

**City of Alexandria  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 25, 2025, 6:15 PM – City Hall  
City Council Legislative Meeting**

\*\*\*\*\*

Present: Mayor Alyia Gaskins, Vice Mayor Sarah R. Bagley, Members of Council Canek Aguirre, John Taylor Chapman, Abdel Elnoubi, Jacinta E. Greene, and R. Kirk McPike.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Parajon, City Manager; Ms. Cordell Ivery, City Attorney; Ms. Baker, Deputy City Manager; Mr. Lambert, Deputy City Manager; Ms. Predeoux, Deputy City Manager; Ms. Mclean, Chief of Staff, City Manager's Office; Mr. Routt, Director, Office of Management and Budget (OMB); Ms. Hamm, Assistant Director, OMB; Mr. Wicks, CIP Manager, OMB; Mr. Gonsalves, Assistant City Manager; Ms. Fleming, Director, Office of Communications and Community Engagement; Mr. Moritz, Director, Planning and Zoning; Ms. Garvey, Director, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS); Ms. Landrum, CEO, AEDP; Ms. Pledger, CIO, Information Technology Services (ITS); Mr. Smith, ITS; Ms. Demeke, ITS; Mr. McPike, Director, General Services; Mr. Wise, Deputy Director, General Services; Police Chief Maguire; Deputy Police Chief Laguna; Deputy Police Chief Pedroso; Ms. McIlvaine, Director, Office of Housing; Mr. Coleman, Deputy Director, General Services; Police Lt. May; Police Sgt. Jones; Mr. Smith, ITS; and Ms. Demeke, ITS.

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**I. OPENING**

**1. Calling the Roll.**

Mayor Gaskins called the meeting to order and the City Clerk called the roll. All the members of City Council were present with Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, and Councilwoman Greene arriving during the closed executive session.

**2. Approval of Electronic Participation Resolution [ROLL-CALL VOTE]**

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Bagley, seconded by Councilman McPike and carried unanimously by roll-call vote, City Council adopted the electronic participation resolution. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Gaskins, Vice Mayor Bagley, Councilman Elnoubi, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none; Absent, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, and Councilwoman Greene.

The resolution reads as follows:

**RES. NO. 3275**

**Resolution Regarding Electronic Participation by a Member of City Council**

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.3 provides that an individual member of a public body may fully participate in meetings electronically if any such member meets the criteria of the code and the public body has adopted an Electronic Meeting Policy; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council adopted an Electronic Participation Policy on June 22, 2021 as Resolution No. 3011; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council Member Canek Aguirre has notified the Mayor and the Clerk that he is unavailable to be physically present for the February 25, 2025 City Council Meeting due to a personal matter, specifically a previously scheduled engagement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council Member has not participated in more than two or 25% of City Council Meetings by electronic means during this calendar year; and

**WHEREAS** the City Council Member Canek Aguirre will participate in the City Council Meeting by video conference call from Washington, D.C., and arrangements have been made to ensure the member shall be heard by all participants at the City Council Meeting; and

**WHEREAS** a quorum of the City Council is physically assembled in person.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA:**

That pursuant to Virginia Code 2.2-3708.3 and the City Council's Electronic Meeting Policy Resolution 3011, City Council Member Canek Aguirre will participate remotely in this meeting by video conference call.

3. Closed Session.

Consideration of a closed executive session to discuss the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected and to discuss the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Bagley, seconded by Councilman McPike and carried 4-0, City Council convened in closed executive session at 6:22 p.m., pursuant to Virginia Code sections 2.2-3711(A)(3) and (A)(6) to discuss or consider the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the City and discussion or consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the City would be adversely affected. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Gaskins, Vice Mayor Bagley, Councilman Elnoubi, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none; Absent, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, and Councilwoman Greene.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Bagley, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council reconvened in open session at 7:15 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Gaskins, Vice Mayor Bagley, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilman Elnoubi, Councilwoman Greene, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Bagley, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously by roll-call vote, City Council adopted the resolution regarding the closed executive session that was previously circulated to the Council. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Gaskins, Vice Mayor Bagley, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilman Elnoubi, Councilwoman Greene, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

The resolution reads as follows:

### **RES. NO. 3276**

**WHEREAS**, the Alexandria City Council has this 25th day of February, 2025, 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.

#### **4. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance**

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

## **II. PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

#### **5. Presentation of a Proclamation recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Alexandria Archaeological Commission.**

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilman Elnoubi, seconded by Councilman McPike and carried unanimously, City Council endorsed the proclamation. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Gaskins, Vice Mayor Bagley, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilman Elnoubi, Councilwoman Greene, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

#### **6. Presentation of a Proclamation Declaring the Month of March as Irish-American Heritage Month and Honoring St. Patrick's Day.**

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilman McPike, seconded by Councilman Elnoubi and carried unanimously, City Council endorsed the proclamation. The vote was as follows:

In favor, Mayor Gaskins, Vice Mayor Bagley, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilman Elnoubi, Councilwoman Greene, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

### **III. Oral Reports from Members of City Council on Boards, Commissions, and Committees**

#### **\*Council of Governments (COG) Transportation Planning Board (TPB) (Councilman Aguirre)**

Councilman Aguirre reported that the TPB received the intercity report and reviewed the draft united working plan.

#### **\*Waterfront Commission (Vice Mayor Bagley)**

Vice Mayor Bagley reported that the Waterfront Commission discussed the Robinson Terminal North development and will come before Planning Commission in April and Council following Planning Commission approval. Vice Mayor Bagley noted that the Commission expressed their concerns on the phased development for the project. Vice Mayor Bagley reported that there was check on other along the Waterfront including a new restaurant. Vice Mayor Bagley also reported that the parking enforcement pilot was renewed for another year and had been effective. Vice Mayor Bagley noted that it was last meeting for Nate Macek, who has served as the Planning Commission representative on the Waterfront Commission.

#### **\*Virginia Railway Express (VRE) (Vice Mayor Bagley)**

Vice Mayor Bagley reported that VRE received two presentations on transforming rail transportation in Virginia and vision for separating passenger rail from freight rail in the future for Virginia. Vice Mayor Bagley reported that there would be a VRE float in the upcoming St. Patrick's Day parade.

#### **\*Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy (ACAP)(Vice Mayor Bagley and Councilman Aguirre)**

Vice Mayor Bagley reported that ACAP received the PREP grant from the Federal Government in the amount of \$700,000. Vice Mayor Bagley reported that Alexandria has had a slight increase in STI rates in most recent health report.

#### **\*City/Schools Subcommittee (Mayor Gaskins and Councilman Chapman)**

Mayor Gaskins reported that the City/Schools Subcommittee mapped out a work plan from now until June to review data focusing on whether DASH could play a role in getting student to school and received two presentations from DASH and ACPS explaining the existing state of their current transportation systems. Mayor Gaskins reported that the next steps were to look at the current ridership for the student population as well as answer questions about safety and additional costs. Mayor Gaskins reported that there would be an update in March on collective bargaining for ACPS.

### **IV. Oral Report from the City Manager**

7. Alexandria Mentoring Partnership (AMP) Program Highlight

Mr. Browand, Acting Director, Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities, gave an update on the City's partnership with the Alexandria Mentorship Program and a video highlighting its work was played.

8. Update on 2025 Economic Summit

City staff, Alexandria Economic Development Partnership staff and consultant reviewed the topics that would be covered during the upcoming 2025 Economic Summit and responded to questions from City Council.

**V. ACTION MATTERS**

**Reports and Recommendations of the City Manager**

9. Presentation of the Proposed Annual Operating Budget for FY 2026 (including Schools), the Proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY 2026 to FY 2035 (including Schools CIP), and the Proposed Tax Rate Recommendations.

City Manager Parajon presented the proposed FY 2026 Annual Operating Budget (including Schools), the proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY2026 to FY2035 (including Schools CIP) and offered his proposed tax rate recommendations to City Council.

**VI. OTHER**

10. Oral Reports and Oral Presentations by Members of City Council.

None.

11. Consideration of City Council Schedule.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Item No. 11; 01/25/25, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilman McPike, seconded by Councilman Chapman and carried unanimously, City Council: (1) approved the City Council Look Ahead Schedule to include: the Ballyshaners 42nd St. Patrick's Day Parade scheduled for Saturday, March 1 at 12:30 p.m., in Old Town Alexandria; the FY 2026 Budget Work Session scheduled for Monday, March 17 at 7:00 p.m., TBD; and the Patrick Henry K-8 and Recreation Center Field Dedication Ceremony scheduled for Tuesday, March 18 at 1:00 p.m., at 4653 Taney Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia, 22304; and (2) received the City Council Calendar from February 2025 - December 2025. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Gaskins, Vice Mayor Bagley, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilman Elnoubi, Councilwoman Greene, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

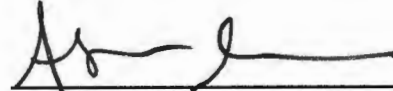
12. Closed Meeting (cont.) if needed.

**VII. ADJOURN.**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED**, upon motion by Vice Mayor Bagley, seconded by Councilwoman Greene and carried unanimously, City Council adjourned the regular meeting of January 25, 2025 at 9:18 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Gaskins, Vice Mayor Bagley, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilman Elnoubi, Councilwoman Greene, and Councilman McPike; Opposed, none.

\*\*\*\*\*

**APPROVED BY:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**ALVIA GASKINS      MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gloria A. Sitton, CMC    City Clerk

Adopted: March 11, 2025