



Mr. Mitchell then took questions from city council members regarding the protocol for signing up, how folks will be made aware of the availability of funds, and how the money will be distributed.

Mayor Schabell asked for public comments and questions. There were none at tonight's meeting, nor were there any submitted to the City Clerk's office prior to the Public Hearing. Hearing no other comments, Mayor Schabell closed the public hearing at 7:18 p.m.

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*Mr. Duncan then read the following:*

**RES#2021-02:** A resolution of the City Alexandria authorizing the Mayor to sign and file a Community Development Block-CV Grant Application in the amount of \$200,000 to provide utility relief funding to residents.

**MOTION:** Kyle Sparks made a motion to re-adopt Resolution #2021-02, seconded by Tom Baldrige. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

**VISITORS & GUESTS** - None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – March 4, 2021

**MOTION:** Stacey Graus made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2021 meeting, seconded by Steven Shinkle. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

**ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

*Mr. Duncan read the following:*

**RES#2021-03:** A Resolution of the City of Alexandria authorizing Mayor Andy Schabell to execute a Memorandum of Agreement for the development of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan through FEMA.

Mr. Duncan explained this resolution acknowledges all of the units of government on the attachment (cities in the Northern Kentucky Area Development District) have gotten together to create an updated regional hazard mitigation plan. There was one already in place but this will update and formalize procedures, etc. This resolution authorizes the Mayor to enter into that agreement so if there is ever a need for hazard mitigation the city would not have to do it on their own.

**MOTION:** Steven Shinkle made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-03, seconded by Dave Hart. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**City Clerk:** The office has been staying busy and accepting a lot of building/zoning permits for pools, decks, and other home improvements.

**Police Department:** Chief Cooper congratulated Officer Whitney Buerger, who just graduated from the police academy today. She will be out on the streets very soon.

The food program operated at The Bridge Church was a huge success. 2,500 boxes of food were given out last night. There will be one more give-away on March 31<sup>st</sup> at The Bridge Church. There is a possibility this could be extended into April.

The Drug Take-Back Initiative will be April 24<sup>th</sup>. There will be safety guidelines in place and an officer and social worker available to accept prescriptions.

The PD is still accepting applications for a lateral police officer through the end of March.

Mr. Sparks had been in contact with a resident who reported a huge pothole at US27 turning into McDonald's. Mr. Sparks knows this was talked about a few times before and wanted to know if it was at the point where the city can start citing Village Green for not fixing this? Chief Cooper said this is in the State right of way and they were there at least once to put a temporary patch on it. Until the weather gets dry, they will not be able to permanently fix it. Mr. Sparks then asked if the City could do anything if the hole is not fixed by the Summer; this area has been a problem for years. Chief Cooper will also reach out to his State contact to see if he can do anything, and Carol Hofstetter has also been communicating with the State. Mr. Sparks wanted the residents to know the city is aware of the situation and doing what they can to help out.

Mr. Graus addressed the recurring issue with the business across from Poplar Ridge. He experienced a situation this evening heading south on US27 and sitting at a red light. A small car drove next to him and turned into the lot. The employees were moving cars around, and there are way too many vehicles in that lot. The business has outgrown the area, and Mr. Graus thinks it is time to put more pressure on them. These situations will eventually cause a bad accident and it is an eyesore. Mayor Schabell said the matter has been turned over to the State and the owner has received a letter. The vehicles are in the State's right of way and the owner was told to clear the vehicles out. He is interested to see what happens when the State enforces this, which should be later this month. Mr. Graus is always supportive of small businesses, but this particular place needs to do something because it's just too dangerous.

Mr. Sparks then asked Mr. Duncan how much time he has spent on code enforcement this past year with regard to litigation that goes to court. Mr. Duncan did not remember any time. Mr. Sparks is for community but sometimes you have to take a harder stand and it doesn't seem like the city has done that over the last few years with some fairly negligent matters. In fairness to others in the city, this needs to be addressed. Chief Cooper said there are many things that are just on the edge of being considered a violation and courts do not want to deal with code enforcement issues. Mr. Sparks thinks it is time to take necessary steps to let people know we are following through with our code enforcement. Not following through with a code violation allows serial wrongdoers continue to violate the codes.

Chief Cooper said many of the issues that Carol Hofstetter and Scott Davenport deal with are being taken care of; it is just a few that continue to linger and are very big issues. Mayor Schabell said if council wants Carol to come to a council meeting, he will have her come.

**Public Works:** Report attached. Mr. Baldrige said the area under the swings at the Park are full of water puddles. There is also a large metal tube on the playground that collects water. Mr. Trapp said he has ordered and received mats for the swings; they are waiting for the ground to dry out to install them. He will also check on the tube to see what can be done to eliminate the standing water inside.

**Zoning Administrator/Code Enforcement:** Reports attached.

**Community Center:** As of March 15, the Center is opened and things are getting back to normal.

#### **COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

**Public Works – Tom Baldrige:** The next meeting will be April 1, 6:00 p.m.

**Business Retention – Kyle Sparks:** He attended his first Light Up Alexandria meetings. They are working hard and he feels it will grow even more this year. Also, work is being done to get Alexandria businesses who are agreeable to it listed on our website, categorized by business type.

**Finance – Stacey Graus:** They met tonight to discuss how the investment account is doing and a first review of the proposed budget. There are still revenue numbers coming in for this fiscal year that are needed before projecting next year's revenue. Expenses are as normal. Eventually there will be a balanced budget. With regard to the investment account, Mr. Graus explained how the account worked. There is currently approximately \$156,000 in it, and about \$4.9 million accessible to the city. The committee discussed moving another \$100,000 into the investment account, and asked for approval of council.

Mr. Sparks asked how the investment account has done so far. Mr. Graus said the account has over \$156,040.31. He would like to have a little more growth, but the city is conservative in the investments. The greatest growth has been in the equity S&P500 Index Fund. There was a bit of reduction in the Corporate Bond Fund, and he is unsure why. We are going to make money at a greater rate historically if we put it in this investment account. The key is liquidity, and if the city needs to pull money out there is no problem. Mr. Sparks questioned whether \$150,000 is enough with something that is actually showing growth. Mr. Graus would rather take things a little slower to see how things go. Covid has not helped and he is not sure about the potential of getting more dollars from the government. He would prefer to watch the money over the next few months to see how this breaks out, then revisit again after the new budget is finalized. They also need to think about plans for the new city complex. He thinks we will be in a little better position after COVID restrictions are gone. The city has only been in this investment program for 13 months, so it is still early.

Mr. Sparks wants to make sure something can be put on the new city property soon, and Mr. Graus agrees; there needs to be something visible for the residents to see. There are no certain plans yet.

Mr. Graus asked the Mayor to call for a motion to transfer the funds.

**MOTION:** Kyle Sparks made a motion to transfer an additional \$100,000 into the Investment account, seconded by Tom Baldridge. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0.

**Personnel – Steven Shinkle:** The next meeting will be June 17.

**Beautification – Dave Hart:** The next meeting is April 1.

## **BOARDS & COMMISSIONS**

**Park & Rec:** The board wants to put a larger shelter at the Park playground. Kim Wagner is working on a Federal matching grant. The budget shows the entire amount of \$65,000, but half will be reimbursed after it is built. They are also trying to decide how to move forward with park events.

**Planning & Zoning:** They met on Tuesday, March 16 and held two public hearing at the Community Center. One was for a proposed 123 Drees townhomes off Breckenridge on 57 acres. The access will only be on Breckenridge. P&Z did approve that zone change. The second public hearing was to rezone a section of Timber Creek to PUD in order to put larger homes on smaller lots, which was also approved. Both of these will be coming before council at the next meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Profit & Loss Report:** See attached report. Mayor Schabell asked if there were any questions.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Small Business Grants Update:** Mayor Schabell said all funds have been distributed to the businesses, and there were 3 thank-you notes that came into the city. Council has a copy of these. He heard many positive things about this program, and he appreciates council's support.

**COVID 19 Update:** It was one year ago today that Mayor Schabell signed the State of Emergency Declaration, allowing the city to be available for eligible funds and FEMA money. When the state removes their Emergency Declaration, then he will remove the city's. He is proud of everyone at the City of Alexandria for how things have been handled.

There are close to 6,000 deaths in the State of Kentucky; however, when Gov. Beshear was first briefed on this, they expected 80,000. As we move into the next phase, let's not try to second-guess what we have done this past year. Mayor Schabell is optimistic that we can move forward and learn from the past.

The American Rescue Plan was just passed, and Mayor Schabell said KLC has reported this plan is going to give money directly to local municipalities, unlike the CARES Act funds, which went to the State, and the Governor assigned it to the cities. We are scheduled to get \$1,764,635, the first half in this fiscal year and the second half in the next fiscal year. There are restrictions to what can be done with this money and Mayor Schabell read the list. We will have to see how this goes. Hopefully we can do some very good things to help our community, and get us into the future.

The Community Center is open and taking reservations for events at 60% capacity, and the walking track is open. The Police Department is operating the same as it has been. Clerk's office is open to the public but there are provisions for anyone not wanting to come inside or to meet in person.

#### **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Tom Baldrige:** He asked about the plans for a new city sign, and wants to revisit this. He asked if whomever cut hay at the new city property will continue to do so. The Mayor said yes.

**Mayor Schabell:** His daughter turned 14 today. Happy Birthday Brooklyn.

#### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

- April 6, 7:00 p.m. Planning & Zoning
- April 7, 7:00 p.m. Park & Recreation
- April 14, 7:30 p.m. Board of Adjustments

#### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- Shred Event/Prescription Drug Disposal – April 10, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Furniture Fair
- Campbell County Spring Cleanup – April 23 & 24, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:** None

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Kyle Sparks made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Tom Baldrige. All in favor, the motion passed 6-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

  
Jan Johannemann, City Clerk

Date: 4/1/2021

  
Andy Schabell, Mayor

Date: 4/1/2021