



CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2021

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	Steven Shinkle	Present
Joe Anderson	Present	Susan Vanlandingham	Present
Tom Baldrige	Present	Kyle Sparks	Absent

Also:

Jan Johannemann, City Clerk	Mike Duncan, City Attorney
Lucas Cooper, Police Chief	Sam Trapp, PW Superintendent
Jeff Pohlman, Fire Chief	JoAnn Hackworth, City Treasurer
	Kim Wagner, Recreation Director

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 2, 2021 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Stacey Graus made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2021 regular meeting, seconded by Tom Baldrige. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0.

VISITORS AND GUESTS:

Allie, the Elf: (aka Kim Wagner) - Alexandria's human elf-on-a-shelf, Allie, gave a brief report on her latest visit back to Alexandria. Her cousin, Alex, a freakishly tall elf, has also been in town and together they have been getting into mischief. Stay in the loop by checking the city's Facebook page to check on elf activity until Christmas.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Duncan read the following:

ORD #2021-17 (2nd Reading) - Amending Chapter 38, Sec. 38.01 of the City Code of Ordinances, and Ordinances 22-94, 1-95, 2005-05 and 2013-12, in order to add a social media policy and to integrate previous updates to the City's Code of Ethics.

Mr. Duncan explained the attachment indicates all of the changes that were made since the original Ethics Ordinance was adopted in 1994. There were a few amendments to it since that time, and this document puts all of those amendments into one ordinance. Also, Kentucky League of Cities had suggested the city adopt a social media policy in the Ethics Ordinance which would apply to council members, board members, and the Mayor. This is to remind council members and other city officials that they can engage in social media in their personal capacity, but if they represent themselves as a city official, that becomes a public document subject to open records and the archive schedule. This ordinance also points out city officials should not conduct public business on social media and represent themselves as a city official. However, if someone else mentions in comment that they are a city official, that is not an issue. The recommendation is if someone asks a board or council member on social media a question about city business, they should be advised to contact the city and not discuss city business on social media.

MOTION: Stacey Graus made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-17, seconded by Steven Shinkle. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Chief Cooper referred to the attached reports. He also reminded everyone to be safe, and to be watchful of suspicious activity in their neighborhoods, and then contact the PD if they see any.

ORIGINAL

Fire Department: Chief Pohlman reported Santa will be riding around the city on a fire truck this coming Saturday. The sirens will be on when Santa comes into subdivisions and he urged everyone to stay on the sidewalks and Santa will come to you.

He also thanked the citizens who have been donating supplies for Western Kentucky. Everyone has been affected, including fire stations, so they are working together to help out. It is going to be a long recovery and prayers are needed.

Public Works: Sam had been out of the office so there was no written report. He did say there were no issues with the recent snow fall, and streets should have been clear by about 4:30 a.m.

Zoning Administrator/Code Enforcement: Report is attached. The condition of the Walmart entrance should be addressed after the holidays.

Community Center: Report is attached.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Public Works – Tom Baldrige: The next meeting will be on January 6, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Safety – Joe Anderson: He asked for an update on the crosswalks/safety signs for Arcadia. Sam Trapp is working on some quotes for signage and lights, and should have information for the next Safety meeting, which will be March 17.

Mr. Anderson had looked over the committee meeting schedule and wondered if the Finance Committee should be longer than ½ hour. Mr. Graus thinks the time is sufficient to discuss items in the January meeting. If anything comes up, a special meeting can be called.

Beautification Committee – Susan Vanlandingham: She has been getting emails for the Winter/Christmas nominations. The deadline is at 3:00 on Monday, December 20. The list will be on Facebook for voting until December 29th, and for those not on Facebook, please send her an email. She encouraged everyone to drive around and check out the addresses on the list and vote for their favorite one. The winner will be announced at the January meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Profit/Loss Report: The Mayor referred to the report provided, and asked if there were any questions.

OLD BUSINESS:

New City Sign: Mr. Baldrige hopes to have a recommendation from the Finance Committee meeting in January.

Blue Roo Car Wash Noise: Mr. Shinkle obtained three bids for the fence, and the attached bid from R&M was the best. There are two options: #1 - fencing around the back of the building and adjacent to the back of the car wash, and #2 – fencing wraps completely around the car wash. Total cost for fencing plus sound boards would be: Option 1 - \$29,153; Option 2 - \$46,288. R&M thinks Option 1 would work, and if needed, more fencing could be added later.

The printer that put the designs on the material has gone out of business, so the city will have to find something else. The material can have printed scenes, paint, or vinyl added, or the city could just go with the black view. It was asked whether there were any of these fences within driving distance for councilmembers to see in person. Mr. Shinkle will check and report back.

The fence will be high enough off the ground for snow removal, and since there is a drop off on the back of the property, it will take a significant amount of reinforcement to get 12 feet up above the blacktop.

It is hoped the owner of the Blue Roo will step up to help the city with this cost. Mr. Anderson doesn't think the city should foot the bill for this. Mayor Schabell said it can be addressed, but the city did approve the site plan as is, and the owner is not in any violation. There was more discussion on how this issue came about with engineer reviews, P&Z and city approval, and the role the city has in helping to fix the problem. Everyone agreed this fence option seems to be the best fix after exhausting all other possibilities.

Ms. Vanlandingham has read comments about the city spending a lot of money for just a few people in a certain area, but she believes if this was in any other area, the city would be doing the same thing. It is not just because it's Arcadia; it is because this was the city engineer's responsibility to point this out to us, and it is ultimately the city's responsibility. She thanked Steven for working hard to come up with a workable solution. After much discussion, the Mayor asked for a motion.

MOTION: Stacey Graus made a motion for Mayor Schabell to approach Blue Roo for a discussion about the financial cost of fencing and acoustic noise abatement, and to approve Option #1 of \$29,153 estimate for R&M Fence and Acoustiblok sound material, seconded by Susan Vanlandingham. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Duncan pointed out this will eventually need to be addressed from a budget standpoint.

New City Sign: Revisiting this matter, Mr. Baldrige asked if it was okay to contact Mr. Cruze about moving forward with the sign, on the condition that the Mayor needs to contact Duke Energy about the electric. Sam Trapp and Mr. Cruze will work out the details for the footer. Sam thinks the sign could be ordered sometime after the first of the year. Council is okay with this plan.

New City Campus Projects: They met this afternoon, but Mr. Sparks could not attend the council meeting, so he will have an update at the next meeting.

Council and Committee Meeting Changes: All of council was okay with the current schedule as it is. Special meetings can be scheduled at any time if anything comes up.

Covid-19 Update: No update.

Shanel Criswell, 16 Breckenridge – She lives near the BBHS ball field and the speakers are pointed directly at her house. She hears everything any time there is an event at the field. She doesn't think the city should be footing the bill for the noise at the Blue Roo Car Wash or any other places that have noise issues. It is not good use of the city money, unless they are going to do it for everyone.

Mayor Schabell thanked her for her comments and is not unsympathetic to what she had to say. He pointed out the car wash operates 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, so it is not comparable with sporting events at the field.

COUNCIL & MAYOR COMMENTS:

Steven Shinkle: He shared some good news - With the tragedy in Western Kentucky, his wife and other physical therapists took up a donation to buy supplies because some of the therapists were going there to help the nursing homes. They went to the Dollar General and filled a cart full of cleaning wipes, toothbrushes, etc. When they went to pay, the lady behind them paid for all of the supplies. He wanted to thank her on camera for doing this.

ORIGINAL

Susan Vanlandingham: Nominations for Christmas Beautification Award are due by Dec. 20, voting completed by Dec. 29, and the winner will be announced in January. Happy Holidays and be safe.

Stacey Graus: Merry Christmas.

Mayor Schabell: He participated in the Governor's call on Wednesday. There was no talk of Covid, but rather of the tornados in Western Kentucky. Many of the smaller towns are being overwhelmed by water and supplies and the lack of storage. The best way for someone who wants to contribute is to donate to a state-sponsored relief fund: www.teamwkyrelieffund.ky.gov. The link is posted on the city website under News and Events, and on Facebook. There is long-term recovery needed, and monetary funds can be distributed over time to the places that need them the most. This is the best option.

FUTURE MEETINGS


- Dec. 21, 7:00 p.m. – Planning & Zoning
- Jan. 4, 7:00 p.m. – Planning & Zoning
- Jan. 5, 7:00 p.m. – Park & Rec

COMMUNICATIONS:


- Allie the Elf Sightings in Alexandria
- Dec. 18 – Santa on the Fire Truck
- Nominations being accepted for Beautification Award through 12/20
- Dec. 23 & 24, and Dec. 31 – City offices will be closed for Christmas and New Years

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Tom Baldrige made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Steven Shinkle. All in favor, the motion passed 5-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.


Jan Johannemann, City Clerk

Date: 1/20/2022


Andy Schabell, Mayor. Stacey Graus, Council Member

Date: 1-20-22