CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of December 6, 2012

The Alexandria City Council met on the above date at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Rachford was present with 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:  
Jan Johannemann  Asst. City Clerk  
Mike Ward  Police Chief  
John Jewell  P&Z  
Ellis Lang  Ethics Board  
Mike Duncan  City Attorney  
Sam Trapp  Public Works Supt.  
Gail Jewell  Ethics Board

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 15, 2012

MOTION: Scott Fleckinger made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2012 meeting, seconded by Dave Hart. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

VISITORS & GUESTS:  
None

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

Mr. Duncan read the following:

RESOLUTION #2012-11: A Resolution adopting and approving the Residential Traffic Calming Program as a city policy.

Ms. Weber said the only change from the original submission was added language that all residential and/or business properties directly affected by the speed calming device would be sent a notice 30 days prior to installation to give them the opportunity to voice an opinion whether or not they want them. The final decision would rest with the police department or the mayor.

MOTION: Barb Weber made a motion to adopt Resolution #2012-11, seconded by Scott Fleckinger. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

Mr. Duncan then read the following First Reading:

ORDINANCE #2012-09: An Ordinance adopting a zoning map amendment to the Alexandria Zoning Map for the Old Webb Motel property consisting of 0.699 acres from Rural Residential Estate (R-RE) to Highway Commercial (HC) so that the property can be developed according to the submitted proposed development plan.

Mr. Duncan explained the owners had asked the Planning & Zoning Commission to hold a public hearing, which took place this past Tuesday. P&Z unanimously voted to recommend to council the zoning change.
DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

City Clerk: None
Police Department: None
Public Works: None
Zoning Administrator: None
Fire Department: None

Public Works Committee: Dave Hart reported the committee met tonight. Sam gave an update on the 2012 street projects. Everything has been finalized except for $5,000 that is being held back for retainer. They discussed speed calming devices making sure those devices are not going to do more damage to the streets. Also, Beechwood Court is being finished and Arcadia is ready to pave.

Planning & Zoning: John reported that they also approved a site plan for the Bishop Brossart High School addition at Tuesday’s meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Barb Weber thanked John Jewell for doing research on the speed calming device language.

Joe Anderson said the Food Drive on November 17th went well, and thanked everyone who participated. Plans for next year may include a spaghetti dinner to generate cash to purchase more groceries. Bob Simon thanked the city workers who donated money to the food drive so they could buy additional food items.

Barb Weber asked for an update on the Ridgewood Valley detention pond issue that was discussed at a prior council meeting. Mayor Rachford said Carol Hofstetter and Mike Duncan are still gathering information and there is nothing final.

NEW BUSINESS:

The City Officials Academy is January 16-18. Karen has made reservations for all who are planning to attend and more information will be available when it gets closer. If anyone needs to cancel, please let Karen know as soon as possible.

The Mayor said council meetings for December 20th and January 17th will be canceled. There will be one on January 3rd.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Christmas in Alexandria:
Mayor Rachford was very pleased with the outcome of the first weekend of this event. Around 1,000 to 2,000 people attended. A lot of volunteers have been involved in getting the events ready. A “Light Up Alexandria” contest for those on Washington and Main Streets will be on December 15th. Also, over 50 vendors have participated and they have been pleased with the turnout. This was to be a joint effort of city government, businesses, churches, schools, and service clubs, to provide affordable family entertainment in town to celebrate the Christmas season and to showcase what the city has to offer. It was important to everyone on the committee to keep the word “Christmas” in the title. Check the website for a schedule of upcoming events.

Jan Desmond, committee member, said everyone on the board has worked very hard getting sponsors, volunteers, and planning the events to get this off the ground, and she is very happy with what has been accomplished. They are still adding events, one of which is “Hugs and Food for
Santa" on December 30th where children can say thank you to Santa. (HUGS means Hats, Underwear, Gloves, Socks) Children can bring these items and/or any non-perishable food items to Santa which will be donated to the Hosea House. David Hosea has been a tremendous help in the decorations for Christmas in Alexandria. Also, someone owns a hot air balloon and he wants to do something for the event. Weather permitting, he wants to do a “fly-away”. She thanked everyone who has been involved.

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS:

Since there was an election this year and the makeup of council has changed, new committee assignments will be necessary after the first of the year. Stacey Graus suggested that the council members with the most seniority get the first pick, and if a tiebreaker is needed between two with the same seniority, then the person who received the most votes get the first choice. Everyone agreed.

RECOGNITION - Councilman W. David “DAVE” Hart

Mayor Rachford and council recognized and thanked Dave, and presented him with a plaque in appreciation for his many years of service to the City. Dave received a standing ovation.

Joe Anderson recognized Andy Schabell, the newly elected councilman in audience.

Stacey Graus said he and Dave and Barb had been on council for 14 years, and there has been no better a person to serve with than Dave Hart. Dave is a great person, a good friend, and the City is so much better for Dave’s service of 14 years. Dave said the pleasure has been all his and he is grateful for having met so many people.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Dave Hart made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Scott Fleckinger. All in favor, the motion passed with a 3-0-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Karen M. Barto
City Clerk/Treasurer

William T. Rachford, Jr.
Mayor

Date: 1/4/2013

Approved: January 3, 2013