

ORIGINAL



CITY COUNCIL MEETING Meeting Minutes of August 6, 2020

Mayor Schabell 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
Kyle Sparks Present

Susan Vanlandingham Absent
Sue Neltner Present
Tom Baldrige Present

Also: Jan Johannemann, City Clerk
Lucas Cooper, Police Chief

Mike Duncan, City Attorney
Carol Hofstetter, Zoning Administrator

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 16, 2020

MOTION: Kyle Sparks made a motion to approve the minutes of July 16, 2020, seconded by Tom Baldrige. All in favor, the motion passed 4-0-1 with Mr. Simon abstaining.

VISITORS & GUESTS – None

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS – None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Clerk: Ms. Johannemann reported Stephanie Tarter has just completed the first year of her three-year clerk certification.

Police Department: Chief Cooper referred to the July Police Report; please let him know of any questions. The new recruit was supposed to enter the Academy in April, but it was cancelled. She is now scheduled to enter on September 28th. He hopes to introduce council to Whitney at the next meeting. Also, this past week, they conducted interviews for the SRO position. He is grateful for the schools helping with the selection process.

Fire Department: See report attached. Chief Pohlman hopes to have his annual report ready to present at the next council meeting.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Finance – Stacey Graus: They have not met but are still dealing with some on-going issues.

Beautification – Sue Neltner: Since the COVID issue, there have been no beautification awards given so far this year, but the committee will be working on the Fall/Halloween and Christmas beautification awards.

Public Works – Bob Simon: They met tonight and discussed this year's street program. Completed Streets: Brookwood Drive, Ashwood Lane, Maplewood Court, Rainbow Lane, Enzweiler Road, and Thatcher. The two remaining streets will be completed after NKWD puts in their water lines.

Bs. Retention & Development – Kyle Sparks: They met tonight to discuss which businesses will be highlighted in the coming weeks. Four Mile Pig opened their doors today; Harbor Freight and Burkes should be opening in 45-60 days.

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He commented on the new car wash that is coming to the City, and explained this is how capitalism works. Council does not "rubber-stamp" this. If someone has done their homework and thinks they can make it in a certain spot, they have every right to do that. Sometimes government is more reactive than proactive; since there are now several car washes along the US27 corridor, the city has removed car wash as a permitted use in this area. He plans on supporting both businesses.

Personnel – Tom Baldrige: The next meeting will be August 20th at 6:00 p.m.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Planning & Zoning: They met this week and are still working on the Comprehensive Plan.

Park & Recreation: They met yesterday and discussed their budget for next year. He mentioned the city's plans for the new property that was purchased and the Board was excited about the possibility of a new park or dog park.

PUBLIC HEARING

To hear and gather evidence and public comment to take the sense of the public regarding the proposed use of Municipal Road Aid Funds. The City projects that there will be a total of \$154,088.05 available for the Fiscal Year 2020-21.

Mayor Schabell then opened the Public Hearing at 7:09 p.m. Mr. Duncan explained each year the city is allotted a certain amount of money in Municipal Road Aid Funds for use for street and road projects in the city, based on the number of miles of streets. This year it is estimated that we will receive \$154,088.05, somewhat lower than was originally expected, but because of Covid, gas usage has been down. KRS 174.100 requires that the city or agency hold a public hearing and invite the public to give input and to take the sense of the public.

There being no public comment, Mayor Schabell closed the Public hearing at 7:10.

NEW BUSINESS

New City Property: Mayor Schabell reported JoAnn Hackworth is working on obtaining information on interest rates, terms, etc. to finance the purchase of the property. Sam Trapp is working with CT Consultants to get a site plan created. This should take a couple of months, and at some point, there will be an ad hoc committee created to take information from others to see what is needed.

OLD BUSINESS

Covid 19 Update: Mayor Schabell reported the city received the first CARES Fund check in the amount of \$519,241.18.

City building offices are still closed to the public, but are handling business as usual. Feel free to call the city building with any questions.

Governor Beshear announced earlier this week there would be a free drive-up Covid testing site in Alexandria at the St. Elizabeth Imaging Center. At that time, the Mayor had not heard anything about it and he was concerned about traffic and parking. The testing will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00-9:00 p.m. This is rush hour and it could cause problems on US 27.

Chief Cooper spent most of his day working on getting information on the testing. He had voiced his concerns to the site director for the Imaging Center, and was told there had already been

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drive-up testing in that lot for a while and they were trying to get a little more recognition for administering the tests. However, they had not expected Gov. Beshear to advertise the drive-through testing, and have since revamped their plans. Appointments are required beginning Tuesday, August 11 and every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:00-9:00 p.m. They will only schedule 10 appointments every 30 minutes, limiting the number of cars coming and going. There will be officers on the scene to direct traffic for the first couple of nights until there is a feel for the crowd size. There should be an appointment link on the St. Elizabeth website by Monday.

Mayor Schabell was not happy about the lack of communication with the City. Chief Cooper added this is a "wait and see" thing, and no one is sure how long they will be doing testing at this location, it just depends on the need in this area.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Sue Neltner: She met today with the Light Up Alexandria group. The next Town Money Saver should include a flyer for local businesses to sign up. The plan is to have a Christmas Parade on Wednesday, December 2nd, followed by Christmas Tree Lighting, then Cocoa with Santa at the Community Center. This all depends on what is happening with COVID. The following Thursday, Friday, Saturday would be for visiting the businesses that have signed up. It was a success last year and they hope this one will be successful also.

Tom Baldrige: He was encouraged by what he saw at the Planning & Zoning meeting and in hearing what the Compass Point consultant had to say. Getting public input is very important.

Mayor Schabell added the consultant will also be at a future council meeting to discuss what council wants to see. It is very important to see what residents want, and on-line surveys and emails may be the route to take since there can't be any large gatherings at this time. She is putting material together now for P&Z and she should be at their September 1st meeting. The Mayor invited council to attend any of the meetings.

Mayor Schabell: He was involved in a No. Ky. Chamber of Commerce podcast to discuss the state of businesses in the City. It will be shared on the City's Facebook page. The Chamber has been interviewing different mayors each week. If you have the time, check it out.

He also thanked Ft. Thomas Matters for the good job they are doing reporting on the Alexandria council meetings.


FUTURE MEETINGS

- August 11, 7:00 p.m. – Ethics Board
- August 18, 7:00 p.m. – Planning & Zoning

COMMUNICATIONS - None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Sue Neltner made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kyle Sparks. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.


Jan Johannemann, City Clerk

Date: 8/20/2020


Andy Schabell, Mayor

Date: 8/20/2020