



## CITY COUNCIL MEETING Meeting Minutes of August 20, 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	Susan Vanlandingham Present
Bob Simon Present	Sue Neltner Present
Kyle Sparks Present	Tom Baldrige Present

Also: Jan Johannemann, City Clerk                      Mike Duncan, City Attorney  
Lucas Cooper, Police Chief                              Sam Trapp, Public Works Superintendent  
JoAnn Hackworth, Treasurer

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 6, 2020

**MOTION:** Kyle Sparks made a motion to approve the minutes of August 6, 2020, seconded by Bob Simon. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-1 with Ms. Vanlandingham abstaining.

### VISITORS & GUESTS

**Dr. David Rust, Campbell County Schools Superintendent** – He thanked City Council, the Mayor and Police Chief for agreeing to the expansion of the School Resource Officer partnership and providing for another SRO for Campbell Ridge Elementary, per the guidelines of Senate Bill

Mayor Schabell is very proud to be able to provide this for Campbell County Schools. Personally, he was disappointed that the schools are not starting back on Monday as planned, but he supports Dr. Rust and the Campbell County School Board as they have been put in an impossible position by the Governor making a recommendation to postpone. The steering committee had a solid, safe plan to return to in-school classes, and everyone was in agreement with the plan. There really was no comparison of a district in Georgia where their 42,000 children had returned to the school system with no mask requirement, and full-time classes five days a week. That district now has 900+ out with the virus. Campbell County has 5,000 students, and the plan was for mask requirements and 50% occupancy. He was disappointed the Governor put Dr. Rust in that position, and would have been 100% confident sending his children back to school with their plan.

Dr. Rust then answered various questions from council.

- According to their survey, about 75% of the entire student body had opted to begin school – under the hybrid plan; 20% wanted to be all virtual; and the remaining 5% were kindergarten students, who will attend either morning or afternoon classes 5 days a week.
- KHSAA had opted to begin sports in the area, at least until the Governor says otherwise. Campbell County and every district in the state is waiting for guidance from KHSAA. As of right now, unless the Board wants to halt athletics, he intends to move forward. Athletics is a choice, school is compulsory. He believes if athletics is a mode by which they can demonstrated they can do things safely, and do so in a safe and effective manner that they can use as an argument to return to school, then that is the route to take. If the governor keeps shutting things down, there is no way to demonstrate that things can be handled safely.

- According to the survey from his teachers, there were about 20% of teachers who were concerned about returning to the classroom for these two reasons: (1) the teacher or a close family member had a medical condition; or (2) the largest concern was daycare issues for teachers, who must administer virtual education at the same time their children are receiving virtual education. There just aren't enough spots for daycare for children of teachers. There were others that wanted to protest or strike and stay out of school.

Mayor Schabell thanked Dr. Rust for doing a good job.

## ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

*Mr. Duncan read the following:*

**MUN ORD #2020-11:** Appointing Brett Ruschman as an alternate member of the Board of Ethics to fill the unexpired term of Heather Davis for the remainder of her full one-year term to expire on 12/31/2020.

**MOTION:** Tom Baldrige made a motion to approve Municipal Order 2020-11, seconded by Susan Vanlandingham. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

**Police Department:** Chief Cooper reported they have made a conditional offer to the new SRO for Campbell Ridge and he thanked Campbell County Schools for assisting them in the interviews. Also included in council packets is the Kentucky League of Cities Insurance Services Report Card. After working with KLC and implementing some new programs, he was happy to announce the PD's score is now 100%. The new radio system went live on August 11<sup>th</sup>, and it runs well. Chief Cooper answered several questions from council on their ability to communicate with other departments and agencies through the new system.

**Public Works** – See report attached. This past week they worked on installing concrete steps at the park near the playgrounds, utilizing a 50/50 grant, replacing the old wooden steps.

**Zoning Administrator** – See report attached, along with report from Code Enforcement.

**Community Center** – See report attached, which shows the CC opened back up in July with 419 walkers and 21 recurring events, following precautions.

## COUNCIL COMMITTEES

**Safety – Susan Vanlandingham:** They met this evening and discussed some safety ordinances that will be coming before council. They also revisited the allowance of golf carts on city streets; the majority decided it is not a good move because of the topography of the city streets.

**Beautification – Sue Neltner:** The next meeting will be September 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss upcoming beautification awards.

**Public Works – Bob Simon:** There are still two remaining streets to be completed after NKWD completes their water lines.

**Finance – Tom Baldrige:** They met tonight to approve the SRO description, heard a report on police staffing, and discussion on code enforcement position. They will invite the code enforcement officer to the next meeting which is September 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00.

## BOARDS & COMMISSIONS - None

## NEW BUSINESS

**Public Hearing regarding 2020 Property Tax Rate:** Mayor Schabell would like to keep the tax rate the same as it has been for the past several years, which is lower than it had been, and there will be a public hearing at the September 3<sup>rd</sup> council meeting.

Mr. Graus pointed we can keep our tax rate the same and still raise revenue by improving our city, as there is an increase in valuation, new construction, and commercial improvements. With the increase of growth, additional revenue is needed to pay for the services the city provides.

**August 2020 P&L** – See attached.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Covid 19 Update:** Effective September 1<sup>st</sup> the city and PD offices will be open to the public again, and masks are required. If anyone is still uncomfortable coming into the office, please use the drop box outside the front doors.

Chief Cooper reported the new testing site at the St. Elizabeth Imaging Center has worked out well, with no traffic concerns. So far, 167 tests were conducted with 7 positive results since the testing began a couple of weeks ago. Testing is available Tuesday and Thursday nights, 5:00 – 9:00 p.m., by appointment only.

Mr. Simon asked about the property purchase. JoAnn Hackworth reported BB&T was chosen for the loan and the paperwork is being prepared. The interest rate has been locked in at 2.09% for a ten-year rate.

Mayor Schabell said there were some email questions about the purchase of the property. There weren't many answers to give because we are at the very beginning of the process. If anyone has any questions about this matter, feel free contact him.

## MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

**Sue Neltner:** She wanted to revisit the golf cart issue. She thinks it would be wise since we were not approving them, we should make sure that everyone knows and understands the regulations for all types of recreational vehicles, and should be brought out at the next meeting. If we are looking at golf carts, there are other types of motorized bicycles, etc. also included in this category. Chief Cooper will provide the KRS regulations at the next meeting.

**Kyle Sparks:** ABC Brewing has brought in "The Peculiar Grill" for new food options in the brewery. Four Mile Pig opened their drive-thru. There is no inside seating but the public can come inside to order takeout. Chipotle, Harbor Freight, and Burkes are coming along.

**Tom Baldrige:** He thanked Chief Cooper for the robust code enforcement report. He also inquired about whether there could be an on-line system to report code violations. Mr. Sparks said the new website was designed to handle this and he will get with the web designer to set something up.

**Mayor Schabell:** During this morning's Mayor's call, Garren Colvin from St. Elizabeth Medical Center reported there are 42 Covid-related patients currently in the hospital, down substantially from the upper 90's at the peak. They have plenty of beds, PPE and equipment to handle matters. Since St. E's has been requiring masks from the very beginning, there has been no spread inside the hospital. The average age of patients is going down by about 15 years. The first wave was from nursing homes and people with comorbidities, but now they are seeing a younger age group. Mr. Colvin also stressed how bad vaping is and it has been found to be associated with the virus. Overall, it was a pretty encouraging report.

ORIGINAL

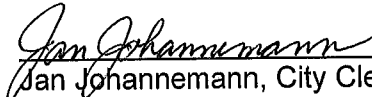
**FUTURE MEETINGS**

- September 1, 7:00 p.m. – Planning & Zoning
- September 2, 7:00 p.m. – Park & Rec
- September 3, 7:00 p.m. – City Council

**COMMUNICATIONS** - None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Susan Vanlandingham made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sue Neltner. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

  
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Jan Johannemann, City Clerk

Date: 9/3/2020

  
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Andy Schabell, Mayor

Date: 9/3/2020