Ordinance in order to allow for a temporary sign for new start-up businesses in the City.

MOTION: Barb Weber made a motion to adopt ORD 2012-07, seconded by Stacey Graus. Dave Hart asked for clarification - If a business in Alexandria moves from one location to another location, would the change in this sign ordinance for “new businesses” pertain to that business? Mr. Duncan said this was not the intention; it is only for a “start-up” business. The motion was then brought up for a vote. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

Mayor Rachford then read a Proclamation regarding the Alexandria Fire District’s 75th anniversary and proclaiming September 20, 2012 as Alexandria Fire District Day. The Mayor said he will give this proclamation to the fire district at the October 2nd meeting.

MOTION: Scott Fleckinger made a motion to approve the Proclamation for the Alexandria Fire District, seconded by Dave Hart. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

City Clerk: None

Police Department: Chief Ward said that on Sunday, September 30th at 1:00 p.m. the Fire Department will have a parade of fire equipment from the Fairgrounds to the Middle School. Main and Washington Streets will shut down during that time. The open house at the fire department will immediately follow the parade.

Public Works: See report attached. Mayor Rachford said the City has received a number of calls questioning why only half of Rose Drive was paved. The Water District put in a new water line and re-paved the area that they dug up, but the City cannot require them to pave the entire street.

Zoning: See report attached.
Finance Committee: The committee met tonight to go over the year-end audit. The committee recommends that the audit be adopted.

Personnel Committee: A meeting is scheduled in October.

Annexation Committee: The committee met tonight to discuss pros and cons of annexing some properties on US 27.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Rachford brought up the matter of 2409 Hickorywood Court which was discussed at the last meeting. After talking with Mr. Duncan, there were a number of issues to work out. The Mayor sent an e-mail to council and asked all members to review the information he sent and let him know what they think.

Barb Weber had a copy of a deed dated July, 2008 from Mr. Berling to the City of Alexandria regarding the lake. She quoted the first paragraph, “For and in consideration of an exchange of land value of $338,000, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged…” and wanted to know whether or not any money was exchanged. The agreement was between the previous Mayor McGinley and Mr. Berling. Mike Duncan remembered that when the AA Highway was built and the connector road into Brookwood was constructed, the state took more right of way than they needed, and then later gave it to the city. The city did a land swap in exchange for this property. Barb understands that the Mayor’s office has authority to negotiate and sign contracts, but shouldn’t this have been discussed at a council meeting? She talked with John Stein, a former council member, and he did not remember a discussion at city council or in committee. Barb thinks that in the future something like this should be brought before council and discussed. Barb checked the minutes of 2008 and found nothing, but Stacey remembered something was discussed. Mike said that it was brought up when the property was annexed in 2004. Karen Barto will check her files to see if she has anything.

Getting back to the lake in question, Mike Duncan said if the city really wants to get rid of this property, there are a few options. The Mayor suggested meeting with the neighbors to find out if they are interested and what they want to do.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Presentation of Draft Audit Report – Stephanie Allgeyer, VonLehman & Associates – Ms. Allgeyer met with the Finance Committee earlier to give a more in-depth overview of the financial statements. This is the second audit her company has done for the city. There were three documents that were passed out to council members. She explained the report in detail and answered questions from the council members.

2. Set Halloween Hours – Halloween hours last year were on October 31st from 6:00–8:00 p.m. All agreed to keep it the same this year.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Haunted Walk will be on Saturday, October 20th at the Alexandria Community Park. Family Fun Time starts at 5:30 and the haunted walk will be from 7:30-9:30. Mayor Rachford suggested carpooling if at all possible to minimize the parking problem.

Mayor Rachford read a letter from Rhonda Anderson Baynum thanking the city for allowing the Adult Learning Center to be located in Alexandria. She is very thankful for the quality of teachers that conduct the program and thanks to them, she now has her GED.
ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Dave Hart made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bob Simon. All in favor, the motion passed with a 6-0-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Karen M. Barto
City Clerk/Treasurer

William T. Rachford, Jr.
Mayor

Date: 10-4-2012

Approved: 10-3-2012