

**City of Alexandria
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 24, 2016, 6:00 PM
City Council Legislative Meeting**

Present: Mayor Allison Silberberg, Vice Mayor Justin M. Wilson, Members of Council Willie F. Bailey, John Taylor Chapman, Timothy B. Lovain, Redella S. Pepper and Paul C. Smedberg.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Jinks, City Manager; Mr. Banks, City Attorney; Ms. Collins, Deputy City Manager; Mr. Browand, Division Chief, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities; Ms. Kelleher, Director, Office of Human Rights; Mr. Farner, Deputy Director, Planning and Zoning; Ms. Taylor, Director, Finance; Ms. Farmer, Principal Planner, Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES); Mr. Duval, Deputy Director, T&ES; Mr. Stewart, Deputy Director, Finance; Mr. Costigan, Finance; Mr. Bernstein, Director, Department of Project Implementation; Mr. Kacambaras, Project Manager, T&ES; Mr. Gammon, Acting Deputy Director, Department of Project Implementation, T&ES; Deputy Police Chief Wemple; Police Captain Andreas; Mr. Ward, Information and Technology Services; and Mr. Lloyd.

Recorded by: Gloria Sitton, Deputy City Clerk and Clerk of Council.

1. Calling the Roll.

Mayor Silberberg called the meeting to order and the Deputy City Clerk called the roll. All the members of Council were present, with Councilman Bailey and Councilman Chapman arriving during the Executive Session.

2. Closed Meeting.

6:00 P.M. - Consideration of a Closed Meeting for the Discussion Concerning the Expansion of an Existing Business, Discussion of the Investment of Public Funds Where Bargaining is Involved, and Discussion of Plans Related to the Security of a Governmental Facility.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried 5-0, City Council convened in closed executive session at 6:03 p.m. to discuss the expansion of an existing business/investment of public funds where bargaining is involved and to discuss the plans related to the security of a governmental facility; specifically,

the possible investment of public funds in a large commercial redevelopment through various incentives where bargaining is involved, where, if made public, the financial interests of the City would be adversely affected and discussion of plans to protect public safety as it relates to possible terrorist activity for a specific governmental facility (non-specific threat); pursuant to Sections 2.2-3711 (A)(5), (6) and (19) of the Code of the Virginia. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none; Absent, Councilman Bailey and Councilman Chapman.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously, City Council reconvened the meeting at 7:15 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

WHEREUPON, upon motion Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously by roll-call vote, City Council adopted the resolution regarding the Executive Session. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

The ordinance reads as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2729

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council has this 24th day of May 2016, recessed into executive session pursuant to a motion made and adopted in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the city council that such executive session was conducted in accordance with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the city council does hereby certify that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters that were identified in the motion by which the executive session was convened, and that are lawfully exempted by the Freedom of Information Act from the Act's open meeting requirements, were heard, discussed or considered by council during the executive session.

3. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Silberberg recognized the Living Legends for 2016, who were honored at a reception earlier this evening.

City Council observed a moment of silence and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Reading and Acting Upon the Minutes of the Following Meetings of City Council:

The Special Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2016;
The Regular Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2016; and

The Public Hearing Minutes of May 14, 2016.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council approved the minutes of the following meetings of City Council: the special meeting minutes of May 5, 2016, the regular meeting minutes of May 10, 2016, and the public hearing meeting minutes of May 14, 2016. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

ORAL REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL ON BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

*** City Council-School Board Subcommittee (Vice Mayor Wilson and Mayor Silberberg)**

Mayor Silberberg stated that the City Council-School Board Subcommittee held a meeting yesterday and one of the topics of discussion was the redevelopment of Patrick Henry School and she requested that Councilwoman Pepper give an update of the Patrick Henry School Redevelopment Advisory Group activities.

Councilwoman Pepper gave an update of the Advisory Group meeting and noted that the Group favored Option C1 and referred their recommendation to the School Board. Councilwoman Pepper stated that the School Board approved Option A1, which moves the recreation center to the opposite side of the building and would save approximately \$2 million. Councilwoman Pepper stated that the addition of an auditorium was not part of the Option A1. Councilwoman Pepper reported that the vote by the School Board was 6-2-1.

Mayor Silberberg stated that the vote by the School Board was discussed at length at the subcommittee meeting, particularly the access for emergency vehicles only on Latham Street and the use and availability of open space for the public. Mayor Silberberg also noted that the issue of the auditorium was discussed at length and was a concern for many in the community. Mayor Silberberg noted that the timeline was as much an issue as the money for the option the School Board chose.

Vice Mayor Wilson stated that there was a discussion on Phase 2 of the Long Range Educational Facilities plan and he noted there will be considerable work completed on high schools, special education and early education facilities over the summer, with more information on the process going forward.

Vice Mayor Wilson also noted that there was discussion about the Patrick Henry Redevelopment project, the timeline for the project and the process for future projects. Vice Mayor Wilson stated that the process and the decision-making for this project left much to be desired and hopefully can be used as a learning experience to define the process for future projects.

Vice Mayor Wilson stated that information about follow-up on afterschool efforts was discussed and he stated that he would share that information with Council via email. Vice Mayor Wilson reported that the information looked at afterschool programs, both private and public, the types of needs covered current programs, geographic locations of the programs, the demographics being served and the capacity or lack of capacity of the programs to meet

the specified needs. Vice Mayor Wilson noted that the next phase will be a gap analysis of the information gathered and he stated that this information will be helpful in deciding how to best invest money in the City's afterschool needs going forward.

Vice Mayor Wilson stated that there was a follow-up on the early childhood efforts and he reported that the assessment tool for gathering information will be implemented shortly.

Vice Mayor Wilson noted that there was discussion about the FY18 budget guidance and staff was requested to present a couple of different models to be discussed during the joint meeting. Vice Mayor Wilson reported that there will be a joint meeting of Council and the School Board on June 22 and the four topics for discussion will be: Long Range CIP Planning, Early Childhood, Afterschool topics and Budget Guidance.

Mayor Silberberg stated that the afterschool update discussion included more information on the Titan Lounge and the popularity of the program at T.C. Williams, as well as the social aspects of the program. Mayor Silberberg noted that the program costs \$61,000 and she noted that there was possibly the need for something unstructured like Titan Lounge to allow students to gather in a safe environment to study and socialize.

Councilman Chapman stated that he would like for Council to follow the recommendations of school leadership on the types of programs that best suit the needs of the students for afterschool programs.

*** Potomac Yard Metro Implementation (Vice Mayor Wilson and Councilman Smedberg)**

This report was deferred until later in the meeting.

*** ARHA Redevelopment Work Group (Vice Mayor Wilson and Councilman Chapman)**

Councilman Chapman reported that the Work Group held its second meeting and they reviewed the proposed plans for the Ramsey Homes, including concepts and alternatives with floor plans and elevations. Councilman Chapman reported that there would be a public meeting to be held on May 26 at the Charles Houston Recreation Center. Councilman Chapman gave the schedule for follow-up meetings for the Work Group including a meeting on the Historic Section 106 on June 6, another Work Group meeting on June 9 and an update to City Council on June 28.

Vice Mayor Wilson noted that the second alternative reviewed contained a preservation component. Vice Mayor Wilson reported that there are definite challenges when considering preservation, and he noted that there will be trade-offs that the community will have to make in order to have preservation, including additional density and funding for the project.

*** Quality of Life Committee (Vice Mayor Wilson and Mayor Silberberg)**

Mayor Silberberg reported that she, along with many other state and local officials, attended a press conference today with Governor McAuliffe, announcing \$3 million in grants from his administration to add eleven mental health officers throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Mayor Silberberg congratulated the Alexandria Probation Office/Department of Corrections on receiving a top award from the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Program, which is a collaborative program with the Community Services Board (CSB) started 20 years ago to address substance abuse issues in the community and has successfully served 800 citizens.

Mayor Silberberg noted that arrests have been made in the recent bank robberies and the murder that occurred near Belle Pre. Mayor Silberberg stated that residents should take extra precautions and safety measures to help prevent crime in the community. Mayor Silberberg also noted that the Police Department would be increasing foot patrols throughout the City.

Mayor Silberberg reported that there is a coordinated effort to prevent gang activity and she noted that the City of Atlanta has reached out to the City to learn about the efforts and activities that City has implemented to prevent gang activity.

Mayor Silberberg reported that Liz Wixson, Director of Clinical and Emergency Services, Department of Community and Human Services, has been asked to serve on a panel discussing intervention and jail diversion for the National Association for Mental Illness (NAMI).

Mayor Silberberg reported that the Sheriff's Department would be sponsoring a soccer tournament themed, "Goals, Not Gangs" on June 11 at George Washington Middle School from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Mayor Silberberg stated that the repaving of King and Duke Streets will be completed now that the weather is better.

Mayor Silberberg reported that Dr. Haering, Director, Health Department, gave an update on the Zika virus and she encourage residents to view the video on the City's website on the virus and ways to prevent the virus and its spread.

Vice Mayor Wilson noted that there was a discussion regarding opioid addiction and how DCHS and the Police Department are working with hospitals and other entities to prevent overdose situations from occurring.

*** Visit Alexandria Board of Governors (Vice Mayor Wilson)**

Vice Mayor Wilson reported that the Visit Alexandria Board of Governors adopted their FY17 budget and operating plan, which included funding for different initiatives related to MGM and other tourism opportunities and for marketing material for visitors to Alexandria. Vice Mayor Wilson also reported that the Board endorsed the small business zoning changes coming before Council in the near future. Vice Mayor Wilson also noted that the Board received the nominations report for the leadership for the Board for the upcoming year and he stated that the new chair will be Mary Anne Russell and the vice chair will be Karen Kotowski.

*** Children, Youth and Families Collaborative Commission (Councilman Bailey and Councilman Chapman)**

Councilman Bailey reported that the Advocacy Committee for the Commission report was given by Glenn Hopkins and they would like to thank City Council for the three additions to the proposed budget (the Nannie J. Lee Center, restoration of Sunday walk-in hours for libraries and childcare fee subsidy). Councilman Bailey also reported that the City would be partnering with Fairfax County to pursue grant opportunities in the amount of \$250,000 to fill public/private preschool initiatives in the community.

*** Workforce Development Coalition (Councilman Bailey and Councilwoman Pepper)**

Councilman Bailey reported that the Workforce Development Coalition shared numbers of participants that have used the center. The statistics were as follows: number of adults and youth participants served by the center-1380; number of adult and youths who gained employment-548; and number of visits to the career center and youth career academy- 4860. Councilman Bailey also reported that the Workforce Development Center will be partnering with MGM National Harbor to fill some of the 3600 positions at that hotel/casino and they are working to setup job fairs to fill those positions. Councilman Bailey also noted that the Summer Youth Employment Program had 250 applicants and 153 participants were hired for the summer at 27 worksites throughout the City. Councilman Bailey stated that the Workforce Development Coalition is seeking donors and businesses to make donations to help fund the program. Councilman Bailey reported that the Workforce Development Center is experiencing challenges with placement for newly arrived immigrants who face language and cultural barriers in the work environment.

Councilwoman Pepper announced that the closing ceremony for the Summer Youth Employment Program will be held on August 12 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., to honor those who participate in the program. Councilwoman Pepper stated that she and Councilman Bailey will give the keynote addresses at the program.

*** METRO (Councilman Smedberg)**

Councilman Smedberg referred the discussion to Councilmember Lovain, who had attended a hearing on Capitol Hill with Mr. Wiedefeld, General Manager for Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and Carolyn Flowers, Acting Administrator for the Federal Transit Authority (FTA). Councilmember Lovain reported that he was part of a panel testifying on behalf of the region before Congress on the need for funding for upgrades and updates to the Metrorail system. Councilmember Lovain stated that there also needs to be a dedicated revenue source from the region that funds Metro in the future.

City Manager Jinks reported that he has been asked to serve on the group to work on creating a source for dedicated funding for Metro, which will begin meeting in June.

Councilman Smedberg reported that WMATA had reported recently on a rape that occurred on a train and he noted that there a plans to announce new procedures for notifying the public when serious crimes occur on the system.

Councilman Smedberg reported that one of the House Appropriations Subcommittees is willing to reconsider funding in the amount of \$150 million for updating and repairing the Metrorail system.

Councilman Smedberg reported that the Board received an in-depth update of the SafeTrack plan at the last meeting. Councilman Smedberg also reported that WMATA has received a directive from the FTA to address several areas prior to beginning the work proposed by the plan. Councilman Smedberg stated that the work on the SafeTrack Plan will begin in June in some areas.

Mayor Silberberg gave an overview of the Metro SafeTrack plan shutdown: July 5 -11, line segment shutdown between National Airport to Braddock Road (shuttle buses will be available); August 20 – September 5, single tracking from Franconia-Springfield to Van Dorn Street; January 2-13 and January 23 – February 3, continuous single tracking from Braddock Road to Huntington/Van Dorn Street.

City Manager Jinks noted that staff is working with Metro to enhance bus service and traffic management throughout the City, helping employers with the Local Motion Program and exploring options available with Telework.

*** Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (Councilman Smedberg)**

Councilman Smedberg announced that Kelley Coyner, Executive Director for the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission will be resigning from her position on June 2. Councilman Smedberg noted that Kate Mattice, Director of Transit Programs and Policy, will be serving as the Acting Executive Director until a permanent director is hired.

***Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (Mayor Silberberg)**

Mayor Silberberg reported that the Authority is moving into the public comment period for 24 projects, including the Potomac Yard Metro Station and West End Transitway. Public comments can be made about funding for these projects during this time.

*** Virginia Railway Express (Councilman Smedberg)**

Councilman Smedberg reported that the Board approved the CEO of Virginia Railway Express (VRE) forwarding to the Commission the approval for Phase Three of the Long Bridge Project. Councilman Smedberg noted that this approval is for the nongovernmental match for the funding for the project.

City Manager Jinks also reported that there would be a memorandum distributed to Council later in the week related to the status of the State's high speed rail or rail capacity corridor.

*** Transportation Planning Board (Councilmember Lovain)**

Councilmember Lovain stated that the Transportation Planning Board is focusing on developing a real Long Range Plan, including funded and unfunded transportation projects for the region. Councilmember Lovain also stated that the plan will focus on developing criteria for funding and finding ways to fund the projects.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

CONSENT CALENDAR (5-8)

(Reports and Recommendations of the City Manager)

5. Consideration of Acceptance of a Grant Award From the Securing the Cities (STC) for the National Capital Region (NCR), U.S. Department of Homeland Security Domestic Nuclear Detection Agency, District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA).

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated May 18, 2016, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 5; 05/24/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

6. Consideration of an Application for the Renewal of the Justice Assistance Grant for the Police Department's Part I Crimes Task Force.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated May 18, 2016, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 6; 05/24/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

7. Consideration of a Proposed Lease of Office Space at Bankers Square for the Accounting and Purchasing Divisions.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated May 18, 2016, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 7; 05/24/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

8. Consideration of Authorization for the City Manager to Sign a Revised Net Benefits Agreement Regarding the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station between the National Park Service and the City of Alexandria.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated May 18, 2016, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 8; 05/24/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously, City Council approved the consent calendar, with the exception on docket item #8, which was considered under separate motion. The City Manager's recommendations were as follows:

5. City Council: (1) approved acceptance of a grant award for \$4,229; and (2) authorized the City Manager to execute all the necessary documents that may be required.

6. City Council: (1) approved the grant application (due in late June 2016) to the Department of Justice in the amount of \$31,713; and (2) authorized the City Manager to execute all the necessary documents that may be required.

7. City Council authorized the City Manager to enter into a new lease for 5,949 square feet of office space at Bankers Square, 100 block of North Pitt Street, which would extend occupation of this space by City divisions for a period of 10 years (through 2026).

The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

8. Consideration of Authorization for the City Manager to Sign a Revised Net Benefits Agreement Regarding the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station between the National Park Service and the City of Alexandria.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated May 18, 2016, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 8; 05/24/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Ms. Farmer, Principal Planner, Transportation and Environmental Services, gave an overview of the agreement and described the land exchange that was part of the agreement.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council authorized the City Manager to sign the proposed revised Agreement regarding the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station between the National Park Service (NPS) and the City of Alexandria, also commonly referred to as the "Net Benefits Agreement." The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

ROLL-CALL CONSENT CALENDAR (9)

9. Consideration of a Resolution Establishing the City's FY 2017 Virginia Retirement System Contribution Rates. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated May 18, 2016, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 9; 05/24/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

END OF ROLL-CALL CONSENT CALENDAR

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Smedberg and carried unanimously by roll-call vote, City Council approved the roll-call consent calendar. The approval was as follows:

9. City Council approved the resolution increasing the employee Virginia Retirement System (VRS) contribution rate for applicable General Schedule, Sheriff, and Fire Marshals/Medic salary scale employees from 4% to 5% for FY2017.

The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2730

WHEREAS, the *Code of Virginia* § 51.1-144(F)(3) requires that, effective July 1, 2016, all employees of a political subdivision who are VRS members shall contribute five percent of their creditable compensation by salary reduction pursuant to Internal Revenue Code § 414(h) on a pre-tax basis; and

WHEREAS, the *Code of Virginia* § 51.1-144(F)(3) permitted a political subdivision to phase in the mandatory five percent member contribution until all employees paid five percent of creditable compensation effective July 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the *Code of Virginia* § 51.1-144(F)(3) permitted a political subdivision to pick up a portion of the member contributions only until the completion of the phase-in period on July 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the second enactment clause of Chapter 822 of the 2012 Acts of Assembly (SB 497) requires an increase in total creditable compensation, effective July 1, 2016, to each such employee in service on June 30, 2016, to offset the cost of the member contributions, equal to the percentage increase of the member contribution paid by such pursuant to this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Alexandria (the "Political Subdivision), does hereby certify to the Virginia Retirement System Board of Trustees that it shall effect the implementation of the member contribution requirements of Chapter 822 of the 2012 Acts of Assembly (SB 497), codified as *Code of Virginia* § 51.1-144(F)(3), for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, and that Plan 1 and Plan 2 employees shall pay the full five percent member contribution by salary reduction on a pre-tax basis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no salary increases provided solely to offset the cost of required member contributions to the Virginia Retirement System under the second enactment clause of Chapter 822 of the 2012 Acts of Assembly will be used to certify that any salary increases required by the Appropriation Act have been provided.

NOW, THEREFORE, the officers are hereby authorized and directed in the name of the Political Subdivision to carry out the provisions of this resolution, and said officers are authorized and directed to pay over to the Treasurer of Virginia from time to time such sums as are due to be paid by the Political Subdivision for this purpose.

WORK SESSION

10. Work Session: Waterfront Implementation, Including Interim Fitzgerald Square and Waterfront Common Elements.

(A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 10; 05/24/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Gammon, Acting Deputy Director, Department of Project Implementation and Mr. Browand, Division Chief, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, gave a presentation on the plans for the Interim Fitzgerald Square and the common elements on the Waterfront and the community engagement efforts. Mr. Gammon and Mr. Browand responded to questions from Council about the lighting and fixtures along the waterfront, the maintenance of the tree canopy along the waterfront near Fitzgerald Square and configuration of the public space and the addition of a focal point (e.g. fountain and historical art sculpture) at the foot of King Street. City Manager Jinks responded to inquiries from Council about the demolition of the current Old Dominion Boat Club building and plans for implementing the interim plan for the area.

City Council held the work session on the Waterfront Implementation, including Interim Fitzgerald Square and Waterfront Common Elements.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER FOR DISCUSSION

11. Consideration of the Alexandria City Council Code of Ethics and Conduct and Ethics Pledge.

(A copy of the City Manager’s memorandum dated May 18, 2016, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 11; 05/24/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mayor Silberberg thanked the Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Review Committee and City staff for the input on the recommendation to Council. Mayor Silberberg stated that Alexandria should be a leader in municipal ethics and noted that she would like to hold a public hearing to receive input from the community.

Councilmember Lovain offered several amendments to the proposed pledge and code of ethics for discussion, including an amendment to the pledge related to the “appearance of a conflict of interest,” amendments to all the annual requirements that are delineated in the code of conduct, and additions and changes to the language in the preamble.

Members of Council engaged in a discussion about when to review the Code of Ethics and Pledge, elimination of the Ethical Leadership Award, and inclusion of appointed staff and boards and commissions in the code and pledge.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilmember Lovain, seconded Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council approved the Ethics Pledge with the following amendments:

-In the first line, delete “and appointed officials” from the sentence; and

-Amend Item 2 last bulleted point to read as follows, “taking no action that will result in, and avoiding even the appearance of, personal gain or conflict of interest.”

The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

The Ethics Pledge reads as follows:

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
ETHICS PLEDGE

[Pledge to be made/signed by the mayor and all members of Council when taking the oath of office]

1. I understand that as a City representative, I am entrusted with protecting and preserving the integrity of the government of the City.
2. I will honor this trust by:
 - upholding the City of Alexandria Code of Ethics and Conduct;
 - putting the public interest first;
 - conducting myself at all times in a manner that brings credit to the City;
 - serving with integrity, impartiality and transparency;
 - fostering an ethical culture; and
 - taking no action that will result in, and avoiding even the appearance of, personal gain or conflict of interest.
3. I will communicate openly and civilly, listening to all views, seeking common ground as a starting point, and being respectful even in areas of disagreement.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilmember Lovain, seconded by Councilman Bailey and carried unanimously, City Council approved the Code of Ethics and Conduct with the following amendments:

- Move the first paragraph (the preamble) to the end of the document and amend it to read as follows, "This Code and its associated Ethics Pledge are aspirational, not legal, in nature. They call Alexandria officials to the highest levels of ethical behavior rather than prescribing a legal minimum of ethical behavior. As such, they do not supersede federal, state, or local law. They do not confer any additional duties beyond those required under existing law and they do not confer any right or cause of action that does not apply under existing law. They are intended to inspire Alexandria officials to make Alexandria a national model of ethical conduct."

-In the opening paragraph, delete "and appointed officials." This code of conduct will only apply to the Mayor and members of Council at this time.

-Amend subsection (a) to read as follows, "Participate in a professional development activity on ethical leadership that could include a class, workshop, conference or as part of a Council retreat at least once per term;"

-Amend subsection (b) to read as follows, "Engage, at least once per term, in community dialogue of ethics in governance via activities such as:" and add (iii) under subsection (b) to read as follows, "Incorporating ethical discussions into already existing

community speaking opportunities;"

-Amend subsection (d) to read as follows, "Include in a public hearing during each term a review of the effectiveness of this code of ethics and conduct." Delete the annual ethical leadership award from the sentence.

The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

The Code of Ethics and Conduct reads as follows:

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT

Recognizing that persons holding public office have been given a public trust and that the stewardship of such office demands that performance be at the highest level of ethical and moral conduct, the Alexandria City Council adopts this Code of Ethics and Conduct. To honor the public trust and serve with integrity, civility, and impartiality, the Mayor and members of City Council will:

1. Provide the highest quality of service to the public, acting in a way that is conscientious, diligent, and transparent.
2. Perform the functions of the office with integrity, avoiding any improper use or influence of the office.
3. Not act on a matter in which a conflict of interest exists, and be diligent in avoiding even the appearance of a conflict of interest by disclosing same and acting in accord with the principles underlying this Code.
4. Behave in a manner that inspires public confidence.
5. Treat the public, city staff, and fellow public officials with professionalism, courtesy, and respect.
6. Serve the public interest by upholding the letter and the spirit of City, Commonwealth, and Federal statutes, regulations, and policies.

To provide leadership in sustaining an ethical culture in Alexandria, the Mayor and members of City Council will:

- a. Participate in a professional development activity on ethical leadership that could include a class, workshop, conference or as part of a Council retreat at least once per term.
- b. Engage, at least once per term, in community dialogue of ethics in governance via activities such as:
 - i. Leading a class at a local school;
 - ii. Facilitating discussion at a community association or group; or

- iii. Incorporating ethical discussions into already existing community speaking opportunities.
- c. Communicate to all boards and commissions the importance of ethics in conducting city business.
- d. Include in a public hearing during each term a review of the effectiveness of this code of ethics and conduct.
- e. Ensure that the City website is updated with listings of relevant ethics materials to engage the Alexandria public.

This Code and its associated Ethics Pledge are aspirational, not legal, in nature. They call Alexandria officials to the highest levels of ethical behavior rather than prescribing a legal minimum of ethical behavior. As such, they do not supersede federal, state, or local law, they do not confer any additional duties beyond those required under existing law and they do not confer any right or cause of action that does not apply under existing law. They are intended to inspire Alexandria officials to make Alexandria a national model of ethical conduct.

The Mayor and members of City Council will work together to implement and monitor this Code of Ethics and Conduct and make changes as needed.

12. Oral Update on Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Project Implementation.

(A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 12; 05/24/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

Mr. Farner, Deputy Director, Planning and Zoning, gave an update on the design for the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station, including the design for the pedestrian bridge and the entry pavilion on the west of the station. Mr. Farner reported that the Board of Architectural Review gave approval for the concept at its last meeting. Mr. Bernstein, Director, Department of Project Implementation, gave an update on the operation hours for the pedestrian bridge for the station and responded to questions about hours of operations. Ms. Farmer, Principal Planner, Transportation and Environmental Services, gave an update on the final Environmental Impact Study.

City Council received the update on Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Project.

13. Consideration of a Fund Balance Policy Related to the Alexandria City Public Schools.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated May 18, 2016, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 13; 05/24/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council endorsed the proposed Alexandria City Public Schools Fund Balance Policy. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

ORAL REPORTS AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

None.

ORAL REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

None.

OTHER

14. Consideration of City Council Schedule.

(A copy of the City Manager’s memorandum dated May 18, 2016, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 14; 05/24/16, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council: (1) received the revised Council Schedule and the proposed FY 2017 Council Schedule; (2) approved the FY 2016 Council Schedule for May and June; and (3) docketed the proposed FY 2017 Council Calendar for the June 14, 2016 Legislative Meeting. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

Closed Meeting

15. Consideration of a Closed Meeting for the Discussion Concerning the Expansion of an Existing Business, Discussion of the Investment of Public Funds Where Bargaining is Involved, and Discussion of Plans Related to the Security of a Governmental Facility.

This closed meeting was not needed.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED, upon motion by Vice Mayor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council adjourned the regular legislative meeting of May 24, 2016 at 10:52 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilman Bailey, Councilman Chapman, Councilmember Lovain, Councilwoman Pepper and Councilman Smedberg; Opposed, none.

APPROVED BY:

ALLISON SILBERBERG MAYOR

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton Deputy City Clerk