

ORIGINAL



CITY COUNCIL MEETING (Via Videoconference) Meeting Minutes of November 5, 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
Tom Baldrige	Present	Kyle Sparks	Present

Also: Stephanie Tarter, Admin. Clerk
Lucas Cooper, Police Chief
Jeff Pohlman, Fire Chief

Mike Duncan, City Attorney
JoAnn Hackworth, City Treasurer
Sam Trapp, Public Works Supt.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 15, 2020

MOTION: Stacey Graus made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2020 meeting, seconded by Bob Simon. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-1 with Mr. Baldrige abstaining.

VISITORS & GUESTS – None

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS – None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Clerk: Ms. Tarter reported tax season came to a close last week and it was busy, but everyone pitched in to make the process go as smoothly as possible. The City's contract with Rumpke will expire at the end of 2020 and new bids will be accepted through Friday, November 20, 2020.

Police Department: See attached report for October. Chief Cooper reported they are working under a more restricted status with the increase in COVID cases. They are trying to take more calls over the phone and their office is closed to the public.

Fire Department: Chief Pohlman reported they are also working under a more restricted status with the increase in cases and taking more precautions. They are still doing the coat drive and will have the barrel set up for donations.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Finance – Stacey Graus: They will have a special meeting on November 19, taking the place of the Safety Committee.

Public Works – Bob Simon: The meeting for this evening was cancelled due to COVID, but the streets are finished and the sidewalks are still being worked on.

Personnel – Tom Baldrige: The next meeting will be on November 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Safety – Susan Vanlandingham: The meeting on November 19 has been cancelled so the Finance Committee can have the audit meeting. This was the last scheduled meeting for the 2020 calendar, but if there is an issue that arises, she is open to having a special meeting if needed.

Beautification – Sue Neltner: The Fall/Halloween Beautification award went to Brad and Julie Eglan of 146 Lake Park Drive. Their son was the driving force behind the decorations and was

really excited to win. They had great participation this year and record turnout for voting. The Christmas/Winter Beautification award is up next, the deadline for nominations will be December 17 at 3:00 p.m. and the deadline for voting will be December 28 at 4:00 p.m.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Meetings: Planning & Zoning as well as Park & Rec both cancelled their meetings this week due to the rise in COVID cases.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Audit: Mayor Schabell informed council the audit presentation will be November 19 and it may be a longer meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Covid 19 Update: Mayor Schabell reported Campbell County has gone into the red, which means they have had 25 cases per 100,000 people on a rolling 7-day average. The last 7-day daily average was 35.9 cases. Today the Health Department reported 49 new cases for Campbell County.

The city offices are still open but visitors are asked to wear a mask when entering the building. There is a drop box for those who do not want to come into the building. The employees are separated but are wearing masks when in common areas. Community Center is closed right now as it was difficult to keep everyone socially distanced. They will continue to monitor the situation.

Mayor Schabell reported the city has had two workers who have tested positive and two who have family members who have tested positive. Those employees are currently working from home or on leave. The city only has 37 employees so 10% of the work force is out. Mayor Schabell wants to ensure the safety of the employees and to make sure we are not spreading it to others. The good news, in all of this, is there has been no spread of the virus between employees.

Mr. Sparks wanted to know if there was a plan in place for the Police Department if the worst happened and they had multiple officers out. Chief Cooper explained they are always operating under a county wide mutual aid agreement and other agencies would pitch in to help out the city and vice versa.

Ms. Neltner asked about the donations for the Blessing Bags and where those could be dropped off since the Community Center is currently closed. Chief Cooper will reach out to the social workers and get that information out to the public.

Body Cams: Chief Cooper reported the new body cams have arrived and are already in use.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Stacey Graus: Halloween went well and it seemed like residents did a good job of social distancing. Voting went well from the citizen standpoint and here in Campbell County the voting process went smooth; early voting was an advantage for those who wanted to social distance. He is hopeful we will learn something from this experience and see changes for how we vote in the future.

Bob Simon: He congratulated the remaining members for being elected again and for those who were newly elected.

Tom Baldridge: He shared he had COVID back in October and spent several days in the hospital. He encouraged folks to not put off going to the doctor if they are feeling ill. He encouraged folks to follow the mask mandate and to wash their hands.

Susan Vanlandingham: She also congratulated all of the folks elected to city council.

Sue Neltner: Echoed the sentiments of Mr. Simon and Ms. Vanlandingham. She was a poll worker at the Fairgrounds and thought the process went smoothly and all precautions were taken to ensure everyone remained safe and distanced. She reported they are still hoping to move forward with the Light Up Alexandria Parade, but may have to cancel cocoa with Santa. There are currently 35 businesses signed up. Mayor Schabell mentioned this event is a big deal for the local businesses because they have taken a huge hit this year. Gift cards would be a great way to support the local businesses and be a great Christmas gift.

Kyle Sparks: He echoed what Ms. Neltner said about supporting local businesses. He also took a moment to thank the outgoing council members for all they have done for the city and for what they had taught him in his first two years on council.

Mayor Schabell: Thanked the outgoing council members for their service and announced that as of now Mr. Graus, Mr. Sparks and Mr. Baldrige were the top three vote getters and the three new members will be Joe Anderson, Steven Shinkle and Dave Hart. Nothing is official until after Friday, but these are the preliminary numbers. Mr. Shinkle and Mr. Hart are coming from the Planning & Zoning Commission, and Mr. Anderson and Mr. Hart have both served on council in the past. The three new councilmembers will have tough shoes to fill but Mayor Schabell is confident they will be up to the task. He said the early voting was a smooth, easy process and commended Jim Luersen and his team for doing things right.

He continues to have weekly calls with the other mayors in the county, has had two calls with St. Elizabeth, and has had a few calls with Governor Beshear. Even though he has not always agreed with the Governor he has really appreciated his communication with the Mayors and allowing time for questions.

Ms. Neltner asked if there have been any changes with the schools in light of the increase in COVID numbers. Dr. Rust has sent out a letter and he does not plan on going back to all virtual because they have a very good system in place. Even though there have been teachers and students test positive, none of those cases were as a result of being at school. To date, there have been no transmissions happen at the school. Mayor Schabell shared a couple of stories of folks who have been around others who have tested positive but since everyone was wearing masks no one else tested positive. Masks are working is the information being shared by multiple agencies.

The Alexandria Park lake will be stocked with 1500 rainbow trout on Tuesday, November 10. He encouraged folks with a fishing licenses and trout stamp to get out and go fishing.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- Code Enforcement – Nov. 12, CANCELLED
- Planning & Zoning – Nov. 17, 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Schabell said the next council meeting will likely be in person, unless things change with COVID, but they can also do a hybrid option for those who don't feel comfortable meeting in person. He is asking everyone to wear masks if their next meeting is in person. It was suggested to take everyone's temp as they come in.

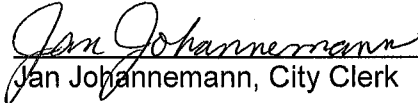
COMMUNICATIONS

- Blessing Bag Supply Donation thru November
- Nov. 7, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. – Hazardous Waste Event, UC Health Stadium
- Nov. 10 – 1500 Trout stocked at Alexandria Community Park Lake

- Nov. 11 Veterans Day (office closed)
- Nov. 7, 2 p.m. – Flag Burning Service at VFW

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Sue Neltner made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Susan Vanlandingham. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.



Jan Johannemann, City Clerk

Date: 11/19/2020



Andy Schabell, Mayor

Date: 11/19/2020