CITY COUNCIL MEETING
(Via videoconference)
Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2020

Mayor Schabell called the Alexandria City Council Special 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
- Kyle Sparks Present
- Susan Vanlandingham Present
- Sue Neffner  Absent
- Tom Baldridge Present

Also:
- Jan Johannemann, City Clerk
- Sam Trapp, Public Works Supt.
- JoAnn Hackworth, City Treasurer
- Mike Duncan, City Attorney
- Lucas Cooper, Police Chief
- Jeff Pohlman, Fire Chief

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 21, 2020 Special Meeting

MOTION: Stacey Graus made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2020 special meeting, seconded by Bob Simon. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS – None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Chief Cooper reported not much has changed in the way they are handling things. This is the time of year they see an increase in calls about speeding, and he reminded everyone that his officers are out in the community and subdivisions enforcing traffic laws. Be careful, slow down and be watchful of walkers and kids. Everyone should have received the PD’s report for May - see attached.

Fire Department: Chief Pohlman reported their runs are beginning to increase. The construction from their water leak is completed. Their interns and volunteers are beginning to return, and things are getting back to as normal as they can for the time being. They are starting back up with life safety inspections for businesses and have received the okay from the Water District to flow fire hydrants.

Community Center: See attached report.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Safety – Susan Vanlandingham: She would like to have the regular scheduled meeting on June 18, as there are several issues to discuss.

Finance – Stacey Graus: There will be a special meeting on Tuesday, June 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Building and it is open to the public.

NEW BUSINESS

2020 Street Bid Award: Mr. Simon reported four bids came in on Thursday, May 28: Riegler Blacktop - $225,000, Paul Michaels - $256,000, Bluegrass Paving – $270,000 and Eaton Asphalt - $287,000. The engineer’s estimate was $249,000. The streets to be done are Brookwood Dr., Ashwood Ln., Maplewood Ct., Thatcher Ave., Thatcher Ct., Paul Ln., Rainbow Ln. & Enzweller Rd. The committee recommended going with Riegler Blacktop for the street.
work. Ms. Vanlandingham asked if the city would be coordinating with NKWD on the work they are doing on Thatcher. Mr. Trapp added there may be a few other streets that will also be getting updated water lines, and the city will coordinate the paving with the water line work. It was also pointed out the State will likely reduce the road aid fund, but not sure at this point by how much. The current budget for the 2020-2021 year is about $300,000.

**MOTION:** Stacey Graus made a motion to accept Riegler Blacktop for the 2020-2021 Street Program, seconded by Kyle Sparks. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0.

**Best of NKY Nominations:** Mayor Schabell listed the businesses in Alexandria who were nominated for the Best of NKY. Voting opens on Monday, June 8 at 8:00 a.m. (See list of businesses attached.) He encouraged everyone to google, “Best of NKY” and vote for the Alexandria Businesses to give them a little more recognition.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Small Business Grant Program:** Mayor Schabell gave an update on the Small Business Grant program and explained how the process worked. There were a little over 100 business who were eligible to apply for the grant, but businesses were encouraged to only apply if their business had been greatly affected by the shutdown. He also reported that the city may get reimbursed from the Federal CARES Act, so this money will not come out of the city's funds.

He also clarified his use of the phrase rainy day fund at the last meeting. The city does not have a line item called Rainy Day Fund, but rather each year the different departments have to make an educated guess on how much they will spend and the city has to make an educated guess on how much revenue will be brought in. Sometimes the city brings in more money than what is spent. When that happens, there is some money that is not allocated to any particular budget line and that is what he was referring to when he used the phrase “rainy day fund”. Mayor Schabell apologized for any confusion that phrase may have caused.

It was reported that 22 businesses applied and all 22 businesses received the grant. The Mayor, Stacey Graus, Scott Fleckinger and JoAnn Hackworth then met, reviewed the applications and delivered the checks two days after the deadline for applications. All of the businesses were incredibly grateful for the money. Mayor Schabell listed out the grant recipients:

- 27 Strands Salon
- All Natural Salon
- Classic Printing
- Country Heart Florist
- Four Mile Pig
- Honey Hole Bar & Grill
- Kids Consignment Shop
- Linda’s Lasting Impressions
- Miss Shirley’s Bakery
- Natural Essence Salon
- Sugar Sprout Studios
- Alexandria Brewing Company
- Celebration Studio
- Crews & Dos Hair Salon
- The Dollhouse Beauty Salon
- Hair Connection
- Ichiban Kitchen
- Let It Go Consignment
- Lovely Closet Boutique
- Morning Star Pottery
- Southern Lanes
- Yoga Studio 43

Mr. Graus said we need to promote these businesses as they begin to open back up. Ms. Hackworth confirmed that all businesses have their checks. Highlighting different businesses will resume once in-person council meetings start back up to help promote local businesses. They may open a second round of grants again in the future depending on what the options may be.
COVID-19 Update: The city offices remain closed to in-person transactions but people are encouraged to call the office if they need anything. The park is open, but the shelters and playground remain closed. The basketball courts and baseball field are open to family units. The restrooms remain closed but the port-a-potties are available. The Community Center also remains closed. The question being asked the most right now is when will the playground be open. Mayor Schabell has a weekly call with the other Mayors in the area and they want to open correctly and in conjunction with each other. The Governor and the Health Department are still recommending that playgrounds remain closed. He asked residents to be patient as they navigate what the next steps should be.

Ms. Vanlandingham asked if yard sales could be addressed as she sees it popping up a lot on Facebook. Mayor Schabell pointed out the city has never regulated yard sales nor required a permit in order to have one. If we did issue permits, then we would not be allowed to issue them per the Governor’s orders. The city reached out to Emergency Management and was told they could be allowed. The city will not go after those who wish to have a yard sale, but social distancing guidelines should be followed. If someone calls the city building to report a yard sale, they will be directed to contact the NKY Health Department. Chief Cooper added that all calls concerning businesses and COVID should be directed to the NKY Health Department.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Schabell received a text from Sue Neiltner that she was unable to get on the meeting but wanted to let everyone know that since the March craft show had to be cancelled, they will be hosting a virtual craft show for all of the vendors who signed up. More details will come later.

Tom Baldridge: He wanted to remind everyone about Free Fishing weekend this Saturday & Sunday. Trout has not been stocked since February due to the water being too warm, but catfish was stocked a week or so ago. Mayor Schabell added there will not be a Fishing Derby this year.

Kyle Sparks: He is excited to see the improvements happening at Alexandria Village Green. He reported that Chipotle is moving right along and is still unsure of when Burkes will open but is hoping it will be in the next 30 days. Mayor Schabell also noted the mangers of AVG have patched the parking lot behind the building as well.

Bob Simon: He will not be running for council for the next term. He has served on council for 10 years and he believes that is long enough and time to let someone else bring their ideas. Mayor Schabell thanked him for all he has done for the city over the past 10 years.

Susan Vanlandingham: She echoed Mr. Simon in that she is will not be running for council either. She has enjoyed working with everyone and loves the city and is hopeful for good things to come. She would like to get a Safety Committee meeting scheduled as there are several issues to discuss. She has seen a lot of chatter on social media about the work being done on Rt. 10 and she asks people to be patient and to use alternate routes when possible. Some have suggested using the Fairgrounds as a detour, but this is not an acceptable alternate route as that is private property. Mayor Schabell wanted to let everyone know the reason the city never mentioned this construction project was because the city didn’t know until 3 days before it began. Route 10 is a state road and NKWD worked directly with them. It is still unsure on how long the project will last and the city has no say in it.

Mayor Schabell: Through the Federal Cares Act, the city is eligible for reimbursement of up to $686,634 for COVID-19 related expenses incurred through 12/31/20. Ms. Hackworth is already working on the city’s first application for reimbursement which includes the $55,000 in the Small
Business Grant Program. He continues to have weekly meetings with the other Mayors in Campbell County as they try to work together for all residents of Campbell County.

QUESTIONS FROM EMAIL

They received an email from a resident on Whitewood Court about people running the stop sign at Ridgewood and Whitewood, and sometimes the drivers don’t even bother to slow down. Could they request a speed hump be installed similar to the one on Ridgewood near Brookwood?

Chief Cooper gave a run down of the way the Police Department handles speeding complaints in subdivisions. They set out a collection device to gather data and then they set out the speed trailer making drivers aware of the speed that will flash red and blue if you are over the speed limit. All subdivisions are 20 mph. If drivers are caught speeding in these areas after the speed trailer is removed, they will be issued tickets.

They also have an unmarked traffic car they will be deployed out into the community to increase enforcement. If there is a repeat offender and you know where they live, the PD will go and speak with that person. Adding a speed hump would have to go through the safety committee. The speed hump that was installed on Ridgewood was put in while the road was being replaced so it was cost effective; if the city were to install one now it would be significantly more.

Cares Act: Ms. Hackworth followed up on the Federal Cares Act Grant and explained in further detail that there is certain criteria that must be met in order to recieve the money. Items must be purchased, receipts are turned in, and then they have to be approved for reimbursement. The City doesn’t just get all of the money.

Future Meetings: Mayor Schabell would like to start having in-person meetings beginning in July, when the Governor is allowing gatherings of 50 people. It was asked if meetings can still be streamed live on Facebook once in-person meetings resume. The city is in the process of running a line and working with IT to have internet connections available for Campbell Media. The goal is to resume all other scheduled board meetings as usual, beginning July 1.

COMMUNICATIONS

June 19-20, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.: Campbell County Clean-up. Due to Covid restrictions, you must unload your own vehicle.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Kyle Sparks made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Susan Vanlandingham. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Jan Johannemann, City Clerk
Date: 6/18/2020

Andy Schabell, Mayor
Date: 6/18/2020