Mayor Rachford called the Alexandria City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the invocation and the pledge to the flag. The following Council Members answering roll call:

Stacey Graus Present
Bob Simon Present
Sue Neltner Present
Susan Vanlandingham Present
Scott Fleckinger Present
Andy Schabell Present

Also: Jan Johannemann, City Clerk
Mike Ward, Police Chief
Mike Duncan, City Attorney
Sam Trapp, Public Works Supt.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 18, 2018

MOTION: Stacey Graus made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2018 meeting, seconded by Susan Vanlandingham. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

VISITORS & GUESTS – None

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS - None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Clerk – Jan Johannemann: We have collected about 92% of the tax bills. Total billed was approximately $1,786,000.00 and total collected is about $1,706,000.00.

Police Department: Sgt. Natalie Selby will be receiving the Officer of the Year award from the Kentucky Women’s Law Enforcement Network at their conference in two weeks on November 15 at Pine Mountain Resort. She received the award because of the work she does with the Crisis Intervention Team dealing with mental health and substance abuse cases. Mike Ward is proud of her and will attend the ceremony. Ms. Vanlandingham asked if there were plans to have anything local to recognize Sgt. Selby. The Mayor Rachford and his wife, and a number of people from the PD will be in attendance. Mayor Rachford suggested that Sgt. Selby attend the first council meeting in December so that council can congratulate her on the award.

Community Center: Mayor Rachford read the attached report. They may change the date next year for the Haunted Walk.

Public Works: The salt barn is full and Sam Trapp hopes it stays that way all winter.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Beautification – Sue Neltner: The winner of the Fall/Halloween holiday decorations is 4 Canterbury Court. They will be contacted and asked to attend the next council meeting on November 15. The next award will be the Winter/Christmas holiday decoration award. Deadline for nominations will be December 21st by 3:00 p.m. The winner will be announced on January 3.

Public Works – Bob Simon: All of the streets are completed for the 2018-2019 street program. The committee talked about speed humps/slow-down devices and a radar device in subdivisions as per the handout. The goal is to get people to slow down. The committee is asking council to look at the device to approve the $6,500 purchase since this is not in the budget. There are two features that are not included in the price that could be included at an additional cost - the statistical package and the LED violator alert. Over the last few meetings the committee has been trying to figure out the best way to slow people down in a shorter time frame. The speed humps will take time to install.
into the streets as well as the mini roundabouts and they both come with a high cost. This device could monitor more cars in the subdivisions.

Mr. Graus said the integrated statistical package is a crucial part of this because the police are able to use the data to pinpoint problem areas and problem times. He believes this feature will pay for itself in added safety. Ms. Neltner wanted to know the exact cost of the package. Mike Ward believes the package should be reasonable, and added the PD has a stealth device that they purchased a few years ago that collects a lot of the same data as the integrated statistical package on the radar device. Ms. Vanlandingham asked if the stealth device could be coupled with the radar device in the same area. Chief Ward said the two devices cannot be linked. Mr. Schabell suggested using the stealth device before and after the radar device to see how effective it is in slowing people down. Mike Ward estimated the additional cost to be no more than $1,200. The Stalker Company is very reliable.

Mike Ward stated that this is not in the budget and the funds would need to be appropriated from another account. Mr. Fleckinger asked where the cost of this device is coming from since this is not in the budget. He asked if the the PD could do without something to stay within budget, and if so, what account that money would be pulled from. Mr. Fleckinger wants to make sure we don’t spend money that we do not have. Mike Ward said that he saved $121,000 last year but he did not have this item in mind when he presented this year’s budget. Mr. Simon suggested a stipulation that cost should “not exceed $8,000” for the item.

After further discussion, Mr. Graus suggested waiting until the November 15th meeting to get an accurate amount and the delivery time frame.

Safety – Susan Vanlandingham: Citizens have reached out to her about traffic lights on US27 at the Summerlake Subdivision, and about speeding in other subdivisions and on Viewpoint. The committee is aware of these issues and will discuss them at the next committee meeting on November 15th at 6:30 pm. The State has denied the install of the crosswalk at Main and Jefferson, stating studies do not support the need for a crosswalk at that location at this time. District 6 suggested people use the crosswalk at Main and Washington to cross since it is so close to Jefferson. Ms. Vanlandingham will continue to look in to this and encourages people to continue to bring issues before Council and the Safety Committee. Mr. Graus pointed out council is now experiencing some of the frustrations with the State the other council members have been dealing with for years, but they will continue to work with State in regards to safety.

NEW BUSINESS

Campbell Media has restarted a series that they call “Inside Campbell County” for all cities in the county. Mayor Rachford had recorded a video giving an update on Alexandria. Mayor Rachford emailed the link to council and the link will be posted on the Facebook page and the website. Ms. Neltner thought the Mayor did not mention anything in the video that had not already been said at council meetings. She didn’t think it was appropriate to air this before the November 6 election. Mayor Rachford informed council he has no control over the scheduling of the air date or the recording.

When Ms. Neltner was driving around looking at the yards for the Fall/Halloween decorations she had a hard time finding house addresses. She believes there should be a better way for homes to be lit up with an address for safety reasons. Ms. Vanlandingham has this on her list for the next Safety Committee meeting. There should be a better way for the homes to be lit up with an address, especially when it comes to emergency responders. Mr. Schabell asked Mike Ward how the PD finds addresses when responding to a call. Mike Ward said most times they have a good idea, and when they get close to the address, they shine a spotlight on the home to locate the street number. There is an ordinance that states the address needs to be visible from the street. Ms. Neltner would like something to be added to the new subdivision regulations.
OLD BUSINESS

Gross Receipts Tax: Mr. Fleckinger had mentioned at the Candidate Forum that depending on the size of the business, the gross receipts tax in Alexandria is lower than other cities. Mayor Rachford looked into the rates of other cities and created the attached chart to compare Alexandria's tax to other cities. Mayor Rachford noted that there are 8 cities in Campbell County that have a gross receipts tax and until you reach about $5,000,000 in gross receipts, Alexandria is either the lowest or 2nd lowest rate in the county. The chart shows that, as a city, we are very competitive with other cities in the area.

Poplar Ridge Sign: Mayor Rachford wanted to address the sign on Poplar Ridge that referenced taxes. He assured residents that property taxes are not going up. The rate has stayed about the same for the last 20 years and will remain the same through the end of this fiscal year. In order for the rate to change it would take the majority of council to change the rate.

COMMUNICATIONS

- November 3, 9:00am-2:00pm – Solid Waste Collection Event at UC Health Stadium in Florence.
- November 6 – Election Day
- November 22 & 23 – Thanksgiving Holiday, Office Closed
- December 8 – Movie Night at the Community Center showing Polar Express
- December 9, 11:00 am-2:00pm – Lunch with Santa at the Community Center

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Scott Fleckinger made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Andy Schabell. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Jan Johannemann, City Clerk

William T. Rachford, Jr., Mayor

Date: 11/16/18

Approved: