Chairperson Dave Hart opened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on the above date, with the Pledge of Allegiance and the following members answering roll call:

Present: Dave Hart, Chair
Randy Nehus
Sonny Markus
Steven Shinkle
Nick Reitman

Absent: Tom Wheeler
Ron Johnson

Also Present: Stephanie Tarter, Admin. Clerk
Keith Hammann, Fire Department
Carol Hofstetter, Zoning Administrator
Andy Schabell, Mayor

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 17, 2019

MOTION: Nick Reitman made a motion to approve the minutes of September 17, 2019, seconded by Randy Nehus. All in favor, the motion passed 4-0-1, Dave Hart abstaining.

VISITORS AND GUESTS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Chapter 2-Population: Mr. Hart explained the intent of reviewing each of the chapters is to not only bring the city up-to-date, but to also reduce the size of the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Nehus asked if this chapter needed to be included or if the information contained within Chapter 2 could be found online. It was suggested to utilize hyperlinks to websites that update regularly. Over the last 15 years, technology has come a long way and the chapter could be reduced to a few headings with a short description and then reference the links. There was a short discussion about the possible benefit of having this information included in the print version of the Comprehensive Plan. The members agreed that if there is information that can be found online, then they should utilize those resources as more and more things are moving to online, digital formats. It was asked if the city had a list of availability of websites that update this type of information. Mr. Hart mentioned the possibility of using Kentucky League of Cities as a resource.

The consensus was condensing down the chapter to a few paragraphs and references links and other resources for up-to-date information.

Chapter 3-Economic Conditions: The observation was made that after the first year of the census a lot of the information is outdated and no longer helpful, especially for a business owner. There was more discussion about links and websites that keep information up-to-date and how that would be more helpful than printing out the information and having it be out of date in a few years. The Commission talked through the list of business included in the current Comprehensive Plan and discovered that many of them have not been in business for several years, giving more weight to the idea of condensing down and using links.

The current plan references Campbell County as a whole rather than Alexandria specifically. It also references Kenton and Boone Counties frequently. Mr. Reitman stated some information would be helpful to business owners, specifically resident employment, where they are employed in reference to where they live. Do they commute to work or do they stay local? This information would be helpful to certain types of business owners. But again, the Commission stated this is information that could be referenced in a link. Mr. Reitman did caution the Commission about using only links, stating the Comprehensive Plan needed some sort of body to it. It was suggested to have an explanation for each link that is suggested.
There was some discussion on the use of charts. Most people looking to do business would rather look at a chart of average household income, household size, industry growth, etc. rather than read through two pages to get the same information. There was further discussion on what to keep as relevant information and what to exclude or move to a link.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chapter 1 Changes: The Commission reviewed the changes made to Chapter 1. They liked the updated vision. There was some discussion on whether to use bullet points verses numbers for the points under each of the objectives. Some of the members believed the numbers are good to use as a point of reference rather than signifying importance. Mr. Nehus brought up objective 11 under Community Facilities and Services and whether or not the city is, in fact, “encouraging the innovative street lighting in new developments”. It was stated this particular objective is covered in the Subdivision Regulations and the city does require updated LED lighting in all new subdivisions.

The discussion moved on to objectives 4 & 5 under Housing and whether or not they were saying the same thing. It was suggested to combine those two together and update. There was discussion about whether or not the city “encourages the extension of natural gas in all areas” and the consensus was the city does not encourage it.

Sign & Ordinance Changes: The Commission will hopefully go over this at the next meeting and set a date for the Public Hearing.

INTERNAL BUSINESS

City Council Report: Mayor Schabell gave a quick update of what’s been happening in the city. The Police Department has seen some changes with retirements and promotions. Bishop Brossart’s MAC Center is up and running and there will be a dedication and blessing ceremony on Friday, October 4 at 1:00 pm.

The City of Cold Spring updated their Comprehensive Plan last year and their plan is only 39 pages as compared to the City’s 215 pages. Their plan could be a point of reference during the process. He agrees with the Commission in regards to using websites to link people to the needed information. Most companies looking to bring businesses to Alexandria have their own resources for gaining access to the needed information.

Correspondence: Ms. Hofstetter gave each of the members a copy of their training hours.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Nick Reitman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Steven Shinkle. All in favor, the motion passed with a 4-0-1 vote, Mr. Hart abstaining. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Attested to and submitted by:

Jan Johannemann, City Clerk

Dated 10/16/19

Dave Hart, Chair

Dated 10/15/2019