

**City of Alexandria  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 11, 2024 - 5:30 PM  
City Council Budget Public Hearing**

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Present: Mayor Justin M. Wilson, Vice Mayor Amy B. Jackson, Members of Council Canek Aguirre, Sarah R. Bagley, John Taylor Chapman, Alyia Gaskins and R. Kirk McPike.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Parajon, City Manager; Ms. Cordell Ivery, City Attorney; Mr. Routt, Director, Office of Management and Budget (OMB); Ms. Hamm, Assistant Director, OMB; Mr. Wicks, Budget Management Analyst, OMB; Mr. Smith, Information Technology Services (ITS); Ms. Demeke, ITS; and Mr. Lloyd.

Recorded by: Keia Waters, Deputy City Clerk and Clerk of Council.

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**I. OPENING**

1. Calling the Roll

Mayor Wilson called the city council meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and the Deputy City Clerk called the roll. All members of City Council were present, with Vice Mayor Jackson and Councilman Chapman arriving after roll call.

2. Approval of the Electronic Participation Resolution by City Council (if needed)

3. Public Hearing on the City Manager's Proposed Annual Operating Budget for FY 2025 (including Schools) and the Proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY 2025 to FY 2034 (including Schools CIP), and the Proposed Tax Rate Recommendations.

Adoption is scheduled for May 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. A public hearing on the ordinance establishing the Real Property Tax Rate will be held on Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

The following persons participated in the budget public hearing:

1. Jill Norcross, Reston, VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
2. Ryan Reyna, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
3. Carlos Geovani Rubio, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of rent relief and affordable housing.
4. Catie Brownback, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.

5. Theodore Brownback, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
6. Chaaron, Dash, and Pippa Pearson, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
7. Sylvie Benatti, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
8. Kate Moore Rodriguez, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
9. Mary Jane Bryant, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
10. Bridget Shea Westfall, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
11. Darryle Brown, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of increasing funding for affordable housing.
12. Christina Hildebidle, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
13. Michael Schuster, Alexandria VA, spoke on various issues including outreach to underserved older communities, real property tax relief program, cuts to DASH funding, and cuts to grant PAD program.
14. Marsha Rhea, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of increasing funding for affordable housing.
15. Jo Belser, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of increasing funding for affordable housing.
16. Noelia Villareal, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of funding rent relief and affordable housing.
17. Ingris Moran, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of funding rent relief and affordable housing.
18. Bill Pugh, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of funding climate action, net-zero energy schools, and school's reconstruction.
19. Gabriel Elias, Washington DC, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
20. Julia P Sylla, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
21. David Paladin-Fernandez, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
22. Jonathan Krall, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.

23. Sebastian Langan, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of increasing funds for affordable housing.
24. Roderick D. Belcher, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of increasing funds for affordable housing.
25. Larisa Zehr, Chicago IL, spoke in support for increased housing allocation in budget.
26. Shelley Murphy McCabe, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
27. John B Hill, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of stormwater infrastructure.
28. Maureen McNulty, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
29. Peter Sutherland, Alexandria VA, spoke provided amendment suggestions to promote affordable housing
30. Jovita Gill, Fort Washington MD, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
31. Jennifer Reading, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
32. Suzie O'Brien, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
33. Eric Sokolove, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
34. Fern Abrams, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
35. Kate Kelley, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
36. Arin Keyser, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
37. Luisa Tio, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
38. Jenny Ware, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
39. Andrew Macdonald, Alexandria VA, spoke on various budget issues including: ACPS, affordable housing, urban forestry, natural resources in our community, and the investment in AEDP.
40. Greta Gordon, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
41. Kimberly Ball, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of ACPS budget request.
42. James Karlson, Vienna, VA, spoke to support an increase of funding for ALIVE.
43. Daniel Green, Alexandria VA, spoke in support of funding DASH.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Jackson, seconded by Councilmen Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council closed the budget public hearing. The

vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Jackson, Councilman Aguirre, Councilmember Bagley, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Gaskins, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

II. **ADJOURN**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED**, upon motion by Councilman Aguirre, seconded by Councilmen Chapman and carried 7-0, City Council adjourned the budget public hearing meeting of March 11, 2024 at 7:36 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Jackson, Councilman Aguirre, Councilmember Bagley, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Gaskins, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

APPROVED BY:

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JUSTIN M. WILSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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Keia Waters, CMC, Deputy City Clerk