

ORIGINAL



CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Meeting Minutes of September 17, 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 Absent
Bob Simon Present Sue Neltner Present
Tom Baldrige Present Kyle Sparks Present

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 3, 2020

MOTION: Stacey Graus made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2020 meeting, seconded by Tom Baldrige. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0.

SCHEDULED VISITORS & GUESTS:

Whitney Buerger & Lisa Grisik, New Officers – Chief Cooper introduced both officers. Whitney Buerger, who was with Probation/Parole, and has been with the Alexandria Police Department since April. She will leave for the Academy next week. Lisa Grisik has been with the department since last week, but has over 20 years in law enforcement from the City of Maysville, and has been hired as the School Resource Officer at Campbell Ridge Elementary. Mr. Duncan swore in both ladies.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Schabell took some time to address questions he received via Facebook and email about a couple of these ordinances. There have been signs posted for "No Thru Traffic" on Enzweiler Road, but the city has never had an ordinance in place to make the signs enforceable for the PD. Poplar Ridge has grown over the last few years and it is time to reduce the speed on that street for safety. The PD has conducted a speed study on Poplar Ridge and the vast majority of drivers are not speeding.

Mr. Duncan read the following:

ORD #2020-08 (2nd Reading): An Ordinance amending Chapter 74, Schedule IV of the City of Alexandria Code of Ordinances, in order to set the gross weight limit for through trucks at ten thousand (10,000 lbs.) pounds, and to prohibit through traffic on Enzweiler Road.

MOTION: Stacey Graus made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-08, seconded by Bob Simon. Ms. Neltner asked when signage would be put up; signs will be in place by Friday. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0.

ORD #2020-09 (2nd Reading): An Ordinance amending Chapter 74, Schedule III of the City of Alexandria Code of Ordinances in order to set the speed limit on Poplar Ridge Road at twenty-five (25 mph) miles per hour.

MOTION: Bob Simon made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-09, seconded by Tom Baldrige. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0.

ORD #2020-10 (2nd Reading): An Ordinance providing for the assessment of real property within the corporate limits of the City of Alexandria and levying an ad valorem tax of \$0.174 on each One

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Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation (\$1.74 per thousand) of real property in the city for the 2020 assessment tax year, and specifying the purpose for which the tax is levied.

Mr. Duncan explained the Public Hearing was aired at the previous council meeting and the proposed tax rate is the same tax rate as 2019.

**MOTION:** Kyle Sparks made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-10, seconded by Sue Neltner. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0.

**ORD #2020-11 (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading):** An Ordinance amending Ordinances 2019-03 and 2019-06, the City's budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020, by transferring funds to and among the various budget accounts according to attached Exhibit "A", in order to end the fiscal year in balance.

**MOTION:** Stacey Graus made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-11, seconded by Bob Simon. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0.

**ORD #2020-12 (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading):** An Ordinance approving a Lease Agreement with Truist Bank to finance the purchase of land in a maximum principal amount not to exceed \$280,000; providing for the payment and security of the lease and deposits to a sinking fund; authorizing the execution of various documents related to such lease, and making certain designations regarding such lease.

Mr. Duncan explained this is in regard to the property at 8822 Constable Drive. This Ordinance will allow the City to enter into a lease agreement, which is similar to a bond, but cheaper for financing. This ordinance was prepared and submitted by the bond council

**MOTION:** Bob Simon made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-12, seconded by Sue Neltner. Mayor Schabell is glad council is approving this and believes it is a great step in moving forward. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

**City Clerk:** Ms. Johannemann shared the office will be working on getting the tax bills out by the middle of next week.

**Police Department:** Chief Cooper went over the multi-year plan he emailed to council. The department is required to update this every few years and have it on record. They have to look ahead to address the future needs as the city changes. Any questions should be directed to him.

One need that should be addressed now is the current body cam system. It is 5 years old the equipment is getting old and doesn't work as well as it should. They are in need of a new system to avoid the liability that comes with an outdated one. He has a quote for a good system that can be leased and financed over time and will follow up with the Finance Committee.

The Drug Take Back Initiative will happen again this year as it is too important of a service to warrant cancelling due to COVID. The event will take place on October 24 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

It was mentioned that in today's culture it is important to have properly working body cameras. Mr. Sparks asked if there is any federal funding for this and the Chief is looking into it. There was further discussion about the issues with the current cameras and company where they were purchased. The Mayor and council were not comfortable with the idea of officers going out on patrol with faulty equipment. The cost of the cameras is not in this year's budget, but the PD cannot wait until next fiscal year to make the purchase. The new system would cost around \$71,000 for 20 cameras, financed over 5 years (\$14,000/yr.), but there is some wiggle room in the quote. Mr. Simon would like to see the cameras ordered as soon as possible because of the 12-14-week turnaround, as long

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as the Finance Committee was amenable. Mr. Graus believes if it is a needed purchase they would have to look at where they could pull the initial \$14,000 needed for this year's installment. They may have to trim back other parts of the PD's budget. Chief Cooper can also rework the numbers and reduce the number of body cams.

Mr. Duncan believes this is something the city can't do without and the Finance Committee can declare an emergency and find the money for the purchase. Mr. Sparks requested a breakdown of all possible scenarios and cost associated with those options, and Chief Cooper will see what he can do.

Mr. Sparks then asked if the PD vehicles were becoming cheaper to maintain. Sam Trapp said they are not necessarily easier to maintain because the technology is constantly changing and there are times the city does not have the tools or the knowledge to fix the issue. The PD is seeing more longevity from the vehicles because the mechanic is maintaining them in-house on a proper schedule.

**Fire Department:** Chief Pohlman gave an update on some of the department's recent purchases to help with COVID related operations: 3 cardio compression units at \$18,875 apiece, placed in both squads and the engine, and 2 lift systems for the cots that were purchased a few years back. This will cut down on back injuries for the staff. They have also purchased other equipment to protect against COVID but this will likely be the new norm even after the pandemic.

**Public Works:** See attached report. Mr. Trapp reported the new concrete steps at the park were completed today.

**Zoning Administrator & Code Enforcement:** See attached report. Mr. Baldrige had a few questions about the report and asked if there could be a "follow up date" column to the Code Enforcement Officer's report for added clarity. He also had some questions about the overlap in information between the two reports. Chief Cooper gave a brief overview of how all of that works. The website has not yet been updated to add the "Report a Violation" tab, Ms. Johannemann will look into it.

**Community Center:** See attached report. There was a question about the larger-than-average expenses for June, but that was due to there being 3 paychecks that month. During the shutdown, the employees have been painting and refreshing the Community Center.

## COUNCIL COMMITTEES

**Beautification – Sue Neltner:** The nominations for the Fall/Halloween award are due by 3:00 p.m. 10/22 and voting ends 4:00 p.m. on 10/30.

**Public Works – Bob Simon:** The last two streets, Paul Lane and Thatcher, should be paved in the next 2 weeks. The October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting will be cancelled.

**Finance – Stacey Graus:** They have a meeting on October 15.

**Business Retention & Development – Kyle Sparks:** They met this evening. Will Weber from the county attended and spoke about some things happening around the county. They also discussed ways to attract new businesses to Alexandria.

**Personnel – Tom Baldrige:** The meeting this evening was cancelled but they will have one November 19.

## BOARDS & COMMISSIONS – None

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## NEW BUSINESS

**September 2020 P&L Report:** Mayor Schabell referred to the attached report and asked if council had any questions.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Covid 19 Update:** Mayor Schabell reported the city received the final CARES Act check for \$167,392.82. He thanked Ms. Hackworth for all of her hard work.

Chief Cooper reported the PD office door remains locked because they only have one clerk working at a time. Even though the door is locked, the office is open, they just need to knock or call.

**New Property at 8822 Constable Dr.:** Mr. Simon has been in contact with Ms. Enzweiler who wants to be kept up to date so she can let the renters know when they need to be out. The title search is complete and the bond agents are working on finishing everything up. There will be two closings, a finance closing, and then a closing with Ms. Enzweiler for the property. Everything should be completed by the end of the October. Mr. Simon also reported Ms. Enzweiler would like the park to be called "Schneider Commons".

## MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

**Sue Neltner:** The Light Up Alexandria committee had a meeting on September 10. They plan to move ahead with the event. Any businesses interested in participating or having a float in the parade, should contact Mary Beth at Let it Go Consignment.

She also reported someone had given her a letter about Alexandria becoming a sanctuary city. The letter is a scam and a way to get money, but she wanted to make others aware in case more residents have received the same letter.

**Bob Simon:** Rumpke came later in the day this week.

**Kyle Sparks:** He is impressed with the appearance of Alexandria Village Green and that their occupancy rate is increasing

**Mayor Schabell:** He continues to have the weekly calls with the other mayors. This week they received some information on voting, which will be on the Facebook page and website. Residents have multiple ways to vote: Mail-in ballots, early in-person voting, voting at polling places on November 3.

He has received many questions in regards to work being done at AA & Ridgewood. The owners of the property had applied for a grading permit so they can get the property ready to sell. He has also had questions about what is going in across from Walgreens, which is a car wash.

Schools are back in session with an all virtual model until September 28 when they will switch to the hybrid model. He understands it has been stressful for everyone and they want their children back in school. He expressed his support for the Campbell County Board of Education and Dr. Rust.

Mayor Schabell will be out of town for the October 15 council meeting and so will Tom Baldrige. Depending on the other council members' attendance, the meeting might need to be cancelled.

## FUTURE MEETINGS

- Planning & Zoning – October 6, 7:00 p.m.
- Park & Rec – October 7, 7:00 p.m.

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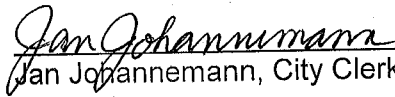
**COMMUNICATIONS**

- October 5: Last Day to register online to vote ([www.govoteky.com](http://www.govoteky.com))
- Oct. 16-17, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.: Campbell County Fall Clean-Up Event
- Nov. 3: General Election

Mr. Sparks explained one should not be able to vote 2 times. If you choose to do the mail-in ballot and then walk into a polling place, they are supposed to know you voted by mail and not allow you to vote again. The council race should be validated by the Friday after General Election.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Bob Simon made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sue Neltner. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

  
Jan Johannemann, City Clerk

Date: 10/1/2020

  
Andy Schabell, Mayor

Date: 10/1/2020